



Counties on the Move

Counties on the Move: Arts Education for All Students



California County Superintendents Educational Services Association



About CCSESA

The California County Superintendents Educational Services Association (CCSESA) serves as the statewide organization of the 58 California County Superintendents of Schools with the mission of strengthening services in support of students, schools, districts, and communities. The primary aim of the County Superintendents is to work collaboratively with schools and districts to ensure that every student benefits from a quality educational experience, regardless of their circumstances, including students with disabilities, juvenile offenders, and students at risk of dropping out of school. CCSESA works with state policymakers including the Governor, Legislature, State Board of Education, and the California Department of Education to ensure that the statutory responsibilities of the County Superintendents are carried out in a consistent and equitable manner across the state.



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IMPROVING LIFE OUTCOMES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE THROUGH EDUCATION

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CCSESA Service Regions



Introduction



The California County Superintendents Educational Services Association (CCSESA) Statewide Arts Initiative believes that the visual and performing arts are an integral part of a comprehensive curriculum and are essential for learning in the 21st century. All California students—from every culture, geographic region and socio-economic level—deserve quality arts learning in dance, media arts, music, theatre, and visual arts as part of the core curriculum. Every student needs and deserves a high-quality education in the visual and performing arts.

This publication is a celebration of progress in improving and increasing arts education throughout California through the 58 county offices of education. It is intended to provide a glimpse of the excellent work being done on behalf of students in California's public schools. The document also serves another purpose. Along with snapshots of how county offices are supporting arts education, the information reveals the statewide arts education network and supporting infrastructure needed to provide leadership training, program planning, curriculum, professional development, and resources in arts education. Written in their own words, these short descriptions reveal different approaches in reaching our diverse student populations in California. We extend our appreciation to all those who provided content for this publication and to the leaders responsible for the rich tapestry of programs represented in this document.

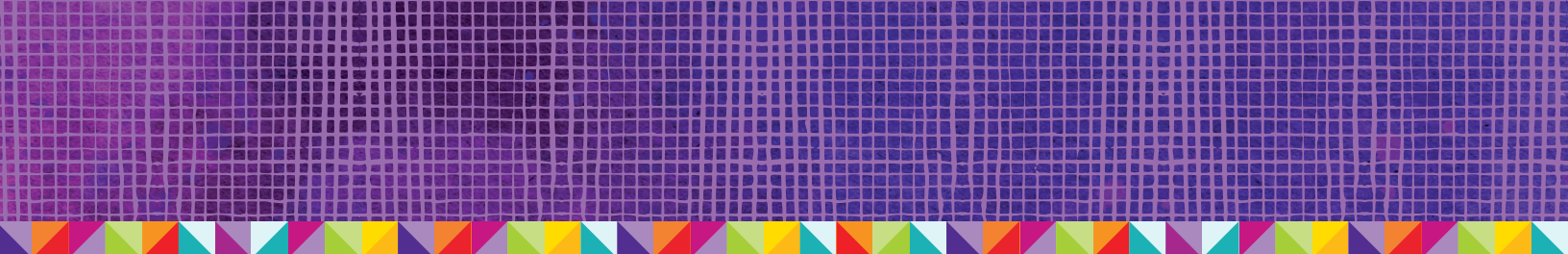
The California County Superintendents Educational Services Association (CCSESA) has been working to strengthen and expand arts education in California schools through the CCSESA Statewide Arts Initiative. Through generous funding from The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation and the Stuart Foundation, CCSESA works at the national, state, regional, county, and local levels to advocate for arts learning in our public schools as part of a comprehensive core curriculum. The CCSESA Statewide Arts Initiative supports the following key areas of state, regional, and county work as part of a multi-pronged effort to increase and expand arts education in California public schools. CCSESA has been building on prior efforts to expand its outreach to continue to:

- Build leadership capacity for arts education in California public schools by offering leadership programs that meet the needs of arts, education, and community members;
- Provide arts professional learning curriculum, assessment, and programmatic support and technical assistance to schools and districts; and
- Increase public information and visibility of the status of arts education in California public schools at the state, regional, county, and local levels through focused visibility and advocacy efforts, partnership building and strategic communications.

CCSESA's Curriculum and Instruction Steering Committee (CISC) initiates collaborative leadership with school districts, the California Department of Education (CDE), and other partners to ensure programs, practices, and services that support success for all students. The committee identifies statewide curriculum and staff development needs, provides a communication and implementation network for curriculum and professional development activities, and assists the CDE in adopting and implementing instructional materials and developing publications such as curriculum frameworks. The CISC Arts Subcommittee and the CCSESA Statewide Arts Initiative work through a regional infrastructure and convene Regional and County Arts Leads and other state leaders to promote and support standards-based arts education in California.

To learn more about the CCSESA Statewide Arts Initiative and to access information on arts education, please visit the CCSESA Arts website at www.ccsesaarts.org.

Sarah Anderberg, Director, CCSESA Statewide Arts Initiative
California County Superintendents Educational Services Association (CCSESA)



“Creating and experiencing art is central to the human experience; art allows people to feel and express the range of human emotions and connects people to one another and to their local and global communities. For many, an arts education is only the beginning of a lifelong appreciation of the arts and an enduring sensitivity to the way the arts enrich lives.”

- Introduction, California Arts Standards for Public Schools,
Prekindergarten Through Grade Twelve (Arts Standards)



Region 1 ■ North Coast

REGION 1 COUNTY SUPERINTENDENTS OF SCHOOLS

Jeff Harris, Del Norte County Superintendent of Schools
Chris Hartley, Ed.D., Humboldt County Superintendent of Schools
Brock Falkenberg, Lake County Superintendent of Schools
Michelle Hutchins, Mendocino County Superintendent of Schools
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REGION 1 ARTS LEAD

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Del Norte County

Del Norte County Office of Education

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“The arts are an integral part of any well-rounded person’s education. As the County Office of Education, we are committed to finding ways to bring students, arts, and artists together.”

– Jeff Harris, Del Norte County Superintendent of Schools



Strengthening Learning with the Arts

In 2019, Del Norte County joined three other counties in the *Arts and Creativity Initiative (ACI)*. The initiative emphasizes professional development to support teachers with the integration of arts standards, balancing structure and creativity, and using innovative teaching practices that promote the development of higher-order thinking.

At the beginning of the 2019-2020 school year, students in grades K-8 participated in various collaborative art projects where they learned elements of visual arts and collaboration skills. Students worked in small groups and made decisions about materials and



composition. Teachers noted high levels of student engagement, collaboration, and persistence as students worked to create quality compositions.



Through the ACI grant, 23 teachers in Del Norte County have been introduced to the Visual Thinking Strategy (VTS). VTS begins with the natural human behavior of wondering about things and transforms it into high-level critical thinking. Students begin to learn about the strategy by closely looking at artwork and responding to a cycle of three questions.

- What’s going on in this picture?
- What do you see that makes you say ____?
- What more can we find?

Del Norte County

Once the strategy is learned, teachers can transfer the same strategy into other content areas. Although this is relatively new in our district, we are already seeing results.



One elementary grade teacher noted, *"I started asking questions in language arts to see what kinds of responses students would give about a passage. Students thought more deeply about the passage. They would tell me their observations and wonderings as long as I didn't front load a bunch of information or direct answers. The discussions were way more enriching!"*

Another teacher said, *"Following several powerful VTS sessions centered around artwork with different groups of students, I decided to experiment using the strategy with other content areas. I was presented with an opportunity to use it when my own child was having a difficult time with her English homework. I changed the first question to, 'What is going on in this stanza? She went from having nothing to write to writing several paragraphs analyzing the poem. It was truly amazing!"*

Art Partnerships

The Del Norte County Office of Education (DNCOE) partners closely with the California Redwoods Art Association to expand exposure to visual arts to all students in Del Norte County and to encourage community involvement. The partnership consists of supporting all schools in maintaining their membership in the Association, which gives them access to a wide range of services, including the opportunity to take classes at the gallery outside of the school day. Additionally, DNCOE contracts with the Association to provide a variety of opportunities for local artists-in-residence to visit classrooms, provide art lessons, and to display the created pieces at the gallery. Other collaborative partners include the Del Norte Association for Cultural Awareness, the Wild Rivers Symphony, and local community theaters.

Arts and Career Technical Education (CTE)

Another facet of the arts integration in Del Norte County is the focus on including visual and digital media arts within the career and technical education pathways. Through the use of lasers, CNC machines, digital photography and printing, 3D printing in multiple media, and other avenues, students are able to combine artistic ideas with technical skills and envision ways to enhance and expand their opportunities in the workforce and higher education.

Students are also encouraged to participate in the innovative and highly successful *E3 program*. *E3* stands for Education, Experience, and Employment. Through this program, which is a collaboration between the Workforce Development Center, Wild Rivers Community Foundation, The California Endowment-Building Healthy Communities, and DNCOE, students are able to participate in work related soft skills training and are employed by local arts-based businesses to explore the entrepreneurial side of visual and performance art.

Celebrating Success

This year Del Norte celebrates teacher, Kelly Troyna and student, Yanahlea Robinson. Mrs. Troyna has been awarded the *2019 California Hero Award* by the California Arts Council and Poetry



The pair are pictured with Sunset High School's principal, Tony Fabricius.

Out Loud. She received the award at the distinguished California state capitol and has been highly praised by the staff and students of Sunset High School for this achievement. Her student, Yanahlea, made it to the finals of the *California Poetry Out Loud* State competition in Sacramento. Yanahlea gives all thanks to her teacher, Kelly Troyna, for her tireless efforts and dedication in preparing her for the competition.

Humboldt County

Humboldt County Office of Education

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“Access to a contemporary, innovative, and high quality arts education is essential for all students. Humboldt County is an incubator for artists and the Humboldt County Office of Education (HCOE) serves as a catalyst and collaborator with schools and local organizations in program design, offering relevant professional development, providing engaging student experiences and advocating for the arts at the regional and state level. Student success is our top priority and the integration of a vibrant arts education not only improves student outcomes but fosters school culture that promotes community, connectivity and joy! Let the Arts Shine!”



– Chris Hartley, Ed.D., Humboldt County Superintendent of Schools

Humboldt County Office of Education

We strive to provide the highest quality arts-related professional development for teachers as well as promote many diverse opportunities for student engagement. From STEAM, Arts Integration, and Arts Subjects, to MTSS (Multi-Tiered System of Supports) and SEL (Social Emotional Learning); the Humboldt County Office of Education (HCOE) strives to remain on the leading edge of research-based, trauma informed practices.

The Humboldt County Office of Education (HCOE) continues to support and increase opportunities for teachers, administrators, students and community to participate in the arts. HCOE received a multi-year

Arts Education Development and Dissemination Grant, and as a result, have been working with 100 teachers from four counties in Creative

Education. This also allowed HCOE to hire one additional full time Arts Specialist in addition to part-time teaching artists and county coordinators. The focus of the *Arts & Creativity Initiative* is changing teacher practices to increase engagement and higher order thinking in arts and non-arts subjects. A repository of resources are available at: www.artsintegration.net



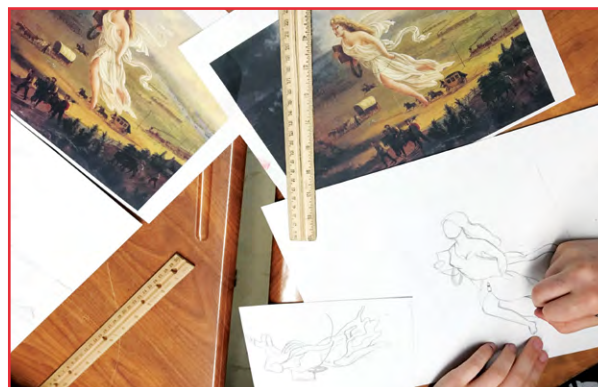
Humboldt County

Professional Development is still ongoing for teachers in discrete arts subjects. Hands-on workshops for Music, Visual Arts, and Theatre teachers are still offered for anyone in the region who wishes to participate. Four professional learning modules for CCSESA Arts Initiative's *Creativity at the Core* grant are complete: Module 1 – *Raising the Barre*; Module 13 – Theatre Arts and English Learners; Module 18 – *Reuse STEAM*; and Module 20 – *Music and Universal Design for Learning*. Additional dissemination of the modules are ongoing at the local, regional, and state level. Additionally, HCOE served as a site for public input on the new California Arts Standards. Staff is working on preparing professional development for the new standards and framework.

Reserved Students Engaged in the Arts Through Schools (SEATS) include: *Schools to Dance*, *Schools to Theatre*, *Schools to Symphony*, and *Schools to Studio*. Partners leverage resources for students to attend



live performances and funds are underwritten by HCOE. Humboldt County is rural and students must travel long distances to attend performances. A single bus ride to attend a performance can cost \$1,000 per bus. Transportation stipends are provided by HCOE and our partners who receive grant money from the community. Curricula is reviewed and delivered before the students attend the performance. In addition, the complete suite of seven artists are highlighted in the Schools to Studio video. Students watch the video and after, one of the artists goes into the classroom to work on an art project which includes crossover in other curricular areas. To see these wonderful videos visit: www.hcoe.org/arts



Humboldt County Office of Education continues to be a hub for arts education on the North Coast as a result of multiple collaborations with the Humboldt Arts Council, higher education, public radio, community arts organizations, local businesses, PTA/PTO's, school districts and neighboring county offices of education. HCOE passed the "Declaration of Equity in Arts Learning" in October of 2017.

HCOE also partners with the Humboldt Arts Now Community which advocates for arts education and helps inform the community about the arts learning being offered locally, as well as its positive impacts. With the assistance of the California Alliance for Arts Education and the Humboldt Arts Now Community (HANC), the Strategic Arts Plan was revised and presented in 2018 to every school board (32) in the county. HANC works in conjunction with the Humboldt Arts Council Arts and Education Committee to further opportunities for all students.

HCOE continues its collaboration with the North Coast California Music Educators Association (NCCMEA) and the HCOE Student Events program to coordinate the annual *All County Music Festival*, which garners participation of 400 6-12 grade students in seven ensembles from Humboldt, Del Norte, and Trinity counties. 2021 will mark the 65th annual *All County Music Festival*.

Lake County

Lake County Office of Education

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“Lake County schools take great pride in the variety of opportunities available to all students. I believe that students grow and benefit with exposure to visual and performing arts. Lake County Office of Education will continue to support local teachers as they address the needs of students by integrating opportunities for students to shine and express their learning both academically and artistically.”



– Brock Falkenberg, Lake County Superintendent of Schools

Creating Community

Lake County has been continuously involved with the development and adoption of new instructional strategies for arts education in the classroom. Local educators understand the advantage of incorporating art into the lives of students as a gateway to culture, diversity, and expression.

The past few years have been plagued with county-wide evacuations and wildfires. Despite these adverse events, local communities have emerged unified in their attempts to recover and rebuild what was lost. It has been observed that with expression of creativity comes problem solving, and with imagination comes innovation. These elements help cultivate a strong, diverse community where individuals are able to support and celebrate one another.

Art Education

Lake County became involved with the *Arts and Creativity Initiative (ACI)* during the 2018-2019 school year. Over 20 elementary school teachers are currently participating from around the county. These teachers receive support from the Lake County Office of Education's Education Specialists, who coordinate Lake County's implementation of the *ACI*. Teachers participate in workshops to learn and try new instructional practices that will benefit their students. These concepts add value in art and contribute

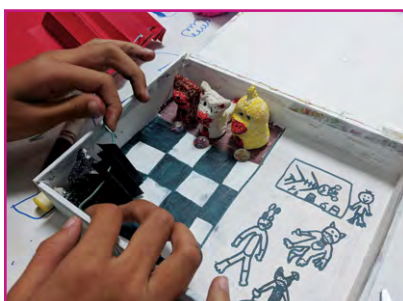


Lake County

to a deeper understanding in other areas of study.

One example is *Notice – Wonder*, an exercise that encourages deep observation of a piece of artwork. This activity aims to stimulate classroom conversations where each student can contribute to a discussion about what they see and wonder about. These sorts of activities allow students to refine their attention to detail, and practice patience as they look further into an art piece. *Notice – Wonder* goes beyond artwork and forms a line of communication in the classroom where all students are able to contribute to the conversation. This process of reflection leads to what we want to see in our schools: engagement. A crucial benefit to this strategy is that it is accessible to all students and can be differentiated to engage students at multiple levels.

Another tool from *ACI* is the *Visual Thinking Strategy (VTS)*. *VTS* uses objective conversation between the teachers and the students when looking at a new art piece to develop and promote an art-based vocabulary. Teachers are trained to ask the question “What do you see that makes you say that?” Teachers then paraphrase and link student responses using domain-specific vocabulary. For instance, when a student says that an artwork looks happy, we hear teachers responding with, “you’re noticing the bright colors and you’re thinking this creates a positive tone.” This is when teachers are able to introduce elements of art such as: composition, texture, light, color, etc.



Participating teachers worked alongside their colleagues during the *Summer Art Institute*, to



develop a collaborative art project that they would later conduct in their classrooms. This project integrated a hands-on approach where teachers played the role of students and worked alongside each other just as their students would in the future.

The project was designed to give students the opportunity to work through challenges with one another.



Teachers guide students through making decisions, adapting to change, taking turns, and sharing materials and a creative space as they complete projects together.

Community Involvement

Aside from the required elements of *ACI*, the Lake County Office of Education is collaborating with the Middletown Art Center to bolster the quality of professional development available to teachers over the course of the three-year initiative. Artists from the Middletown Art Center instruct and guide teachers through strategies learned from the *Art and Creativity* initiative trainings as they visit classrooms, model strategies, and offer field trips to the Middletown Art Center. Field trips consist of a gallery tour and include studio time where students get the chance to work on an art project with professional artists.

Lake County Office of Education will continue to support art in schools and curriculum as local teachers learn and adopt new techniques to empower student self-expression, creativity, collaboration, and critical thinking skills.

Resilient communities are built from diversity and innovation; Lake County is dedicated to nurturing the curiosity of children by providing the tools and expertise needed to produce work and foster these ideals.

Mendocino County

Mendocino County Office of Education

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“As a former art teacher, I can speak to how integrating the arts into instruction increases student achievement. It is not just limited to the easily observed and undisputed benefit of increased student engagement and motivation. In addition to increasing creative problem-solving skills, arts instruction also helps children with the development of motor, language, and social skills, along with decision-making and inventiveness. Research suggests that art is a link to increased retention: Each time a student interacts with information in a new and different way, the information is embedded slightly more into their brain.”



– Michelle Hutchins, Mendocino County Superintendent of Schools

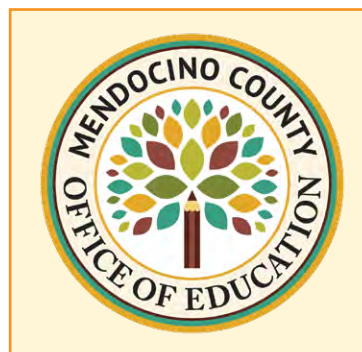
Arts Integration Professional Learning

Mendocino County Office of Education (MCOE) has a goal of reaching our schools and community through the arts. One way MCOE works towards this goal is through sponsorship and support of arts programs and grants that benefit students and teachers in our county. *Arts and Creativity Initiative (ACI)*, *Mock trial*, *Poets in the Schools*, *Young Authors' Grant*, *Get Arts in the Schools Program (GASP)*, *Poets in the Schools (PITS)* and *Science Fair* are some of the programs at MCOE that are arts focused or contain artistic elements which blend art into other subject areas.

Arts and Creativity Initiative (ACI) is a regional collaborative art grant with Mendocino, Del Norte, Lake,

and Humboldt Counties. The grant provides professional development around the arts to teachers in K-5 classrooms with a focus on student instruction. The

goal of the project is to prepare participating teachers to integrate high quality arts components into their daily instruction. The grant provides resources and supplies for participating teachers to use in their classroom with coaching support and follow up trainings.



Mendocino County

The courtroom Art Contest is a competition that allows students the opportunity to participate in the *Mock Trial Program*. Contestants observe their schools' Mock Trials and create drawings of the courtroom scenes.

Coordinated by the Arts Council of Mendocino County, *Get Arts in the Schools Program* (GASP) is funded by the Mendocino County Office of Education with additional funding from private donors.



GASP funds artist workshops and live performances in Mendocino County schools during the school year. The goal of the program is to infuse the arts in the core curriculum and to involve and expose school children to quality, educational, curriculum-based artistic experiences. Artists work closely with classroom teachers and after-school coordinators to enrich the curriculum by presenting arts programs that are relevant to other core academic subjects. Teachers benefit from the partnership by exposure to current techniques and developments in the various art forms.



An affiliated branch of California Poets in the Schools, the Mendocino County Poets in the Schools

(PITS) is an independent educational organization that is funded in part by MCOE, individuals, and foundations. PITS poets are a multicultural community of trained, published poet-teachers who bring experience for their craft into classrooms. Poet-teachers help foster an appreciation for poetry and encourage students to develop their poetic voice. It also helps students celebrate their creativity, intuition and intellectual curiosity through poetry

and the creative writing process. An anthology of student poetry is collected and printed annually with published students receiving a copy. In addition, students are given the opportunity to participate in the Coast and Countywide Poetry Slams.

The Young Authors' Fair inspires students in elementary schools to write, edit, and publish



their own writing. An elementary school may apply for the award funding. Schools which have received funding report that participation in this project enhances children's writing abilities and appreciation of literature. This program dovetails effectively into the daily writing program by encouraging students to write and publish their own books. *The Young Authors' Fair* is a journey through the writing process and a showcase for celebrating student voice.



Our county has deep roots in the arts community and are excited about the state initiative highlighting arts in the schools. Teachers are thrilled to once again have arts be a focus for a well-rounded education. Mendocino County Office of Education is committed to supporting our schools in this venture.

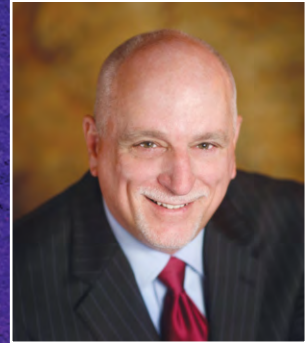
Sonoma County

Sonoma County Office of Education

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“All great journeys begin with a first step. Districts and schools are encouraged to learn and consider the Arts Education Framework as a first step in considering how the Framework can be used to achieve school goals. Arts education provides creative solutions to look forward and plan a journey for the future.”

– Steven D. Herrington, Ph.D., Sonoma County Superintendent of Schools



Sonoma County Office of Education

Through a collaborative effort of the Arts Education Alliance, Sonoma County Office of Education (SCOE), and Creative Sonoma, the Sonoma County Arts Education Framework presents a vision of what arts education can be in Sonoma County and includes strategies to implement that change forward. The Framework offers a menu of choices to Sonoma County Public schools and districts to increase and improve access and equity in arts education. In addition to the many resources existing in our county, it includes recommendations prescribed by leading educational authorities throughout California as well as a statewide coalition of educational agencies.

The Framework is the result of research and data collection on the state of the arts in Sonoma County. From this data, key takeaways have been developed, identifying areas of greater effectiveness. Starting with

a vision of arts education in Sonoma County, the Arts Education Leadership Team developed strategies

that help districts enhance and increase their offerings. Specific action steps have also been developed for strategic ways to address developing more arts for students while developing support for sustainability.

In addition, Creative Sonoma in cooperation with SCOE has invited any Sonoma County public school or district to apply for a planning grant to receive customized consultation in the development of a strategic plan to increase access and equity in arts education. The grant



Sonoma County

will be awarded to five schools or districts, and it is expected that five more will be awarded each year until we have supported all 40 districts in Sonoma County.



Sonoma County STEAM Showcase

The Synopsys-Sonoma County STEAM Showcase began in 2017. The traditional science fair, a long-

standing event in Sonoma County, had always been well attended. However, in 2016 we began to examine the radical shifts in both science as a profession and science education. We also heard from students themselves that they wanted learning to be integrated and purposeful. *The STEAM Showcase* was developed to address these needs and allow more equitable access to STEAM for all students.

The STEAM Showcase promotes integration and purpose for projects and encourages digital documentation and multiple project iterations. The event isn't a competition but rather a celebration of what had been done and an opportunity to engage in making and engineering activities. A diverse group of students participate, TK-12th graders from private and public schools, from clubs and after-school programs, and from special education classes. Students share with the industry professionals serving as project evaluators about their work and the purposes and possibilities that lay behind what they've done. When they aren't interviewing, students make event t-shirts, engage in engineering challenges, and view each other's projects.

A number of interesting projects have been brought to the Showcase, including those incorporating visual and performing arts. One student learned how to weld in order to make a sea turtle sculpture that could be sold to raise money for conservation...out of spare parts from a VW Bug. Another group of students performed a dance about water properties accompanied by a song that was written by one of the students and sung by the school's choir. A group of 6th grade students, including English learners, an RSP student, and an elective mute, stood on the stage

together and showed and narrated films they'd created about plate tectonics and earthquake



safety. In 2018 after the devastating wildfires in Sonoma County, many groups addressed this tragedy in their work. One team designed a new house for their teacher who had lost her home. Another developed an app for cataloging the contents of your house.

The STEAM Showcase highlights the incredible capacity, potential, and creativity of students. The adults who volunteer are consistently blown away by what's possible when students are given opportunities to learn and create with purpose. Many have commented that the event has restored their hope.

Community Involvement

The *Five-Minute Film Festival* is an annual countywide event that provides an opportunity for K-12 students to demonstrate learning in a 21st century context and showcase their work in front of a community audience. To participate, students create, as individuals or in groups, short films (up to five-minutes long) on a designated theme and submit them to SCOE for judging. The SCOE judging committee uses a rubric to score the films on storytelling, connection to the theme, creativity, and curricular content. The top films debut at a spring film festival at Third Street Cinema in Santa Rosa where students walk the red carpet. A panel of celebrity judges from the media industry provide feedback to all the top films and select winners in various categories. Selected films are also automatically entered into the *Alexander Valley Student Film Festival* so they can reach a wider audience.

Students learn storytelling as well as digital media skills when they create films for this event. Each year more than 1,000 students throughout the county participate, many of them first time filmmakers.

“Research shows that participation in the arts has a positive effect on a wide range of outcomes for youth. Engagement with the arts not only reinforces deeper-learning skills, but studies show that it also positively impacts academic outcomes, such as standardized test performance. In addition, arts engagement has been linked with improved social behaviors, reduced likelihood of school suspension and increased school engagement. These outcomes may be particularly significant for low-income and at-risk students.”

- Creative Youth Development, Transforming the Learning Environment, Education Commission of the States

Region 2 ■ Northeastern

REGION 2 COUNTY SUPERINTENDENTS OF SCHOOLS

Mary von Rotz Sakuma, Butte County Superintendent of Schools

Tracey J. Quarne, Glenn County Superintendent of Schools

Patty Gunderson, Lassen County Superintendent of Schools

Mike Martin, Modoc County Superintendent of Schools

Kermith R. Walters, Siskiyou County Superintendent of Schools

Richard R. DuVarney, Tehama County Superintendent of Schools

Sarah E. Supahan, Trinity County Superintendent of Schools

REGION 2 ARTS LEAD

Butte County Office of Education

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Butte County

Butte County Office of Education

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“The arts are a very important part of our culture and our society. When we teach and encourage creativity, imagination, and innovation through the arts, we are opening up the world to our children, who will become the next generation of our teachers, our business professionals and our leaders. This isn’t about creating professional artists, although when that happens it is something to celebrate. It’s about instilling in our students a life-long love of the arts, and through the arts, helping us develop a better understanding of the human condition. It’s also important to remember that the arts help us develop emotional intelligence and provide a positive outlet for stress/trauma, as well as for positive self-expression. Every child deserves the opportunity to learn and develop through the arts as well as through all of the other core curricula. If we really believe that “All Means All,” then we as leaders in education will do whatever we can to ensure that all students, whether they attend schools in rural, suburban or urban settings, have access to an educational experience that includes high quality instruction in the arts.”



