## VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS SUBCOMMITTEE

### December/January 2015-16

#### E-Report

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## REGIONAL ARTS LEADS

(One official subcommittee representative per region)

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Arts Meeting Schedule for 2015-16 in partnership with the California Department of Education

September 16, 2015
Regional and County Arts Leads Meeting
9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Discussion Forum & Creativity at the Core Presentations
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
The California Department of Education

March 3-4, 2016
Statewide Arts Conference/Summit on Arts, Education and the Economy
Hosted by CREATE CA and Fresno COE
Location: DoubleTree Hotel – Fresno
Click Here to Register

November 18, 2015
Regional and County Arts Leads Meeting
9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Discussion Forum & Creativity at the Core Presentations
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
San Mateo County Office of Education

May 10, 2016
Regional and County Arts Leads Meeting
4:00 p.m. – 6:45 p.m.
Discussion Forum & Creativity at the Core Presentations
Time TBD
Location: Hammer Museum, UCLA

January 27, 2016
Regional and County Arts Leads Meeting
9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Discussion Forum & Creativity at the Core Presentations
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Yolo County Office of Education

May 11, 2016
CCSESA Arts Learning Colloquium
10:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Regional Arts Leads Meeting
12:30 p.m.–3:00 p.m. CCSESA Arts Learning Colloquium
All County Arts Leads and Invited Guests
Hosted by the Los Angeles County Office of Education
Location: J. Paul Getty Museum – Los Angeles County
Details to be sent to all county offices

March 2, 2016
Regional and County Arts Leads Meeting
12:45 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.
Discussion Forum & Creativity at the Core Presentations
Time TBD
DoubleTree Hotel – Fresno

*PLEASE NOTE*- Regional Arts Leads are members of CCSESA’s Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA) Subcommittee of CISC.
Do you have an exciting arts program or event going on in your county? **We want to hear about it!**

We hope to feature your county’s news about arts events, projects, programs, etc. (past, present or future) in the CCSESA Arts Initiative e-newsletter, website and/or on Twitter. Also, if you or your county office are on Twitter and would like to be recognized when we release your news story, please let us know.

We look forward to sharing all of your exciting news! Please contact Amanda Taggart at ataggart@ccsesa.org for submission form or call for questions at (916) 446-3095.

Don’t forget to follow us on Twitter! [@ccsesaARTS](https://twitter.com/ccsesaARTS)

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**Counties on the Move – To Be Released This Spring**

*Highlighted County Offices of Education and their support of Arts Education*


Knowing that the visual and performing arts contribute to effective schools, the California County Superintendents Educational Services Association (CCSESA) Arts Initiative continues to build capacity for arts education at the national, state, region, county, and local levels. As part of this effort, we will continue to publicize examples of county superintendents’ support for arts education in an engaging informational booklet entitled *Counties on the Move towards Arts Education for All Students*. This CCSESA publication provides a snapshot of the wide variety of arts education projects, programs, planning strategies, and collaborations provided by county offices of education.

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**TWO NEW PROFESSIONAL LEARNING MODULES TO BE RELEASED THIS SUMMER**

The CCSESA Arts Initiative is pleased to announce that two new professional learning modules will be developed to contribute to the suite of resources created by county offices of education and arts organization partners from across California.

The *Creativity at the Core* program has involved a two-year statewide effort to create innovative K-12 professional learning resources that incorporate dance, music, theatre and visual arts into the core curriculum support California State Standards, including Common Core. Currently 15 modules exist in the CCSESA suite of resources which can be adapted to California’s different teaching environments and are available online for any who desire to use them – teachers, administrators, teaching artists, parents, and the general public.

Through a competitive grant process, two county offices were selected to develop the new modules with funding from the California Arts Council and The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation.

To read the full announcement, [click here](#).
Nearly a hundred art educators gathered at the Sacramento County Office of Education for the Creativity at the Core Professional Learning Workshop – including elementary, middle and high school art teachers, administrators, and teaching artists from across the state.

Dr. Lisa Donovan (pictured left) joined us from Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts where she is a Professor in the Fine and Performing Arts Department. She led a number of stimulating activities that explored artistic and cultural expression in the core curriculum that can be translated back to the classroom. Dr. Donovan also discussed specific strategies to integrate the arts in English Language Arts, as detailed in her book Strategies to Integrate the Arts in Language Arts. To view videos of the activities from the event, click here.

Also presenting at the Professional Learning Workshop was Sarah Anderberg, Director of the CCSESA Arts Initiative (pictured right), Jack Mitchell, Educational Programs Consultant at California Department of Education, and Dr. Steven Winlock, Executive Director at the Sacramento County Office of Education School of Education (pictured below).
National Arts Education Association

NAEA Virtual Art Educators is a space for you to access premier professional learning opportunities from anywhere in the world. Choose from a growing number of live and archived webinars, sessions, workshops, and more to create your ideal experience. Be informed and inspired by colleagues, artists, and experts offering programming that is 100% art education content that can be applied immediately to teaching and learning. Design your professional learning experience today!

