

SMARTS

Bring back the arts! To our schools. To our children.

California State PTA Newsletter

February 2017

SMARTS, Parents for the Arts Network is California State PTA's program to encourage arts education. Please spread the word about the benefits of arts education for all of California's K-12 students.

Para leer este en español, haga clic [aquí](#).

PTA arts convenings bring advocates together

Such an energetic turnout for the February 21 Inland Empire PTA Arts Convening -- thanks to everyone who attended! And don't forget -- we're bringing this **free** event to the Bay Area March 10. We'll see you there! For more information on these events, or to register, please contact arts@capta.org.

Bay Area PTA Arts Convening
Friday, March 10
10 a.m. – 2 p.m. (Lunch Provided)
San Jose Museum of Art
110 S. Market St., San Jose, Calif.
95110



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Arts integration equals student success

Check out this great story from *Education Week* about Antoinette Pippin, a fifth-grade teacher at the Los Angeles **Dr. Theodore T. Alexander Junior Science Center School (Tenth District PTA)**. Utilizing artwork to learn about sustainable ecosystems, students compare and contrast scientific and artistic characteristics to research, share -- and more!



Click to see video and article.

California State PTA convention features arts-education focus

Join us in San Jose April 28 - 30 -- registration opens March 1 at capta.org!

There's nothing like the California State PTA Annual Convention: the largest parent-teacher event in the nation. And this year's event is putting the spotlight on arts education for *all* children!

In addition to participating in arts workshops and networking with advocates from across the state, participants will celebrate the accomplishments of PTA [Reflections Art Program](#) student-honorees from across the state.

Plus you can take part in the California State PTA and the Hewlett Foundation's Family Art Experience. This exciting event will showcase research-based strategies to engage families and build awareness about the relevance of the arts in increasing student achievement:

- **Learn about the importance of arts education** for your child and all children
- **Find out how arts education impacts California's economy and jobs** – and our children's future
- **Get hands-on training** on engagement activities to share with your PTA and school community
- **Take home a FREE Family Art Program-in-a-Box** so you can bring a family arts night to your school community.



Registration opens March 1 -- learn more and get ready at capta.org!

More arts-ed facts to help our advocacy

For more than a century, PTA has advocated for quality [arts education](#) for every child. Here are five more facts to help make the case for arts education in your school and district:

- **Nine out of 10 parents** surveyed opposed cuts to the arts in our schools, yet many policy makers seem tone-deaf to this critical part of educating our children.
- Experts estimate that, out of a class of 30 students, **up to 10** will someday be employed in an arts-related occupation.
- Nationally, the nonprofit arts and culture industry generates **\$166.2 billion** in economic activity every year.
- The not-for-profit arts and culture industry generates **5.7 million** U.S. jobs every year.
- **About 86 percent** of artists vote, in comparison with about 60 percent of all Americans.



Be sure to share your favorite arts-education facts with us so we can share them, too! Send them to arts@capta.org to spread the word.

Spread the word: Free news and resources in your inbox

Our *SMARTS Parents for the Arts* newsletter is just one of the many ways California State PTA helps keep parents, educators and community members informed and engaged on issues affecting our children. Learn more about the issues that matter most to you by subscribing to our other [free email updates](#) -- and spread the word!

This message is being sent to the SMARTS Parents for the Arts Network as well as unit, council and district PTA presidents. Please feel free to forward this message to your members and other interested parties.