– Mary von Rotz Sakuma, Butte County Superintendent of Schools

Working Regionally to Expand the Arts Education Infrastructure in Title I and Rural Schools

Recognizing the effectiveness of partnering and a regional approach, in fall 2019, Butte County Office of Education (BCOE) spearheaded the formation of the *North State Arts Education Consortium (NSAEC)*. With Title IV funding for schools with large populations of low socio-economic student populations in the region, we initiated a nine month project that brought together eight county offices of education (Butte, Glenn, Lassen,

Modoc, Plumas, Siskiyou, Tehama, and Trinity). The county offices of education facilitated online professional development and distribution of equipment funding to 54



Butte County

school districts, 200 participating teachers, and 20 single subject peer coaches. We provided professional development on arts integration to classroom teachers and distributed approximately \$1.7 million to schools for purchase of arts equipment.



We continue to communicate with our north state partnership via a new North State Arts Education Consortium website (nsaec.bcoe.org) that contains resources for arts education planning, advocacy, and professional development and exemplary lesson plans developed through the project. We continue to add more resources throughout the year. We also maintain a listserv of administrators and educators from the North State who wish to continue to work to increase access to arts learning for our students.



In Butte County, the nature of our work is on partnerships as well. It also emphasizes assistance to Title I and rural schools. By partnering with nonprofit arts organizations BCOE has helped to secure funding from the California Arts Council for pilot projects in arts

learning. One program at a Title I junior high school combines instruction from a visual artist and a historian to help students appreciate cultural diversity.

Another program is in its third year at the county's juvenile hall high school. A nonprofit theatre organization works with students for ten week sessions to teach improv techniques that culminate in performances for parents and staff.

Supporting Equity and Access to Arts Education

As adopted in the *Butte County Strategic Arts Education Plan* it is our goal to support equity and access to



arts education by offering support, technical assistance, and professional learning opportunities to elementary and rural schools. These are two segments of public education in our county with the fewest arts learning opportunities for students.

Facilitating Collaborations that Support Social and Emotional Well-being Through Arts Learning

While BCOE is committed to increasing arts learning in our public schools, we also recognize that the Arts naturally help develop social and emotional well-being. Employing arts learning by emphasizing Social Emotional Learning (SEL) competencies helps to mitigate the effects of trauma and make people more resilient to the effects of trauma.



BCOE Trauma Informed Teaching Artists in the Schools program. Initial placements began in February 2020 in Paradise schools. However, through a partnership with the Butte County Arts Council we have plans to expand the program to schools throughout Butte County with high need populations of students.

The trauma of the Camp Fire in Paradise in 2018, precipitated formation of a new

We modeled our program on the *Creative Sonoma* program which was started in 2017 in response to their devastating wildfires. Butte County teaching artists are trained in SEL, the trauma informed classroom, and arts integration.

Glenn County

Glenn County Office of Education

Contact: Lisa Morgan • lmorgan@glenncoe.org

“It is the belief of the Glenn County Superintendent and Board of Education that supporting the participation and growth of the arts for our students is crucial in serving the needs of the whole child. Our programs span the individual districts as well as our alternative education programs. The following list is a few highlights within the last two years.”

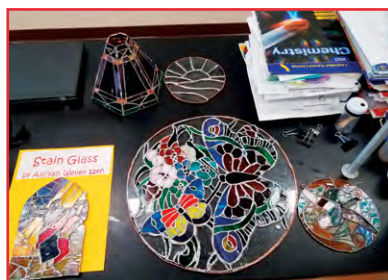
- Tracey J. Quarne, Glenn County Superintendent of Schools



Glenn County Office of Education

Here are some examples of arts education in Glenn County:

- The model stained glass making class at William Finch Charter School integrates visual art and science in an alternative education school.
- The *Good News Glenn County* is a product of the William Finch Charter School's Arts, Media and Entertainment CTE Pathway. Students in the Digital Media Art class produce short, informative news videos that are uploaded to YouTube.
- The *Glenn Interscholastic Film Festival* (GIFF) is an annual short film festival and where awards are provided for county schools.



- A ceramics class at William Finch Charter School invites the “Associates” (workers) from The Rusty Wagon, a retail store that is a work training center for developmentally disabled adults under GCOE, to create and glaze ceramics to sell at the store.
- Glenn County Office of Education participated in the North State Arts Education Consortium (NSAEC) in 2019.
- Glenn County's teachers (22) participated in the NSAEC online training to develop arts integrated lessons from January through July 2019.
- Glenn County Office of Education administrators and teachers participated in and moderated sessions at the NSAEC regional conference in Redding in July.

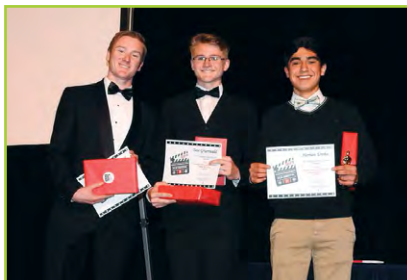


Glenn County

Representative Programs in Glenn County

The Education Services Department of the Glenn County Office of Education is busy preparing for the third annual *Glenn Interscholastic Film Festival* (GIFF). The *GIFF* provides an opportunity for K-12 students in the county to demonstrate their learning creatively in a 21st century context. Each year the *GIFF* requests that student films represent

a common theme; *GIFF* 2020's theme is "Phenomena" and we are eagerly waiting to see what our students enter.



The *GIFF* culminates in a red-carpet event where films are showcased in front of peers, parents, and community members. For more about the *GIFF*, visit our website – bit.ly/glennriffvids

William Finch Charter School's AME CTE Pathway gives students hands-on experience in digital arts. Its primary focus is on video production, portfolio building, and developing professionalism and career skills. The pathway begins with an introduction to digital arts where students gain an awareness of the industry and learn the foundations of digital photography, lighting, and Adobe Photoshop. Next, students move into a concentrator course where students begin to apply their camera knowledge to shooting and producing videos. In the concentrator course, students continue to develop their photography and Photoshop skills and are introduced to Adobe Premiere Pro. After the concentrator course, students move into the capstone course, where they spend a full year learning advanced video editing techniques while continuing to grow their photography skills and their portfolio of digital work. In the capstone class, students also prepare their resumes, practice job interviews, and explore internship opportunities within the industry. Students who complete the CTE Pathway are then offered a CTE Student Leadership course where the instructor works one-on-one with the students on personal projects and the class applies their skills to volunteer work in the

community. Outside of the specific CTE Pathway courses, students are also offered a digital photography class where they learn a wide range of photography skills and build out the student yearbook. Students also are offered a broadcast journalism class called *Good News Glenn County*, where the students work closely with the CTE Pathway students to film and edit a student driven news show that includes community updates and community interviews. – Wendy Stewart, CTE AME Instructor

<https://wmfinchdigitalarts.home.blog/good-news-glenn-county-2/news>



At the William Finch Charter School, the Art and Science Department lead a student project that combines art with science, which is entered into the STEAM Expo. Lauri Touchette (Art teacher) and Richard Gambetta (Science, ceramics and stained glass teacher) are working with 5th – 8th grade students on a Recycled Self-Watering system. Students use a recycled 2-liter soda bottle to create self-watering container for their plant. They papier-mache the soda bottle, then draft and color a picture on their plant containers. The self-watering system enables the plant to be watered, on its own. This is how the County office has provided assistance in schools in the arts, in our district.

Darren Masa, the Science Coordinator, in the Educational Services Department at the Glenn County Office of Education, offers his assistance to STEM teachers in our schools. Students learn how to combine science with art for a STEM project where Darren Masa provides leadership and mentoring. – Lauri Touchette, Art teacher at William Finch Charter School.

Arts education is evidenced throughout the county and with the leadership of Wendy Stewart, Laurie Touchette, Richard Gambetta, Darren Masa, and other committed educators, great things are happening for the students in Glenn County!

Lassen County

Lassen County Office of Education

Contact: James Hall • jdhall@lcoe.org

“Each and every student is unique and needs the opportunities that are provided by Education in all of the Arts to reach their full potential. Lassen County Office of Education is excited and proud of the partnerships with our schools and Community to provide a variety of experiences to all students.”

- Patty Gunderson, Lassen County Superintendent of Schools



Partnership with Lassen County Artists

The Lassen County Office of Education (LCOE) believes that collaboration is the key to helping support students for the future in the area of Arts. We work with Lassen County to provide Artist in Residence, promote summer art experiences locally, and hands-on workshops during our family engagement opportunities. We also provide several opportunities for students to showcase



their talents and creativity that they have experienced through the educational opportunities they have received. Through our collaboration with local artists, we have been able to provide students the opportunity to experience various visual and performing arts opportunities.



By partnering with the local artists, LCOE has been able to leverage resources, both materials and financial, to benefit the students here in Lassen County. Through

Lassen County



the school visits, artists have been able to share their talents and provide students with direct instruction to see a complete project. Students

have had the opportunity to participate in local art camps throughout the summer receiving instruction in various mediums and techniques to produce various high-quality projects that they would otherwise not be exposed to. During our *Lassen County Day of the Family*, our premier family engagement day, families have the opportunity to participate in a hands-on *Art Lab* to also receive instruction and complete a project. *The Art Lab* is also a part of our mobile tinkering lab that travels to county schools to provide students with hands-on STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) activities. Each lab has been designed and prepared to provide a specific technique or medium experience for the student.



Quality Programs in Regular Day and Expanded Learning

Lassen County schools have a deep sense of commitment to the Arts. Meadow View School has provided students with the opportunity to participate in visual and performing arts through their yearly *Fine Arts Enrichments*. The students and their director/teacher work tirelessly to prepare for the artwork and presentation with volunteer and family support. This year, the students designed and presented the complete

production of *Annie, Jr.* The students experience the technical aspects, make-up, staging, set design, prop design, and costuming. The students raise the funds to present the production. Local Control Accountability funds are used to support the instruction and education portion.

Lassen High School is also rich with the exposure and a commitment to the arts. It is home to a high-quality and award-winning graphic arts lab that prepares students for careers in the advertising, marketing, and graphic arts fields. Students are able to become certified in the Adobe Creative Cloud and compete through the state and nation to share their skills and talents.



This school also has a great performing arts department that focuses on guitar, jazz band, concert, choir, drama, and dance. They also have a visual arts department that combines traditional methods with current trends to bring ceramics, wood working, and welding into their art. Traditional pencil, colored pencil, ink, watercolors, pastels, and paper-mache also play a great role in enhancing the students' educational experience.

Lassen After School Programs are engaging students in the area of Art techniques, artist biography, history, creativity, and exploration. Through a partnership with a local non-profit, "Amy's Corner," our students in our After-School Education and Safety Programs have created great pieces of art. Every six weeks, students are given the opportunity to showcase their work and have it on display for families, staff, and classmates to view and appreciate.

Students are also exposed to dance through a partnership with J & J Performing Arts and the Susanville City Kickettes. They are introduced to jazz, hip-hop, tumbling, and modern dance to name a few of the genres to which students are exposed.

Modoc County

Modoc County Office of Education

Contact: Misti Norby • mnorby@modoccoe.k12.ca.us

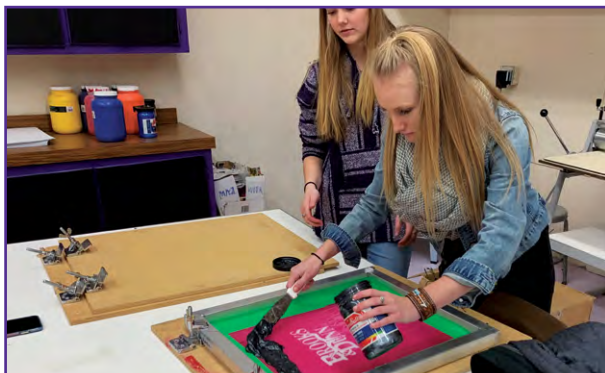
“In Modoc County, we believe that the arts are an essential part of the education of the whole child, as students are provided with opportunities to be creative in a variety of ways through dance, painting, sculpting, music, and theatre.”

– Mike Martin, Modoc County Superintendent of Schools



Modoc County Encourages Art in Schools

The Modoc County Office of Education (MCOE) believes that arts education is incredibly important to the students in our county. The MCOE is committed to



ensuring that all students in the county are exposed to comprehensive visual and performing arts curriculum such as music, digital media, theatre, and visual arts.

Such opportunities have lent themselves to creative thinking, improved responsibility and teamwork amongst the student population which will better prepare students for college, career, and beyond!



Modoc County

Promoting Music in the Classroom

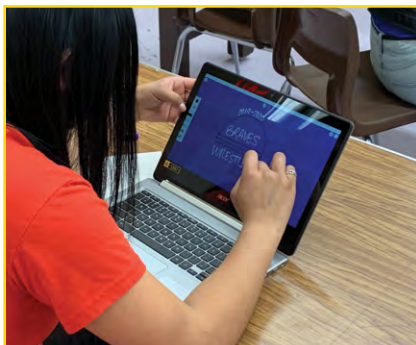
"Our goal for the music program at MJUSD is that EVERYONE can make music (and should!). Students are celebrated daily which makes them feel valued and special. Curiosity is promoted and perseverance is encouraged within the MJUSD music program."
- Chris Armstrong, K-2 Music Teacher



One of our local districts, Modoc Joint Unified School District (MJUSD), provides a comprehensive music program that spans K-12. Elementary students learn music vocabulary, reading music and understanding rhythms, all while learning to play and sing! All elementary students take part in a winter concert, while the middle and high school students perform in a spring concert as well.

Visual and Performing Arts Provide Growing Opportunities

In the spring, the Modoc High School's (MHS) Advanced Art class was the recipient of a new screen printer which has not only changed how they view the arts, it has opened up a business opportunity for the students as well! The class has provided several sports programs with team shirts



created right on campus! These students are receiving art education that will provide them with life skills beyond the classroom.

The Drama Club at MHS is also flourishing. Students take part in both fall and spring productions and engage in a music collaboration with the advanced choir. The play selection is done by a student committee and takes the format of a student showcase featuring short ten-minute plays and musical numbers. It has become hugely popular among the student body. Students receive instruction in acting method, vocal presentation skills, technical theatre (lighting, sound, and set construction). Every year, Drama Club students take a trip to the *Oregon Shakespeare Festival (OSF)* in Ashland, Oregon to see plays, participate in tours and discussion with the professional actors. Students LOVE this trip and are really inspired by the world class shows that the *OSF* company presents.



In Tulelake, the fourth grade students are learning how to create movies using a green screen. The class' largest undertaking has been to develop Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) videos which are shared with the entire school during assemblies.



Siskiyou County

Siskiyou County Office of Education

Contact: Marian Murphy-Shaw • mshaw@siskiyoucoe.net

“The many individuals and community projects in Siskiyou County that provide essential arts education opportunities to our youth are vital partners in providing a balanced and meaningful education. We owe them our thanks, support and praise.”

– Kermith R. Walters, Siskiyou County Superintendent of Schools



Siskiyou County Office of Education

The Siskiyou County Office of Education celebrates the K-12 schools in its 27 districts for their extensive use of local art organizations and the arts community to bring multiple experiences to their students in both the school day and after school programs. While a few examples are highlighted here, it is by no means a complete representation of the many programs and local connections



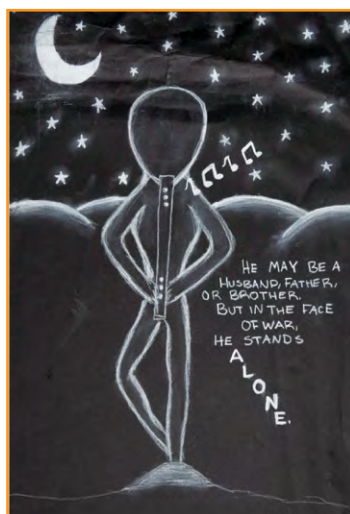
schools make to invest in the arts education of their students.

A spectacular opportunity was realized county wide through the Student Support and Academic Enrichment (SSAE) Grants in the Arts and partnership with



Siskiyou County

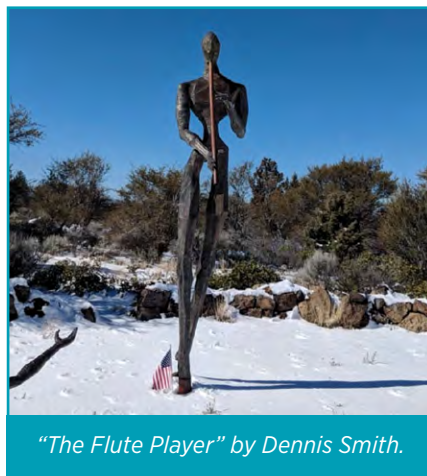
the Northern California Arts Education Network. Each participating teacher focused on a local area of need and student interest to develop lesson plans. Through this project local arts teachers and their administrators were able to then purchase and put into immediate use a wide variety of locally determined arts materials. They ranged from pastels and percussion to pottery wheels and performing arts staging. Instruments needed to bring school music programs back to life infused new energy



at many small K-8 school sites. Students across all grades, including the Siskiyou County Office of Education special education classes, now have a collection of shared lessons and significant resources that will last for years and reduce the gap small rural schools often

experience in having access to quality arts education.

Music by the Mountain is a non-profit organization committed to bringing extraordinary classical musicians to our rural, yet vibrant community and providing educational outreach for children and students of all ages. Two programs per year are developed to bring quality classical music performances to the county's youth. The spring program will feature the Pacific Crest



"The Flute Player" by Dennis Smith.

Chamber Players aimed at exposing local students to the beauty of classical music and the joy of playing musical instruments.

The Siskiyou County Arts Council works with multiple partners and projects countywide. Last spring the Siskiyou County Office of Education and Siskiyou County Arts Council culminated a California Arts Council Veterans in the Arts grant with student field trips to the Living Memorial Sculpture Garden in addition to a teacher workshop on locally developed curriculum based on the memorial, and a curated professional show in partnership with a local gallery, all highlighting the power of art to tell one's story.



High schools across Siskiyou County are supported to participate in *Poetry Out Loud* thanks to the Siskiyou County Arts Council. Local teachers, poetry coaches, community volunteer judges, and an event coordinator bring the art of the spoken word to life at a county poetry competition. The winning poet is then supported to participate at the state Poetry Out Loud event.



Tehama County Department of Education

Tehama County Department of Education

Contact: Alethea Vazquez • avazquez@tehamaschools.org

“Art is everything. Look around! It brings us together yet allows for individual expression. Art is literacy and numeracy. Children need instruction and exposure to visual and performing arts. It will always be a part of their lives.”

– Richard R. DuVarney, Tehama County Superintendent of Schools



Tehama County Showcases Our Small Schools

The Tehama County Department of Education (TCDE) supports our five local K-8 small schools to provide students with an opportunity to showcase their artistic talents. Each year students submit their visual artwork to our office, where it is displayed to the public. The students are then invited to a one day Art Celebration event that includes docent tours of the artwork submitted by the small schools, art workshops, and a demonstration by a local artist. This year featured our local artists David Tamori and Colleen Pelfrey as our special guests! David led the students through an integrated art lesson that included watercolors and writing. Students laughed and enjoyed being spontaneous by engaging in Improv and theater

exercises with Colleen. The positive energy at TCDE was contagious on this memorable day. The event helps students build their understanding and appreciation for the arts and encourages them to further pursue their interest in this field of study. To view the student artwork, please visit www.bit.ly/TCDEArt2020.



Tehama County Department of Education



Makerspace

The TCDE Makerspace is a unique educational environment where students learn by doing. We offer a wide variety of hands-on activities including coding, electronics, digital media, engineering, videography, and other STEAM related projects. Not only does our curriculum support the development of the 21st-century workplace skills, but it also aligns with Next Generation Science Standards and supports the Common Core problem solving and processing skills. We find that by focusing on projects that are relevant to a student's world and interests we are more likely to ignite a student's passion for learning. A maker education has the potential

to better engage students in school and prepare them for successful careers after graduation by enabling them to problem solve, collaborate, analyze, question and explore.

The TCDE Makerspace is igniting the maker movement in people of all ages by connecting with schools, teachers, community members, and community organizations. Our Maker Certified teachers host a variety of workshops throughout the year,



run summer programs, facilitate school field trips, and are actively involved at community events such as the *Maker Showcase* at the *Tehama District Fair* and *Movies in the Park* event held each summer.

“The arts are a major area of human cognition, one of the ways in which we know about the world and express our knowledge. Much of what is said in the arts cannot be said in another way. To withhold artistic means of understanding is as much a malpractice as to withhold mathematics... Since schools traditionally develop only linguistic and logical/mathematical skills, they are missing an enormous opportunity to develop the whole child.”

– Dr. Howard Gardner, Harvard Graduate School of Education

Trinity County

Trinity County Office of Education

Contact: Tim Nordstrom • tnordstrom@tcoek12.org

“In Trinity County, where our local Arts Council is a strong and vibrant presence in our community, we recognize the importance of arts education. We know that research shows that art instruction positively enhances other skills including motor skills, language skills, social skills, decision making and inventiveness, to name just a few. This is why we don’t just value arts education, we also organize, model lessons, and support many arts-related programs in our schools.”



– Sarah E. Supahan, Trinity County Superintendent of Schools

Trinity County Office of Education

The Trinity County Office of Education (TCOE) supports the belief that participation in the arts is an effective way to address different modes of teaching and learning and is an essential component of the school curricula. Without education in the arts, there is a missing link in the development of the whole individual. To move arts education forward, it is vital to involve committed, highly qualified individuals who have administrative support that includes dedicated personnel, time and resources. TCOE supports a part-time arts coordinator position and it provides schools information on professional development opportunities, a lending library of materials, resources and lessons, an annual countywide student art show, “*MOBILE STEAM Team*”, *National History Day*, music instruction, local and traveling performing arts, the maintenance of a *Docent Arts Heritage Program* available for use by all county teachers, and the annual *California Native American Day* celebration featuring traditional arts, and consultation and mentoring for teachers and art educators.

Trinity Embraces Local Native History

The Trinity County American Indian Early Education Advisory Committee, among other activities, plans and implements an annual Tribal Villages Celebration for *California Native American Day*. They have created and distributed a curriculum guide for teachers linking the day’s activities to California content standards in history/social science, reading/language arts, science, math, and the visual and performing arts.



The day is designed to honor the local tribes and Native community, features hands-on activities involving students

Trinity County

(grades 3-4) and teachers in authentic local arts, crafts, dance, storytelling, food and other traditions. Student and teacher participation include pre- and post-classroom standard-based activities related to local Native history, tradition and the arts.

Docent Program

The *Trinity County Arts Heritage Docent Program* consists of over 400 art reproductions divided into 70 portfolios. Portfolios are organized around themes and contain art prints and slides, videos, and CD's as well as text on each work of art and artist. Portfolios cover a wide variety of subjects relating to art, music, history, math and social science. Also included are suggestions for hands-on follow-up activities, enabling students to express what they have learned. The *Arts Heritage Docent Program* is available for check out to all teachers and local community art instructors and artists and brings breadth and depth to a comprehensive arts education.

Young Artist Showcase

The annual *Young Artist Showcase* has been a tradition of the Trinity County Office of Education for over 35 years, curating students' unique and creative artwork from all over the county throughout the month of April. We are especially grateful to the Highland Art Center Gallery for hosting this annual event. A special reception for the students and their families is held the first Saturday of April, sometimes drawing in hundreds of people to view the work and have an opportunity to vote on their favorites from paintings, pencil drawings, pottery, pastel, watercolor, 3D designs, and even wood-burned art from our local high school woodshop. Beginning in 2020, this event will be completely led and hosted by one of our local high school art classes. The students will hang and organize over 240 pieces and they will host the community reception at its opening night.

National History Day

National History Day is another annual event and is open to all 4-12th grade students and exhibits a variety of artistic disciplines. Students are able to produce exhibits, websites, documentaries, and write/act performance scripts. *National History Day* provides a unique outlet for students to creatively produce projects while focusing on academic standards.

Performing Arts and Music

With a rich music community, TCOE, along with the Trinity Arts Council, strives to bring in touring musical groups each year to introduce and expose students to a variety of musical genres and styles. This past year saw a fiddling poet from Alaska as well as supporting a local community musical production of the *Sound of Music*.

Lending Library

Due to the challenges of the rural and isolated geography of our county, TCOE has created a lending library of resources and activities which is available to all schools. The lending library lends out professional books, musical instruments such as violins, robotics, STEAM projects, and various art related tools to which teachers wouldn't normally have access. The highlight of the lending library is that teachers are utilizing it more and more, so much so that TCOE continues to purchase more items, such as violins, to support our music teachers at school sites.

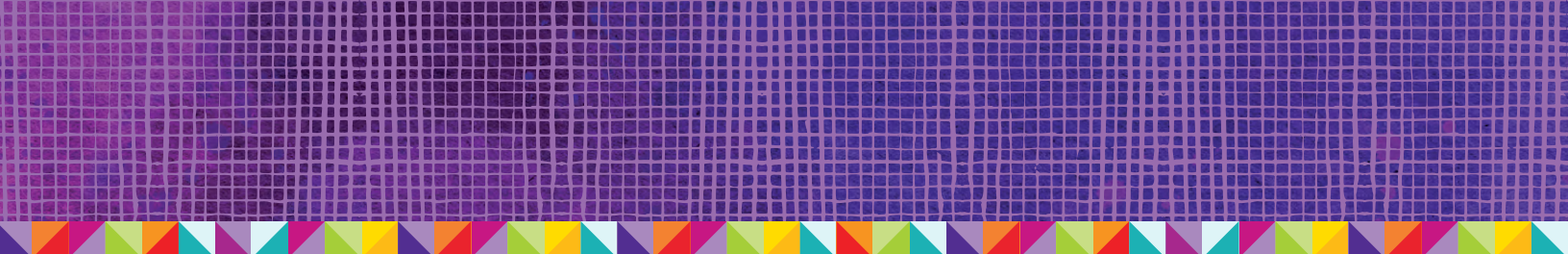
MOBILE STEAM Team

Our frontier mobile *S.T.E.A.M.* (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math) team is on the move in its 5th consecutive year of existence. Travelling to various



classrooms all around the county, this team provides instruction and exposes students and teachers to hands-on *S.T.E.A.M.* activities. Students are able to participate in multiple cross-strand activities such as designing 3D objects for printing, building engineering designs, testing

creations, and acting in front of a green screen. This program reaches K-12th grade students and is available to all schools within the county. The highlight of the year is a culminating *STEAM EXPO* designed to feature student ideas, concepts, projects, creativity, and to encourage higher learning within Trinity County. TCOE collaborates with various community partners to make this event one of the most attended student events in the County.



“Mounting research evidence confirms that students in schools with arts-rich learning environments academically outperform their peers in arts-poor schools. Where the arts are an integral component of the school day, they positively impact student attendance, persistence and engagement; enhance teacher effectiveness; and strengthen parent and community involvement.”

- What School Leaders Can Do to Increase Arts Education,
Arts Education Partnership

Region 3 ■ Capital

REGION 3 COUNTY SUPERINTENDENTS OF SCHOOLS

Ed Manansala, Ed.D., El Dorado County Superintendent of Schools

Scott W. Lay, Nevada County Superintendent of Schools

Gayle Garbolino-Mojica, Placer County Superintendent of Schools

David W. Gordon, Sacramento County Superintendent of Schools

Garth Lewis, Yolo County Superintendent of Schools

Francisco Reveles, Ed.D., Yuba County Superintendent of Schools

REGION 3 ARTS LEAD

Sacramento County Office of Education

L. Steven Winlock, Ed.D.

swinlock@scoe.net

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Sacramento, CA 95826-9003

916.228.2612

El Dorado County

El Dorado County Office of Education

Contact: Dr. Ed Manansala • emanansala@edcoe.org

“Art is an essential component to every child’s development. It is a universal language and gives students the opportunity to express themselves creatively. Through our county-wide programs and school districts, we work to enrich the lives of our students with artistic knowledge of the past and inspiration for the future.”