Americans for the Arts

The pARTnership Movement is a campaign from Americans for the Arts designed to reach business leaders with the message that partnering with the arts can build their competitive advantage. In order to encourage businesses to form pARTnerships, we need to communicate to them that the arts are ready and willing to partner. In order to market ourselves as such, Americans for the Arts created the pARTnership Movement ad campaign.

Arts Education Partnership

New Release! "The Arts Leading the Way to Student Success: A 2020 Action Agenda for Advancing the Arts in Education" will serve as the blueprint for the collective work of the Arts Education Partnership for the next five years. By address the four priority areas highlighted in this Action Agenda, the Partnership will be moving toward the goal that, by the year 2020, every young person in America, at every grade level, will have equitable access to high quality arts learning opportunities, both during the school day and out-of-school time.

California Alliance for Arts Education

Join CA Alliance for Arts Education as they bring national focus to two school districts in San Diego County, where arts education has emerged as a priority to improve student success. This Exchange will enable participants to witness school site learning, hear from key leaders and stakeholders within the school districts and local arts organizations, and learn strategies and resources districts can use to embed arts education in student learning. Click here to register.
Region 1 just had their very successful STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) Conference Jan. 8-9, 2016 at Humboldt County Office of Education’s new Sequoia Conference Center. More than 270 teachers, administrators, community and business members attended.

There were 2 keynote presenters, Dale Dougherty of Maker Media and founder of Maker Faire, and Dr. Gary Stager, author of “Invent to Learn.” There were 27 breakout sessions led by 42 presenters. Every county in the region participated, as well as 4 counties from Region 2.

The feedback we have received has been thrilling, new maker clubs, robotic clubs, building 3D printers to sell and more. We are very excited to follow up the conference with our attendees. This was the largest conference put on in Humboldt County and possibly the region.

We held our first-ever CCSESA Arts Region 2 Arts Leadership retreat forum with The Music Center - LA on December 4th in Redding. About 20 County Office of Education CISC and Curriculum Leads as well as district/ school arts leads attended this free full-day retreat. Participants piloted our revised CCSESA Arts Region 2 Creativity at the Core Module, learned about the other exciting modules and arts resources, and arts education services CCSESA Arts Region 2 can provide. We are working with the LA Music Center to produce recorded webinars for the CCSESA Arts Region 2 Creativity at the Core Module, as well as new “how to use” Module 2 tutorials.

We have officially kicked-off plans to offer strings programs at interested local schools in southern Butte County. A professional strings ensemble as well as some local student players presented Holiday Concerts at our Oroville area schools on December 11th to highlight this endeavor. We have located a professional strings teacher to provide the afterschool strings program and are holding an informational meeting with interested principals in January to iron out the details for implementation in the 2016-17 school year. We will be presenting our Module 2 at The State of Creativity conference in Fresno, March 3-4th.

We are busy planning for the Butte County Superintendent’s 2nd Annual Juried High School Art Show and reception. The show will run throughout March in celebration of Youth Art Month (YAM). For the TK-8th grade students, we are also planning a free Kids Art Day in partnership with a local art gallery on March 19th.
We are partnering with Chico State University Performances and our local historic Oroville State Theatre to bring a nationally renowned educational outreach – JazzReach/Metta Quintet Hip Hop concert to students on April 15th.

We are developing the first ever Butte County Arts Education Strategic Plan with a broad spectrum of county stakeholders. Our Arts Education Steering Committee provided us with feedback on our first draft just before the Holiday break. We expect to have a complete draft ready for review mid-winter with final approval in early Spring 2016. The Butte County Arts Education Strategic Plan will support the development of district arts plans in Butte County and will serve as a model for other counties in Region 2.

We have scheduled a variety of arts integration workshops now through April! Find out more here.

**REGION 3 – Submitted by Dr. Steven Winlock**
Regional Arts Lead: Sacramento County Office of Education

Sacramento County Office of Education partnered with the CCSESA Arts Initiative and the California Department of Education to host the Statewide Professional Learning Offering: *Creativity at the Core: Integrating the Visual and Performing Arts with English Language Arts* on January 29th. To access materials from the event, click here.

**REGION 4 – Submitted by Derek Fenner**
Regional Arts Lead: Alameda County Office of Education

Bay Area Leadership Forum – February 19, 2016

- Youth and adult education leaders will gather with Peter Senge to explore how Systems Thinking can engage all members of the community to build and support vibrant, successful schools. Teams of teachers, parents, students and administrators will meet for discussion and share practical tools for change efforts in schools, districts and communities.

