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REGION 2 ARTS LEAD
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Working Regionally to Expand the Arts Education Infrastructure in Title I and Rural Schools

Recognizing the effectiveness of partnering and a regional approach, in fall 2019, Butte County Office of Education (BCOE) spearheaded the formation of the North State Arts Education Consortium (NSAEC). With Title IV funding for schools with large populations of low socio-economic student populations in the region, we initiated a nine month project that brought together eight county offices of education (Butte, Glenn, Lassen, Modoc, Plumas, Siskiyou, Tehama, and Trinity). The county offices of education facilitated online professional development and distribution of equipment funding to 54

The arts are a very important part of our culture and our society. When we teach and encourage creativity, imagination, and innovation through the arts, we are opening up the world to our children, who will become the next generation of our teachers, our business professionals and our leaders. This isn’t about creating professional artists, although when that happens it is something to celebrate. It’s about instilling in our students a life-long love of the arts, and through the arts, helping us develop a better understanding of the human condition. It’s also important to remember that the arts help us develop emotional intelligence and provide a positive outlet for stress/trauma, as well as for positive self-expression. Every child deserves the opportunity to learn and develop through the arts as well as through all of the other core curricula. If we really believe that “All Means All,” then we as leaders in education will do whatever we can to ensure that all students, whether they attend schools in rural, suburban or urban settings, have access to an educational experience that includes high quality instruction in the arts.

– Mary von Rotz Sakuma, Butte County Superintendent of Schools
school districts, 200 participating teachers, and 20 single subject peer coaches. We provided professional development on arts integration to classroom teachers and distributed approximately $1.7 million to schools for purchase of arts equipment.

We continue to communicate with our north state partnership via a new North State Arts Education Consortium website (nsaec.bcoe.org) that contains resources for arts education planning, advocacy, and professional development and exemplary lesson plans developed through the project. We continue to add more resources throughout the year. We also maintain a listserv of administrators and educators from the North State who wish to continue to work to increase access to arts learning for our students.

In Butte County, the nature of our work is on partnerships as well. It also emphasizes assistance to Title I and rural schools. By partnering with nonprofit arts organizations BCOE has helped to secure funding from the California Arts Council for pilot projects in arts learning. One program at a Title I junior high school combines instruction from a visual artist and a historian to help students appreciate cultural diversity.

Another program is in its third year at the county’s juvenile hall high school. A nonprofit theatre organization works with students for ten week sessions to teach improv techniques that culminate in performances for parents and staff.

**Supporting Equity and Access to Arts Education**

As adopted in the Butte County Strategic Arts Education Plan it is our goal to support equity and access to arts education by offering support, technical assistance, and professional learning opportunities to elementary and rural schools. These are two segments of public education in our county with the fewest arts learning opportunities for students.

**Facilitating Collaborations that Support Social and Emotional Well-being Through Arts Learning**

While BCOE is committed to increasing arts learning in our public schools, we also recognize that the Arts naturally help develop social and emotional well-being. Employing arts learning by emphasizing Social Emotional Learning (SEL) competencies helps to mitigate the effects of trauma and make people more resilient to the effects of trauma.

The trauma of the Camp Fire in Paradise in 2018, precipitated formation of a new BCOE Trauma Informed Teaching Artists in the Schools program. Initial placements began in February 2020 in Paradise schools. However, through a partnership with the Butte County Arts Council we have plans to expand the program to schools throughout Butte County with high need populations of students.

We modeled our program on the Creative Sonoma program which was started in 2017 in response to their devastating wildfires. Butte County teaching artists are trained in SEL, the trauma informed classroom, and arts integration.
It is the belief of the Glenn County Superintendent and Board of Education that supporting the participation and growth of the arts for our students is crucial in serving the needs of the whole child. Our programs span the individual districts as well as our alternative education programs. The following list is a few highlights within the last two years.