– Ed Manansala, Ed.D., El Dorado County Superintendent of Schools



The El Dorado County Office of Education (EDCOE) partners with 15 diverse school districts and the community to provide leadership and resources that promote arts throughout the county.

Sugarloaf Fine Arts Camp Provides Life-long Memories

EDCOE administers the *Sugarloaf Fine Arts Camp* which delivers outstanding arts instruction in a fun, safe and supportive camp environment. During the weeklong summer camp, approximately 400 students (grades 5-12) expand their skills in visual arts, theatre, video, vocal, textile, digital photography, video editing and more. Campers participate in over four hours of daily instruction in their chosen art medium taught by a combination of certificated teachers and professional artists. Many El Dorado County teachers and camp alumni staff the camp and ensure attendees have the

opportunity to explore new ways to express themselves during general and elective classes. Over the last several decades, the camp has become so

popular that a lottery system helps to select those who may attend camp. Campers make lifelong memories and friends through their experiences. Due to a strong partnership with the Sugarloaf Station Foundation and the scholarships they provide, no student is denied access to the camp because of financial hardship.



El Dorado County

El Dorado County Students Bring the Written Word to Life!

Every spring, more than 400 fourth through eighth-grade students representing over 28 schools from across El Dorado County bring the written word to life at the *Oral Interpretation Festival*, hosted by Pioneer Union School District. Small groups of children hurry to classrooms across campus to deliver interpretive performances of poetry and prose. Some students chose from famous works of literature, while others compose original pieces. After every performance, a volunteer evaluator, members of the audience and student peers give the orators complimentary and suggestive advice. The event is not a competition but a safe place to help enhance public speaking and presentation skills. Judges include EDCOE and district team members, members of the community and local distinguished leaders such as the El Dorado County Sheriff and County Supervisors.

Gold Country Jazz Festival Celebrates Many Schools

The Annual Gold Country Jazz Festival (GCJF) is hosted by the Ponderosa High School Band Program in El



Dorado County and welcomes schools from across the region and county lines. The purpose of the GCJF is to encourage the growth of jazz education in area's music programs. The

festival is non-competitive with participating groups receiving written and recorded feedback from top jazz educators, as well as an onstage clinic where parents get to hear the feedback and be involved in the learning process. The festival culminates in an awards ceremony and performance by a guest ensemble. In the past guests enjoyed performances by the Sacramento State Jazz Ensemble, the Sacramento Jazz Orchestra and The Commanders Jazz Ensemble from the US Air Force Band of the Golden West.

Tahoe Valley Elementary Schools Embraces the Arts with Open Arms

At Tahoe Valley Elementary School, in the Lake Tahoe Unified School District, the arts are not simply one part of the instructional day, they are embedded in the school's culture. The school's vision is to develop well-



rounded students who embody 21st Century skills through the arts. Educators work tirelessly

to provide children with learning experiences that will enable them to develop character, creativity, critical thinking, communication and collaboration skills, an appreciation of the aesthetic values in the Creative and Performing Arts, to become self-confident, motivated, caring, and socially conscious citizens. Programs include a *Paint and Sip* time for students and the production of plays such as *Seussical the Musical*. Tahoe Valley believes this comprehensive approach to student learning can only be accomplished through the collaborative efforts of their dedicated staff, families and students working together. They welcome everyone with open arms, and their students leave the day smiling.

Oak Ridge High School Visual and Performing Arts Bring Productions to Life

El Dorado Union High School District's Oak Ridge High School in El Dorado Hills empowers its performing arts programs to achieve greatness for their students. When they produce a theatre production, the audience is transformed into a Broadway musical at the local level. Their dedicated team of theatre, music, and vocal directors guide students through the entire process including acting, vocal stylings, live band, set design, lighting, sound design, choreography, props and stage design, wardrobe, hair and makeup and more. Recent productions have included shows such as *Grease*, *The Odd Couple* and *The Little Mermaid*.

Nevada County Superintendent of Schools

Nevada County Superintendent of Schools

Contact: Teena Corker • tcorker@nevcoe.org

“Nevada County has a rich tradition of arts in the community. Whether it is a film or music festival, art gallery, or poetry reading, the arts are engrained in our community. As educators it is our duty to make sure that journey begins in our schools with a quality, integrated arts program that exposes our students to all forms of art. The connection between art and a successful educational experience is undeniable. In Nevada County, we take that mission to heart.”



- Scott W. Lay, Nevada County Superintendent of Schools

Nevada County Superintendent of Schools

The Nevada County Superintendent of Schools (NCSoS) offers a variety of art education programs within our county under the leadership of our Arts Coordinator and supports other art programs with key community partners. These programs and services include our *Art Docent Program* and our *Annual Young At Art Exhibition* as well as our *Annual STEAM Expo*. NCSoS provides Instructional Coaching for teachers on integrating art across curriculum areas; professional development for county educators on the VAPA standards; and support for other extra-curricular activities and competitions across the county.

NCSoS partners with community cultural organizations and programs, including *Nevada County Arts Council's Poetry Out Loud*; The County Library's *Nevada County*



Reads Program; and the educational programs of *InConcert Sierra* and *Music In the Mountains*.

NCSoS's partnership with the Nevada County Arts Council over the years has led to the formation of a key arts education committee comprised of school administrators (active and retired), educators, local artists and local arts agencies. As a state-local partner

Nevada County Superintendent of Schools

with the California Arts Council, the Council advocates for Access, Equity and Community Engagement through promotion

of arts education projects. As a partner of California Alliance for Arts Education (CAAE) it works to improve teacher preparation, advocate for public funding for the arts, and ensure equity and access to arts education by closing opportunity gaps and eliminating inequities in access to arts education.

Programmatic initiatives locally include *Poetry Out Loud*, *Artists in Schools*, *Student Voices Campaign*, *Wild & Scenic Film Festival*, as well as engaging in grant writing efforts and other activities. Together with the Arts Council, NCSoS was one of three county offices awarded a grant to participate in an arts education planning process in partnership with CCSESA and the CAAE. The Arts Council's survey, a *State of the Arts Instruction in Western Nevada County K-12 in Public Schools*, was a key document in the grant process, as it highlighted the need for more comprehensive arts instruction for students and professional development for educators.



local artists, local arts agencies and other committed community members to work on the development of



a county-wide comprehensive strategic arts plan to guide increased and improved arts education within our schools, ensuring equity and access for all students.

A highlight of one of the collaborative programs with the Nevada County Arts Council is *Artists in Schools*. Four local schools are receiving a program that provides first, second, third and fourth graders weekly art lessons integrating VAPA standards across Common Core academic curriculum. These model art lessons have been collaboratively developed by classroom teachers and teaching artists. Ultimately, the program will include model lessons for all students (Grades 1-5).



In its 5th year, *Steam Expo 2020* continues to grow and expand each year beyond our expectations. Students exhibits, projects and performances throughout the day demonstrate the interconnectedness of art in every science, technology, engineering and math discipline. We have several areas throughout the expo where art is displayed, created and even considered as part of the judging criteria of many competitive projects submitted by students.



Placer County

Placer County Office of Education

Contact: Jennifer Hicks • jhicks@placercoe.org

“Research shows that a high-quality arts education has an exponential effect on student success, attendance and social-emotional aptitude. The arts are important for the development of 21st century skills needed for our future creative workforce.”

– Gayle Garbolino-Mojica, Placer County Superintendent of Schools



The Placer County Office of Education (PCOE), along with 16 individual school districts and one community college district, works to strive that every child be equipped with a first-class education to succeed in a global economy, to appreciate the cultural, social and

historical resources of their community, and to be active participants in civic

responsibilities. PCOE works collaboratively with stakeholders and educators to support and encourage arts instruction for students throughout the county.



Spotlight on Roseville City School District – Music Education for All Students

Music education is about so much more than learning to sing or play an instrument. Children who learn music do better in other subjects and gain skills that will help them with language development, increased IQ, creativity, spatial-temporal skills, coordination, and improved test scores. It's for these reasons and more that the Roseville

Placer County

City School District proudly offers music education to all students.



“It’s surreal to grasp that every student in our district takes part in a music education program,” said district Superintendent Derk Garcia. “Our ability to offer

arts to every student is intentional and purposeful. It has been accomplished through a partnership with the Roseville City School District Foundation (RCSDF), whose mission is to enhance, enrich and expand the education of every child in our district.”



The Roseville City School District serves more than 11,300 students in TK-8. The music program was created so that every child would receive quality music education through a credentialed music teacher. The program’s mission is to improve creativity, increase auditory skills, foster an appreciation for the arts, promote performance and participation and additionally foster social skills through cooperation and collaboration. At each school site, this includes instruction in singing, playing rhythm instruments, drums, reading music, listening skills, physical movement, and performance ensembles where students can study music more deeply.

Each school has a music specialist who not only teaches each class individually, but also has a performance ensemble, which include bucket bands, choirs, recorder groups, ukeleles and more. At the



elementary level, students attend music class weekly and each middle school offers elective classes.

This work is only accomplished through the partnership between the school district and the Roseville City School District Foundation, which has donated more than \$165,000 towards music instruments and supplies. Learn more at <https://www.rcsdk8.org>.



Sacramento County

Sacramento County Office of Education

Contact: Dr. L. Steven Winlock • swinlock@scoe.net

“There is a lot of evidence to support the fact that arts education provides learners with greater self-esteem, with motivation, enhanced emotional expression, and an appreciation of diversity.”

– David W. Gordon, Sacramento County Superintendent of Schools



Sacramento County Office of Education Supports the Arts

The Sacramento County Office of Education (SCOE) has worked tirelessly with school districts and art organizations to support the implementation and development of arts education. In 2018-19, this work was expanded when SCOE was awarded the Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grant (SSAE) through the California Department of Education. The million-dollar grant focused on providing all students with access to well-rounded art-oriented educational opportunities. The SCOE Arts Education Grant brought together stakeholders in arts education to develop their knowledge and inform how their work assists school districts in implementing arts education. The stakeholders worked together with job-alike colleagues through Community of Practice (COP) groups to discuss



strategies and create connections to a variety of arts educators and programs. Through the use of grant funding, 13 Sacramento County districts were awarded \$27,500 which VAPA coordinators used in a variety of ways to increase exposure to the arts. In addition to this, the 13 school districts were given 210 art kits containing colored pencils, oil pastels, water colors, and more. These kits were used in the classrooms and some were used

Sacramento County

at family events to promote artistic ventures within the students' families.

Collaborations and Partnerships

The Arts Education Community of Practice (COP) met multiple times during the 2018-19 school year connecting district art leads and art teachers with art organizations throughout the county. The Arts Education COP allowed district



and art organizations to network, access ideas, funding, and build partnerships. The *Any Given Child*, Sacramento Ballet, Images Theatre, the Crocker Art Museum, B Street Theatre, and Friends of the Arts Sacramento were the local art partners that are supporting establishing art education in our schools. These connections include field trips to local events, professional development for educators, and providing art exposure through assemblies and presentations. The Arts Education grant also supported teachers in obtaining their VAPA credential by sponsoring 50 teachers to obtain their Art or Music Added Authorizations. The purpose was to support our school districts in building art education programs with credentialed teachers. This work is continuing in the 2019-2020 school year with even more art organizations joining the conversation. David



Garibaldi and his organization, Creator X, will collaborate with a number of school districts to create dynamic and engaging lessons for students. The

district art leads meet once a month to discuss progress being made within their district and are joined by the art organizations the following month for a conversation on how to make arts education grow.



Next Steps

The Arts Education COP included collecting data on what arts programs already existed and what programs were being developed or improved the school districts. A final report was compiled from each of the districts detailing their next steps. One example of this work in action is that of Twin Rivers Unified School District, which has continued to grow their *Festival of the Arts*, an annual celebration of visual and performing arts. Students from multiple schools have their artistic creations displayed in the district office lobby, students play musical instruments, and perform dances for the general public to enjoy. The ongoing COP meetings with the district art leads and art organization leads will continue to build the partnerships that are necessary to provide art education in the school districts.



Yolo County

Yolo County Office of Education

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“It is inspiring to observe our students engaged in the creative process. Our students indicate they find personal and academic value learning about and expressing themselves through a variety of artistic forms. This is why YCOE continues to support and celebrate the arts as an essential component of our instructional program.”

– Garth Lewis, Yolo County Superintendent of Schools



Yolo County Office of Education

Yolo County Office of Education (YCOE) advocates for and encourages arts instruction for students throughout the county. The arts are an essential academic component in all students' education.

YoloArts

A key partner in this advocacy is the nonprofit organization, YoloArts, the county arts council. YoloArts has been working with schools throughout the county to provide standards aligned art instruction in public schools, specifically targeting those schools with high populations of socioeconomically disadvantaged students.

YoloArts provides art education for YCOE's Court and Community Schools and Special Education programs.

YoloArts' Teaching Artists work with students at Dan Jacobs and Cesar Chavez Community School in Ceramics, Aztec dance, painting, drawing, photography, digital art, film, hiphop/poetry and other media as interest is

expressed by the youth. Youth art works are showcased at the Juvenile Detention Facility throughout the year and we hold an annual art show in the community at the end of the school year for all students to celebrate their creativity.



Yolo County



Through our partnership, we place Teaching Artists in classrooms for students with significant emotional needs, students with multiple

disabilities, and students with autism as well as our *Deaf & Hard of Hearing* and *Adult Living Skills* programs. These Teaching Artists work with the classroom teachers and students to provide a variety of creative explorations



in different media. This year, the Horizon students have been working with a teaching poet to create their own poetry book.

The Countywide Visual and Performing Arts programs and YoloArts' programs served almost 3,000 students last school year. These ongoing opportunities include:

- *Artists in Schools* is an artist-in-residency program in the ceramic arts. Students in grades K-6, guided by local professional artists, learn the science, history and technique of ceramic art. Students create, learn to critically reflect on, and exhibit their artwork. This program is YoloArts' longest running artist-in-residence program in Yolo County.



- *ArtMix* is an artist-in-residency program featuring local professional artists.

Participating school sites

select a visual or performing arts discipline for school-wide focus during the 6-12 week residencies. Students gain confidence as well as the opportunity to develop, apply and fine-tune artistic skills. Each residency culminates in a final art exhibition or performance, and many partner schools choose to install a student created public art work (often a ceramic or painted mural) at the school.

- *Seeding Art for Change*, an art and agriculture based curriculum provides five weeks of in classroom arts instruction that leads up to a farm field trip order to connect school children to Yolo County's agricultural heritage and its central role in our economy.

- *Exposure* is an artist-in-residence program designed to take the students out of the classroom to participate in cultural experiences. We provide students with an introduction lesson to prepare them for their field trip, a field trip to the Crocker Art Museum or the Mondavi Center, and a final in class art lesson inspired by the activities on the field trip.

- *Poetry Out Loud* is a statewide poet project that culminates in a national recitation contest for high school students and is administered in Yolo County by YoloArts. Student participants interpret, memorize, and recite three poems within a competition framework that starts in the classroom. The California Arts Council hosts the California statewide competition each spring in Sacramento.



Yuba County

Yuba County Office of Education

Contact: Amy Nore • amy.nore@yubacoe.k12.ca.us

“Art in Education affirms our humanness and fosters an implicit bond among children and adults of all cultures and conditions. It creates a beautiful and untainted record of our existence by those who view the world through the lens of unhindered innocence. Indeed, Art in Education humanizes our educational institutions and reminds all of us of what is good.”

– Francisco Reveles, Ed.D., Yuba County Superintendent of Schools



Yuba County Office of Education

The Yuba County Office of Education (YCOE) works as collaborating partners to support the implementation of high-quality visual and performing arts education programs, throughout all grade levels and student programs, within the county. Cross-curricular projects are primary, but all programs that promote student engagement and accessibility to arts are supported and acknowledged.



The beautiful "Street Piano" was created by Marysville High School art students under the direction of Joe Lloyd, Arts Educator of the Year.

Yuba County

Learning Science Through Art Program

Yuba Water Agency and Yuba-Sutter Arts have collaborated on this program to supplement the second and third grade curriculum at 23 Yuba County schools, to include more science and art-based projects that meet state education requirements, and ultimately bring further awareness about the environment and the Yuba River.



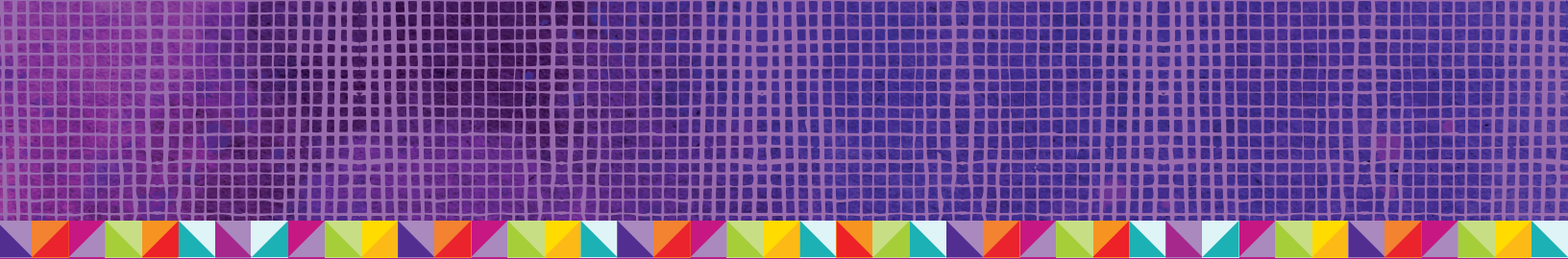
The Yuba County Special Education Programs put on a Very Special Arts Show each year in May, where students create artwork and a performance to music all based on a theme.



Students from the Yuba College Special Day class visited Yuba Sutter Arts for a preview of Day of the Dead art gallery show. They worked on a mask project and then watched the film *Coco* in the theater.

“My background is in arts education and we know, absolutely for a fact, that there is no better way for kids to learn critical thinking skills, communication skills, things like empathy and tolerance. This is true across every boundary, across cultural boundaries, across socioeconomic, it's a great leveler in terms of unifying our world.”

– Emma Walton Hamilton



“By immersing students in arts education, you draw them into an incredibly complex and multifaceted endeavor that combines many subject matters (like mathematics, history, language, and science) while being uniquely tied to culture.”

– Neil Swapp, Creativity and Academics:
The Power of an Arts Education

Region 4 ■ Bay

REGION 4 COUNTY SUPERINTENDENTS OF SCHOOLS

L. Karen Monroe, Alameda County Superintendent of Schools

Lynn Mackey, Contra Costa County Superintendent of Schools

Mary Jane Burke, Marin County Superintendent of Schools

Barbara Nemko, Ph.D., Napa County Superintendent of Schools

Vincent Matthews, Ed.D., San Francisco County Superintendent of Schools

Nancy Magee, San Mateo County Superintendent of Schools

Lisette Estrella-Henderson, Solano County Superintendent of Schools

REGION 4 ARTS LEAD

Alameda County Office of Education

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Alameda County

Alameda County Office of Education

Contact: Derek Fenner • dfenner@acoe.org

“The arts are vital to our well-being, to help us find moments of joy and beauty, and to spark creativity and collective expression, especially during this very difficult pandemic time. While there are many urgent needs, we continue to support the arts, especially for those confined to homes and other spaces where human connections are limited. I am so proud of the long-standing commitment from Alameda County Office of Education and its partners to advance arts integration to provide a well-balanced education for every child, in every school, every day. Now more than ever, we persist in our efforts to creatively engage our communities in impactful solutions and strategies that work.”



- L. Karen Monroe, Alameda County Superintendent of Schools

The Alameda County Office of Education (ACOE) is a champion for creative and purposeful education that supports the whole child. Public education is vital to a thriving California and helps shape the outcomes for our state. An essential aspect of reshaping education in California is to ensure adequate funding for public education, that includes providing all students access to arts education. Today's students are California's future. The arts are a bridge to engaging success for students chronically failed by our public education system. Learning in and through the arts is key to accessing and manifesting



students' creativity, hope, imagination, skills, knowledge, and solutions for the complex problems faced by our communities and society.

Our Students Deserve More

Alameda County Superintendent of Schools L. Karen Monroe and 18 Alameda County District



Superintendents have organized around the call for adequate funding for public education.

California ranks among the bottom ten states in per-pupil funding. When the state fails to invest in public schools, students suffer. Art and music programs disappear. Science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) are pared back to the minimum levels required under the law. Visit "The State of School Funding in California" for an overview of the issues and some possible solutions leaders in Alameda County are highlighting.

<https://www.acoe.org/funding>

Alameda County

Creativity is Not Optional!

CREATE Alameda County is the regional partner of CREATE CA. CREATE CA is a coalition of the California Department of Education, the California Arts Council, the California County Superintendents Educational Services Association (CCSESA), the California PTA, and the California Alliance for Arts Learning Leadership. CREATE Alameda County and CREATE CA partner to create a unified message and a local and statewide movement for arts education to ensure that every student has access to a high-quality education. This partnership is focused on elevating the powerful work of communities like ours to activate a groundswell of support in every pocket of California. By 2022, our vision is that each and every child in the Bay Area is successfully engaged in creative and active learning, both in and out of school, in preparation for college, career and community life. Since 1999, CREATE Alameda County (formerly the Alameda County Alliance for Arts Learning Leadership) has been involving individuals and organizations with a collective mission to engage young people in the arts and creative expression to advance equitable, comprehensive and inspired learning within and beyond schools.

Empowering Educators to Creatively Meet the Learning Needs of Each and Every Child

The Integrated Learning Specialist Program is a trans-disciplinary set of courses that envisions and nurtures new paradigms for teaching and learning. This program leverages tools and strategies that cultivate emergent dispositions and provokes new thinking about the role of the arts in education. Working collaboratively in inspired learning communities, participants investigate new pathways for creativity and examine and critique established norms and interrupt systems of inequity, promoting social justice and invention to build a better future for everyone. To date, 2,130 administrators, teachers,



and teaching artists have transformed their practice in the Integrated Learning Specialist Program (30%

- administrators, 50% - K-12 teachers, 20% - teaching artists). <http://www.integratedlearningacoe.org>

Whole School Transformation Through the Arts

ACOE's Integrated Learning Department supports networks of educators that have participated in the *Integrated Learning Specialist Program* and are transforming school culture, classroom practice and student learning through arts integrated practices and strategies. This work is happening across the county at ACOE arts integrated demonstration sites.

Principal Leadership Network

The purpose of the *Principal Leadership Network* is to connect school leaders as resources to each other, to learn from collective experience, and to share the wisdom of this network of school site leaders, who are transforming teaching and learning at their sites through arts-centered, integrated learning. At the core of their work, this group of leaders from ACOE arts integration demonstration sites shares best practices of Integrated Learning in leadership and social justice, to inform and improve the public education field. This is a research-based model in collaboration with UC Berkeley's Principal Leadership Institute. Through this partnership we are looking at school site outcomes in teaching and learning through the lens of Integrated Learning, to better understand how this work can support the kinds of courageous leadership our students need and deserve to thrive into the future.

Teacher Leadership Network

The Teacher Leadership Network is a collegial peer community for teacher leaders and site-based arts specialists at ACOE Demonstration School sites. This groups focus is to build off this supportive network designed to help participants identify and develop sustainable systems that bond, activate, and strengthen whole school practices through immersive, arts-centered integrated learning. Our continued goal is to support teacher leaders to learn from each other so that they can be instrumental in creating a thriving learning community at their sites for all students, and build capacity for strategic connections to other educational, whole-school initiatives and their local communities.

Contra Costa County

Contra Costa County Office of Education

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“Arts education is as critical as other core subject areas in preparing students for college and career. The arts provide a foundation for their development as productive, healthy, well-rounded and thoughtful citizens. It is imperative that we provide quality arts education to all students to set them up for success.”

– Lynn Mackey, Contra Costa County Superintendent of Schools



Contra Costa County Office of Education Focus on the Arts

Contra Costa County Office of Education (CCCOCOE) is committed to educating the whole child. We believe that the arts are an integral part of a high-quality, well-rounded educational foundation. CCCOCOE supports districts as they implement California arts standards, integrate arts into core curriculum, and develop STEAM programs that endeavor to engage all students.

The Contra Costa Arts Convening Group, comprised of arts instructional leaders from our county's districts as well as leaders of our local arts community partners, meets bimonthly to lead the learning, provide professional development and support implementation of arts education in all CCCOCOE schools.



We also partner with community arts organizations, such as KQED, Leshner Foundation, local art museums and theaters, as well as the Arts Commission of Contra Costa County, to support arts education.



Partnership with Alameda County Office of Education's Integrated Learning Specialist Program

Contra Costa County school districts partner with Alameda County Office of Education (ACOE) to provide professional development of arts integration with core subject areas for classroom teachers. The *Learning Specialist Program (ILS)*, has provided specific training on project-based learning to improve student engagement, understanding, and performance across subject areas. New and veteran teachers alike learn to infuse creativity, technology, and service learning during in-school and after school programming.

Contra Costa County

West Contra Costa's District-wide Arts Master Plan

The West Contra Costa (WCC) Unified School District's vision for the arts is that through a robust, arts standards based curriculum which is articulated from Pre-K to 12th grade, students will acquire fundamental and evolving skills, knowledge, and experience in the arts enhancing each student's readiness to enter the college and career of choice. To ensure an equitable access to arts education for all students, honor the cultural legacies of its communities and enable hands-on artistic learning, WCC has adopted a multiyear master plan for arts curriculum integration and implementation in elementary and secondary grade levels. In addition to General Fund money, the Local Control Accountability Plan includes goals and allocates funding to support the arts master plan.



WCC partners directly with the Alameda County Office of Education ILSP, Richmond Art Center, and East Bay Center for Performing Arts to provide professional learning and resources to teachers and their classrooms. Professional Development is focused on increasing teachers' skill and comfort level for leading Arts activities as well as training teachers to integrate the Arts into daily curriculum. The integration of the various arts disciplines increases engagement and retention of core subject matter while exposing students to the processes and forms inherent in each art discipline. A dedicated Arts Liaison is identified at each school site to facilitate this process.

Elementary music programs in Band and Orchestra introduce students to the fundamentals of music performance and instrumental technique while school site partnerships with outside organizations provide opportunities for general music, theatre arts, and visual arts. After school programs further enhance student opportunities in these areas with the addition of movement instruction at some sites. The elementary arts experiences serve to develop students with the background and ability to participate at the middle school and high school levels.

By implementing this multiyear districtwide plan, all students receive foundational arts education at the elementary level and are provided opportunities to grow in advanced arts techniques at the secondary levels, as well as to participate in theatre competitions, music festivals and art shows within WCCUSD and in the surrounding communities.

Wren Avenue Elementary School of the Arts and Coyote Creek Elementary School: Practices of Promise

Wren Avenue Elementary School of the Arts is the Mt. Diablo Unified School District (MDUSD) visual and performing arts magnet school. It is a collaborative community that builds upon skills students will need as they prepare for colleges and careers.

Wren Avenue is developing an integrated MDUSD regional arts magnet program comprised of high academic expectations through common core standards via the visual or performing arts. The purpose is to provide an artistic avenue for students to fulfill their academic requirements, and to provide them with intensive in-depth training in the arts, English language development, math, and the use of technology.

Coyote Creek Elementary is an arts integration school in the San Ramon Valley Unified School District. Coyote Creek is a recipient of the *2020 California Exemplary Arts Education Award*. A high performing California Distinguished School, Coyote Creek offers theatre, music, visual art, dance, and media arts experiences to all students both as independent classes and as interdisciplinary subjects woven into core content areas of English Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies. Students at Coyote Creek receive weekly instruction in visual and performing arts (VAPA) and integrated arts. Students in grades 4-5 receive two blocks of Performing Arts instruction per week, while students in the primary grades of TK-3 receive arts instruction in periodic cycles. Additionally, students receive integrated arts instruction from our classroom teachers, spearheaded by our teachers seeking certification through the *Integrated Learning Specialist Program (ILSP)*. This program enriches the lives of its students while preparing and equipping them to meet the academic challenges ahead.