- Winter Integrated Learning Specialist Program - Courses started January 20, 2016 in the East Bay, San Francisco, Solano and Marin Counties. Contra Costa County Office of Education is continuing a pilot of their community school educators, who will begin the final course in the program in January 2016. This pilot program is an effort to adapt the Integrated learning Specialist Program for these complex settings.

- *The State of Creativity: A Statewide Summit on Arts, Education, & the Economy* – March 3-4, 2016. Region 4 Arts Lead, Derek Fenner, will be presenting a workshop launching a new version of ACOE’s *Creativity at the Core* Module, Arts in Court & Community Schools. This workshop will walk participants through the steps ACOE has taken to provide more arts learning opportunities for youth and educators in Alameda County court and community Schools.

- New Professional Learning Module: *Creativity at the Core* - ACOE in partnership with Youth Radio, has been selected to develop a new module for *Creativity at the Core* through funding from the California Arts Council and The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation. ACOE and Youth Radio will develop a module called Media Arts
in Your 6-12 Classroom which will focus on integrating arts, media, and entertainment, CTE elements, and STEAM into existing classroom curriculum.

- Solano County Office of Education is working with ACOE to develop a cohort of educators to offer the Assessment course of the Integrated Learning Specialist Program. SCOE is also working with the local community and arts commissions to become involved in their VAPA meetings. At their last meeting, local artist, Jennyann Carthern, of *Paint is Thicker than Water*, presented on project-and-based learning.

**REGION 5 – SUBMITTED BY HAMISH TYLER**

Regional Arts Lead: Monterey County Office of Education

Santa Clara County continues to prepare for its big STEAM Convention occurring in the Spring. Its visual and performing arts department announces their design contest open to all county high school students. Teachers continue to network and professionally develop under the direction of VAPA coordinator Ester Tokihiro.

Santa Cruz County Office of Education celebrates public art throughout the county. Many murals and other examples of public art created by Santa Cruz students with the help of art teachers and arts professionals are on display throughout the County. A recent showing of an ROP/Media arts collaborative production of a public service announcement featuring water conservation was held at the local Santa Cruz County Water District Headquarters.

San Benito County Office of Education offers the Global School Network for students interested in developing their communications skills. SBCOE also offers Arts Integration Professional Development for County teachers and administrators. San Benito County is also the home for the world famous *El Teatro Campesino*. El Teatro’s ACTOS program has been debuted in several San Benito County Schools.

Monterey County reports a STEAM school is being built in the Alisal Elementary School District and the Monterey County office of Education will be providing VAPA support and specifically a full week workshop for 3-4th graders featuring the new CCSESA ACTOS module. A summer session for the arts is being offered by the Millennium Charter High School for middle school students interested in the Media Arts. The MCOE also has initiated a work based arts program specifically designed for its court and community schools. Several students have already secured paying jobs in public access television. Monterey High’s Jazz Combo performed for the CICS Open Membership Forum on Cannery Row in January.

In 2015 *Mary Chapa Academy* in Greenfield (Monterey County) was selected to be one of 10 “turnaround arts” schools in the state. It’s a national initiative, led by Michelle Obama, to improve academic achievement at low-performing schools by flooding them with art supplies and teaching artists. Principal Sonia Aramburo gives a moving presentation on how bringing the arts back into the classroom has helped boost academic performance.
Hartnell Community College District (Monterey County) will be holding its second production of Aristophanes’ The Birds at the MCAET Black Box Theatre this Spring. In December 2015, the first production was staged at the MCAET Black Box Theater where it was taped and currently showing on MCAET’s multimedia platforms which includes; www.LiveStream.com and www.mcaet.org.

REGION 6 – Submitted by Cheri Lloyd/Lisa Tiwater
Regional Arts Lead: Stanislaus County Office of Education

The State Theatre: Youth Education Program
Barney Saltzberg: Children’s Book Author and Illustrator – Grades K-2
November 18, 2015 @ The State Theatre, Modesto, CA
Teachers/Parents: 39   Students: 356
SCOE partnered with The State Theatre’s Youth Education Program to bring Barney Saltzberg to speak to local students. Saltzberg is an author and illustrator of Beautiful Oops, an endearing book that encourages young readers and artists to turn their mistakes into something beautiful. The concept that an ‘oops’ is ‘okay’ takes the sting out of a mistake. Saltzberg reinforced the idea of being creative and even invited students on stage with him to explore ‘mistakes’.