- Tracey J. Quarne, Glenn County Superintendent of Schools

**Glenn County Office of Education**

Here are some examples of arts education in Glenn County:

- The model stained glass making class at William Finch Charter School integrates visual art and science in an alternative education school.
- The Good News Glenn County is a product of the William Finch Charter School’s Arts, Media and Entertainment CTE Pathway. Students in the Digital Media Art class produce short, informative news videos that are uploaded to YouTube.
- The Glenn Interscholastic Film Festival (GIFF) is an annual short film festival and where awards are provided for county schools.
- A ceramics class at William Finch Charter School invites the “Associates” (workers) from The Rusty Wagon, a retail store that is a work training center for developmentally disabled adults under GCOE, to create and glaze ceramics to sell at the store.
- Glenn County’s teachers (22) participated in the NSAEC online training to develop arts integrated lessons from January through July 2019.
- Glenn County Office of Education administrators and teachers participated in and moderated sessions at the NSAEC regional conference in Redding in July.
Representative Programs in Glenn County
The Education Services Department of the Glenn County Office of Education is busy preparing for the third annual Glenn Interscholastic Film Festival (GIFF). The GIFF provides an opportunity for K-12 students in the county to demonstrate their learning creatively in a 21st century context. Each year the GIFF requests that student films represent a common theme; GIFF 2020’s theme is “Phenomena” and we are eagerly waiting to see what our students enter. The GIFF culminates in a red-carpet event where films are showcased in front of peers, parents, and community members. For more about the GIFF, visit our website – bit.ly/glenngiffvids

William Finch Charter School’s AME CTE Pathway gives students hands-on experience in digital arts. Its primary focus is on video production, portfolio building, and developing professionalism and career skills. The pathway begins with an introduction to digital arts where students gain an awareness of the industry and learn the foundations of digital photography, lighting, and Adobe Photoshop. Next, students move into a concentrator course where students begin to apply their camera knowledge to shooting and producing videos. In the concentrator course, students continue to develop their photography and Photoshop skills and are introduced to Adobe Premiere Pro. After the concentrator course, students move into the capstone course, where they spend a full year learning advanced video editing techniques while continuing to grow their photography skills and their portfolio of digital work. In the capstone class, students also prepare their resumes, practice job interviews, and explore internship opportunities within the industry. Students who complete the CTE Pathway are then offered a CTE Student Leadership course where the instructor works one-on-one with the students on personal projects and the class applies their skills to volunteer work in the community. Outside of the specific CTE Pathway courses, students are also offered a digital photography class where they learn a wide range of photography skills and build out the student yearbook. Students also are offered a broadcast journalism class called Good News Glenn County, where the students work closely with the CTE Pathway students to film and edit a student driven news show that includes community updates and community interviews. - Wendy Stewart, CTE AME Instructor
https://wmfinchdigitalarts.home.blog/good-news-glenn-county-2/news

At the William Finch Charter School, the Art and Science Department lead a student project that combines art with science, which is entered into the STEAM Expo Lauri Touchette (Art teacher) and Richard Gambetta (Science, ceramics and stained glass teacher) are working with 5th – 8th grade students on a Recycled Self-Watering system. Students use a recycled 2-liter soda bottle to create self-watering container for their plant. They papier-mache the soda bottle, then draft and color a picture on their plant containers. The self-watering system enables the plant to be watered, on its own. This is how the County office has provided assistance in schools in the arts, in our district. Darren Masa, the Science Coordinator, in the Educational Services Department at the Glenn County Office of Education, offers his assistance to STEM teachers in our schools. Students learn how to combine science with art for a STEM project where Darren Masa provides leadership and mentoring. - Lauri Touchette, Art teacher at William Finch Charter School.

Arts education is evidenced throughout the county and with the leadership of Wendy Stewart, Laurie Touchette, Richard Gambetta, Darren Masa, and other committed educators, great things are happening for the students in Glenn County!
Each and every student is unique and needs the opportunities that are provided by Education in all of the Arts to reach their full potential. Lassen County Office of Education is excited and proud of the partnerships with our schools and Community to provide a variety of experiences to all students."

– Patty Gunderson, Lassen County Superintendent of Schools

**Partnership with Lassen County Artists**

The Lassen County Office of Education (LCOE) believes that collaboration is the key to helping support students for the future in the area of Arts. We work with Lassen County to provide Artist in Residence, promote summer art experiences locally, and hands-on workshops during our family engagement opportunities. We also provide several opportunities for students to showcase their talents and creativity that they have experienced through the educational opportunities they have received. Through our collaboration with local artists, we have been able to provide students the opportunity to experience various visual and performing arts opportunities.