Marin County

Marin County Office of Education

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“Incorporating the arts into everyday learning can spark imagination and innovation in students’ hearts and minds. In Marin County, we are integrating the arts through non-traditional means, such as technology and project based learning, to help all students develop a passion for creativity and essential analytical skills to thrive in a global economy.”

– Mary Jane Burke, Marin County Superintendent of Schools



Marin County Office of Education

The Marin County Office of Education (MCOE) leverages countywide collaborative efforts to prioritize the arts as an integral part of student thinking and learning. Thanks to local partner organizations and education agencies, Marin County students have access to a broad array of classroom and extracurricular programs that incorporate the arts in traditional and non-traditional mediums. These partnerships help build sustainable programs and networks by building teacher capacity, promoting the sharing of ideas and skills, and attracting the interests of experts in the field.

The *Marin Arts Education Plan* serves as a road map for providing a quality arts education for every student in Marin County. The Plan is comprised of strategic goals, objectives and actions with a shared implementation by all partners on behalf of each student in Marin County.

The Marin Arts Education Plan targets three pillars:

- **Sustainability:** Collaboratively building a sustainable network of potential funding sources that support equitable arts instruction.
- **Educational Support:** Support relevant, rigorous, quality arts education for every student in Marin County, including social emotional and academic learning for overall student success.
- **Community Support:** Support strategic partnerships to provide a network for arts education programs and opportunities that showcase Pre-K-12th grade student engagement.



Marin County

Programs and Partnerships

With funding from a state Student Support and Academic Achievement (SSAE) grant, the MCOE launched the *Advancing Teacher and Learning in the Arts and Sciences (ATLAS)* program. In partnership with Oakland-based Agency by Design and several Bay Area



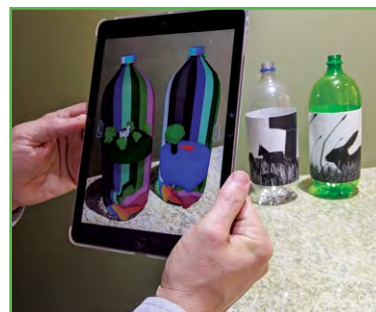
environmental agencies, a four-day *STEAM Institute* (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math) was developed by STEAM leaders,

educators, and experts in the summer of 2019. The goal was to develop art integrated learning opportunities that would support youth to become environmental advocates and stewards. Facilitators modeled culturally responsive teaching practices incorporating the arts enabling teacher participants to replicate this type of learning with students. Simultaneously, educators worked with content experts to create a multi-disciplinary STEAM Unit of Study to empower students to become advocates for the environment by investigating real world issues.

Following the STEAM Institute, teachers piloted their newly developed STEAM units with K-8 students in an Environmental Leadership Summer Academy. Teachers implemented and revised their lessons in real-time while receiving immediate feedback from instructional coaches and student observations. One participant noted, "The balance between learning as a student and planning as a teacher using arts integration made the unit planning process meaningful and productive." STEAM Units of Study are available on the MCOE website: <https://www.marinschools.org/Page/6759>.

In 2018, the MCOE partnered with the College of Marin, Marin County Free Library, Novato USD, and the Workforce Alliance of the North Bay to launch the XR Marin Regional Training Center, a public technology lab where students and community members can explore design and development

through XR *Marin* immersive technologies (virtual reality, augmented reality and mixed reality). *XR Marin* exposes students to a blend of STEAM skills in a unique



virtual environment. The mission of *XR Marin* is to provide students with access to training that can guide them on a college or career path leading to high demand skills in the workforce of the future.

XR Marin academies empower students to create immersive experiences with creativity, curiosity and teamwork. Students practice virtual reality art and design skills utilizing the latest technology mediums including Tilt Brush, Blocks 3-D and Oculus Medium to express their artistic talents. Immersive storytelling workshops train students to use 360-degree video to create films, virtual tours and 3-D immersive experiences. The *XR academy* teaches students to develop and place 3-D models in virtual environments using Unity, a video game development platform. In the Augmented Reality Student Academy, participants used digital art to enhance a liter sized soda bottle to create animated 3-D digital worlds inside the actual bottle. The project taught students to enhance objects in our physical world with digital imagery. This lesson teaches students the foundational skills in digital art, 3-D modeling, animation, and programming with Unity3D gaming.



The *XR Marin* initiative was featured at the *Marin County Fair* and the *Sausalito Art Festival* where students demonstrated the technology and taught members of the public how it can be used. In a short time, *XR Marin* has gained the attention and participation of technology leaders and companies from around the world.

Napa County

Napa County Office of Education

Contact: Seana Wagner • swagner@napacoe.org

“To me, the arts are the heart of the school experience. Students who experience the arts will reap a lifetime of benefits, either as participants or observers. Being involved in music, dance or drama enriches our lives beyond measure, and we owe this to every student.”

– Barbara Nemko, Ph.D., Napa County Superintendent of Schools



The Power of a Plan

Four years ago, the Napa Valley Unified School District Board of Education adopted an Arts Education Master Plan -- the first ever in Napa County and the first of its kind in the state to leverage a team of educators, arts advocacy groups, and funders in support of K-12 public school arts education. The five year, public/private partnership, resulted in the creation of an Arts Coordinator position and various structures through which teachers could get involved.

Shared leadership was an important concept that was baked into the plan from its inception. An Arts Cadre of 13 teachers (mostly arts specialists, but later including generalist teachers and local artists) and a smaller Arts Leadership Team met monthly to do committee work, share successes, and plan for the implementation of the Master Plan together. Their work resulted in

changes to Board Policy (viz, identifying the Arts as core curriculum), an annual professional development budget for arts specialists, a plan to support arts education in our earliest grades via arts integration training, and a recommendation (which was ultimately funded) to increase the number of middle school music classes to meet demonstrated demand.

The Leadership Team sees itself as “a voice for equitable access to the arts, so the arts may give voice to all students.” The full Arts Plan and highlighted success stories are available on the district website at nvusd.org/arts.

Napa Can Dance!

Napa COE was proud to co-sponsor a state-wide professional learning opportunity with the CCSESA Arts Initiative in February 2020. The event was held at Napa County’s largest performing arts venue -- the Napa Valley

Napa County

Performing Arts Center at Lincoln Theater in Yountville.

Nancy Ng and Patricia Reedy of Luna Dance Institute (Berkeley)

led a roomful

of teachers, administrators, and dance advocates in an engaging exploration of the new California Arts Standards from the perspective of Dance.



State-funding Leveraged to Increase Arts Education

A consortium of Napa County schools received Title IV funding via the Student Success and Academic Enrichment Grant (SSAE) to increase the capacity of classroom teachers to integrate the arts throughout the elementary school curriculum. The grant reasoned that student engagement is critical to learning and that the arts increase engagement in two important ways:

- by preparing the brain for learning (i.e. addressing the effects of trauma), and
- by providing multi-modal forms of expression.

Spearheaded by the Napa Valley Unified School District (NVUSD), the focus was teacher professional development.

K-5 generalist teachers and the grant provided opportunities for specialized audiences to learn about arts integration, including teachers of Advanced Learners and mental health workers in the Special Education department. These trainings resulted in improved teacher confidence and attitude



regarding incorporating the arts in their classroom. Many teachers even remarked on the salubrious effects they experienced *themselves* in the artistic process.

By the end of the nine month grant, over 66% of NVUSD elementary teachers had received at least eight hours of training in arts integration (up from 16% before the grant), which represents significant progress towards reaching this goal of the Arts Education Master Plan.

The Value of a VAPA Coordinator

Napa Valley Unified School District, the largest district in Napa County with over 17,000 students, created for the first time an Arts Coordinator position to implement its newly adopted Arts Education Master Plan. This position has resulted in a flourishing of teacher engagement in the arts throughout the district's nearly 30 schools.

In addition to serving as "Implementer in Chief" of the Arts Plan, an Arts Coordinator also benefits other district processes, including policy discussions, budget development, planning professional learning for teachers, and communicating positive stories about the school district.

While the initial focus of an Arts Coordinator will be "internal," this leader also serves a valuable role in the broader community. This person is not only a bridge *builder*, but also serves as a bridge herself, as she connects teachers with guest artists, donors and opportunities. The Arts Coordinator is also a story-teller, working with the local newspaper, local Arts Council, district newsletters, and service groups to tell the amazing stories that come out of student arts programs.

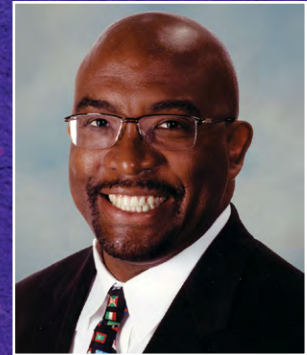
Some of the work needed to support the arts in schools can happen without a dedicated position, but having a person who is both accessible and accountable allows a district to quickly take advantage of funding opportunities (such as the \$40 million competitive The SSAE grant in 2019) and provides a consistent support for district arts specialists, a consistent arts contact for the public, and a consistent symbol of district dedication to the arts (access, opportunity, and equity) for all.

San Francisco Unified School District

San Francisco Unified School District

Contact: Sam Bass • BassS2@sfusd.edu

“At the San Francisco Unified School District, we provide a rigorous and meaningful arts education for each and every student in every zip code. As an Arts Equity District, we are focused on ensuring that all students have access to a quality arts education and programming throughout their experience in SFUSD, PreK-12. Our mission as a district is that every day, for each and every student, we will provide quality arts instruction and equitable support. Equity means you’re going to do more when more is needed... doing more in assisting our adults in giving all of our students, but specifically African-American and other students of color, the skills that they need to be successful in life and in the arts.”



– Vincent Matthews, Ed.D., Superintendent, San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD)

San Francisco Unified School District

The goal of the San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD) Visual & Performing Arts Department is to provide and support equitable access to quality arts education and arts programming for all SFUSD students. As an Arts Equity District, it is also SFUSD’s goal to advance the objectives of the SFUSD Board of Education’s Arts Equity Resolution and SFUSD’s Vision 2025 in the areas of equity, access, achievement, and

accountability. SFUSD is increasing cultural arts programming for SFUSD’s diverse student populations. The Visual & Performing Arts Department is being restructured to align



San Francisco Unified School District



SFUSD is focused on the *Mosaic Initiative* to support arts integration, creative careers, and summer/after-school programming in the arts. For SY 2020-21, SFUSD will be fully involved in the 135 Arts project that will support the *Mosaic Initiative* and Ruth Asawa School of the Arts. Through a grant from The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, the *Arts Education Master Plan* is being revised to include the Arts Equity Resolution, specific language regarding African American achievement, inclusive practices, and an overall name change for the plan that reflects the mission and the breadth of SFUSD arts programming.

with the Arts Equity Resolution to support sequential programming throughout all five arts disciplines.

With support and guidance from the Visual & Performing Arts Department, SFUSD schools have been able to build arts programs and to provide access to arts education for students who previously lacked access. The addition of a *Teacher on Special Assignment (TSA)* for SFUSD's Pre-K *Dance Pilot*, with a focus on Early Education coordination, is giving an incredible boost to student learning in the arts during the critical years of cognitive development. Teachers continue to be supported with extended-hour stipends to nurture their leadership role as arts coordinators at every school site, building capacity at the school level, while continuing to sustain a powerful professional learning community.



Through a partnership with the Mr. Holland's Opus Foundation, SFUSD is now a Music Education District Support Services (MEDSS) district that will include an instrument inventory audit, a full program audit of all music education programming, professional development for instrumental music teachers, and a full report of its program including highlights and areas of need.

The deeply held promise of access, equity, and excellence in arts education, in combination with the many world class arts resources available in San Francisco, allow for the San Francisco campus to be the thread that binds these programs and arts learning opportunities together; serving students, parents, teachers, artists, and our larger community.



San Mateo County

San Mateo County Office of Education

Contact: Michelle Holdt • mholdt@smcoe.org

“President Barack Obama once said, “The future belongs to young people with an education and the imagination to create.” In the best interests of our shared future, every child’s education should include opportunities to engage in creativity and the imagination. An education rich in the arts prepares our young people to inhabit the future with an appreciation for beauty, the capacity for joy, and with leadership that is guided by both the head and the heart.”

– Nancy Magee, San Mateo County Superintendent of Schools



Making Arts Education a Priority in San Mateo County

The San Mateo County Office (SMCOE) has been expanding its efforts to promote and support arts education in all of our schools. In 2017, SMCOE hired a Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator who helps support an annual Art Institute, quarterly *Art Showcases*, a countywide *Art Expo*, *Creative Residencies*, and the development and 2020 launch of a Visual, Performing, and Media Arts Strategic Plan.

Visual, Performing, and Media Arts Strategic Plan

Motivated by data showing that only 44 percent of students in San Mateo County receive some arts education at the secondary level, and only 36 percent of students from households with low incomes have this opportunity, SMCOE embarked on an effort to increase

equity and access to arts education for all students.

SMCOE worked together with teachers, school administrators, leaders of arts organizations, working artists, and others to

develop a strategic plan for arts education in San Mateo County. The *Visual, Performing, and Media Arts Strategic Plan: Creating Equity and Access to Arts Education for All Students in San Mateo County Public Schools* was officially released in January 2020. To learn more, visit www.smcoe.org/arts.



San Mateo County

Arts Expo

In 2018, the San Mateo County Office (SMCOE) created a brand new celebration of learning – *The Next Big Think* – that features not only a STEM Fair, but a countywide *Arts Expo* as well. This change reflects SMCOE's commitment to STEAM education and creating space to celebrate students' various passions and interests. Held every March, the *Art Expo* has grown in size and now includes 1,000 examples of student visual, performing, and media art and attracts more than 2,000 people.



Annual Arts Institute

The SMCOE hosted its 3rd annual *Arts Institute* in 2019. This day-long event has grown to include more than 100 teachers from across the county and provides educators with an opportunity to connect with each other, participate in workshops with experts from a variety of fields, and tackle important topics.



Creative Residencies

SMCOE is planning to launch *Creative Residencies*, a pilot program to provide teachers the opportunity to immerse in hands-on music, theatre, visual arts and dance experiences and develop mindsets to help build creativity. The program will include two hands-on and interactive Arts Immersion days and two Curriculum Integration half-days to create STEAM-based activities for the classroom that support the California Arts standards.

Art Takes a Bus Ride

SMCOE partners with the San Mateo County Transit District to coordinate the *Art Takes a Bus Ride* art competition for San Mateo County students in grades 1-12. The artwork of two finalists is displayed on the side of a SamTrans bus for a year, and student art is displayed on cards inside the buses.



Walt Disney Family Museum Show Features Art of Students in Court Schools

The Walt Disney Family Museum in San Francisco hosted an exhibition of artwork created by students in SMCOE's Hillcrest School. The Exhibition, "*Fresh Starts*," presented juried artwork created by youth who were incarcerated. The students participated in art-making sessions facilitated by museum staff at three juvenile detention centers in the Bay Area. In the words of one Hillcrest student, "I want to thank you for bringing the Disney Museum teachers here. I feel so alive when I am doing artwork and the good feeling lasts for days."



Solano County

Solano County Office of Education

Contact: Amy Robinson • arobinson@solanocoe.net

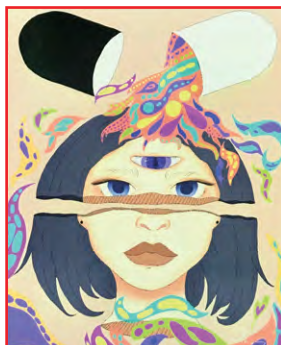
“Visual and Performing Arts are a vitally important link to increased academic success through the advancement of a child’s creativity, language and motor skills, critical thinking, and cultural awareness. Each year in Solano County, we host a Student Art Faire to showcase our local student artists’ amazing talent presented in a variety of formats. The event celebrates the importance of the arts in education and also honors the instructional gifts of our county’s wonderful art teachers!”



- Lisette Estrella-Henderson, Solano County Superintendent of Schools

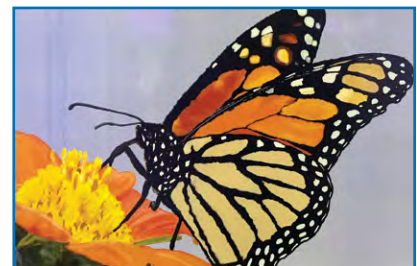
Solano County Office of Education

The Solano County Office of Education (SCOE) works collaboratively with our districts and community partners to ensure that all students have access to the arts throughout their educational experiences. SCOE recognizes that an education in the arts—dance, media arts, music, theatre, and visual arts—develops engaged students with creative skills for expression, thought, and language use. In order to meaningfully engage our districts in arts education we provide professional learning opportunities at both the site and county level. Solano County also offers opportunities for stakeholders to meet as a Visual and Performing Arts consortium, and SCOE continually collaborates



to develop innovative ways to integrate the arts into a multitude of learning environments.

The SCOE has also been partnering with local districts and community partners to update and implement the Solano County Arts Education Plan.



SCOE's Youth Service's Department coordinates and hosts the Solano County Annual Student Art Faire, showcasing incredible works of art from students, grades 4-12 attending schools across the county. The expansive art exhibit, featuring a wide array of media, is open to the public and centrally located at the Solano County Fairgrounds. The students, as well as their creative

Solano County

works, are celebrated with an artist reception bringing community members, classmates, teachers, family and friends together to recognize the passion and talent expressed by each unique individual. The student artwork is then displayed year-round at public buildings including the SCOE and Solano County Superior Court Hall of Justice. SCOE is proud of the learning and creative opportunities the *Student Art Faire* has provided to Solano students for over 35 years.

SCOE partners with the *Integrated Learning Specialist Program (ILSP)*, with support from The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, in order to offer educators of all levels the opportunity to grow professionally and deepen contemporary educational strategies with a focus on arts integration and equity. Workshops hosted by SCOE and facilitated by ILSP specialists offer hands-on professional learning focused on an introduction to arts integrated teaching and learning, curriculum development, and assessment grounded in contemporary arts and educational frameworks from *Harvard's Project Zero: Teaching for Understanding, Studio Thinking, and Making Learning Visible*. During these workshops, participants explore concepts in math, science, history and language



arts through two arts disciplines, investigating the different ways that creative arts help students formulate questions, synthesize, and express learning in core subjects.

Benicia Unified School District, one

of Solano County's six districts, has a strong history of working to ensure that arts are accessible to all students. Elementary schools partner with various professionals in the community to offer a Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Math (STEAM) wheel to students in grades 3-5. These students get three different five-week classes such as: dance, drawing, music, robotics, coding, chess, tinkering, singing/voice, and drama. At the middle school level, Benicia has very popular art electives as well


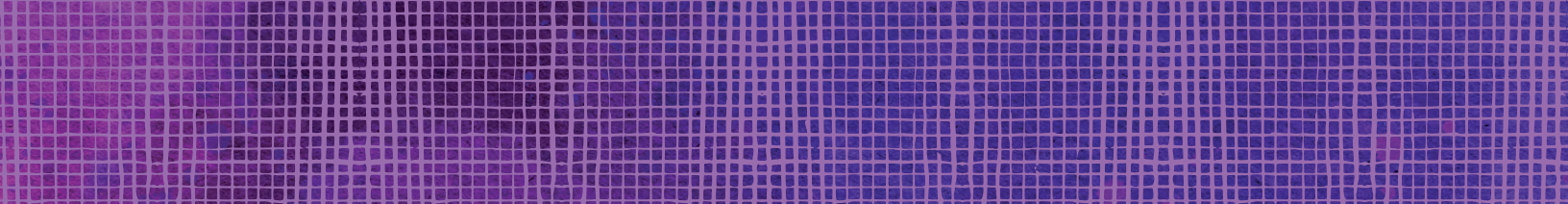


as a great band and Viking TV! Middle school drama classes are wonderful and put on shows every year. There is also a stagecraft class for those choosing to work behind the scenes. At Benicia's comprehensive high school, there is a wide variety of popular art

classes including sculpture, photography, and imaging. Drama and music are also popular classes at Benicia High School (BHS). Benicia also works in partnership with the local arts community so that students from the continuation high school have opportunities for integrated arts projects and to participate in art centered field trips.

In the Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District, Oakbrook Academy of the Arts was recently recognized with the California Exemplary Arts Education Award. At the TK-8 school, the mission is "to drive arts integration — where curriculum comes alive for students through the arts and where every student can find a way — traditionally or through the arts — to show success academically". Students in TK, kindergarten and fourth grades focus on music, first and fifth grades place an emphasis on dance, second and sixth emphasize visual arts, and third and seventh grade focus on theater. Eighth graders concentrate on all four of the visual and performing arts.

Students at Oakbrook Academy of the Arts are also provided with opportunities to participate in the arts through experiences in the surrounding communities. Oakbrook Academy students have been able to participate in field trips to the Geary Theater in San Francisco, the Mondavi Center at UC Davis, and "*Nutcracker*" performances at the Vacaville Performing Arts Theatre. The school also hosts performances from visiting artists on campus. Justine Turner, principal of Oakbrook Academy plays an active role in promoting the arts throughout Solano County, sharing Oakbrook's work and having conversations with site and district leaders to help them integrate the arts into their own existing programs.



“For America’s young people to be fully prepared when they leave high school for college, career and life, they will need a complete and competitive education. They will need an education that includes deep, expansive knowledge in a broad range of subjects as well as advanced reading, writing and computational skills. They will need the ability to think creatively and synthesize relevant information from across subject areas and combine it in new and novel ways. And they will need the ability to reason analytically, communicate effectively and work collaboratively.”

- The Arts Leading the Way to Success,
Arts Education Partnership



Region 5 ■ South Bay

REGION 5 COUNTY SUPERINTENDENTS OF SCHOOLS

Deneen Guss, Ed.D., Monterey County Superintendent of Schools

Krystal Lomanto, San Benito County Superintendent of Schools

Mary Ann Dewan, Ph.D., Santa Clara County Superintendent of Schools

Faris Sabbah, Ed.D., Santa Cruz County Superintendent of Schools



REGION 5 ARTS LEAD

Santa Clara County Office of Education

Sofia Fojas

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San Jose, CA 95131

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Monterey County

Monterey County Office of Education

Contact: Caryn Lewis • clewis@montereycoe.org

“Arts education is an integral part of the development of each human being and vital to our society. Throughout history, the arts have influenced society by changing opinions, instilling values and translating experiences across space and time. Study and participation in the fine arts is a key component in improving learning throughout all academic areas. Evidence shows its effectiveness in reducing student dropout rates, raising student attendance, developing better team players, fostering a love for learning, improving greater student dignity, enhancing student creativity, and producing more prepared citizens for the workplace for tomorrow. The arts also provide learners with non-academic benefits such as promoting self-esteem, motivation, aesthetic awareness, cultural exposure, creativity, improved emotional expression, as well as social harmony and appreciation of diversity.”



- Deneen Guss, Ed.D., Monterey County Superintendent of Schools

Monterey County

The Monterey County Office of Education (MCOE), in partnership with the community, provides the leadership, support and service excellence needed to prepare all of Monterey County's diverse students for success in each step of their educational journey today and in the future.

The Media Center for Arts, Education and Technology

The Media Center for Arts, Education and Technology (MCAET) is a state-of-the-art studio facility capable of training students in visual and performing arts and digital media career technical education pathways. The facility features two 24/7 television channels, editing

for video, film and television, high definition and 3D video cameras, a black box theater seating 100,

a sound and recording room for underscoring and animation, a “game design” room, and digital connection network of blended communication towers transmitting student produced media arts countywide. MCAET also now serves over 250 students from the regional occupation program, Alternative Education program, home charter program



Monterey County

and the Federal Workforce Program. The MCAET Black Box Theater stage hosts students performing live for a studio audience and a county television audience. As well, MCAET is host to film screenings, poetry readings, live music events, esports, and professional development. From arts and culture to sports, MCAET/MCOE leads the way. For more information visit: www.mcaet.org

After School Children's Theatre

After school Children's Theatre (ACT) a subsidiary of *Paper Wing Theatre* brings after school musicals to Monterey Peninsula Unified School District (MPUSD) campuses. The program include shows and learning at almost every elementary and middle school in MPUSD to make sure as many students as possible have exposure to and experience participating in theatre. *Lion King*, *Jungle Book*, *Seussical* and *Willy Wonka* have impressed overfull audiences of family and friends. In the middle and high schools, *ACT* also teaches aspects of the technical side of theatre with lights and sound engineering provided in part by students.



King City Arts Magnet

The King City Arts Magnet (KCAM) officially opened its doors in August 2004 as a K-1 Elementary School with 33 students. The Magnet School had previously been known as the King City Arts Charter School. Since that time, the school has expanded into a K-5 Elementary School with 480+ students with an incredible and dedicated staff.

Art and technology are harnessed at the KCAM to help develop academic skills necessary for future employment in the global workforce.

Art and technology, when used in creative ways, will give KCAM students the creative edge they need to compete and advance in that workforce. By

integrating arts and technology into the core curriculum, learning has real meaning to KCAM students.

The KCAM believes that we can be the agents of change in an educational system that requires both re-invention and inspiration. For more information visit: www.kcarts.kcUSD.org.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. School of the Arts Elementary School

Dr. Martin Luther King School of the Arts (MLK SOA) is proud to be a partner in the Turnaround Arts program, a network of schools across the nation dedicated to ensuring all children have access to the arts. Through the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C., Turnaround Arts is a program that instills high-quality and integrated arts instruction to strengthen school reform, boost academic achievement and increase student engagement. Singer-songwriter and musician Jackson Browne has adopted MLK and visits and supports the school's music program. At the MLK SOA, the arts empower students to cultivate a passion for learning. In 2020 the school was recognized among 13 California schools to receive a *California Exemplary Arts Education Award*.

At Dr. Martin Luther King School of the Arts (MLK SOA), every student receives dedicated arts instruction from a Visual Arts Specialist and Music Specialist every week in addition to the arts-integrated curriculum in their classroom. MLK students practice mindfulness and promote the five qualities of the Artist Profile: Proud, Creative, Caring, Inquisitive, and Open-Minded. Through community partnerships with local arts organizations, MLK students engage in Artist Residencies with learning opportunities resulting from collaborations between local artists and their teacher. For more information visit: www.king.mpusd.net.



San Benito County

San Benito County Office of Education

Contact: Keith Thorbahn • kthorbahn@sbcoe.org

“We know that an arts education helps students develop critical thinking and further motivates them to learn and excel academically. Arts Education stimulates creativity and innovation that supports all areas of academics. Arts Education plays a significant role in supporting a well-rounded education, especially for disadvantaged students who are less likely to have access to arts instruction outside of the school setting.”



- Krystal Lomanto, San Benito County Superintendent of Schools

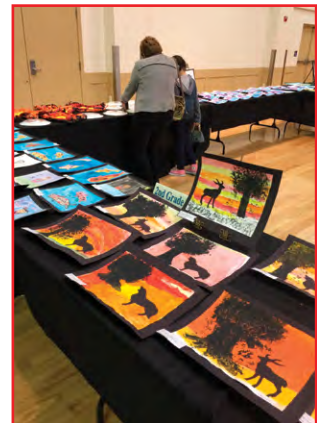
San Benito County Office of Education

San Benito County Office of Education (SBCOE) is participating in the Region 5 VAPA collaborative which aims to bring Arts Standards professional development and conversation to each of the four counties. SBCOE levies relationships with community and region entities to offer current resources to all eleven of our county districts. Our cherished partnerships provide a well-balanced implementation of arts to our districts.

SBCOE is fortunate to be able to work with the San Benito County Art Council in our arts education endeavors. Programs include a collaborative countywide *Art Showcase*, *STEAM Fair*, and the ever so popular

Teachers' Art Workshops.