Arts Education Leadership Team (AELT) Meeting
December 2, 2015 @ the Stanislaus COE
Participants: 14 area Educators, Arts Partners, Parents, etc.
SCOE facilitated a meeting of local arts leaders to expand the leadership across the Region in support of Arts Education as we move into a new era of teaching and learning with the Common Core Standards. The arts leaders brainstormed a focus for the year and shared the opportunities in the arts in the area and how connections could be made to push the arts forward in our community. We are reviewing our local school district LCAP’s to assess the plans for art education. Discussion and plans were made for upcoming events, such as the Educationally Interpretive Exhibition (EIE) art show for the month of March 2016 and the EIE Reception on March 7th.

GradeAlike Meeting – 2nd Grade for Visual Art
December 8, 2015 @ the Stanislaus COE
Participants: 18 Teachers
Teachers read the book, Anansi the Spider: A Folktale of the Ashanti People, by Gerald McDermott. They then discussed how elements of the folktale connect to Reading, Social Studies and Science Standards for 2nd grade. Incorporating Math and Visual Arts Standards, the teachers created a collage. Teachers were given a one-page project over with links to standards, lesson exemplars, lesson directions, lesson presentations, and other related materials.
**The State Theatre: Youth Education Program**  
**Lawrence Hall of Science: Electrifying Science: The “Magic” of Electricity – Grades 3-6**  
**January 13, 2016 @ The State Theatre, Modesto, CA**

**Teachers/Parents:** 120  
**Students:** 802

SCOE partners with The State Theatre’s Youth Education Program to bring shows for students that combine performing arts and science. The Lawrence Hall of Science at the University of California Berkeley brought an electrifying interactive experience as the used electricity to levitate objects in mid-air, set them ablaze, and lit them up from across the room.

**GradeAlike Meeting – 1st and 3rd Grade for Visual Art**  
**January 13, 2016 @ the Stanislaus COE**

**Participants:** 22 Teachers

1st Grade Teachers: Made an artwork to accompany the book, *This Bridge Will Not Be Gray*, by Dave Eggers. Teachers used Visual Art, Reading, and Social Standards to create an exemplar artwork.


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**FRESNO County**

**Any Given Child** - Fresno is the tenth national site for the [John F. Kennedy Center's Any Given Child Initiative](https://www.jkca.org/program/). With the City of Fresno and Fresno Unified, Fresno COE developed and implemented a strategic plan to provide high quality education for every K-8 student. This strategic plan is available to all Fresno County school districts. Fresno COE has also partnered with Sanger COE to make Sanger, CA an Any Given Child city. Fresno COE is facilitating the planning and implementation of the goals established in year one by the strategic planning team.

*Highlights:* In January, Fresno COE began training all of Fresno Unified School District’s first grade teachers in arts integration for music and dance. These trainings will continue throughout the remainder of the school year.

**Fresno County Youth Choir (FCYC)** - The [Fresno County Youth Choir](https://www.fresnocountychoir.com/) was founded in 2007 by the Fresno COE to create multicultural harmony through music that fills the heart, lifts the soul, and changes lives. The FCYC is a select choir that is open to all Fresno County high school and college students involved in their school choral music program. This program is provided at no cost to the students thanks to the generosity of the Foundation@FCOE and our community business partners.

*Highlights:* In December, the Fresno County Youth Choir spent two days performing around Fresno. Performances included the Poverello House, Community Regional Medical Center–Downtown Fresno, California Veteran's Home–Fresno, Transitions Children's Services' Foster Family Holiday Party, and Terry's House (housing for families of patients in long-term care at one of our local hospitals). For most of the 50 students this was the way that they chose to begin their winter vacation; by giving back to our community!

**iAccess Grant (PDAE Grant)** - The iAccess Grant is a $1.4 million dollar grant given over 4 years to train Fresno Unified School District third through sixth grade teachers in theater, visual arts and digital media.
Arts Business Coalition (ABC) and Spark! Initiative - Developed by the Fresno COE, The Arts Business Coalition (ABC) is a partnership among local school and business leaders to further arts education within the county. The ABC’s Spark! Initiative provides funding for arts programs at under-resourced schools throughout Fresno County.

Stages - Stages is a free summer youth theater project founded by the Fresno COE in partnership with California State University Fresno and Fresno City College. Stages is funded by the Foundation@FCOE and its community business partners. Stages provides a platform for students to explore their creativity as they work collaboratively to write, cast, direct, and produce an original piece of devised theater around an issue that directly effects young people in our community.

Arts Every Day - The Fresno COE provides arts integration professional development, curriculum-writing and facilitator training. This training gives teachers the skills, knowledge and confidence to teach the arts every day.

Highlights: On January 9th, Fresno COE held a workshop intended to review the Transitional Kindergarten Dance and Music curriculum adopted by Fresno Unified School District. This workshop integrated California dance and music standards with state standards in English Language Arts and Math through hands-on, interactive professional learning. Teachers were provided with arts integrated units and all necessary resources aligned to the Fresno USD scope and sequence of instruction. Teachers built knowledge, skills, and confidence, and were empowered to teach the Arts Every Day!

