

# Monterey County

**Monterey County Office of Education**  
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*“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

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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





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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](http://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](http://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](http://www.king.mpusd.net).