The San Benito County Arts Council also supports San Benito County Office of Education's alternative education programs through their *Dreams Project*, a year-round artist in residency program at San Andreas Continuation High School, Pinnacles School and Juvenile Hall. Recently, alternative education students participated in an eight-week skateboard art project with



San Benito County



teaching artists, Syllas & Heidi Jumper, and also attended school-based performances by Common Sound, a music collective of symphony musicians and spoken word artists. SBCOE also works closely with the Arts Council's Arts Now Community, a network of arts education advocates who are working to promote and expand arts education for all students in San Benito County. In 2019 they successfully advocated for the adoption of the Declaration of Student Rights



to Arts Education by the San Benito Board of Education.

One of the county's greatest achievements in the last year has been the creation of the new 3rd-5th Grade Visual Art Program within the Hollister School District and Aromas San Juan School District. This program, coordinated by the San Benito County Arts Council, brings weekly visual art classes to every 3rd, 4th and 5th grader in our two largest elementary school districts. That's over 2,000 students per week getting the arts! The program is taught by qualified teaching artists and is expected to expand in 2020-21. We are grateful to Superintendent Ochoa (HSD) and Superintendent Huntoon (ASJUSD) for their leadership in the arts!



Santa Clara County

Santa Clara County Office of Education

Contacts: SCCOE Arts Lead • Sofia Fojas • sfojas@sccoe.org
CISC Arts Subcommittee Chair • Dr. Gary Waddell • gwaddell@sccoe.org

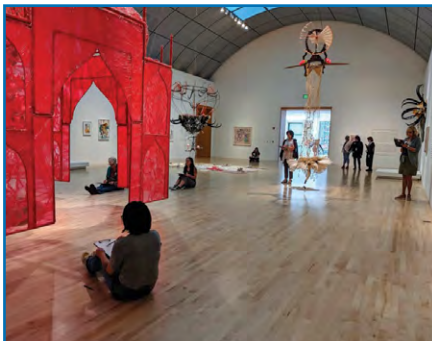
“The Santa Clara County Office of Education is committed to the arts as an expression of our core principles of equity, diversity, inclusion, and partnership. Each of these are boldly expressed through our countywide Artspiration initiative. We have seen the power of the arts to engage and inspire all learners and be a powerful tool for youth to share their voices, bring awareness to their individuality, express their creativity and ignite their passions.”



- Mary Ann Dewan, Ph.D., Santa Clara County Superintendent of Schools

Arts Engaging with the Community

Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) is proud of the growing Young Artist Showcase. The Young Artist Showcase is the largest collection of student artwork in the state. In the County Office, a new media arts wall has been installed to showcase artwork digitally. Throughout the building, you will find QR codes on the artwork that link to a video of the student artist statement.



In addition to the galleries at the County Office, the Young Artist Showcase can be found within

the community.

Partnerships have been a vital component of Artspiration, the arts education initiative, at SCCOE. There are Young Artist Showcase galleries displayed at the Mineta San Jose

International Airport and the Santa Clara County Federal Credit Union locations.

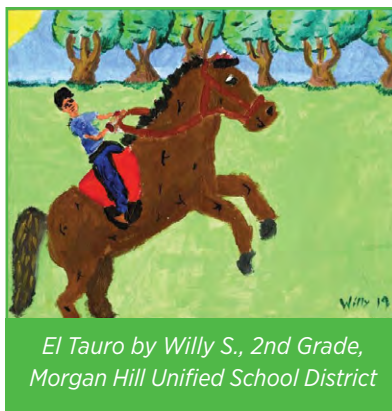
In April 2019, Santa Clara County Office of Education hosted an Arts/STEAM Families Learning Together event at Orchard School. TK through grade 12 families were invited for a day of artmaking and design thinking.



Young Artist Showcase, Jidapa L, Campbell Union School District, 8th Grade

Santa Clara County

Primary students made art in parent-led workshops and upper grade students participated in a design challenge at R.A.F.T. (Resource Area For Teaching). Families also



heard from working artists on how the Arts is a viable career path and the intersections with STEAM fields.

SCCOE is also a proud partner with SV Creates. SV Creates and SCCOE have come together to assist



educator grants to provide arts experiences for K-12 classrooms in the Silicon Valley. In addition, SCCOE and SV Creates work together to support arts education in our alternative education system through the Studio Arts program. The Studio Arts program teaching artists lift up our most at-risk students in a creative and nurturing way.

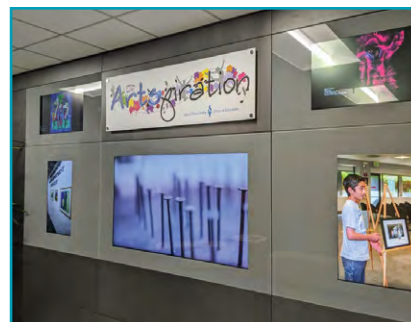
Morgan Hill Unified School District Soaring With Arts Education

Morgan Hill Unified School District adopted the Equity Arts Resolution in June 2017 and received recognition as an early adopter at the 2018 Create CA Convening. Morgan Hill then started their strategic arts plan in the fall of 2017. The arts planning was done with support from the California Alliance for Education and the Santa Clara County Office of Education. These steps created a

solid foundation and a readiness for the 2018-2019 Student Support and Academic Enrichment (SSAE) grant. MHUSD

received \$1 million through the SSAE grant to support their work on creating a more equitable approach to arts education through the lens of arts integration for all TK-8th grade students and teachers. With the grant funding, they were able to offer monthly arts integration trainings, teacher stipends for individualized arts projects that met the needs of their specific sites, arts programming with a social emotional emphasis for all students at the K-8 summer school, an intensive Arts Summer Institute for teachers, and necessary supplies for the schools to feel confident implementing arts integration as a teaching strategy.

Morgan Hill Unified School District's school board officially approved their strategic arts education plan in the Spring of 2019. In the Fall of 2019, the district brought on a full time VAPA Teacher on Special Assignment.



2019 awardees of the Principal Arts Leadership Award. L to R: Dr. Mary Ann Dewan, SCCOE Superintendent; Dr. Jamal Splane, Oak Grove SD principal, Mr. Guillermo Ramos, Evergreen Elementary SD principal, Jennifer Janzen, SCCOE Innovation & Instructional Support Director.

Santa Cruz County

Santa Cruz County Office of Education

Contact: Audrey Sirota • asirota@santacruzcoe.org

“Access to Arts Education is an important component of our struggle for equity in our schools. We deeply value the Arts as they play a fundamental role in our efforts to serve the whole child. Arts Education helps our students find their voice and guide their own trajectory towards success.”

– Faris Sabbah, Ed.D., Santa Cruz County Superintendent of Schools



Santa Cruz County Office of Education

The Santa Cruz County Office of Education (Santa Cruz COE) is committed to partnering with our school districts and nonprofit agencies to ensure equity in access to arts education for all K-12 students. We work with our districts to support their policies and programs for arts education by serving on District Arts Committees that offer hands-on support and resources. We recognize that robust and articulated art programs make our students' worlds richer, safer, and more compassionate.

The importance of the Arts is articulated in the Santa Cruz COE's new five-year Strategic Plan. We view the Arts as a crucial component of the health and wellness of the whole child. In addition to continuing our annual events and ongoing services in the Arts, our goals include “increasing student access to ongoing, standards-based programs in the Arts, and supporting ongoing standards-based STEAM programs”. Deep engagement with art creates well-rounded individuals who possess vital skills,

such as collaboration, empathy, and problem-solving for successfully pursuing a multitude of career pathways.

Santa Cruz COE Professional Development

Santa Cruz COE offers a number of strong professional development opportunities, including the *Summer Arts Integration Institute*. Since its inception a decade ago, this transformative Institute has been a successful collaborative effort between the Santa Cruz COE and the Arts Council of Santa Cruz. Over 300 teachers throughout Santa Cruz County have participated in the Institute to experience both arts immersion and arts integration strategies that are grounded in Harvard's Studio Habits of Mind.

As a recipient of the 2019 Student Support and Enrichment Grant, we brought the *Artist Teacher Partnership* Program to Alternative Education programs. Classroom teachers and teaching artists work together

Santa Cruz County

to create a curriculum that integrates a core subject area such as history with an arts discipline. Students who have rarely experienced arts leaning in the classroom had the opportunity to learn more about theatre, music, poetry, photography, and/or visual arts. Several of the programs have showcased their work in a theater production, school mural, or arts exhibition.

Santa Cruz COE Collaborative Partnerships

MUSIC • The Santa Cruz COE works in partnership with several music organizations including the Santa Cruz Symphony, QS Music Productions, Kuumbwa Jazz, and El Sistema to bring music programs to our county's youth.



We collaborate with the Santa Cruz Symphony and Carnegie Hall to bring the *Link Up* music programs to our students. Link Up

“links” music education in the classroom to that of the local Symphony. In the spring of every year, over 4000 Santa Cruz County grades 4-5 *Link Up* students have the opportunity to learn and recite world-renowned musical arrangements such as *Beethoven's Fifth Symphony* and the *Blue Danube* conducted by Maestro Daniel Stewart of the Santa Cruz Symphony. The Santa Cruz COE is proud to be part of this world-wide commitment to music education. We are proud to be one of over 110 partner orchestras around the world.

El Sistema offers daily music education in several schools throughout our county with the majority of programs based in Pajaro Valley Unified School District. Their goal is to increase equitable access to music education. By connecting school-based and out-of school music learning through partnerships, community events, and performances, *El Sistema* promotes the long-term development and success of over 500 students currently attending the program. They also are studying the academic and social-emotional gains that students are able to make when they have access to ongoing, sequential, standards-based arts programs.



VISUAL ARTS •

The Santa Cruz COE partners with the Arts Council and all of our Districts to bring the annual *Youth Art Exhibit* to the County Government Building. 500

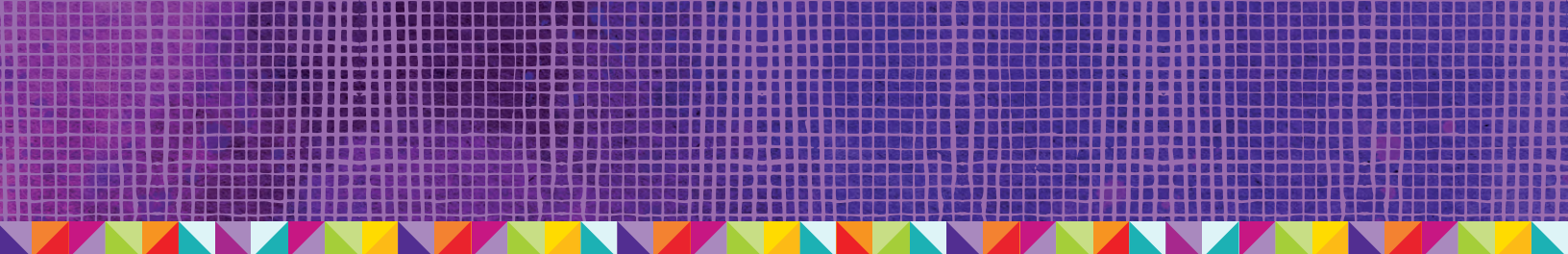
pieces of artwork from Kindergarten through 12th grade students are on display from March through May. From this collection, 35 pieces are selected to hang on permanent display at the Santa Cruz County Office of Education.

THEATRE, DANCE, LITERARY ARTS • In addition to collaborating with Tandy Beal & Co. to bring dance and theater residencies to elementary school students, we work with the state and local Arts Council to bring *Poetry Out Loud* to our county's high school students. We are unique in Santa Cruz County in that we want to highlight our commitment to multilingualism. Therefore, between every student reciting for our *Poetry Out Loud* competition, we honor students who recite poetry in other languages such as Spanish, Mixtec, Farsi, and French.



STEAM • To support our youth in dealing with environmental stress, Santa Cruz County Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Faris Sabbah, has launched a youth leadership initiative focused on student climate action. Students apply to work with a countywide team of students and administrative leaders to design, plan, and facilitate a spring Summit.

We integrate the Arts into our support for student climate action through our Annual Fashion Teens event. This event encourages students to use recycled or reused materials to create wearable clothing that make artistic statements about the environment and serve as a medium of personal self-expression.



“In today’s multimedia society, the arts are the media, and therefore provide powerful and essential means of communication. The arts provide unique symbol systems and metaphors that convey and inform life experience (i.e., the arts are ways of knowing).”

– Introduction, California Arts Standards for Public Schools, Prekindergarten Through Grade Twelve (Arts Standards)

Region 6 ■ Delta Sierra

REGION 6 COUNTY SUPERINTENDENTS OF SCHOOLS

Robert Russell, Ed.D., Amador County Superintendent of Schools

James A. Mousalimas, San Joaquin County Superintendent of Schools

Scott Kuykendall, Stanislaus County Superintendent of Schools

Cathy Parker, Tuolumne County Superintendent of Schools

REGION 6 ARTS LEAD

Stanislaus County Office of Education

Amy Bultena

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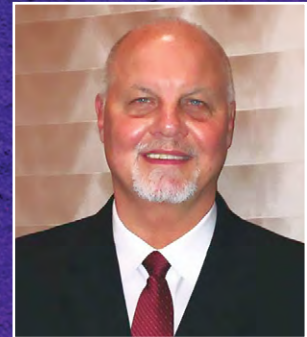
Amador County

Amador County Office of Education

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“Participation in school art programs fosters creativity and critical thinking while contributing to the intellectual, physical, and emotional well-being of children. Educating the whole child without including the arts is equivalent to solving puzzles without using all of the pieces.”

– Robert Russell, Ed.D., Amador County Superintendent of Schools



Amador County Office of Education

The Amador County Office of Education in conjunction with the Amador County Unified School District (ACUSD), works closely with the Amador County Arts Council and the Amador Alliance for Arts Education. Along with teachers, students, and leaders from all school sites, Amador County Office of Education



facilitates the District Arts Planning Committee as the team develops, implements, and refines the district

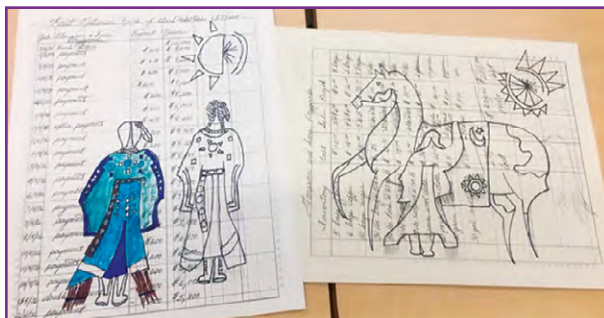
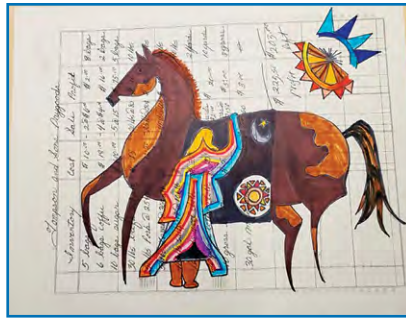


Finalists for the 2020 Poetry Out Loud County Competition.

Arts Education Plan. Through the LCAP process, the community has built an infrastructure for arts education funding over the last two years, resulting in almost \$175,000 being allocated to arts education annually. Thanks to student leadership from Amador Alliance for

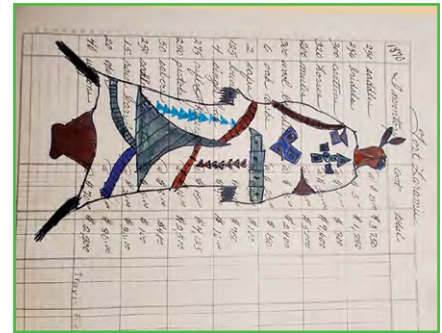
Amador County

Arts Education, ACUSD Board of Trustees adopted the Declaration of Equity in Arts Learning in January of 2018. In the summer



Native American Ledger Art that Amador County Arts Council is now teaching in the 5th grade class. Integrated into the U.S. history curriculum. Ledger art is a term for Plains Indian narrative drawing or painting on paper or cloth.

of 2018, the partnership of organizations and citizens worked together with the Arts Planning Initiative thanks to



the California Alliance for Arts Education. In August of 2019, the ACUSD Board of Trustees adopted the District Arts Plan. Over the last two years of community LCAP planning, the plan now includes over \$85,000 in arts education funding and an itinerant early childhood music teacher. The Amador County Arts Council continues to provide over \$20,000 for arts curriculum for grades K-6 and 9-12. Parent-Teacher organizations continue to fund additional arts education throughout the school year. Thanks to the CCSESA Arts Initiative grant, the Amador County Office of Education now offers integrated arts education professional development to K-8 teachers and funding for further arts planning.

“An arts education helps build academic skills and increase academic performance, while also providing alternative opportunities to reward the skills of children who learn differently.”

– California Governor Gavin Newsom

San Joaquin County

San Joaquin County Office of Education

Contact: Sandra Wendell • swendell@sjcoe.net

“At the San Joaquin County Office of Education (SJCOE), we value the profound impact that the arts have on student achievement and the important role that the arts play in developing well-rounded students. For over six decades, the SJCOE has provided opportunities for student growth in the arts through band, choir, and orchestra clinics and masterclasses, and has proudly sponsored countywide honors concerts and festivals which have celebrated the dedication, talent, and achievements of generations of students. We proudly support San Joaquin County districts and schools by also providing an artist residency program that promotes creativity and sparks imagination in K-12 classrooms throughout the county.”



– James A. Mousalimas, San Joaquin County Superintendent of Schools

A Tradition of Music Performances

For over 60 years, talented student-musicians have taken part in choir, band, and string orchestra performances at the San Joaquin County Middle and High School *Honors Concerts*. In the lead-up to the San Joaquin County High School *Honors Concert* in January 2019, Tracy High School senior Raquel Johnson's life was a blur of recitals, concerts, rehearsals, and practice for all the music groups and programs she participated in. "Music is almost literally my life right now," she said at the time.

Even though Raquel spent a lot of time on the stage performing, she said there's still something special about the

countywide *Honors Concert*, where she played viola with the orchestra. "It's more exhilarating," she said. In addition to orchestra, the concert also features band and

choir performances, bringing together the best-of-the-best student musicians in the county. Raquel was one of 27 students that night to receive the Nelson Zane Four-Year Award for playing in the concert all her high school years.



San Joaquin County

The concerts are organized by the San Joaquin County Office of Education (SJCOE) Visual and



Performing Arts Department, which sponsors the event in collaboration with San Joaquin Delta College and the San Joaquin County Music Educators' Association. In 2019, nearly 300 students from over 20 schools played in the High School *Honors Concert*, and more than 230 students from 35 schools performed in the Middle School *Honors Concert*. In doing so, these students joined thousands who came before them in a tradition of music performances in San Joaquin County that spans decades.



A Culture of Creativity

With an oil pastel in hand and a nearly blank canvas in front of him, artist Mario Tejada looked over the classroom filled with third-

graders poised over their sheets of paper. He drew a line, a circle, and some other shapes. The students followed suit -- more or less -- on their paper. Soon it was clear the shapes and lines would connect to form a drawing of Snoopy, depicted atop his iconic doghouse in a winter scene. The day's lesson was the latest in a four-part "Know the Artist" series that the visiting artist brought to this class at Lincoln Elementary School in the Manteca Unified School District (MUSD). This week's lesson was to get to know Charles M. Schulz, creator of the *Peanuts* comic strip. The previous week, students created seascapes with a lighthouse in the style of the artist Paul Gauguin.

Tejada, a veteran with the San Joaquin County Office of Education (SJCOE) Artists-in-Schools program, was teaching as part of a four-week residency at the school. The *SJCOE Artists-in-Schools* program puts professional

artists in "residence" in classrooms throughout San Joaquin County. The program offers California Standards-based lesson plans for residencies in the visual arts and dance and movement. In the 2019-2020 school year, the Artists-in-Schools program will serve approximately 640 K-12 classrooms at 49 schools in 13 San Joaquin County school districts.

Typically, these residencies last for four to eight weeks and are funded through money raised by parent-teacher



organizations. However, at MUSD's Lincoln and Nile Garden elementary schools, it is different. They are part of a Blackwing grant-funded pilot program aimed at cementing the arts into students' education for three years. Instead of having one four-week residency, third-graders at these two schools have sixteen weeks of art. And the program expands to fourth and fifth grade, too. That means students have instruction in the arts sustained over three consecutive years. "It's a unique experience for students because it is ongoing and three years-long," said Sandra Wendell, who coordinates the SJCOE Artists-in-Schools program. "That way, when you enter high school, you'll know if you have a gift or an interest in the arts."

There's more! During a typical residency, a rolling cart stocked with high-quality art supplies comes and goes with the artists. In this Blackwing grant-funded program, the oil pastels, watercolor pencils, tempera paints, charcoals, and artist's paper stay in the classroom throughout the year. These supplies are for teachers and students to incorporate art into their daily lessons. In Kayci Farac's third-grade class at Lincoln Elementary, her students have been using the supplies in science class. They captured the colors they saw in the leaves outside when studying the seasons, she said. They drew the phases of the moon. Farac said her students look forward to the art class. "I can't wait to see what they are capable of after three years."

Stanislaus County

Stanislaus County Office of Education

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“I do not want art for a few any more than education for a few, or freedom for a few.”

– William Morris



Scott Kuykendall,
Stanislaus County
Superintendent of Schools

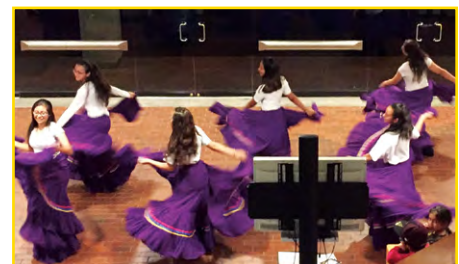
Stanislaus County Office of Education

The Stanislaus County Office of Education (SCOE) is committed to ensuring that every child in the county experiences a comprehensive curriculum. A high-quality education in the arts, including the subject areas of dance, media arts, music, theatre, and visual arts is an integral component of a comprehensive approach. The arts teach our children more than just how to dance,



sing, act, or paint; they facilitate students' learning in all subject areas and foster creative thinking, problem solving, decision making, individual responsibility, and teamwork. The arts in education better prepare students for college and career by giving them the necessary skills to be

creative, successful, and competitive in today's global market.



Arts education is a collaborative effort, and SCOE values and utilizes partnerships to support and grow arts education programs. Stanislaus COE has a long-standing partnership with the Gallo Center for the Arts. Through this partnership, SCOE and the Gallo Center for the Arts develop and host arts education workshops for teachers based on the performances offered as part of the Gallo Center for the Arts *Pathways to Creativity Student Matinee Series*. Since 2015, SCOE has partnered with the State Theatre to offer the *Youth Education Program (YEP)* performance series. The YEP

Stanislaus County

provides a series of free matinee performances that are aligned to California State Content and Common Core Standards for teachers and students. The partnerships with the Gallo Center for the Arts, and the State Theatre



help develop, and guide arts education opportunities provided to students, teachers, and administrators.

The work SCOE does to support arts education is not limited to events offered by the county

office. SCOE works closely with districts to provide standards-aligned opportunities and workshops for teachers to learn more about the arts, arts education, and arts integration. Districts value the opportunity to offer arts education and arts integration professional development on-site at district schools, and SCOE is proud to be able to support such events. Through these events, SCOE is able to offer a variety of customized



professional development offerings including but not limited to: arts-discipline-specific workshops; arts and

social-emotional learning; defining arts integration; grade-level specific arts integration; specific fine arts course workshops; sketchnotes; STEAM workshops; and utilizing arts integration in the general education classroom.

Through a continuous improvement model, SCOE strives to develop leadership and capacity for quality arts education in county schools and in districts. Countywide leadership continues to be developed through the regularly convening Arts Education Leadership Team, federal and state grant projects, and ongoing advocacy by SCOE. SCOE is a recipient of the California 2019 Student Support and Academic Enrichment (SSAE)

grant, and the US DOE 2017 Professional Development for Art Education (PDAE) grant; these grants total over \$2 million



in funds to support arts education. The SSAE grant, which concluded in 2019, utilized research-based arts integration strategies to enhance the achievement and cognitive growth of English Language Arts of students with disabilities through a professional development module for teachers. Currently, SCOE partners with the Stanislaus Union School District on the PDAE grant, and yearly provides 40 hours of arts integration professional development to district teachers.

As part of the mission to ongoing arts education advocacy, SCOE offers opportunities for students and teachers to showcase



their creative abilities by inviting student groups to perform and showcase their creative talents at stakeholder events. Such events include but are not limited to: the *Art of the Educator Show*, the *Student Photography Show*, the *Transitional Kindergarten - 12th Grade Student Fine Arts Showcase*, and most notably the *Community Photography Project and Juried Exhibition*. The *Community Photography Project and Juried Exhibition* is an opportunity for 7th - 12th Grade students to document what community means and looks like using photography. The artifacts created by students as part of the *Community Photography Project and Juried Exhibition* are showcased at the county office, and special selections of student work are permanently installed at SCOE. In this way, SCOE is able to demonstrate the meaning and value of the many communities represented by county students and stakeholders.

Tuolumne County Superintendent of Schools

Tuolumne County Superintendent of Schools

Contact: Tuolumne County Superintendent of Schools, Cathy Parker • cparker@tcsos.us

“Art is a uniquely human experience that connects us to each other and to the world around us. Arts education provides us the opportunity to educate the whole child and to help them develop a vision of what the future can be.”

- Cathy Parker, Tuolumne County Superintendent of Schools



Tuolumne County Office of Education

In the fall of 2018, the Tuolumne County Superintendent of Schools Office (TCSOS) was awarded a \$583,000 Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grant through the California Department of Education. The grant was used to develop *STEAM Tracks*; an intensive professional development program for sixty K-8 teachers, representing all K-8 schools in our county.

The focus of the grant was to provide intensive professional development to improve Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Arts education (STEAM); promote collaboration among teachers and among teachers and artists in Tuolumne County; and produce curricular materials that provide students with art-infused STEM learning opportunities. The professional development included evening collaborative meetups with teachers, content artists,

and staff.

The meetups offered teachers short introductions to forms of art integration such as nature journaling, animation, dance, and technology,

and also provided a space for teachers to collaborate and discuss the opportunities and challenges related to art integration. Also, teachers participated in an online and on-demand arts integration and STEAM conference that provided access to sessions on STEAM techniques, lessons, models, and examples of practical solutions.



The Adult Transition Program serves 18-22 year old students.

Tuolumne County Superintendent of Schools

A second part of the *STEAM Tracks* grant was Art infusion in the classroom with community artists demonstrating how visual arts, music, dance and theatre/drama can be implemented in the classroom. Each teacher was assigned one artist for ten classroom periods.



A *STEAM Tracks* summer institute offered participants a two-week professional learning opportunity to experience different forms of art integration; delve deeply into the Next Generation Science Standards, mathematical practices, and art standards; and work

collaboratively with other grade-level teachers to develop STEAM learning sequences for use in their classrooms. After the summer institute, participating teachers were invited to teach their developed lesson sequences to students at STEAM events at their selected school sites.

In addition to the *STEAM Tracks* grant, Tuolumne County school teachers benefit from a historically strong community partnership with the Tuolumne County Arts Alliance to provide arts education for students, and professional development for teachers. Dedicated to bringing the arts to all ages *ARTS-Reach to Schools (ARTS)* is a 30-year partnership with the Tuolumne County Arts Alliance, the Tuolumne County Superintendent of Schools Office and Tuolumne County's schools. It is an Arts Education program that brings artists



The Adult Transition Program aids in the development of young adults with special needs into positive, productive, and contributing members of society.

in dance, theater, visual art and music into classrooms. All lessons are fully aligned with California's curriculum for the arts and its core academic subjects. Guest artists, with supplies and instruments, visit classrooms to inspire and share knowledge and love of the arts with many age groups. *ARTS-Reach to Schools* has been recognized numerous times as an exemplary arts education program.