Fresno Arts Network (FAN) - This professional learning and networking coalition has created powerful opportunities like the Arts for Learning Conference and the Superintendent’s Rally for the Arts. The FAN has over 500 members representing arts, education and community organizations.

Superintendent’s Model Arts (SMART) Award - The Superintendent’s Model Arts (SMART) Award encourages schools and districts to focus on equity and access in their arts offerings as they include the arts in their students’ well-rounded education.

Highlights: Applications for the 2016 SMART Awards were sent to schools in December and will be reviewed by a panel of judges from Fresno COE for the March awards ceremony.


Highlights: In January, Fresno COE began training all of Fresno Unified School District’s first grade teachers in arts integration for music and dance. These trainings will continue throughout the remainder of the school year.

State and Regional Leadership - The Fresno COE serves as the Region 7 lead on the CCSESA Arts Initiative. The California County Superintendents Educational Services Association (CCSESA) provides technical assistance, resources and planning to support the arts in Central California.

Highlights: Fresno COE hosted a Region 7 meeting in December and January in order to disseminate information from the CCSESA Arts Initiative and to plan for the upcoming arts education summit: California – The State of Creativity (March 3-4, 2016)

Arts Education Summit - Every year over 400 educators, artists and community members convene to deepen their knowledge of the arts in education.

Highlights: Planning continues as Fresno COE, Region 7, and CREATE CA partner to bring a statewide summit on the arts and education: California–the State of Creativity (March 3-4, 2016). The conference will be held at the Downtown Fresno Doubletree by Hilton Hotel and will focus on the arts and California’s $294 billion creative economy. Registration is still available – click here for complete details.
TeachArts.org - This website connects the arts and education with a unique blend of multimedia resources with research, lesson plans, advocacy and funding.

Partners in Education - Fresno COE collaborates with the Fresno Arts Council to train teaching artists through a partnership with the Kennedy Center.

MADERA County

Madera County ArtsFest - The Madera County Schools Foundation has set the date for the 3rd Annual ArtsFest in Madera - Saturday, May 14, 2016. For more information please contact Susan Pennell, Manager, Library Media Services and VAPA Lead, Madera COE: spennell@maderacoe.us or 559-662-6263.

Artists-in-Schools Program - The Madera County Arts Council is working with two districts, Madera Unified and Golden Valley Unified, having teaching artists working in classrooms during the school day and in the after-school program. For more information, please contact Sherril Royse, Education Program Manager, Madera County Arts Council. sroyse@maderaarts.org or 559-661-7005.

Madera Unified School District - Under the direction of Dr. Marcheta Williams, Director of Visual and Performing Arts, the following programs are a sample of what are being implemented during the 2015-2016 school year. For more information, please contact Dr. Williams at MarchetaWilliams@maderausd.org or 559-675-4500 x256.

Highlights: Theatre Arts Traveling Production - Under the direction of Ginger Latimer, Theatre Arts Teacher at Madera South High School, student will perform the production of Captain Louie for all elementary schools in the district throughout the year.

General Music for All Students K-4 Madera USD - New this school year: All Madera Unified school students are provided weekly general music classes in grades K-4.

Strings Program - Fourth grade students at James Monroe Elementary School are given the opportunity to participate in the newly formed string orchestra. Instrumentation includes violins, violas, and cellos.

Middle School Jazz Band - Students at Thomas Jefferson Middle School in Madera meet at 7:15am to rehearse in the district's first middle school jazz band. Students consist of 7th and 8th grade.

MERCED County

Lights on STEAM Contest - The Merced COE after school program department host an annual arts contest around the development of visual arts and STEM-related projects.

Lights On Performances - After school students will be doing dance and theater performances in Downtown Merced - approximately 15 performing groups - every year in October.

Cardboard Challenge - In partnership with Merced Rotary, the MCSD hosts a cardboard challenge competition in designing a variety of structures for a competition.

After School Programs - MCSD offers extended opportunities for students through the After School program through iPad and Arts, Technology and Arts, Science and Arts, and our Strings Program.

Arts into Programming - Arts, Technology, and English Language Arts integration training: Training on the use of coding programs, such as Scratch, to create art to compile and program into a story line.

Highlights: On January 22, 2016 the Merced COE offered a 1-day workshop; "Art into Programming." Teachers learned to use computer coding to design and create visual art pieces. This training highlighted lessons that connect
mathematics and arts standards with computer programming skills which will help equip students to use Scratch 2.0 to express their creativity.

**TULARE County**

**OnStage** - The **OnStage program** is an exciting theater project that takes only two weeks from auditions to final performance and provides all the props, costumes, set pieces and talented directors needed to produce a 35 minute musical on your school site for up to 50 cast members. For more information, contact Brian Roberts at brianr@tcoe.org or (559) 651-1482 ext. 3645.