By partnering with the local artists, LCOE has been able to leverage resources, both materials and financial, to benefit the students here in Lassen County. Through
Lassen County

Quality Programs in Regular Day and Expanded Learning
Lassen County schools have a deep sense of commitment to the Arts. Meadow View School has provided students with the opportunity to participate in visual and performing arts through their yearly Fine Arts Enrichments. The students and their director/teacher work tirelessly to prepare for the artwork and presentation with volunteer and family support. This year, the students designed and presented the complete production of Annie, Jr. The students experience the technical aspects, make-up, staging, set design, prop design, and costuming. The students raise the funds to present the production. Local Control Accountability funds are used to support the instruction and education portion.

Lassen High School is also rich with the exposure and a commitment to the arts. It is home to a high-quality and award-winning graphic arts lab that prepares students for careers in the advertising, marketing, and graphic arts fields. Students are able to become certified in the Adobe Creative Cloud and compete through the state and nation to share their skills and talents. This school also has a great performing arts department that focuses on guitar, jazz band, concert, choir, drama, and dance. They also have a visual arts department that combines traditional methods with current trends to bring ceramics, wood working, and welding into their art. Traditional pencil, colored pencil, ink, watercolors, pastels, and paper-mache also play a great role in enhancing the students’ educational experience.

Lassen After School Programs are engaging students in the area of Art techniques, artist biography, history, creativity, and exploration. Through a partnership with a local non-profit, “Amy’s Corner,” our students in our After-School Education and Safety Programs have created great pieces of art. Every six weeks, students are given the opportunity to showcase their work and have it on display for families, staff, and classmates to view and appreciate.

Students are also exposed to dance through a partnership with J & J Performing Arts and the Susanville City Kickets. They are introduced to jazz, hip-hop, tumbling, and modern dance to name a few of the genres to which students are exposed.
Modoc County

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“In Modoc County, we believe that the arts are an essential part of the education of the whole child, as students are provided with opportunities to be creative in a variety of ways through dance, painting, sculpting, music, and theatre.”

– Mike Martin, Modoc County Superintendent of Schools

Modoc County Encourages Art in Schools
The Modoc County Office of Education (MCOE) believes that arts education is incredibly important to the students in our county. The MCOE is committed to ensuring that all students in the county are exposed to comprehensive visual and performing arts curriculum such as music, digital media, theatre, and visual arts. Such opportunities have lent themselves to creative thinking, improved responsibility and teamwork amongst the student population which will better prepare students for college, career, and beyond!
Promoting Music in the Classroom

“Our goal for the music program at MJUSD is that EVERYONE can make music (and should!). Students are celebrated daily which makes them feel valued and special. Curiosity is promoted and perseverance is encouraged within the MJUSD music program.”
- Chris Armstrong, K-2 Music Teacher

One of our local districts, Modoc Joint Unified School District (MJUSD), provides a comprehensive music program that spans K-12. Elementary students learn music vocabulary, reading music and understanding rhythms, all while learning to play and sing! All elementary students take part in a winter concert, while the middle and high school students perform in a spring concert as well.

Visual and Performing Arts Provide Growing Opportunities

In the spring, the Modoc High School’s (MHS) Advanced Art class was the recipient of a new screen printer which has not only changed how they view the arts, it has opened up a business opportunity for the students as well! The class has provided several sports programs with team shirts created right on campus! These students are receiving art education that will provide them with life skills beyond the classroom.

The Drama Club at MHS is also flourishing. Students take part in both fall and spring productions and engage in a music collaboration with the advanced choir. The play selection is done by a student committee and takes the format of a student showcase featuring short ten-minute plays and musical numbers. It has become hugely popular among the student body. Students receive instruction in acting method, vocal presentation skills, technical theatre (lighting, sound, and set construction). Every year, Drama Club students take a trip to the Oregon Shakespeare Festival (OSF) in Ashland, Oregon to see plays, participate in tours and discussion with the professional actors. Students LOVE this trip and are really inspired by the world class shows that the OSF company presents.

In Tulelake, the fourth grade students are learning how to create movies using a green screen. The class’ largest undertaking has been to develop Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) videos which are shared with the entire school during assemblies.
The many individuals and community projects in Siskiyou County that provide essential arts education opportunities to our youth are vital partners in providing a balanced and meaningful education. We owe them our thanks, support and praise.