Artists in Schools (AIS) is a California Arts Council (CAC) matching grant program (the selected schools match the CAC grants), designed to support high-quality artists in residency in


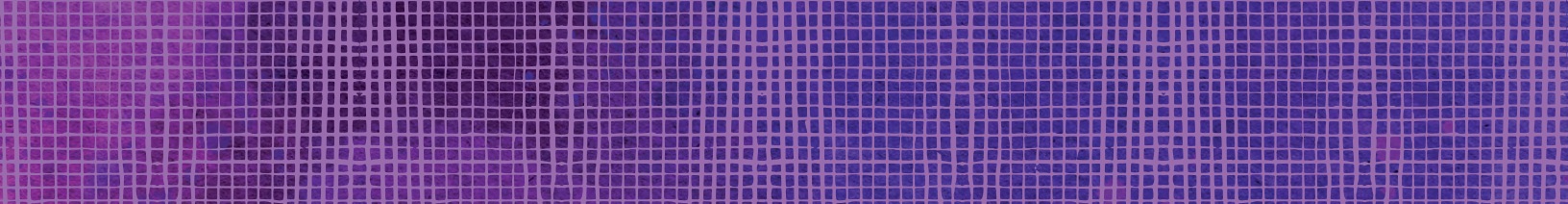


This artwork was created by Transition students working with an artist as part of the STEAM Tracks grant.

schools for use with in-class or after school programs. These residencies bring the arts to school age children and empower classroom teachers to teach the arts, while they employ local artists. The residencies last at least 12 weeks and many times much longer.

Additionally, each March, the TCSOS coordinates an annual choir and band concert with area schools, featuring guest directors. The Annual *Student Art Show* features students throughout the county. This is a all student art show (K-12). Two age groups, K-6 and 7-12 grade students submit artwork with the help of their teachers. The art of 7-12 grade students is judged and ribbons are awarded. The work awarded the Best in Show is framed and hung in the Supervisors' Lobby at the County Court House. The show is held at the Tuolumne County Library.

In partnership with the Tuolumne County Arts Council, our county's high school students participate in the nationally recognized *Poetry Out Loud Contest* each year. We are very proud that our local finalist went on to win the State title in 2015.



“Arts education fosters bright, creative, and socially engaged students who will grow up to be our next leaders, parents, teachers, artists, and engineers. Their innovative ideas will shape industries; their creative thinking will find out-of-the-box solutions for a global society and will provide students with a way to understand themselves and have a sense of belonging.”

- Jane Chu, Former Chairman, National Endowment for the Arts

Region 7 ■ Central Valley

REGION 7 COUNTY SUPERINTENDENTS OF SCHOOLS

Jim Yovino, Fresno County Superintendent of Schools

Todd Barlow, Kings County Superintendent of Schools

Cecilia A. Massetti, Ed.D., Madera County Superintendent of Schools

Jeff Aranguena, Mariposa County Superintendent of Schools

Steve M. Tietjen, Ed.D., Merced County Superintendent of Schools

Tim A. Hire, Tulare County Superintendent of Schools

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Fresno County Superintendent of Schools

Fresno County Superintendent of Schools

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“As the County Superintendent, I want to ensure that every child has access to the arts, every day. Arts education helps students think critically, develop sophisticated solutions to complex problems, become skilled collaborators, excel in all forms of communication, become engaged citizens, develop empathy, understanding, and a healthy sense of self-worth. The arts are for ALL, and the arts are essential in Fresno County.”

- Jim Yovino, Fresno County Superintendent of Schools



Fresno County Superintendent of Schools

The Office of the Fresno County Superintendent of Schools (FCSS) believes the arts are an essential part of every child's well-rounded education. Our mission is to encourage arts learning for students and educators, to collaborate with school districts and arts organizations on large-scale initiatives and to advocate for the arts at the local, state and national level. Working together with our partners, we strive to create equity and access to a high-quality arts education for every student, in every school, every day.



Fresno County Superintendent of Schools Jim A. Yovino dedicates more than \$250,000 of general fund support yearly to the arts, including staffing and direct services to schools and students. With a team of five full-time and 13 part-time employees, the FCSS Visual and Performing Arts Department is equipped to provide exceptional professional learning, curriculum development, individualized instructional coaching support for Arts Specialist Teachers, as well as General Education Teachers working to integrate the arts into their classroom, and student programs to PK-12 schools and students.

In 2012, FCSS entered into a partnership with Fresno Unified, the City of Fresno, and the John F. Kennedy



Fresno County Superintendent of Schools



Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, DC., making Fresno the 10th *Any Given Child* site in the nation. Since

then the initiative, which supports schools in developing a strategic plan to ensure that all students have access to high-quality arts instruction, has expanded to include five additional districts in Fresno County: Caruthers Unified, Clay Joint Elementary, Fowler Unified, Sanger Unified, and Selma Unified. *Any Given Child* Fresno County is continuing to advance the cause of arts education for all, not just within the county, but across the state and nation.

FCSS is also honored to collaborate with the Fresno Arts Council as one of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts “Partners in Education” teams. This partnership has increased access to arts education for students in many underserved schools in Fresno County by placing Teaching Artists in classrooms to deliver arts instruction and experiences to students.

In addition to national partnerships, FCSS collaborates with major arts and culture organizations locally to create annual student engagement programs such as *Art of the Word* with the Fresno Art Museum and *LinkUp!* with the Fresno Philharmonic. As Region 7 Visual and Performing Arts Co-Lead, FCSS plays host to the annual arts and education summit drawing participants from throughout the Central Valley.

With support from The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, FCSS has developed and maintained the *Spark! Initiative*, which seeks to ignite the arts in schools with little to no arts access. By pairing local business leaders



with the schools in their community, the *Spark! Initiative* has been able to grant more than \$300,000 to support the development and implementation of arts programs and opportunities. Investments through the *Spark! Initiative* have funded artist residencies, arts integration professional learning, mural projects, and arts opportunities for all students, including students with special needs. Additionally, the *Spark! Initiative* has helped raise awareness around the role of arts education and its impact upon the local economy through radio, television, and social media.



The *Fresno County Youth Choir (FCYC)* is a unique music and mentoring program that creates multicultural harmony through music that fills the heart, lifts the soul, and changes lives for high school college/university students throughout Fresno County. In partnership with higher education and professional theater partners, the *Stages* summer youth theater project engages high school students from throughout the county in creating authentic and relevant theater that connects with vital issues in their lives and community. *FCYC* and *Stages* use the arts as a lens through which students view difficult topics such as human trafficking, homelessness, teen suicide, school violence, poverty, racism, and peace. Through these unique programs students are finding their own voice and helping lead their community into conversation around these challenging topics. Both programs are offered to students 100% free of charge, thanks to the generosity of the Fresno County Superintendent of Schools.



Kings County

Kings County Office of Education

Contact: Elizabeth Norris • elizabeth.norris@kingscoe.org

“Education in the Arts is an integral part of the curriculum for students in Kings County. From our preschools to our adult programs, artistic engagement impacts students’ broader course of study by providing avenues for individual expression and opportunities for deep interpretation. Art, in all its forms is one of the most human experiences we can have. It is the embodiment of experiences we all want for every student. Whether it is the product of mindful consideration or wild imagination, it is a window to a widened appreciation of our world. What an exciting responsibility it is to foster such appreciation in our students.”



- Todd Barlow, Kings County Superintendent of Schools

County Office Arts Education/Support

Kings County Office of Education has been working with the Kings County ASES, after school program to conduct monthly *Meet the Masters* arts education for the students being served. Each ASES site will complete seven artist units, which instruct students about the artist and allow them to practice the arts elements emphasized



in the units. Once they have learned about the master’s style, the students create their own art compositions. At the end of the learning, students will self-select their favorite piece of art from the seven units. The program will host a *Meet the Masters* showcase with those students pieces on display.



Kings County

Additionally, the Kings County Tobacco Use Prevention Education program held a county wide poster contest entitled “Don’t Fall Into Tobacco.” The county received 56 entries from eight school districts.



Local Arts Education Instructional Programs

Meadow Lane Elementary School, part of Lemoore Union Elementary School District, recently led GATE students through learning about the elements of space, lines,



patterns, perspective, and color theory.

Armona Elementary, part of Armona Union Elementary

School District, took part in an interactive video conference through the Kings Art Center. Students were guided through creating their own art compositions and were able to interact virtually with the instructor. Pioneer Middle School, part of Pioneer Union Elementary School District, participated in an International Peace Poster competition. Members of the Hanford Breakfast Lions Club selected winners. Kit Carson Elementary School, part of Kit Carson Union Elementary School District showcased their drama program by presenting *Elf* in December.

“All of the things an arts education gives a young person enhance leadership skills and help raise grades.”

– Josh Groban



Madera County Superintendent of Schools

Madera County Superintendent of Schools

Contact: Susan Pennell • spennell@mcsos.org

“The arts are essential elements to enable youth to develop an imagination and foster creativity.”

– Cecilia A. Massetti, Ed.D., Madera County Superintendent of Schools



Madera County ArtsFest

The Madera County Superintendent of Schools (MCSOS) and the Madera County Schools Foundation organize an annual *ArtsFest* in May. In 2019, more than 700 people enjoyed the day listening to live student musical and dance performances and visiting booths to create their own works of art. Children worked with their parents to create origami. One of the highlights of *ArtsFest* was the student gallery featuring 308 art pieces from 23 elementary, middle, and high schools in Madera County.



Multimedia Resources to Support Arts Education

The Madera County Superintendent of Schools' *Educational Resources and Services (ERS)* program provides digital media resources to teachers and students to support arts education through www.CaliforniaStreaming.org and www.CalSNAP.org.

Both are ongoing projects of the California County Educational Technology Consortium www.ccetc.net. Teachers also borrow a variety of multimedia resources from ERS to support their arts education curriculum, from art prints and musical instruments, to DVDs on dance, theatre, and music.

Arts Education in MCSOS' Early Learning Program

MCSOS has an extensive early learning program serving young children in Madera and Chowchilla. Every day students in this program participate in creative dramatics, signing, instrumental music, and visual art lessons and activities. Not only do students learn the art foundations outlined in the *California Preschool Learning Foundations*, but there is the added bonus of supporting social and emotional learning through the arts for these young children.

Public Oral Interpretation Opportunities for Students in Correctional Academy

The Madera County Superintendent of Schools and the Madera County Correctional Academy share a unique experience providing competitive oral interpretation

Madera County Superintendent of Schools

opportunities for students in the Academy. For more than seven years, students have entered and won in community oral interpretation contests. The competitions include: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Local Host Committee Speech Contest, Madera Rotary Club Speech Contest, Poetry Out Loud, and Fresno State University's Young Writers' Conference. The success of these cadets can be attributed to the hard work and harmonious goals of both staff and students.

The Arts at MCSOS LIFE Games

The Madera County Superintendent of Schools hosts MCSOS LIFE Games. MCSOS LIFE Games grew out of the desire to demonstrate that all students, even the most severely disabled, can be included in any activity with



the right preparation. The event connects the community to students, and families to community resources. Students from all districts in Madera County are served in the regional programs operated

by MCSOS. Students have the opportunity to participate in a series of activities focusing on physical education and visual and performing arts standards. LIFE Games was organized by a team of MCSOS staff members for over 350 students with special needs and the 300 staff and community volunteers that assisted them. There were eight art stations for the students. Approximately 100 local high school students staffed the student stations.

MCSOS LIFE Games received a *Golden Bell Award* from the California School Boards Association (CSBA) and an *Apple for Excellence Award* from California County Boards of Education (CCBE).

Almond Blossom Festival in Chowchilla Elementary School District

Each Spring, Merle L. Fuller Elementary School in the Chowchilla Elementary School District hosts the Almond Blossom Festival of Performing Arts and Visual Interpretation. The *Almond Blossom Festival* is

a celebration of performing arts to promote literacy, public speaking skills, and self-confidence among the students at Fuller School. More than 500 students participate in large group, small group, and individual performances. Volunteers from the community, Wilson Middle School, Chowchilla High School, Chowchilla Elementary School District, and Madera County Schools Administration are essential to the success of the festival. The event is run strictly as a festival, not a contest. Participants are evaluated on their artistic performances and not ranked against one another. After each performance, the judges speak to the students for a few minutes to share positive and constructive feedback. As a culmination of their hard work students are recognized for their achievements at a special ceremony.

Teaching Artists in Madera Unified School District

Through the efforts of the Madera County Arts Council, all students in grades three and



four in Madera Unified School District receive art lessons throughout the school year. Art instructors, hired by the Madera Arts Council, provide art lessons to students who would otherwise not have the opportunity to learn the fundamentals of art. The art lessons include air dry clay, chalk, oil pastel, and stop motion.

String Orchestras in Madera Unified School District

Madera Unified School District (MUSD) has a thriving *String Orchestra* Program at nine of their elementary schools, one middle school, and one high school. The string orchestra program continues to grow every year with approximately 300 students learning to play the violin, viola, and cello. Madera Unified has invested in the training of teachers to provide Mariachi music instruction to students beginning in third grade. Currently, there are two elementary programs, one middle school program, and one high school program with plans for expansion at the elementary level in the 2020-21 school year.

Mariposa County

Mariposa County Office of Education

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Celeste Azevedo • cazevedo@mcusd.org

“Given the positive academic and social emotional impact the arts have on our students, we are excited to be investing in resources into building systemic practices and partnerships which grow and support equitable and rigorous arts learning throughout Mariposa County aimed at empowering classroom teachers, centering student voice, and integrating classroom curriculum with a myriad of creative placemaking efforts across Mariposa County at large.”



- Jeff Aranguena, Mariposa County Superintendent of Schools

Mariposa County Office of Education Awarded Rural County Arts Cohort Grant to Develop Strategic Art Plan

In 2019/2020 the Mariposa County Office of Education was thrilled to be awarded a capacity building grant from the CCSESA Arts Initiative in partnership with the California Alliance for Arts Education as part of the Rural County Arts Cohort to develop a Strategic Art Plan for Mariposa. The effort is led by Mariposa County Office of Education VAPA Consultant, Cara Goger, and facilitated by Peggy Burt of the California Alliance for Arts Education. Guided by the insights of classroom teachers, administrators, students, artists, parents and community members and leveraging the unique strengths of our rural community, this in-progress plan prioritizes the following:

- Develop a sustainable, progressive, and diverse arts curriculum.
- Empower teachers with relevant Professional Development that allows choice while easing and elevating teaching.

- Promote and empower student voice while exhibiting students' creativity and expression.
- Support and celebrate relationships that foster each student's growth through authentic experiences.
- Forge relationships with community partners to support arts education.
- Partner with local businesses and organizations to provide space for students to create and/or present art.
- Share our mission about arts education, advocating for its benefits, persuading the community to participate and support.
- Empower an inclusive leadership team to support an equitable and sustainable Arts Education Plan implementation.
- Leverage existing and create new funding sources.

The final draft of this plan is scheduled to be completed in March 2020 and Cara Goger will be participating on a panel at the CCSESA Rural Arts Convening in April 2020, talking about the process of developing the plan.

Mariposa County

Mariposa County Office of Education Partnership Programs

The Mariposa County Office of Education has a long standing partnership with the Mariposa County Arts Council to deliver standards aligned arts programming and teacher professional development equitable across all schools in Mariposa County. Here are two examples of these partnership programs:

Artists in the Schools This artist-in-residency/teacher PD program is offered in all 5th grade classes in Mariposa and integrates arts learning with Next Generation Science (NGSS) and Common Core State Standards (CCSS) based curriculum. Residencies span 12 weeks and provide hands-on visual art and music experiences that develop students' critical thinking and creative problem-solving skills. One of the major shifts in CCSS is its focus on critical thinking skills and evidence-based reasoning which challenges students to transfer knowledge across subject area boundaries in order to build capacity for the complex-decision making and problem solving they will surely face. Art can play an important role in realizing this pedagogical goal. "Through viewing, making, and discussing art works, students come to realize that the arts do not exist in isolation, but are always situated within multiple dimensions..." (National Core Arts Standards: A Conceptual Framework for Arts Learning). Furthermore, "students who actively study the arts engage in and develop a disciplined, step-by-step approach to problems in creating, realizing, or understanding art..." (National Core Arts Standards: A Conceptual Framework for Arts Learning).



Additionally, the program builds capacity in teachers to integrate the arts into the existing curriculum through an instructional approach known

as graduated release. This method begins with the artist-educators providing 100% of the instruction, graduates to a co-teaching model with the teacher joining at previously determined points in the lesson, and culminates in the classroom teacher leading instruction while the artist-educator moves into a coaching role.



SITE + VISION

Is a visual literacy program for high schoolers offered in every high school in the County that centers around field trips to exhibitions curated by major regional museums and supports a growing body of academic research indicating that exposing youth to art promotes emotional intelligence, a greater sense of self-worth and critical thinking skills. This program consists of a standards-aligned unit comprised of these three components:

1. Pre-Field Trip Prep (3 weeks): Utilizing the image lists, interpretative resources, and study guides developed by museum curators/education staff for the selected exhibitions a museum educator will develop curricula for each exhibition and facilitate in-class discussions designed to build visual literacy skills and encourage engagement through interactive and inquiry-based discussion that prompts evidentiary looking.
2. Field Trip (1 week): Students will visit the selected exhibitions and receive a gallery tour from an on-staff museum educator, this may include the opportunity to visit the vault or archives or meet with curatorial staff.
3. Post Field Trip Reflection (1 week): Students will create a piece of artwork and compose an accompanying piece of prose or poetry inspired by the work of the artist(s) or curators involved in the exhibition they visited.

The selected exhibitions are presented by the Cantor Art Center/ Stanford, SFMOMA, the deYoung, the Oakland Museum of California and the Crocker Art Museum and leverage MCACI's relationships with these museums' Education Departments. MCACI's staff, museum educator and classroom teachers work with museum staff to select 3-4 current/upcoming exhibitions around which to build the units. Exhibitions are selected based on their artistic and cultural/social significance.

Merced County

Merced County Office of Education

Contact: Noelle D.W. Chandler • nchandler@mcoe.org

“I heard someone say recently that ‘talent is equally distributed across our student population, but opportunity isn’t.’ I believe this to be true and it is our mission at Merced County Office of Education that we find ways to nurture and develop the talent of our Merced County children whenever and wherever we can. Our districts and community leaders believe this too, and that is why the arts are flourishing in Merced County.”

– Steve M. Tietjen, Ed.D., Merced County Superintendent of Schools

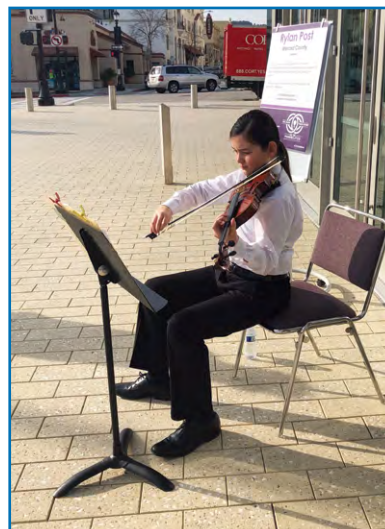


Merced County Office of Education

Merced County Office of Education (MCOE) has placed premium resources on arts education by hiring Arts Education consultant Noelle Chandler, who serves as a primary contact for schools and districts interested in furthering their arts experiences and advocacy. Noelle has trained After School Student Education: Teamwork for Success (ASSETS) teachers, worked with MCOE’s special ed program, and taught in ten different districts in the county, as well as run county-wide programs like *Broadway Show Choir* and *STRUT*, a county-wide talent show.

MCOE is working directly with the Merced County Arts Council to run *Poetry Out Loud* in Merced and send a

student to the state competition in Sacramento, as well as offering workshops and coordinated professional development sessions that integrate arts with NGSS, ELD, ELA, Technology/Media Arts and more. In addition,



Merced County



work has begun on a strategic arts education plan for the county that will support all districts in partnering with local artists to provide professional, standards-based visual and performing arts education. In addition, Merced County is hosted CISC 2020 in Monterey, as will be providing numerous opportunities to attendees to be enveloped in dance, music, spoken word and visual arts from Merced County and beyond.



Arts @ MCOE (the VAPA resource program run by Miss Noelle) has partnered directly this year with Merced City Schools to provide support for their *Spotlight* program, an evening of talent which features a performance act from each of their 18 elementary and middle schools. By creating a menu of options and offering appropriate resources to connect schools to artists, Arts @ MCOE helped support the MCSD practice of advocating for and valuing arts in the classroom and after school at all sites in Merced.



“To encourage literature and the arts is a duty which every good citizen owes to his country.”

– George Washington

Tulare County

Tulare County Office of Education

Contact: Kate Stover • kate.stover@tcoe.org

“Participation in arts programs is, for many students, the foundation of their identity. For many others, the arts help build confidence, the ability to work with others, a sense of responsibility, greater creativity, and pride in their accomplishments.”

– Tim A. Hire, Tulare County Superintendent of Schools



The Tulare County Arts Master Plan

Understanding that access to high-quality arts education is a critical part of a well-rounded education for all students, in 2017, the Tulare County Office of Education (TCOE) leveraged a grant from The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation to create the county's first strategic arts education plan. To make the strategic plan a reality, TCOE partnered with the California Alliance for Arts Education and over the course of the 2017-18 school year, the groups brought together a diverse cadre of educators, arts organizations, and community stakeholders to envision a new reality for arts education in Tulare County.

The Arts Master Plan identifies goals and outcomes for planning, implementing, and sustaining high-quality arts learning experiences, both inside and outside of school. The plan is guided by an overarching vision - *We believe that every student in pre-kindergarten through grade*

twelve deserves equitable access to high-quality arts learning as part of a well-rounded education. It focuses on two foundational cornerstones – *Arts as Core* and *Arts for All* – and four strategic directions:

1: Educational Equity for All; 2: Social and Emotional Well-Being; 3: College, Career, and Civic Life Readiness; and 4: Sustainable Systemic Change.

County Partnerships

After completion of the Arts Master Plan, the first step toward implementation was to develop a Tulare



County Arts Coalition. This group, CreateTC began in 2019 with a goal of expanding

Tulare County



high-quality arts education opportunities for Tulare County schools and communities. Organizations

involved in the CreateTC Leadership Council include: Tulare County Office of Education, Tulare County Health and Human Services Agency, Tulare County Suicide Prevention Task Force, Tulare County Association of Governments, Tulare County Workforce Investment Board, Tulare County Museum, Arts Consortium – Tulare County's arts council, College of the Sequoias, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. These agencies have committed to supporting the ongoing goal of increasing access to arts education opportunities in Tulare County.

TCOE has several other partner agencies in the community. Since 1955, the Tulare County Office of Education and the Sequoia Symphony Orchestra have partnered to present the annual *Young People's Concerts*. Over 9,000 students attend these concerts annually. TCOE also partners with the Arts Consortium to promote and fund the annual *Tulare County Poetry Out Loud* competition.

Committed to Students, Service, and Support

The Tulare County Office of Education supports districts with several annual arts programs designed to give



students the opportunity to both experience and participate in the visual and performing arts. In the

performing arts, the TCOE Theatre Company hosts musical theatre productions three times each year. Another longstanding event in the performing arts is

Poetry and Prose On Stage. For more than 30 years, elementary and middle school students have honed their recitation skills before an audience and a judge at this event.



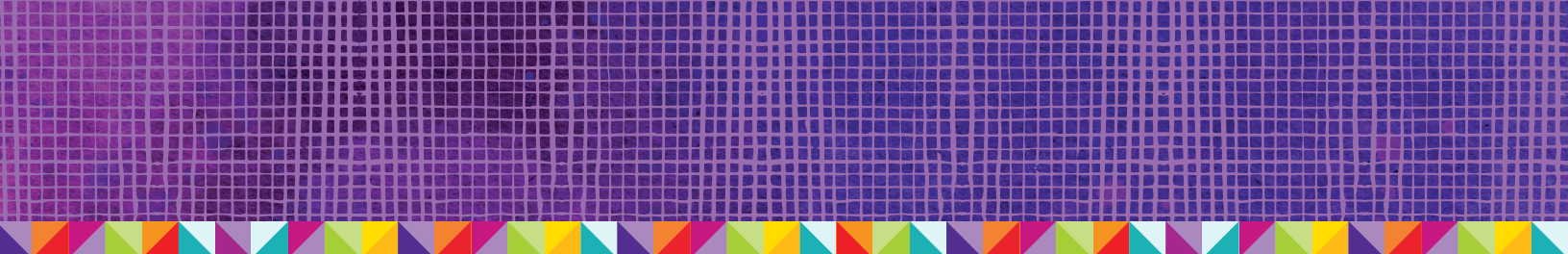
In the visual arts, all Tulare County schools are invited to submit two- and three-dimensional artwork to the annual *Student Art Exhibition*. Artwork is displayed from November-February each year and a culminating Best of Show event caps

off the exhibition during Arts in Schools Month in March. Additionally, in May of each year, the Academic Collaborative for Exceptional Learners (AcCEL) program of TCOE's Special Services Division also hosts an annual exhibition of student artwork.

TCOE supports media arts through coordination of the annual *Slick Rock Student Film Festival*. Hundreds of aspiring middle and high school filmmakers from across the Central Valley submit their videos to this competition every year.

To support arts educators, TCOE provides ongoing professional learning in a range of areas, including: arts integration, standards implementation, and social-emotional learning. In 2015, the Tulare County Arts Network (TuCAN) was formed. This professional learning community was created to promote the arts and arts education throughout Tulare County.





“Art is a nation’s most precious heritage. For it is in our works of art that we reveal to ourselves and others the inner vision which guides us as a nation. And when there is no vision, the people perish.”

– President Lyndon B. Johnson

Region 8 ■ Costa Del Sur

REGION 8 COUNTY SUPERINTENDENTS OF SCHOOLS

Mary C. Barlow, Ed.D., Kern County Superintendent of Schools

James J. Brescia, Ed.D., San Luis Obispo County Superintendent of Schools

Susan Salcido, Ed.D., Santa Barbara County Superintendent of Schools

Stan Mantooth, Ventura County Superintendent of Schools

REGION 8 ARTS LEAD

Ventura County Office of Education

Dr. Jane Wagmeister

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805.437.1317

Kern County Superintendent of Schools

Kern County Superintendent of Schools

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“No matter what corner of the world someone comes from, visual and performing arts speak to us all in a common way. The Kern County Office of Education works in collaboration with numerous community organizations on behalf of our 47 school districts to ensure young people are given an opportunity of discovery and self expression.”

– Mary C. Barlow, Ed.D., Kern County Superintendent of Schools



The Kern County Superintendent of Schools (KCSOS) values community collaboration that helps enrich students' lives through the arts. What follows are a few of the highlights:

Young People's Concerts

The KCSOS has long partnered with Bakersfield Symphony Orchestra to host three field trips throughout the year wherein thousands of local elementary students convene for a kid-friendly introduction to classical music and the types of instruments that make up the beautiful sounds of the symphony.

Bakersfield Symphony Orchestra Next (BSO NEXT)

Bakersfield Symphony Orchestra also gives away hundreds of tickets to students through its *BSO NEXT* program so they may attend the normal evening concerts with their

families. The program started in 2014 as a donor-based endeavor that allows students

from all over Kern County to experience live symphonic music. This program includes a special pre-concert lecture with the conductor, guest soloists and musicians, and a complimentary snack at intermission. Since most of the students sponsored are from underprivileged areas, the *BSO NEXT* program opens the world of possibilities for those who otherwise may never have the opportunity to attend due to financial limitations.



Kern County Superintendent of Schools



Nutcracker Field Trip

Another community collaboration takes place every December when busloads of school

children get a sneak peek at the production of Tchaikovsky's *Nutcracker* ballet performed by the Civic Dance Center. The four performances over two mornings are a win-win. The field trip allows the dancers — the majority of whom are school-age kids themselves — to fine-tune their moves before the public opening, while giving kids from all across the county access to a holiday favorite that they might not otherwise have the fortune to see.