**TCOE Theatre Company** - Since its inception in 1998, the **Theatre Company** has become a popular and exciting venture for students across Tulare County. Founded by County Superintendent of Schools Jim Vidak and former Assistant Superintendent of Instruction Sally Bakke, the goals of the company include teaching solid fundamental theater skills, instilling professional discipline and work ethics, establishing career connections and giving young people a safe and challenging place to create and express themselves. The Theatre Company offers a constant stream of workshop and performance opportunities for students throughout Tulare County.

**Tulare County Arts Network (TuCAN)** - The **Tulare County Arts Network (TuCAN)** was founded by the Tulare COE to provide a forum for arts educators and providers to network and hear what’s going on at the state and local level. This exciting professional learning community is open to anyone interested in arts education.

**Young People’s Concerts** - In partnership with the Tulare County Symphony, the Tulare COE continues to present the "**Young People’s Concerts**." Begun in 1959, the "Young People's Concerts" are designed to bring students a 40 minute program featuring lively musical selections and instruction about the composers and instruments. For further information contact Kate Stover at kstover@tcoe.org or (559) 651-1482 ext. 3648.

**Poetry Out Loud** - In partnership with the Arts Consortium (Tulare County’s local arts council), the Tulare COE is hosting their inaugural **Poetry Out Loud** competition in 2016.

**Highlights**: The inaugural Tulare County Poetry Out Loud competition will be held on Wednesday, February 3, 2016 at the new Tulare COE administration building. This year nine students, from three local high schools will compete at the event.

**Student Art Exhibitions** - The **annual Tulare County Student Art Exhibitions** are open to students in grades TK-12. Artwork is displayed from November - March in the Tulare COE Administration building. The Exhibition culminates with the annual Best of Show Reception in March during Arts Education Month. Highlights: The 2016 Student Art Exhibition is the largest yet! Nearly 450 pieces of art from students in grades TK-12 are in this year's show. The pieces are 2D and 3D and come from 27 different schools across the county.

**MARIPOSA County**

**Artists in the Schools** - CCSS aligned 2 month residency program in all of Mariposa’s County 5th grade classrooms.

**Youth Art Juried Exhibition** - In February, K-12 students from Mariposa County are invited to submit art pieces for a **juried exhibition**. This year's exhibition, titled, Dreamscapes and Imaginary Worlds opens on February 4.
**Thousand Oaks High School**

- March 14-18, 2016 - Annual Student Art Show with a reception for family, friends, and the public on the evening of Tuesday, March 15, 2016 at 7:00pm.

**Nordhoff High School,** www.nhsmusic.com

- January 31, 2016 - "Raise the Curtain: A Broadway/Disney Spectacular" (3:00pm in the Nordhoff High School Gym) Music performed by all of our award-winning ensembles. Selections include music from Broadway's Wicked, Sweeney Todd, Oliver, Music Man, Spamalot and Disney's Alice in Wonderland, Toy Story, Jungle Book, Cinderella and Sleeping Beauty.
- March 4-20, 2016 - "Guys and Dolls" (Thursdays & Fridays at 7:00pm & Sundays at 2:00pm) " Featuring an outstanding cast of actors, dancers and singers. Shows take place at the Matilija Jr. High Auditorium.

**Adolfo Camarillo High School**

- January 1, 2016 - Three members of the ACHS Music department auditioned for and made the Pasadena City College Tournament of Roses Honor Band and performed New Years’ morning. Peter Blok, Katie Cha and Aaron Talabucon in front of the world, Peter Blok (12), Katie Cha (11), and Aaron Talabucon (12).
- February 25, 2016 - Tootles and Noodles Concert and Dinner Auction (Camarillo Community Center)
- March 5, 2016 - ACHS Jazz Bands will compete at the Dos Pueblos Jazz Festival in Santa Barbara.
- Marcello Ma, ACHS Music 11th grade student, has again been accepted into one of the top three honor bands in the state and will be featured at the California All State Music Educators Conference with one of the three CA Band Directors’ Association Honor Bands.

**Museum of Ventura County,** www.venturamuseum.org/

**Upcoming Exhibitions**

- March 12, 13 & 14, 2016 - "Latina Voices, Visions and Stories" - Las Contemporáneas of the Museum of Ventura County presents: The 2nd Annual Latina Film Festival - The Latina Film Festival (LFF) strives to provide Latina screenwriters, directors, and producers the opportunity to promote and showcase their art through films which highlight issues relevant to Latinas and the community.