- Kermith R. Walters, Siskiyou County Superintendent of Schools
the Northern California Arts Education Network. Each participating teacher focused on a local area of need and student interest to develop lesson plans. Through this project local arts teachers and their administrators were able to then purchase and put into immediate use a wide variety of locally determined arts materials. They ranged from pastels and percussion to pottery wheels and performing arts staging. Instruments needed to bring school music programs back to life infused new energy at many small K-8 school sites. Students across all grades, including the Siskiyou County Office of Education special education classes, now have a collection of shared lessons and significant resources that will last for years and reduce the gap small rural schools often experience in having access to quality arts education.

Music by the Mountain is a non-profit organization committed to bringing extraordinary classical musicians to our rural, yet vibrant community and providing educational outreach for children and students of all ages. Two programs per year are developed to bring quality classical music performances to the county’s youth. The spring program will feature the Pacific Crest Chamber Players aimed at exposing local students to the beauty of classical music and the joy of playing musical instruments.

The Siskiyou County Arts Council works with multiple partners and projects countywide. Last spring the Siskiyou County Office of Education and Siskiyou County Arts Council culminated a California Arts Council Veterans in the Arts grant with student field trips to the Living Memorial Sculpture Garden in addition to a teacher workshop on locally developed curriculum based on the memorial, and a curated professional show in partnership with a local gallery, all highlighting the power of art to tell one’s story.

High schools across Siskiyou County are supported to participate in Poetry Out Loud thanks to the Siskiyou County Arts Council. Local teachers, poetry coaches, community volunteer judges, and an event coordinator bring the art of the spoken word to life at a county poetry competition. The winning poet is then supported to participate at the state Poetry Out Loud event.
Tehama County

Tehama County Department of Education
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“Art is everything. Look around! It brings us together yet allows for individual expression. Art is literacy and numeracy. Children need instruction and exposure to visual and performing arts. It will always be a part of their lives.”

- Richard R. DuVarney, Tehama County Superintendent of Schools

Tehama County Showcases Our Small Schools

The Tehama County Department of Education (TCDE) supports our five local K-8 small schools to provide students with an opportunity to showcase their artistic talents. Each year students submit their visual artwork to our office, where it is displayed to the public. The students are then invited to a one day Art Celebration event that includes docent tours of the artwork submitted by the small schools, art workshops, and a demonstration by a local artist. This year featured our local artists David Tamori and Colleen Pelfrey as our special guests! David led the students through an integrated art lesson that included watercolors and writing. Students laughed and enjoyed being spontaneous by engaging in Improv and theater exercises with Colleen. The positive energy at TCDE was contagious on this memorable day. The event helps students build their understanding and appreciation for the arts and encourages them to further pursue their interest in this field of study. To view the student artwork, please visit www.bit.ly/TCDEArt2020.
Makerspace
The TCDE Makerspace is a unique educational environment where students learn by doing. We offer a wide variety of hands-on activities including coding, electronics, digital media, engineering, videography, and other STEAM related projects. Not only does our curriculum support the development of the 21st-century workplace skills, but it also aligns with Next Generation Science Standards and supports the Common Core problem solving and processing skills. We find that by focusing on projects that are relevant to a student’s world and interests we are more likely to ignite a student’s passion for learning. A maker education has the potential to better engage students in school and prepare them for successful careers after graduation by enabling them to problem solve, collaborate, analyze, question and explore.

The TCDE Makerspace is igniting the maker movement in people of all ages by connecting with schools, teachers, community members, and community organizations. Our Maker Certified teachers host a variety of workshops throughout the year, run summer programs, facilitate school field trips, and are actively involved at community events such as the Maker Showcase at the Tehama District Fair and Movies in the Park event held each summer.

“The arts are a major area of human cognition, one of the ways in which we know about the world and express our knowledge. Much of what is said in the arts cannot be said in another way. To withhold artistic means of understanding is as much a malpractice as to withhold mathematics... Since schools traditionally develop only linguistic and logical/mathematical skills, they are missing an enormous opportunity to develop the whole child.”

– Dr. Howard Gardner, Harvard Graduate School of Education
“In Trinity County, where our local Arts Council is a strong and vibrant presence in our community, we recognize the importance of arts education. We know that research shows that art instruction positively enhances other skills including motor skills, language skills, social skills, decision making and inventiveness, to name just a few. This is why we don’t just value arts education, we also organize, model lessons, and support many arts-related programs in our schools.”