Alternative Education Bridges Academy Art Exhibit

One of the career and technical (CTE) pathway programs offered to students attending KCSOS' Bridges Academy is Media Arts. Students may complete introductory courses in this discipline and discover career options in this field of study. Annual trips to CalArts and an Art Walk of downtown Bakersfield are favorite events each year. Student-generated art is featured in an art show and silent auction during the fall with all proceeds going back into the program. With new CTE funding expected this year, plans are to install a silkscreen studio where original designs can be transferred to products and complement the other entrepreneurial CTE and project-based classroom programs at the school.

Honors Music Concerts

The KCSOS also partners with the Kern County Music Educators Association and local school districts to bring two very special educational concerts to the community —



one for junior high musicians and a second for those in high school.

In winter, the collaboration brings together 400 of the finest high school musicians and singers for the annual *It's a Grand Night for Music* — a concert, wherein the students have an opportunity to work with guest conductors and directors. Students earn a place in this annual showcase of Kern County's finest high school musicians and singers through an audition process.

The *Kern County Honors Music Festival* is a similar event that is geared toward junior high and middle school students and takes place every February.

History Day

History Day in California is an exciting, history-based learning experience, for students in grades 4-12. They not only learn



about issues, ideas, people and events in history, but they apply what they have learned through creative and original productions. Beyond simply memorizing names and dates and reporting on historical events, *History Day* students develop invaluable research and analytical skills as they process the information gathered through intensive research and present their conclusions through visually-appealing presentation boards, web sites and performances.

Oral Language Festival

Schools all over Kern County participate in the *Oral Language Festival*, a competitive event where students perform interpretations of pieces of literature in front of an audience. Presentations are 3-5 minutes in length with students in grades 4-6 and in grades 7-8 competing separately. Categories of competition are: Verse Choir, Humorous Interpretation Solo, Humorous Interpretation Duo, Serious Interpretation Solo and Serious Interpretation Duo.

San Luis Obispo County

San Luis Obispo County Office of Education

Contact: Brent Moser • bmoser@slococ.org

“We need to recognize fine arts classes as core aspects of the academic curriculum rather than as merely ‘add-ons’ or ‘feel-good’ electives. Research is clear in indicating that students at all grade levels should be required to study the fine arts. In order to increase student opportunities, we should assure that funding for arts education in our schools is maintained or expanded. Ongoing maintenance of funding is necessary to continue the positive relationships between arts education and student learning as identified in the research literature.”



– James J. Brescia, Ed.D., San Luis Obispo County Superintendent of Schools

San Luis Obispo County Office of Education

The San Luis Obispo County Office of Education (SLOCOE) acknowledges that 21st century American classrooms are becoming increasingly diverse. As total U.S. enrollment reaches 58 million future members of our democracy, we are committed to preserving and promoting the arts. Nearly one in four American students will experience

English as a second language in our ever-changing society. We believe that a school system which teaches students to think rigorously and to creatively

articulate thoughts promotes our democracy. The SLOCOE supports a humanities-based education that equips

students for long-term career development in our rapidly changing global economy. Education is one of the biggest factors in promoting social mobility and social justice. Arts and humanities-based programs do not assume individuals occupy a fixed place in society. The local economy is more dependent on media, culture and tourism than ever before in history. We acknowledge that these fields are driven by the creativity of the arts and



San Luis Obispo County

humanities. If we do not support access to the arts and humanities, we risk damaging one of our most valuable natural resources, our human potential.



San Luis Obispo County is committed to the Arts in Education. In addition to the many wonderful programs

implemented throughout its eleven districts, the County Office of Education has created a Student Outreach program that connects students and professional artists. During the school year, school sites are offered the opportunity to have a professional arts organization visit their campus and provide both a performance as well as educational content for the attending students. These performances are generously funded by local donors. Some of the many professional partners include Opera San Luis Obispo, Wine Country Theatre, Drum and Perk, Classinova, Orchestra Novo and Symphony of the Vines. One recent example of this outreach was Opera San Luis Obispo presenting six outreach performances to various county schools highlighting their fall production of *South Pacific*. Professional musicians and actors performed highlights from the show, explained the process of becoming a professional artist and answered questions from each audience. Outreach performances are provided to enhance the exposure to the arts and are available to all county schools.



Another partnership with a professional organization is with a local arts studio, *Studios on the Park*. Through local donors, SLOCOE is able to lease a professional studio space alongside eleven other professional co-op spaces under the same roof. The SLOCOE *Student Art Gallery* is unique in its ability to showcase countywide student artwork. The county produces 6-8 exhibits annually in the space. Artists in grades K-12 are encouraged to participate in the various exhibits, whether they be countywide theme shows or shows highlighting a specific district. In addition, students from county high schools have the opportunity to be a student worker at the gallery.



These student "Artist-in-Residences" work part-time on the weekends. Their duties include interacting with the public while they are creating their art, selling the artwork on display, and interacting with the professional artists surrounding them each and every work shift. This awesome partnership benefits the gallery and its workers, the community and most importantly the students of San Luis Obispo County.

The purpose of these local partnerships is three-fold:

- Help all students become lifelong learners and enthusiasts of the Arts.
- Experience local professional level artists in action.
- Envision the Arts beyond schooling and the limitless possibilities available to each student.

Santa Barbara County

Santa Barbara County Office of Education

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“Arts education provides a form of expression and communication that is essential to the human experience.”

– Susan Salcido, Ed.D., Santa Barbara County Superintendent of Schools



Children's Creative Project

We are proud to offer a vibrant arts education program in Santa Barbara County through vital partnerships with non-profit organizations such as the Santa Barbara County Bowl Foundation, the Music Academy of the West, and the Santa Maria Arts Council, to name a few. One of our incredible programs is through the *Children's Creative Project*, a non-profit program of the Santa Barbara County Education Office (SBCEO).

The *Children's Creative Project (CCP)* provides exceptional visual and performing arts experiences to students throughout the county. It brings together students and professional artists, enabling children to develop artistic perception, creative expression, and an understanding of artists, the creative process, and historical and cultural arts heritage. The project, founded in 1974, now reaches roughly 50,000 children annually during school hours in more than 100 schools in Santa Barbara and San

Luis Obispo counties.

The program includes visual and performing arts workshops conducted by resident artists, multicultural

performances presented by professional touring artists at school sites, and a free annual performance event by a world-renowned artist for 2,000 to 4,000 students at a public theater venue.

The CCP supports individual schools and school districts in creating programs that meet their needs and budgets through resident artist workshops. Artists provide sequential, participatory lessons in dance, drama, vocal music, and visual arts, providing opportunities for creative



Santa Barbara County



expression, skill development, and joyful discovery. These workshops address the California Arts Standards and can integrate the arts with other academic subject areas.

Santa Maria-Bonita School District is one of CCP's partners providing essential support for K-6 arts education, reaching more than 400 classrooms in 16 schools. CCP works alongside the district to design its program, providing instruction in vocal music, visual arts, dance, and theatre. The support also offers touring artist performances for each school from a catalog of 135 multicultural artists. Another example is Carpinteria Unified School District, where the four elementary schools participate in a district-wide arts instruction program.



Created in 1987 by CCP Executive Director Kathy Koury, the *I Madonnari Italian Street Painting Festival* is the

primary fundraiser for the CCP. The festival, the first of its kind in North America, attracts 25,000 visitors annually and has become one of Santa Barbara's most popular events. A true celebration of the arts and the creative process, *I Madonnari* features live music and authentic Italian cuisine in addition to the unique street paintings that serve as its inspiration.

The festival demonstrates the power of



local partnerships as it draws significant support from local businesses, service clubs, and individuals.

Another one of the highlights of arts in Santa Barbara County is the annual recognition of an outstanding educator in the performing arts. The *Santa Barbara County Performing Arts Teacher of the Year* award is given annually to an exemplary performing arts teacher. Since 2016, the Teachers Network, a program of SBCEO, and the Santa Barbara Bowl Foundation, the foundation for Santa Barbara's premier outdoor concert venue, have chosen a deserving recipient from among the many talented K-12 performing arts teachers. Each recipient is selected for their inspirational work to build students' skills and creativity, and they serve as an ambassador for performing arts in education.



Finally, one of our newer collaborations is the *Sing!* Program with the Music Academy of the West. The Music Academy of the West is among the nation's preeminent summer schools and festivals for gifted young classically-trained musicians and is uniquely positioned to provide arts education. *Sing!*, a free, after-school choral initiative, engages students, ages 7-12, in vocal music performance. Students learn about music and culture, singing in at least five languages. They gain confidence by performing at preeminent venues, and will be performing with the London Symphony Orchestra in the future. The Santa Barbara County Office of Education collaborates with the Music Academy to support the *Sing!*'s expansion to other elementary schools and provide opportunities for performances at several events, including the annual *A Salute to Teachers* event, where the Santa Barbara County Bowl Performing Arts Teacher of the Year is recognized.

Arts education is flourishing in Santa Barbara County, and these experiences enrich the lives of the 70,000 students served by public education.

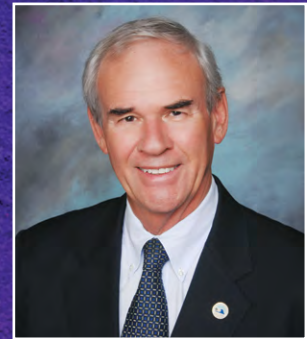
Ventura County

Ventura County Office of Education

Contact: Dr. Jane Wagmeister • jwagmeister@vcoe.org

“Ventura County and our County Office of Education have consistently supported arts education and are fortunate that through partnerships with our local schools and community arts associations we continue to provide our students with this critical area of knowledge. It is my belief that any well-rounded instructional program includes rich learning experiences in all aspects of the arts.”

– Stan Mantooth, Ventura County Superintendent of Schools



Ventura County Arts Network

The *Ventura County Arts Network* continues to strive to support the visual and performing arts in our schools. We meet triennially and host several events throughout the year. This year, we are providing a variety of trainings to support the Revised California Arts Standards and UDL in the Arts classroom. The vision and mission are



to provide professional learning, disseminate state-level information and resources, and provide a range of learning opportunities in the arts. Participants report on art program models, devise solutions to common barriers, celebrate successes, extend invitations for site demonstration days, art shows, performances, STEAM projects, as well as best practices. For more information, please visit the VCOE Arts Website <https://www.vcoe.org/Curriculum-and-Instruction/Content-Areas/Arts>

Ventura County

The Children's Creative Project (CCP) provides exceptional performing arts experiences to students throughout the county. It brings together students and professional artists, enabling children to develop artistic perception, creative expression, and an understanding of artists, the creative process, and historical and cultural arts heritage. The project, founded in 1974, now reaches roughly 50,000 children annually during school hours in more



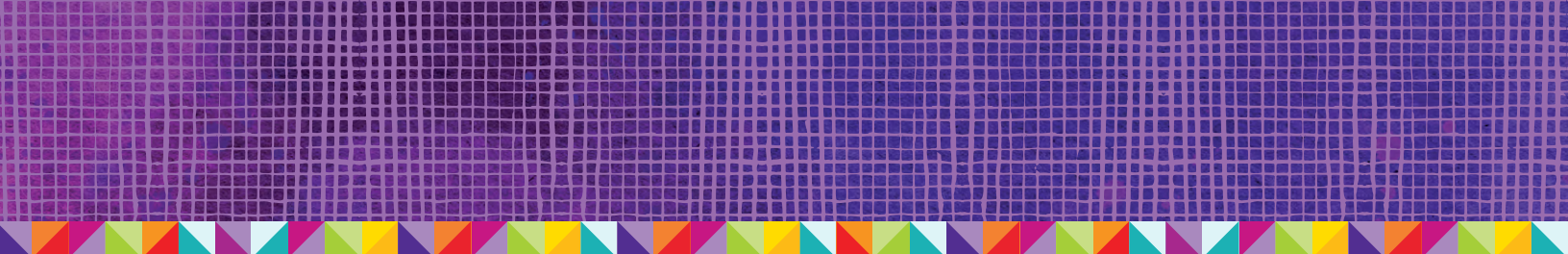
Ventura County Partnerships

The Ventura County Office of Education (VCOE) is committed to quality arts education for all, partnering with local community and educational arts organizations. The Ventura County Arts Council, ArtTrek, Museum of Ventura County, and California Lutheran University – Shakespeare Educational Tour are instrumental in providing Ventura County students access to the arts.



“When we teach a child to sing or play the flute, we teach her how to listen. When we teach her to draw, we teach her to see. When we teach a child to dance, we teach him about his body and about space, and when he acts on stage, he learns about character and motivation. When we teach a child design, we reveal the geometry of the world. When we teach children about the folk and traditional arts and the great masterpieces of the world, we teach them to celebrate their roots and find their own place in history.”

– Jane Alexander, former Director for the National Endowment of the Arts



“The arts — including dance, music, theatre, media arts and visual arts — bolster the development of what are commonly referred to as deeper learning skills. Deeper learning is an umbrella term defining the skills and knowledge students need to attain success in college, career and citizenship. Students that possess deeper learning skills.”

– Beyond the Core: Advancing Student Success through the Arts,
Education Commission of the States

Region 9 ■ Southern

REGION 9 COUNTY SUPERINTENDENTS OF SCHOOLS

J. Todd Finnell, Ed.D., Imperial County Superintendent of Schools

Al Mijares, Ph.D., Orange County Superintendent of Schools

Paul Gothold, Ed.D., San Diego County Superintendent of Schools

REGION 9 ARTS LEAD

San Diego County Office of Education

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Imperial County

Imperial County Office of Education

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“Arts education is very personal to me. It’s what kept me interested in school and has done the same for my own children. We know it positively impacts student learning, but more importantly it enhances the quality of life for our students. The arts, including dance, music, theatre, and visual arts, must be a priority for us as we prepare our students for their life journey.”

– J. Todd Finnell, Ed.D., Imperial County Superintendent of Schools



Strategic Planning for Arts Education in Imperial County

In the 2019-2020 school year, Imperial County Office of Education was selected to participate in an arts education planning process in partnership with CCSESA: Arts Initiative and the California Alliance for Arts Education. The purpose of The Rural County Arts



Cohort grant is building greater access to arts education in rural counties. An ad-hoc committee of 22 participants - both school district employees and community partners - met

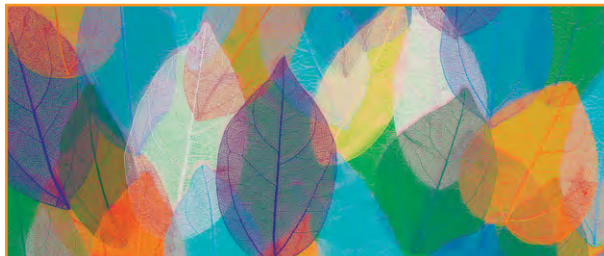
to review data, share experiences and expertise, and prioritize goals and objectives for arts education in Imperial County.

Long-time arts educator, Jim Thomas masterfully facilitated the planning process to create a customized plan that includes a set of county-wide goals, action

Imperial County

steps, outcomes, fiscal implications, and a timeline for implementation. The outcomes of this work will guide how the Imperial County

Office of Education supports and provides resources for maximum access to high-quality arts education.



“The rapidly evolving global economy demands a dynamic and creative workforce. The arts and its related businesses are responsible for billions of dollars in cultural exports for this country. It is imperative that we continue to support the arts and arts education both on the national and local levels. The strength of every democracy is measured by its commitment to the arts.”

– Charles Segars, CEO of Ovation

Orange County Department of Education

Orange County Department of Education

Contact: Scott Fitzpatrick • stfitzpatrick@ocde.us

“The Orange County Department of Education believes that the arts are integral to a well-rounded education. The proven enduring benefits to students are increased creativity and critical thinking. Our county office’s efforts will continue to support districts’ strategic planning and teachers’ professional development that increases achievement for all students.”

– Al Mijares, Ph.D., Orange County Superintendent of Schools



Orange County Department of Education

With over 95% of Orange County school districts developing goals addressing State Priorities by incorporating arts education into their Local Control

Accountability Plan, the Orange County Department of Education (OCDE) has been actively involved with supporting districts with this effort to provide every student with a well-rounded education, which includes the arts. In Orange County, educational leaders understand how the arts help to prepare students to enter the workforce and succeed in the competitive global market. They recognize that students who study



the arts learn how to think both critically and creatively, to persevere beyond failed attempts to reach goals, and to work collaboratively with their fellow students. The Orange County Department of Education supports the 28 Orange County school districts with the following services currently, with more to come:

OCMAA

Facilitated by OCDE, *Orange County Music and Arts Administrators (OCMAA)* is a monthly assembly of district and school administrators as well as arts administrators from the county’s leading arts organizations who gather to learn effective practices supported by the latest research in education.



Orange County Department of Education

#OCArts4All

Our social media campaign highlights the way arts education connects us throughout Orange County. Each week OCDE shares activities and then students, parents and teachers post with #OCArts4All, images are randomly selected to be spotlighted.

Creative Edge Lecture

The *Creative Edge Lecture* inspires arts and business leaders and educators throughout Southern California with a new understanding of what sparks creative endeavors by illuminating how the brain generates new ideas. In 2020, the *Creative Edge Lecture* features Jo Harjo, United States Poet Laureate, at the Irvine Barclay Theater.

Imagination Celebration

Imagination Celebration presented by Arts Orange County and OCDE is an annual countywide arts festival that celebrates children's creativity through visual arts exhibits and family-friendly events. Selected artworks from the *Imagination Celebration* exhibition are featured during the *Festival of Arts* in Laguna Beach. Celebrating its 35th year, the theme for 2020 is "Imagination Counts!"

The Very Special Arts (VSA) Festival

VSA Orange County, OCDE, and Main Place Mall partner to present an annual countywide festival showcasing the artistic accomplishments of children and adults with disabilities. The *VSA Festival* includes daylong performances, various art workshops and a month long art exhibit. The goal of the Festival is to provide education, opportunity and awareness of the arts and disability community. Celebrating its 44th year, the theme for 2020 is "The SuperPower In Me!"

The Small Paintings Project

VSA Orange County's *Small Paintings Project* is a seven session visual arts workshop series currently provided under a contract with the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. Students of all ages and abilities explore the seven elements of art while scaling a large painting down to a 4 X 6 mini canvas to be presented in

a culminating presentation and exhibit. Key instructional strategies have been established using the California Visual and Performing Arts Standards. National Core Arts Standards and Common Core Standards.

VSA Intersections: Arts and Special Education Conference

In partnership with the Orange County Department of Education, the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts' office on VSA and Accessibility held their *Intersections Conference* at the Hotel Irvine October 28-28th, 2019. The annual conference provides professionals in the intersecting fields of art education and special education the opportunity to share current information in research, practice, programs and policy, and serve as a leading catalyst for change. Attendees build new skills, transfer knowledge, network, and ultimately help to shape the best practices to educational experiences for students with disabilities learning in and through the arts.



Poetry Out Loud

OCDE hosts this annual county competition celebrating the power of poetry and the spoken word for those high school students who are the winners of their district's event.

OCALLKIDS Project

The *OCALLKIDS Project* focuses on increasing access to arts instruction for students who currently have limited or no arts instruction in their school settings as well as improving arts instruction for students in alternative education and for students with diverse needs. Our goals for this 2019 project and beyond include: changing the educational culture in districts regarding arts education, infusing arts education with UDL and increasing collaboration and integration amongst VAPA and non-VAPA educators.

San Diego County

San Diego County Office of Education

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“All San Diego County children deserve access to high-quality visual and performing arts education, regardless of where they live or how much money their parents make. The arts provide a crucial link to engaging students in other academic fields and help students develop the critical and creative thinking skills that are necessary for success in college, career, and beyond.”

– Paul Gothold, Ed.D., San Diego County Superintendent of Schools



San Diego County Office of Education

The San Diego County Office of Education (SDCOE) supports nearly 780 schools and more than 500,000 students. SDCOE provides a variety of services for the 42 school districts, 124 charter schools, and five community college districts in the county. The full-time Arts Coordinator at SDCOE provides innovative, high-quality professional learning grounded in California Standards to strengthen academic instruction and works to ensure equity and access for each and every student.

Arts Empower San Diego

Arts Empower is a collective impact working to improve and support arts education in San Diego County. The mission of *Arts Empower* is to ensure high-quality arts education for every student, supported through the collective impact of a motivated community of arts advocates.

Arts Empower:

- Builds leadership in and through arts education
- Promotes advocacy to strengthen arts education
- Encourages and assists districts in all phases of the arts education strategic planning process
- Fosters meaningful partnerships between educational entities and community stakeholders
- Facilitates professional learning opportunities
- Measures access to equitable arts education

Leadership Development

The San Diego Area Arts Leadership Community engages school and district arts leaders in professional learning and leadership development focusing on instruction and student learning aligned with the new California Arts Standards. Through collaborative observation, discourse, and reflection, we build the capacity of arts leaders as they support educators in their district. The Community investigates arts education topics and current research

San Diego County



to maintain awareness of issues and policies impacting arts education in California.

We provide

a system of support for arts leaders as they implement a Strategic Arts Education Plan and make systematic change. This work is a partnership between SDCOE and the Southern Counties California Arts Project (SouthCAP), a regional site of The California Arts Project.

Strategic Arts Education Plans

Arts Empower San Diego, in partnership with SouthCAP, assists districts in writing and implementing Strategic Arts Education Plans. Fourteen school districts, serving sixty seven percent of the students in the county, have written strategic plans since Arts Empower first began this work in 2012. Arts Empower facilitates all phases of the strategic planning process including advocating for a district plan, guiding districts in preparing and executing the plan, and supporting an internal plan evaluation and subsequent actions.

Partnerships

The Arts Education Resource Organization (AERO) is a collective of arts organizations and artists dedicated to working together to build bridges between schools and the arts community. AERO began in 2006 with the vision that all San Diego County students have access to engaging, relevant, quality arts education. Members meet throughout the year to network, share best practices,

collaborate, and participate in professional learning.



Since 1999, SDCOE and the La Jolla Playhouse have been recognized

as a Partners in Education site as certified by the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington

D.C. Currently our *Arts Academy* program is being conducted in three elementary schools in the Chula Vista Elementary School District. Each teacher spends 10 weeks developing text-based arts integration curriculum and co-teaching with La Jolla Playhouse teaching artists. Teachers use theatre making strategies to activate student learning in subject areas such as Science, Language Arts, and History. By the end of this program, teachers develop the confidence and tools to continue using arts integration, thus making exponential impact on students for years to come.

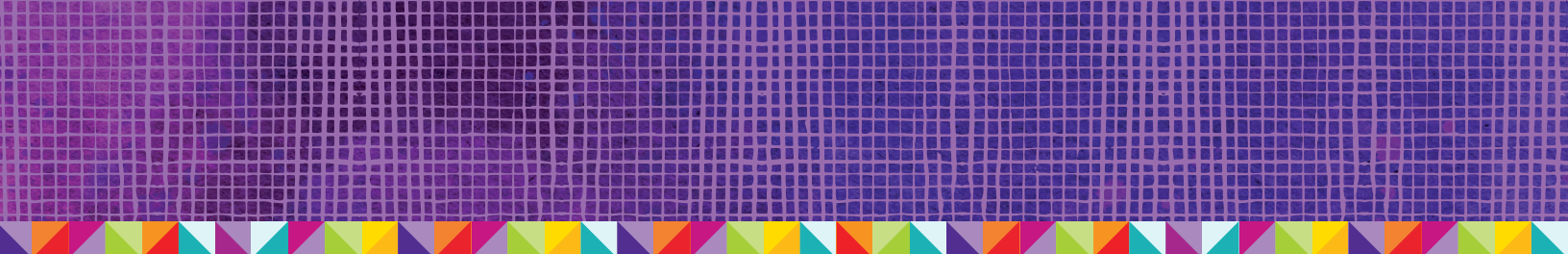
Professional Learning and Resources

Every October since 2013, *Arts Empower* San Diego and the



San Diego County Office of Education, in partnership with AERO, SouthCAP, local professional arts educator associations, and Balboa Park arts and cultural institutions host the premier conference for arts educators, administrators, college students, and parents in the region. Every year, more than 500 participants attend more than 70 professional learning sessions throughout beautiful Balboa Park.

A Criteria for Quality STEM/STEAM in San Diego (SDQC) was created by SDCOE to support the growing number of K-12 STEM/STEAM schools and programs as they implement integrated STEM/STEAM learning experiences in all K-12 classrooms. This tool may serve as a framework to facilitate inter-segmental discussion on program quality indicators. School and district personnel, after school program providers, community members, business partners, parents, and STEM/STEAM professionals may find this SDQC tool useful to ultimately provide measurable program outcomes. When used as part of a collaborative analysis and goal setting process, it has the potential to guide the thinking and decision-making process. In 2019, the SDCOE STEAM Team revised the attributes, components, and elements to include perspectives in equity, Career and Technical Education, Computer Science, and Universal Design for Learning.



“Our future as an innovative country depends on ensuring that everyone has access to the arts and to cultural opportunity . . . But the intersection of creativity and commerce is about more than economic stimulus, it’s also about who we are as people. The President and I want to ensure that all children have access to great works of art at museums. We want them to have access to great poets and musicians in theaters around the country, to arts education in their schools and community workshops.”

– First Lady, Michelle Obama

Region 10 ■ Rims

REGION 10 COUNTY SUPERINTENDENTS OF SCHOOLS

Barry Simpson, Inyo County Superintendent of Schools
Stacey Adler, Ph.D., Mono County Superintendent of Schools
Judy D. White, Ed.D., Riverside County Superintendent of Schools
Ted Alejandre, San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools

REGION 10 ARTS LEAD

San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools

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Inyo County

Inyo County Office of Education
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“We know that the arts can foster powerful emotions within our students, allowing for more empathetic, creative and imaginative thinkers - qualities that are needed in all fields of study. It is imperative, especially in our small and rural communities, that we continue to find ways to expose our students to the arts.”

In Inyo County, we are proud to partner with our local arts community and arts council in providing a variety of arts and music programming that enriches our students educational experience while also contributing to their social and emotional health. Keeping the arts alive for our students should be a foundational goal in every educational organization.”



– Barry Simpson, Inyo County Superintendent of Schools

In order to implement the Visual and Performing Arts standards and framework and support art experiences for students and teachers, Inyo County Office of Education (ICOE) partnered with the Inyo Council for the Arts (ICA) in 2010. ICA in collaboration with the

Education Services department plans field trips and assemblies for students throughout the year and provides in classroom and afterschool arts programming. More than just providing assistance to school

districts, ICOE and ICA have taken a new approach to arts education by bridging the gap between the creative communities and educational institutions in our county, creating opportunities for teachers to tap directly into the arts resources available here. With a student population of approximately 2,500 countywide, including remote school districts such as Death Valley, the partnership with ICA was a logical step which has not only proven cost effective but has also allowed the arts council to take a leadership role in arts education across the county. Although Inyo is a rural county, it is fortunate to have an incredible community of teachers and artists who recognize the importance of keeping arts education in our schools. ICOE's partnership with ICA has been instrumental in channeling these arts resources into the classroom.



Inyo County



Art Education Programs

The partnership between ICA and ICOE has generated a number of programs in the schools and the community that benefit the students of Inyo County.

The Brummitt-Taylor Classical Music Listening

Program: This successful program is a five-year daily curriculum developed to teach students about classical composers, compositions, musical vocabulary, and instruments. The program, which has been implemented in 65 K-8 classrooms countywide, goes beyond “music appreciation,” and teaches true musical literacy.

K-5 Art Docent Program: The *Art Docent* program provides visual art curriculum trainings for volunteer classroom docents who then combine history and art theory lessons with engaging hands-on art activities for students. ICA and ICOE have brought this program into classrooms across the county, including many Spanish-English dual immersion programs, for the past six years.

Workshops and Assemblies: Nationally and internationally touring musicians present educational workshops at Inyo County schools in conjunction with the annual *Millpond Music Festival*, produced by ICA. In addition, ICA and ICOE continue to partner with the University of Nevada Las Vegas’ music department to bring high quality educational presentations to underserved schools in Inyo County’s most isolated school district, Death Valley.