**Current Exhibitions**

- December 6, 2015 – March 20, 2016 Duets: Art & Artisans in Harmony
  Our winter exhibition presents musical instruments crafted by local artisans presented with art from the Museum’s collection. It celebrates Ventura County’s vibrant musical community, and the history of local instrument-making.

**Permanent Exhibitions**

- Connected Spirits: The Chumash and Their World
  Learn about our County’s history through the Mission Period.
- Now on view in the Smith Gallery through February 14, 2016 - A Worse Place Than Hell: The Changing Face of Abraham Lincoln. Coinciding with the 150-year anniversary of the death of our celebrated 16th U.S. President, this exhibit illustrates pivotal moments of Abraham Lincoln’s life and presidency. Witness the progression of
Lincoln’s physical and emotional exhaustion, so effectively captured by George Stuart’s three dimensional sculptures, historic photographs and documents.

**Family Events – Free First Sundays**

- The first Sunday of every month offers free admission at both locations. In addition to gallery exhibitions, look for additional activities for the entire family. Activities may include arts and crafts or live performances that relate to our current exhibits. Free Sunday activities are recommended for children 6 years and older.

**Museum of Ventura County - Agriculture Museum, www.venturamuseum.org/visit-agriculture-museum/**

**Current Exhibitions**

- **Machine Age Art: The Artwork of Wendell Dowling**
  Wendell Dowling is a local artist with deep roots in Santa Paula. His artistic talents have led him into a wide variety of artistic pursuits from working as a technical illustrator for an engineering firm to a freelance artist creating illustrations for numerous books and magazines. He also created the mural on the Ventura County Agriculture Building. A selection of his drawings and paintings, representing more than 30 years of his creativity, will be on view at the Ag Museum.

- **AG AIR: Aviation in Agriculture**
  Told through historic photographs, and present-day panoramic photos, AG Air: Aviation in Agriculture tells the story of the great airmen, scientists and inventors who forged an industry that has become an integral part of farming across the country and around the world. From its humble beginnings in America’s Deep South to the GPS guided precision aircraft of today, the story of agricultural aviation is as varied and exciting as the history of aviation itself. Often associated with the daredevil barnstormers of yesteryear, today’s crop dusters are highly trained precision pilots.

**Upcoming Events**

- **March 3, 2016 - 2nd Annual Agriculture Career Fair**
  Building on the success of the inaugural event, the Museum of Ventura County’s Agriculture Museum will host its 2nd Annual Agriculture Career Fair! If you’re interested in pursuing a career in agriculture, don’t miss this wonderful opportunity to network directly with some of the best Agriculture businesses in Ventura County!

**Simi Valley Unified School District**

- Erin Gonzales, a Santa Susana High School dancer in Ms. Lewis’ pointe class was the Simi Valley dance division winner of the PTSA Reflections contest, and just received Honorable Mention at the Ventura County level!
- **Charity Project – The Dance Program families participated in a holiday charity project donating food goods to the Samaritan Center Pantry, where they provide food, showers, and temporary shelter for those in need.**
- **January 22, 2016 at 7pm and January 23, 2016 at 2:00pm and 7:00pm - Snow and Ice Winter Dance Concert in our Performing Arts Center.**
- **February 6, 2016 at 9:00am-2:30pm - Level II Workshop**
  Participants will take a fun Balanchine ballet class and Pilates/stretch for dancers from Elizabeth Highway, former dancer with Milwaukee Ballet and then after lunch work with Andre Tyson, former Ailey dancer, currently on faculty at CalArts, who will set a piece on them to be performed at the Spring Concert.
**Ventura Unified School District**
- January 14, 2016 - High School Jazz Band Concert
- January 19, 2016 - Middle School Jazz Band Concert
- January 20, 2016 - Cabrillo Middle School Beginning Concert
- February 11-14, 2016 - CBDA/CODA All-State Honor Band and Orchestra
- February 27, 2016 - 15th Annual Benefit Concert “2016 Festival of Talent” (1000 Oaks Performing Arts Center) at VHS – Join us for this annual opportunity to showcase community talent and raise funds for our teachers with our Ventura Education Partnership.

**Santa Barbara County Education Office**
*Children’s Creative Project* serves both Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo county schools with the following arts education programs during school hours.

- April 13, 2016 - Free Annual Performance Event - The Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater will perform for 2000 elementary students at the Santa Barbara Arlington Theatre.
- Resident Artist Workshops have expanded to serve all Santa Maria Bonita School District elementary students. Artists provide instruction in the visual arts, dance, theater, and/or vocal music. The program has expanded from serving roughly 31,800 students in 64 elementary schools during 2013-14 to more than 36,000 students in 76 elementary schools during 2015-16.
- Touring Artist Performances is a program of multicultural, educational performances that also has expanded from serving 39,600 students in 68 schools last year to 44,550 students in 94 schools with 517 performances during 2014-15. To date we are serving 60 schools this year, and we expect this number to grow. At the beginning of each school year, we distribute to all schools our free, annual Arts Catalog that contains 175 touring artist performances and descriptions of all our arts education programs and services.
- Arts Leadership Award 2015 - The Children’s Creative Project and Executive Director Kathy Koury received the award from the Santa Barbara County Arts Commission and County Board of Supervisors.

