



March 14, 2017

Nevada County Board of Supervisors

Youth Art Month: Young at Art  
Arts Education in Nevada County Schools  
Holly A. Hermansen  
Nevada County Superintendent of Schools



For at least the last 15 years, there has been a greater emphasis on the arts in education.



- In 2001 the State Board of Education approved the Visual and Performing Arts Content Standards.
- 2004: The framework was revised to reflect arts aligned with the standards.
- 2006: California policy makers committed to funding \$500 million in one-time funds for equipment, supplies and professional development and \$105 million per year ongoing for instruction.
- New Arts Content Standards expected in 2019-2020



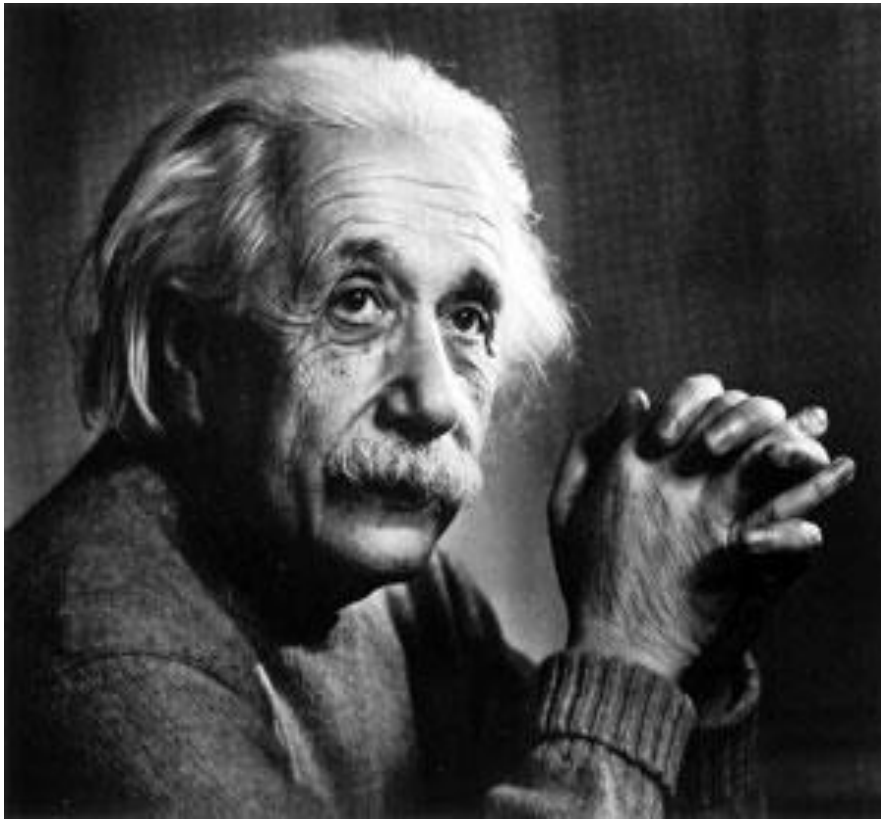
There is proven recognition that the arts in education teaches lifelong skills beyond mastering how to sing, dance, act or paint.



- The arts enhance problem-solving and critical thinking skills, and foster imagination and creativity.
- The arts produce a fun and creative atmosphere.
- The arts help better prepare students for college and the workforce by giving them the necessary skills of innovation, creativity and imagination to be successful and competitive in today's global market.



Arts education exposes children to a variety of cultures while enriching their learning experience and teaching them how to be empathetic, tolerant and open to working with others, all necessary skills to prepare students for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century and a multi-cultural society.



*"Logic will get  
you from A to B.  
Imagination will  
take you  
anywhere."*

---Albert Einstein



Exposing our students to classical music daily in the classroom not only provides an opportunity to learn about music, but calms and centers students to help them be better prepared for all learning activities.



- 1,500 CEO's surveyed by IBM ranked creativity as the most important leadership quality they are looking for in their workers
- Student involvement in the arts is linked to higher academic performance, increased test scores, greater involvement in community service and lower drop-out rates



## School and Community Benefits:

The arts facilitate a students learning in all subject areas. Arts are blended across subject areas in the new State Standards.

A comprehensive arts curriculum nurtures a collaborative school culture, building a sense of community within a school and creates ties to surrounding communities and the world.

A well-rounded arts education has proven to increase student attendance and positive behavior, creating a stronger learning environment.





Many Schools have not implemented a comprehensive arts program due to some of the following challenges:

- Other subjects given higher priority
- Funding restrictions
- Facilities restrictions
- Lack of teacher preparation

However, all schools in Nevada County provide some form of arts education, and community partnerships are critical.



The fiscal crisis of recent years has had a significant impact on the arts. School districts have had to make cuts across all curricular areas while at the same time increasing class sizes. Although the fiscal crisis has eased slightly, finding community partnerships to help support arts in the schools is critical at all times and even more so during times of economic challenge. Nevada County has incredible partnerships with art organizations and community agencies.



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS:

Music in the Mountains:

Classics for Kids

Young Composers project

Music Live

Peers Performing 4 Peers

Take 5 for Music ~ Classical Listening Program

Carnegie Link Up Program

InConcert Sierra:

Educational Concerts for elementary students and scholarships

Center for the Arts

NCSOS STEAM Expo

Nevada County Government: Young at Art

Nevada County Arts Council

Sierra College

Local Artists supporting schools

NCSOS Nevada County



Saturday March 25

9:00-3:00

Nevada County Fairgrounds

**Fun experiences for all will include:**

Hands-on math activities, robotics demos, hands-on computer programming, Makers Corner, MIM orchestra performances, astronomy activities, electronics demos, 3D printer experiences, laser cutter demos, micro-controller activities, SPHEROs, STEAM video shorts, and much, much more!

**Local Nevada County STEAM participants include but are not limited to:**

Music in the Mountains, Nevada County Astronomy Club, Girls Who Code Club, AJA Electronics, Nevada County Library, Telestream, Nevada County Arts Council, YubaNet









Thank you for taking the time to listen today and to continue to support arts education partnerships to benefit schools and students in our community!

"If you hear a voice within you say 'you cannot paint', then by all means paint, and that voice will be silenced".

-Vincent Van Gogh