Poetry Out Loud: ICA and ICOE facilitate county-wide participation in the National Endowment for the Arts and the California Arts Council’s *Poetry Out Loud* competition, which encourages students to learn about great poetry, master public speaking skills, build self-confidence, and learn about their literary heritage.



Inyo County Community

Reads: For the last twelve years ICOE and ICA have presented the *Community Reads Program* which engages both students and community members in a focused reading of a selected book each year.

A series of events relating to a theme from the book is produced, and the program as a whole promotes both literacy and community involvement in our county.

Student Art Show at ICA: Each year ICA welcomes art from students of all ages in many different mediums for a show in their downtown gallery. This is one of the most popular and well attended gallery shows of the year, and students and family members love to see their art displayed in public.

After School Art Classes:

ICOE and ICA, with additional support from the California Arts Council, are in their seventh year of offering a wide array of after school arts classes in such subjects as oil and watercolor painting, ceramics, music (guitar), beading, caricature drawing, aboriginal dot art, and origami. These classes are taught by local artists and are presented in schools across the county, including schools for at-risk student populations.



The collaboration between ICOE and ICA shows a commitment to thinking “outside the box” to bring quality arts education to California’s rural community schools. ICOE has spearheaded an innovative effort to maintain high quality arts education in our schools by bringing the creative resources of our community into the classroom and actively seeking out artistic and cultural resources to “import” into our isolated county.

Mono County

Mono County Office of Education

Contacts: Dr. Stacey Adler • sadler@monocoe.org
Shana Stapp • [sstapp@monocoe.org](mailto:ssstapp@monocoe.org)

“Exposure to the arts and the process of creating art is so important in providing opportunities for student self-discovery and connections to their world. We value the arts for themselves, but also how they create pathways for students to actively engage with history, science and other academic areas. We cannot underestimate the value of the arts in developing creativity and the ability to see things differently. Mono County Office of Education is committed to continuing its support of arts programs in all of our Mono County schools and communities.”



- Stacey Adler, Ph.D., Mono County Superintendent of Schools

Mono County Office of Education (MCOE) Adopts Strategic Plan

In 2018 the California Alliance for Arts Education and the California County Superintendents Educational Services Association (CCSESA) invited Mono County Office of Education Superintendent, Dr. Stacey Adler, to engage in a process of strategic planning for Arts Education. The goal of the planning was to expand access and equity to high quality arts education for every student throughout Mono County. Dr. Adler was eager to participate and engaged a diverse group of stakeholders that included teachers, county and district leaders, parents and community arts partners to bring their ideas to the planning table. The Mono County Office of Education's Strategic Arts Education Plan was created and adopted and is dedicated to contributing to Mono County as a thriving arts region.

Since the plan adoption MCOE has received the Rural County Cohort Implementation Grant and participated

in the cohort meetings. In addition, MCOE has sent educational leaders to the following arts leadership trainings: Los Angeles County Office of Education's *Technology Enhanced Arts Learning Scale-Up (TEAL)*, Rural County Arts Cohort Orientation/Training, *Arts Now Community Leadership Training* and *TEAL Scale-Up Professional Development*. Mono COE presented at the CCSESA Rural County Arts Cohort Convening in April 2020.



In November, 2019 MCOE and the Mono Arts Council (MAC) held our California Alliance for Arts Education Arts Now Launch for Mono County advocacy. We also held

Mono County

our first professional development for Arts Integration and Social Emotional Learning Strategies.

MCOE and MAC are proud to announce the first ever *The Create Eastern Sierra Summer Arts Institute* will take place on June 16-17, 2021. This is a series of arts integration and social emotional learning strategies (SEL) workshops taught by teaching artists. We are excited to launch this new

professional development opportunity!

Student Art Work Displayed

Mono County Office of

Education (MCOE) proudly displays student art work in the main offices of both our north and south county locations. The displays are changed biannually and range from elementary pieces to high school projects.



Calliope Literary Publication

MCOE publishes *Calliope*, a literary and art magazine, featuring the work of Mono County school students. Exemplary student writing and artwork is identified and submitted for publication. MCOE is thrilled to be able to provide a vehicle for our students to become “published authors and artists.”

Collaboration Makes Art Happen

Mono Arts Council (MAC) is constantly growing and evolving our programs to fill the arts needs of the students of Mono County. We currently partner with MCOE to provide a program called *MAC Master Artists*. All K-8 students are provided with an art history lesson and an art lesson. The lessons incorporate SEL, as well as, the opportunity to create and not always duplicate. MAC is currently offering an after-school digital arts/mixed-media program to most of Mono County. Students are learning stop-motion animation while creating their own 2D and 3D art projects. We also provided PE teachers in the county with PD training to integrate ballroom dance and SEL into their curriculum through a program called the *Dance Education Project*.

Collaboration Makes Music Happen

Also in collaboration with MAC, MCOE was a major sponsor of the 2015 inaugural *June Lake Jam Fest*, where all children and all Mono county school students could attend free. MCOE funded school assemblies with performances by *Jam Fest* artists prior to the event. MCOE continues to sponsor *Summer Music Camps* for Mono County students where students explore different instruments, music genres and are featured performers at the *JL Jam Fest*. Through this kind of collaboration, children are exposed to multiple sensory explorations that we hope lead to a life of choices that bring fulfillment and joy to the individual and to the communities where they live.

ARTS and the Library

MCOE has the responsibility of operating our public libraries. Story time is offered for young children which includes a related craft following the story. This reinforces the connection between exposure to literature and the arts with a project the children can take home and enjoy. Annual summer reading programs based on a theme encourage students to explore literary creativity and also includes an arts activity. Some libraries partner with the MAC to host afterschool arts programs and the Friends of the Library is sponsoring a contest for young people to submit creative works in photography, mixed-media and writing with the winners having their submissions published in a book. Music programs are offered at the library with special programs offered to invited school classes to help expose them to musical styles and instruments.

A Place for Creativity - Makerspace

Most County libraries offer some degree of afterschool maker activities, with the flagship Makerspace located in the Mammoth Lakes Library. The Makerspace Coordinator applies her MFA to developing engaging maker projects that range from sewing, jewelry-making and mask-making to robotics and model-building. Soon we'll be offering activities that teach basic printmaking techniques and joint programs with the youth programs to create zines and graphic novels.

Riverside County

Riverside County Office of Education

Contact: Louisa Higgins • lhiggins@rcoe.us

“At the Riverside County Office of Education, our pledge is that every student in the county will graduate from high school academically and socially prepared for college, the workforce, and civic responsibility. In the last year, this has led to a purposeful focus on providing arts education for all students by hiring the county’s first visual and performing arts administrator who is bringing innovative and proven programs to all students and districts in our county.”



– Judy D. White, Ed.D., Riverside County Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Judy D. White, County Superintendent of Schools has named promotion and expansion of the arts as one of her top priorities. In July of 2019, Louisa Higgins was hired to head up an ambitious program that will build arts as a valuable and central part of education for more than 420,000 students countywide. Louisa Higgins was formerly the Arts Coordinator for the Palm Springs Unified School District and among the senior arts administrators in California.

Featured Events

The first Annual Riverside County Honor Band presented its inaugural performance at the Richards Center for the Arts in Palm Springs on February 1, 2020. Kevin McKeown conducted the Honor Band. This band provides a stepping-stone between district programs and the state’s honor band as a pathway for serious music students. Riverside County will also be producing its first Arts Conference, *ArtsLift 2020*. This conference will take

place at the UCR ARTS on September 29, 2020. It will feature a variety of artists in residence and offer classes in art, music, theatre, dance, and spoken word integration for classroom teachers.

Strategic Plan

Now underway is a Strategic Arts Plan for Riverside County to be completed in the Spring of 2020. Working with a variety of county stakeholders from various districts, cities, and civics and arts organizations as well as educational leadership, students, and teachers, we will build a vision for the arts for the next five years.



Riverside County

New Partnerships

New partnerships have begun beginning with the Riverside Arts Council and the Inlandia Institute to promote the literary arts throughout Riverside County. The RCOE will collaborate with both organizations to promote the Poetry Out Loud competition and an online literary journal for teens.

Expanded Partnerships

Former partnerships established by Louisa Higgins during her tenure as the Arts Coordinator of Palm Springs Unified School District are now extending throughout Riverside County. The *Palm Springs Young Playwrights Festival* will be open to students throughout Riverside County. The *Palm Springs International Dance Festival* will provide a series of master dance classes and a teacher professional development workshop. The *Palm Springs International Film Festival* will hold a Student Screening Day in the area to include an additional 1,000 students into their annual student outreach programs as well as provide a teacher professional development session.

Equity Through Arts

Louisa Higgins is a social justice activist and started several programs in the Palm Springs Area that now have a new iteration at the county level. As the arts has impact on female empowerment, Riverside County is collaborating with the University of California, Riverside (UCR) program developed by Dr. Setsu Shigamatsu, *Be Your Own Kind of Beautiful (BYOKB)*. The program is taught by a group of young women that are Gluck Fellows at UCR. They will hold workshops at all eight of Riverside USD's middle schools, working with girls on self-esteem and female empowerment through the lens of cultural diversity and environmentalism.

Alternative education students are receiving arts education via two pilot programs. One of the programs involve hiring and training Artists-In-Residence

to work in court schools. A second pilot program involves the national organization *Everybody Dance Now*, which will be collaborating with two county community schools this year.



Training and Professional Development

This year saw the adoption of new California Arts Standards, and soon the framework will be finished and released. Louisa Higgins is currently designing and developing a series of workshops to roll out this information. Within her first year, there will be an *Arts Standards Training for Teachers*, an *Arts Integration Training for Teachers*, an *Arts Standards Training for Administrators*, and training on *Visual and Performing Arts Hiring* and *Evaluating Strategies for Administrators*.



Arts Leadership

Louisa Higgins has long been a speaker on the arts and education at state and local conferences, including Title I, Arts Schools Network, Models of Academic Excellence, National Association of Art Educators, and the California Association for Bilingual Education. She continues these efforts by her most recent participation as a panelist at the *Arts Now Leadership Institute* in Santa Barbara in September 2019.

Louisa Higgins is motivating her counterparts in Riverside County districts that have Visual and Performing Arts Teachers on Special Assignment or Arts Coordinators. The team of five, representing Riverside Unified School District, Palm Springs Unified School District, Moreno Valley Unified School District, Murrieta Valley Unified School District and Val Verde Unified School District meet quarterly for team building and professional development.

Truly, Riverside County is off to a grand and auspicious start, and this in only year one! As the fourth largest county in California, it is imperative for us to hit the ground running and create as many quality arts experiences for students as possible. We are building cultural capital, cultural relevance, social and emotional learning, and the true capacity to pursue all of the opportunities a young person's future can possibly offer them. This is a renaissance of arts education, and the advent of all of the ways we can use the arts as a vehicle for hope, joy, redemption and achievement.

San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools

San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools

Contact: Armalyn De La O • armalyn.delao@sbcss.net

“I am proud of the focus by schools and districts across San Bernardino County on the importance of providing a variety of arts education opportunities for the 406,000 students who attend our public schools. Numerous studies show the strong correlation between academic achievement and rigorous arts education programs. The arts continue to be a strong draw for many students in their day-to-day motivation in attending school and thriving in their educational pursuits.”



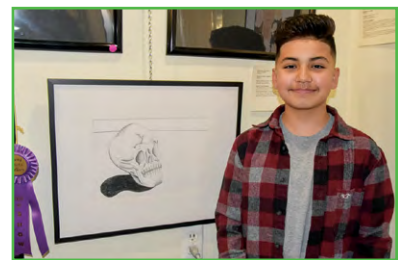
– Ted Alejandre, San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools

San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools (SBCSS)

San Bernardino County school districts' and schools' arts education is supported by SBCSS's *Arts Connect Initiative*. SBCSS supports the county's districts through development of strategic arts education plans, providing professional learning that supports standards-based teaching and learning in the arts, encouraging advocacy efforts that promote all students' equity and access to arts education, and through working with partners to build a vibrant arts enriched county community in and out of school.

SBCSS provides site specific professional learning, open regional professional learning programs, and opportunities for students to demonstrate and share their arts learning. SBCSS partners with Riverside, Inyo, Mono, and San Bernardino (RIMS) California Arts Project (RIMS CAP), the California Subject Matter Project for Arts Education, to design and implement the two avenues

of in-depth and ongoing professional learning assistance. The professional learning programs expand teachers' capacities to support their students' arts learning, academic English language development, and creative development.



SBCSS provides customized professional learning community (PLC) support aligned to the new California Arts Standards and the districts' specific arts education needs, goals, and LCAP priorities. SBCSS provides professional learning for single subject, career arts, and multiple subject teachers to meet all learners' needs in the arts through Universal Design for Learning and

San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools



strengthening teachers' arts knowledge, skills, and pedagogy. For the past twenty-seven years,

SBCSS and RIMS CAP have facilitated quarterly Arts Education Network (AEN) gatherings to provide arts education updates, foster collaborations, resources, and sharing of community opportunities. AEN sessions are held in various locations to provide access to all areas of the county. SBCSS has a long history of providing countywide showcases of student learning in the arts. Through collaborations with the county universities, arts educators, community arts venues, and RIMS CAP students have opportunities annually to share their learning in dance, media arts, music, theatre, and visual arts through county honor bands, orchestras, a performing arts showcase, and a juried visual art gallery event. These are held in historic and professional arts venues, and families, community members and officials, and the public is invited to celebrate the artistic learning and accomplishments of our county students.



SBCSS works closely with the *Arts Connection: Arts Council* for San Bernardino County to

provide experiences and generative dialogue at the intersection of art, education, community development, and economic development. Artists, educators and organizers meet regularly to explore and identify county interconnections and opportunities for taking empowered collective action in the county, region and local communities. SBCSS provided two workshops on arts education at the annual Arts Connection's conference. SBCSS is an active member of the *Arts Connection's* Creative Pathways: Regional Start Up

efforts to support, advocate, and engage community building through the arts. Current conversations center on expanding after school arts' opportunities for the county's students, provide support for the county artists that wish to work with students, increasing the visibility of the county's artistic and cultural assets, and to engage the existing and emerging underground arts groups. *Arts Connection* Board Members and representatives attend the SBCSS Arts Education Network meetings to stay updated on schools arts education programs and needs and to inform arts educators and administrators about the council's upcoming activities, initiatives, and support available.

SBCSS *Arts Connect Initiative*, holds two student events for middle and high school arts students.

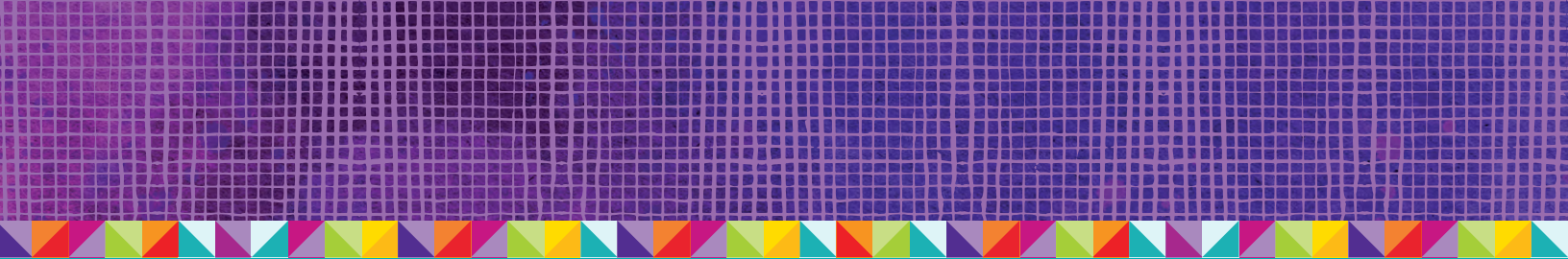


The *Young Artists' Gallery* (YAG) is a juried exhibition for visual arts students from throughout the county. The second student event is the *Celebration of the Performing Arts* that features small and large student ensembles in Dance, Music and Theatre.

SBCSS and the San Bernardino County Music Educators Association partners hold six county honor bands, elementary through high school, and three county honor orchestras, elementary through high school. Music students enrolled in music classes are eligible to be part of the honor bands and orchestras. Three choral festivals take place throughout the county, one for elementary



schools choirs, one middle and high school choral festival in the high desert and one in the west end of the county.



“The arts are fundamental resources through which the world is viewed, meaning is created, and the mind is developed.”

– Elliot W. Eisner, Professor of Education and Art,
Stanford University



Region 11 ■ Los Angeles

REGION 11 COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Debra Duardo, M.S.W., Ed.D., Los Angeles County Superintendent of Schools



REGION 11 ARTS LEAD

Los Angeles County Office of Education

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Los Angeles County

Los Angeles County Office of Education

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“The arts are a vital part of a well-rounded education for every student. Combining music, art, dance and drama with subjects such as math, reading and language can enhance student engagement and boost academic achievement. The arts help create a positive learning environment that fosters teaching innovation and prepares students for success in the information age.”

– Debra Duardo, M.S.W., Ed.D., Los Angeles County Superintendent of Schools



The arts are trending throughout the hundreds of school sites that make up the Los Angeles County Office of Education and are an essential component of a robust and high-quality educational experience. LACOE provides leadership and support for quality arts programs in 80 school districts serving 1.5 million students within the county. Our work in providing classroom strategies, professional development and an infusion of innovative arts programs has created a new level of engagement and creativity among teachers, administrators and staff throughout the massive county



educational system. We sponsor arts competitions, we have critical partnerships with iconic companies like Disney and Universal and we are looking to bring innovative pathways in the way our schools integrate the arts into classrooms and students' lives.

Arts Integration, SEL, MTSS and supporting English Learners funded through State and Federal Grants

TEAL – Technology Enhanced Arts Learning (TEAL) Project

• The Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) has partnered with the Los Angeles County Department of Arts and Culture and the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (DMH) to forge and implement high-quality professional development through a blended learning model, focused on Arts Integration, Social Emotional Learning (SEL), and Healing-Informed practices. This integrated approach energizes classroom practices. For participants, it cultivates a Multi-Tiered System of Support

Los Angeles County

(MTSS) mindset and produces equitable outcomes with the TEAL Project, by aligning MTSS/PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports) frameworks, and the Local Accountability Plan (LCAP).

Scale Up Academy! and Teaching English Learners through the Arts (TELA) Grants • This approach by LACOE's Center for Distance and Online Learning (CDOL) Unit, has captured several important grants supporting use of the arts to address the whole child. There are, though, two grants which were unique, in offering one-of-a-kind funding opportunities. LACOE received the only Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grant Program (SSAE), under the category Effective Use of Technology which is completely focused on the arts. This funding allowed LACOE to include 30 school districts and four additional county offices of education, as participants in the Scale Up! Project, which included both charter and private school networks. This five-day professional development was customized to support schools with capacity-building strategies and blended professional development opportunities that focused on increasing their Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) and Arts Integration knowledge and strategies using effective technology.



The second unique grant secured by LACOE, was a federal grant from the Office of English Language Acquisition (OELA). This funding supports our Teaching English Learners through the Arts Project (TELA), an innovative program to improve effective instruction for English Learners for both in-service and pre-service teachers. The approach encourages strong partnerships and engagement of parents/families. TELA online and in-person resources deliver the Visual and Performing



Arts disciplines, and include resources to increase the engagement and production of language development and content area knowledge for English Learners (EL's), as well as supporting Social Emotional Learning (SEL).

Student Educational Programs

The Los Angeles County High School for the Arts (LACHSA), run by the LACOE in partnership with California State University, Los Angeles sits proudly on the university campus, and offers a tuition-free specialized program combining college-preparatory academic instruction and conservatory-style training in the visual and performing arts. Recognized as one of the premier public arts high schools in the country, LACHSA is the recipient of numerous awards, including the California Distinguished School for Academic Excellence, CSBA's Golden Bell Award, Grammy Signature School, Bravo Award for excellence in arts education and the Exemplary School Designation by the Arts Schools Network.

The Poetry Out Loud National Recitation Contest is conducted by LACOE in partnership with the California Arts Council. Sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Poetry Foundation, this contest encourages high school students to study and appreciate poetry through practice, performance, and competition. The *Very Special Arts Festival* is an annual event celebrating the artistic achievements of students with disabilities and their mainstream peers. The festival which is held at the Los Angeles Music Center, features student art exhibits, student and professional performances, and visual and performing arts workshops. Co-sponsored by LACOE and the Los Angeles Unified School District with generous support from multiple public and private organizations, this popular event is open to students in all grade levels.



CCSESA Statewide Arts Initiative Vision and Core Principles

The visual and performing arts are an integral part of a comprehensive curriculum and are essential for learning in the 21st century. All California students—from every culture, geographic region and socio-economic level—deserve quality arts learning in dance, music, theatre, and visual arts as part of the core curriculum.

Rich & Affirming Learning Environments

Create a safe, affirming, and enriched environment for participatory and inclusive learning in and through the visual and performing arts for every group of students.

Empowering Pedagogy

Use culturally and linguistically responsive pedagogy that maximizes learning in and through the visual and performing arts, actively accesses and develops student voice, and provides opportunities for leadership for every group of students.

Challenging & Relevant Curriculum

Engage every group of students in comprehensive, well-articulated and age-appropriate visual and performing arts curriculum that also purposefully builds a full range of language, literacy, and other content area skills, including whenever possible, bilingualism, biliteracy, and multiculturalism. This curriculum is cognitively complex, coherent, relevant, and challenging.

High Quality Instructional Resources

Provide and utilize high quality standards-aligned visual and performing arts instructional resources that provide each group of students with equitable access to core curriculum and academic language in the classroom, school, and community.

Valid & Comprehensive Assessment

Build and implement valid and comprehensive visual and performing arts assessment systems designed to promote reflective practice and data-driven planning in order to improve academic, linguistic, and sociocultural outcomes for each specific group of students.

High Quality Professional Preparation & Support

Provide coherent, comprehensive and ongoing visual and performing arts professional preparation and support programs based on well-defined standards of practice. These programs are designed to create professional learning communities of administrators, teachers, and other staff to implement a powerful vision of excellent arts instruction for each group of students.

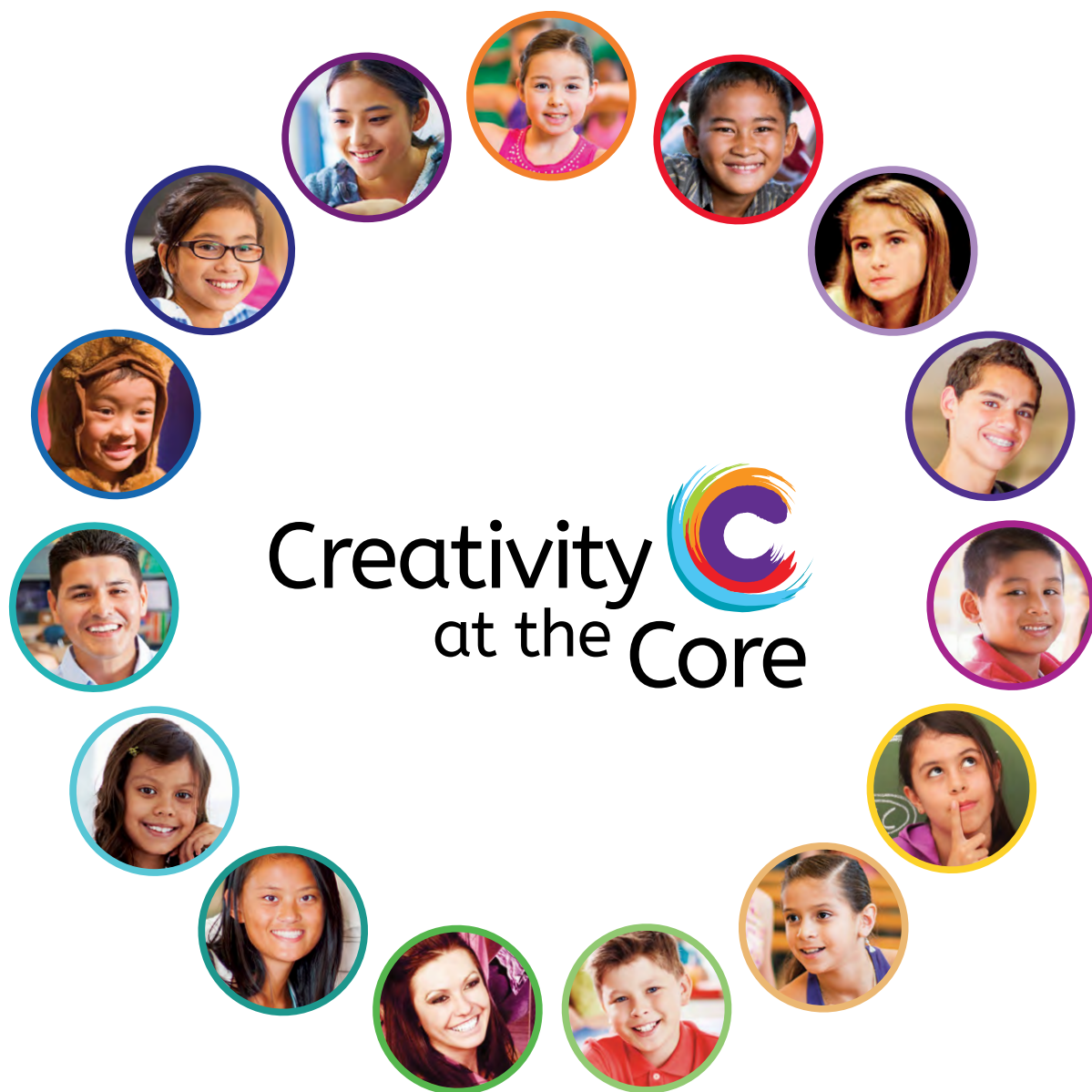
Powerful Family/Community Engagement

Implement strong family and community engagement programs that build leadership capacity and value and draw upon community funds of knowledge to inform, support, and enhance visual and performing arts teaching and learning for each specific group of students.

Advocacy-Oriented Administrative/Leadership Systems

Provide advocacy-oriented administration and leadership that institute system-wide mechanisms to focus all stakeholders on the diverse visual and performing arts needs and assets of each specific group of students. These administrative and leadership systems structure, organize, coordinate, and integrate visual and performing arts programs and services to respond systemically to the needs and strengths of each group of students.

Creativity at the Core



The California County Superintendents Educational Services Association (CCSESA) Statewide Arts Initiative, has been the leader in the *Creativity at the Core* initiative which has involved a multi-year statewide effort to create innovative K-12 professional learning resources that incorporate dance, media arts, music, theatre and visual arts into the core curriculum in support California State Standards, including Common Core. Regional Arts Leads from county offices of education partnered with arts organization partners to research, develop, and pilot the professional learning resources. The CCSESA suite of resources can be adapted to different teaching environments and are available online. The initiative has been funded through generous support from the California Arts Council, The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, and the Stuart Foundation. Key partners include the California Department of Education, California Association for Bilingual Education (CABE), CREATE CA, and other arts and education organization across California.

The modules can be accessed at www.ccsesaarts.org/creativity-at-the-core/.



A SPECTRUM OF POSSIBILITIES

STUDENT SUCCESS

Arts education builds confidence, critical thinking, and creativity.

CREATIVITY IS THE FUTURE

Arts education helps Californians create what might be.

CREATIVITY IS CAPITAL

Arts education pays dividends. The creative economy continues to grow.

CREATIVITY BUILDS COMMUNITIES

Arts education teaches values, perspectives, and cultural traditions of people past and present.

ARTISTIC LITERACY OPENS DOORS

Arts education and critical thinking go hand-in-hand—opening doors for new opportunities.

ARTS FOR LIFE

Arts education + California students = skills that last a lifetime.

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CCSESA CISC Arts Subcommittee and County Arts Leads

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