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14 VIDEOS SELECTED FOR 2018 STUDENT VOICES CAMPAIGN **Your Voice. Your Vision. Your School.**

Los Angeles (March 26, 2018) – At a time when students around the country are speaking up, organizing marches, and taking a stand in support of gun control, the Student Voices Campaign provides a creative way for students (grades 7-12) to impact school policymaking and make their voices heard. Student videos responded to the question, “Why do the arts matter?” and tackle topics such as the healing power of dance, the California creative economy, and the impact of the arts on student learning. Through the campaign, their videos are sent to their local school board.

“The Student Voices Campaign is a unique and effective way for young people to make their voices heard in their school district and to share their vision for their schools,” said California Alliance for Arts Education Program Associate, Melissa Njoo. “It also teaches the power of advocacy and civic engagement.”

Students submitted over 50 videos and 14 finalists from schools throughout California were selected by a panel of judges. Videos were evaluated on the persuasiveness of the message, technical components of the video and the creative approach. Winners will be invited to accept an award at a video screening and awards ceremony on April 7, 2018 in Oakland, CA.

“We are living at a time when most public discourse takes place online through digital media, so it’s important that students learn to be discerning, articulate and strategic with these tools – and to see how they can be a force for good,” explained California Alliance for Arts Education Senior Director of Advocacy and Communications, Sibyl O’Malley.

In California, students are guaranteed a voice in planning and budgeting for their school through the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF), which requires that districts consult with students, parents, teachers, and other community members to create the district plan. Video from the campaign have activated concrete change at several California school districts, such increased access to art classes, gender neutral bathrooms and the adoption of the Declaration of Students Right to Equity in Arts Learning.

2018 STUDENT VOICES FINALIST VIDEOS

[Art is Everywhere](#) – Bear River High School

[Art Lives On](#) – Amador High School

[Dance Matters](#) – Anaheim High School

[Dance PSA](#) – East Los Angeles Performing Arts Magnet

[How Does Art Impact Your Life?](#) – Arcata High School

[Life Through Pictures](#) – Livermore High School

[Lost Connection](#) – Argonaut High School

[The Audience](#) – Livermore High School

[The California Creative Economy](#) – Arcata High School

[The Importance of Art](#) – Bear River High School

[The Silence of Color](#) – San Marcos High School

[Vessel](#) – Windsor High School

[We Stand Together](#) – Southeast Middle School [PASSWORD: Suicide Prevention Play]

[Why We Make Art](#) – Windsor High School

The 2018 Student Voices Screening will take place at the Arts Now Bay Area Summit, a full-day arts education conference including a student-led plenary session, advocacy workshops and interactive tours of the Oakland Museum of California. The event is presented by the California Alliance for Arts Education, Alameda County Office of Education, California County Superintendents Educational Services Association, San Francisco Unified School District, Oakland Museum of California, and California State PTA.

Media are invited to attend.

What: Student Voices Screening

Video screening and awards ceremony featuring student speakers from Southeast Middle School, LAUSD

When: Saturday, April 7, 2018, 1:45pm – 2:45pm

Where: Oakland Museum of California – 1000 Oak Street, Oakland, CA 94607

Who: Students grades 7-12, teachers, teaching artists, parents and friends from across California

Online: <http://studentvoicescampaign.org/>

Social: #CAStudentVoices @artsed411

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