- Sarah E. Supahan, Trinity County Superintendent of Schools

Trinity County Office of Education

The Trinity County Office of Education (TCOE) supports the belief that participation in the arts is an effective way to address different modes of teaching and learning and is an essential component of the school curricula. Without education in the arts, there is a missing link in the development of the whole individual. To move arts education forward, it is vital to involve committed, highly qualified individuals who have administrative support that includes dedicated personnel, time and resources. TCOE supports a part-time arts coordinator position and it provides schools information on professional development opportunities, a lending library of materials, resources and lessons, an annual countywide student art show, "MOBILE STEAM Team", National History Day, music instruction, local and traveling performing arts, the maintenance of a Docent Arts Heritage Program available for use by all county teachers, and the annual California Native American Day celebration featuring traditional arts, and consultation and mentoring for teachers and art educators.

Trinity Embraces Local Native History

The Trinity County American Indian Early Education Advisory Committee, among other activities, plans and implements an annual Tribal Villages Celebration for California Native American Day. They have created and distributed a curriculum guide for teachers linking the day’s activities to California content standards in history/social science, reading/language arts, science, math, and the visual and performing arts.

The day is designed to honor the local tribes and Native community, features hands-on activities involving students.
Trinity County

(grades 3-4) and teachers in authentic local arts, crafts, dance, storytelling, food and other traditions. Student and teacher participation include pre- and post-classroom standard-based activities related to local Native history, tradition and the arts.

Docent Program

The Trinity County Arts Heritage Docent Program consists of over 400 art reproductions divided into 70 portfolios. Portfolios are organized around themes and contain art prints and slides, videos, and CD's as well as text on each work of art and artist. Portfolios cover a wide variety of subjects relating to art, music, history, math and social science. Also included are suggestions for hands-on follow-up activities, enabling students to express what they have learned. The Arts Heritage Docent Program is available for check out to all teachers and local community art instructors and artists and brings breadth and depth to a comprehensive arts education.

Young Artist Showcase

The annual Young Artist Showcase has been a tradition of the Trinity County Office of Education for over 35 years, curating students’ unique and creative artwork from all over the county throughout the month of April. We are especially grateful to the Highland Art Center Gallery for hosting this annual event. A special reception for the students and their families is held the first Saturday of April, sometimes drawing in hundreds of people to view the work and have an opportunity to vote on their favorites from paintings, pencil drawings, pottery, pastel, watercolor, 3D designs, and even wood-burned art from our local high school woodshop. Beginning in 2020, this event will be completely led and hosted by one of our local high school art classes. The students will hang and organize over 240 pieces and they will host the community reception at its opening night.

National History Day

National History Day is another annual event and is open to all 4-12th grade students and exhibits a variety of artistic disciplines. Students are able to produce exhibits, websites, documentaries, and write/act performance scripts. National History Day provides a unique outlet for students to creatively produce projects while focusing on academic standards.

Performing Arts and Music

With a rich music community, TCOE, along with the Trinity Arts Council, strives to bring in touring musical groups each year to introduce and expose students to a variety of musical genres and styles. This past year saw a fiddling poet from Alaska as well as supporting a local community musical production of the Sound of Music.

Lending Library

Due to the challenges of the rural and isolated geography of our county, TCOE has created a lending library of resources and activities which is available to all schools. The lending library lends out professional books, musical instruments such as violins, robotics, STEAM projects, and various art related tools to which teachers wouldn't normally have access. The highlight of the lending library is that teachers are utilizing it more and more, so much so that TCOE continues to purchase more items, such as violins, to support our music teachers at school sites.

MOBILE STEAM Team

Our frontier mobile S.T.E.A.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math) team is on the move in its 5th consecutive year of existence. Travelling to various classrooms all around the county, this team provides instruction and exposes students and teachers to hands-on S.T.E.A.M. activities. Students are able to participate in multiple cross-strand activities such as designing 3D objects for printing, building engineering designs, testing creations, and acting in front of a green screen. This program reaches K-12th grade students and is available to all schools within the county. The highlight of the year is a culminating STEAM EXPO designed to feature student ideas, concepts, projects, creativity, and to encourage higher learning within Trinity County. TCOE collaborates with various community partners to make this event one of the most attended student events in the County.