

# Trinity County

By pooling our efforts and resources at the county level, we can do more together than any single district could accomplish alone. The Trinity County Office of Education aims to leverage economies of scale, tap into shared knowledge, and increase opportunities so all Trinity students thrive. Collaboration is key and we're here to support.

- Fabio Robles, Trinity County Superintendent of Schools



Trinity County Office of Education ■ Contact: Joanne Tucker, [jtucker@tcoek12.org](mailto:jtucker@tcoek12.org)

## ADVANCING ARTS LEARNING WITH COORDINATED AND EXPANDED ARTS RESOURCES

With the limited resources of many of our school districts, the Trinity County Office of Education (TCOE) has stepped into more coordination roles to maximize efficiency and expand access to the arts. For example, rather than each district individually researching and booking traveling arts programs, we are handling that process centrally. This allows even our smallest single-site districts to benefit from live theatre, film production viewings, and other enrichment experiences.



Additionally, as administrators juggle diverse responsibilities, few have been able to attend Prop 28 strategic planning training so our VAPA coordinator is attending in their place and will work directly with each district to formulate plans aligned to their needs.

We are collaborating with the Trinity County Arts Council to revive a program connecting local artists with classrooms. This initiative will compile a list of the many talented creatives in our community who can guest teach

or assist with arts instruction. For example, they may lead a pottery workshop for students or help theatre teachers with improvisation skills.

As part of relaunching this program, we also plan to hold a workshop for participating artists on the California Arts Education Standards. This will empower community members to reinforce high-quality arts engagement when volunteering their time in Trinity County classrooms. By tapping into the wealth of artistic talent across our region, we hope to expand arts exposure for students while



lightening the lesson planning load for time-strapped teachers. It's a win-win partnership furthering arts education countywide.

Many of our smaller schools lack the capacity to staff full-time music teachers. To address this need, TCOE has provided full-time employment and benefits packages to two music educators serving multiple districts. This creates stability, and deeper learning opportunities and connections versus piecing together part-time roles across multiple sites.

Along the same lines, we are working with classified staff members who are obtaining their teaching credentials through a grant program. We are identifying individuals who may qualify for CTE credentials, including those related to visual and performing arts.

By facilitating full-time positions, benefits, and credential opportunities, TCOE is working to attract, retain and develop high-quality arts educators. Our goal is to ensure all Trinity County students have access to robust arts instruction, even in our most rural areas.



Stories like this exemplify the immense value of arts education. By providing opportunities like the Young Artists Showcase, we empower students to gain confidence and pursue their creative interests. Our goal is to expand access to visual and performing arts that unlock brighter futures across Trinity County.

Our annual Young Artists Showcase has been a successful tradition for over 35 years and continues to grow. The event partners with the Highland Art Center, which dedicates an entire month each year to displaying Trinity County student artwork in their gallery. Community members can visit and vote on their favorite pieces by grade level. In 2022, one talented student who won first place went on to earn multiple arts scholarships. She then pursued her passion by moving across the state to attend a four-year university graphic design program.

