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CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION ANNOUNCES RECIPIENTS OF STUDENT SUPPORT AND ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT COMPETITIVE GRANTS

\$30 million targeted for arts education

Los Angeles, CA - The California Alliance for Arts Education is pleased to report that the California Department of Education has posted a list of the recipients of the 2018 Student Support and Academic Enrichment grants. The grants will be dispersed to 53 school districts, county offices of education, and charter schools from around the state, based on the evaluation of their applications by the Department of Education. A complete list of recipients can be found [here](#).

The funding for the grants comes from the federal Title IV program, which addresses the need to provide students with access to well-rounded educational opportunities, to support safe and healthy students, and to encourage the effective use of technology. The arts are considered part of a “well-rounded educational opportunity.”

During the last legislative session, the California Legislature established priorities for the use of \$44 million in Title IV funding in the 2018-19 state budget. Those priorities included the establishment of a grant program for local educational agencies (LEAs) to expand visual and performing arts instruction and for school based health centers.

The grant program emerged from discussions around Senate Bill 933, known as the “Arts for Every Student Incentive Grant Program,” authored by Senator Ben Allen and sponsored by the California Alliance for Arts Education. Senator Allen stated that the purpose of the program was “to close gaps in arts access by creating a statewide grants program to address the needs of underserved districts.”

Of the 53 grants awarded, 30 “Category A” grant proposals were awarded, designating the support of arts education and totaling nearly \$30 million of the \$44 million grant competition total.

The grants capture a variety of priorities for schools, districts and counties, including additional support in the arts for students with special needs, professional development for teachers in arts integration across the curriculum, investment in arts-related equipment

ranging from digital arts materials to musical instruments, and the establishment of district arts plans.

Joe Landon, Executive Director of the California Alliance for Arts Education, said, “We congratulate the districts, county offices of education, and charter schools receiving these grants. We will monitor their outcomes and report back to the legislature on their impact on the lives of students. We look forward to working with our new governor and state superintendent to build on the momentum of this investment.”

CALIFORNIA ALLIANCE FOR ARTS EDUCATION advocates for high quality arts education for all students by providing policy expertise and by mobilizing a statewide network of advocates and allied partners. The Alliance is in its fifth decade of working to build a brighter future for our state by making the arts a core part of every child’s education. A statewide leader and convener, the Alliance galvanizes California’s educators and other experts in arts and culture to increase access to quality arts education and improve the quality of arts education. Visit our website at <http://www.artsed411.org/>.