**Ventura County Office of Education**
- Spring 2016 - Ventura County Media Arts Festival to be organized by VC Innovates in conjunction w/ K-12, VCCC, & CSUCI
- 2016 Rose Parade – *Local Students March in the New Year!* The Pasadena City College Tournament of Roses Honor Band is an honor marching band hosted by Pasadena City College. The band consists of hand selected high school students from all over Southern California, and select Pasadena City College Marching Band and Color Guard members. The Pasadena City College Band has marched in every Rose Parade since 1930 and is one of four bands, along with the two Rose Bowl university bands, that performs every year. Three members of Oxnard Union High School District’s Adolfo Camarillo High School Music department auditioned for and made the Pasadena City College Tournament of Roses Honor Band and performed New Years’ morning in front of the world, Peter Blok (12), Katie Cha (11) and Aaron Talabucon (12)!
Welcome to our NEW Region 9 Arts Lead – Pauline Crooks, Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator for the San Diego County Office of Education, pauline.crooks@sdcoe.net.

Riverside Unified School District is completing the development of a five-year strategic arts education plan. A district arts committee was convened earlier in the year to assess the progress of the strategic arts plan developed in 2008. Through that assessment process it was determined by the committee that a new strategic arts plan was needed, based on the educational shifts and the new Local Control Funding Formula and the districts LCAP plan. The RIMS California Arts Project Regional Director at CSU San Bernardino facilitated the strategic planning process. They anticipate that the updated plan will go to the district’s school board in Spring 2016.

Currently two other districts in Riverside County are working toward the development of strategic arts education plans, Beaumont USD and Temecula Valley USD. This will be Beaumont’s first plan. Temecula Valley is looking to update their plan that was developed in 2010.

A.B. Miller High School, Fontana Unified School District started the 2nd year of the Dance Collaborative, a grant program that works with students from four elementary schools that are feeder programs into the A.B. Miller HS cluster. The program brings high school students in the A.B. Miller dance program together with elementary students as the dance teachers while RIMS California Arts Project provides the classroom teachers with professional development in dance.

Preparation for the San Bernardino County honor bands, orchestras, jazz bands and choral clinics are in full swing. Elementary through high school music students in San Bernardino County Schools are being recommended by their music teachers at the elementary level and auditioning at the secondary level to be accepted into these prestigious instrumental honor groups. Elementary through high school choral clinics are taking place all over the county with professional clinicians. The honor instrumental groups will perform this spring at the University of Redlands.
On December 5, 2015 the professional learning series “Teaching Creativity with Common Core State Standards” received a Golden Bell Award from the California School Boards Association. This series is designed to create a new vision on instruction that depends learning through arts integration. Participants learn how to integrate the arts with Common Core Standards and 21 Century skills, using hands-on instruction and real life examples.

Teaching Creativity with Common Core State Standards has inspired 70 school districts to transform arts education in their schools and continues to inspire art organizations, county offices of education and state agencies to follow suit.
GOALS

The goals of the Curriculum and Instruction Steering Committee (CISC) are to provide leadership and high quality services to school districts by:

1. Supporting academic achievement and program improvement, with a focus on closing the achievement gap: Strengthen county office of education capacity to support districts and schools in improving student achievement, with particular focus on: underserved student populations, English learners, early learning, and college and career readiness.

2. Addressing Federal initiatives: Provide leadership that supports California in developing and implementing plans to address federal initiatives, including Race to the Top, Common Core Standards, and ESEA reauthorization.

3. Providing leadership for technology-based curriculum and instruction approaches: Work in coordination with other key stakeholders and CCSESA steering committees to provide leadership in areas related to virtual schools and courses, online professional development resources and tools, electronic textbooks, and other areas that influence teaching and learning.

4. Supporting county-led programs in improving student achievement. Work in coordination with other key stakeholders and CCSESA steering committees to support continuous improvement of student achievement in county-led programs.

5. Developing collaborative leadership approaches that are future-focused, and responsive to changing conditions: Take steps to build working relationships with CDE and state leaders, with CCSESA Steering Committees, with new COE superintendents, and with new leaders in districts; seek collaborative approaches that support districts in their improvement efforts within constraints of limited resources.

6. Building CISC leadership and our internal capacity to do this work. Utilize distributed leadership approaches that access the intellectual capital and energy of our members, build our internal capacity to accomplish our goals, and support leadership development and succession planning for future years.

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