



## **CREATIVE SONOMA ADVISORY BOARD Program Reports May 2024**

### **PUBLIC ART**

#### **Fire Memorial**

Working with the Fire Memorial Task Force, staff and the project manager are preparing the RFQ for artists qualifications and plans to publish the Call for Artists by early May. Staff has entered into discussions with the City of Santa Rosa regarding site considerations and process for the use of Nagasawa Community Park for this project.

### **GRANTS AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

#### **2024 Arts Impact Grants for Organizations**

Thirty-five organizations (out of 48 applicants) were notified of grant awards in March. The funding from the National Endowment for the Arts will be applied to the 2025 funding pool for this program, so the final funding pool for this year was \$150,000 from our regular county budget.

#### **2024 Arts and Cultural Equity Grants**

Announcement of the 2024 program – the third cycle of these grants – will be available later in May.

#### **Professional Development Partners**

Sebastopol Center for the Arts and Raizes Collective are partnering with Creative Sonoma to present professional development series for individual artists and creatives. Upcoming: Sebastopol Center for the Arts is hosting four free in-person lunchtime workshops during April and May for artists.

4/19 - Storytelling and Branding

5/10 - Social Media Mastery

5/24 - Financial Literacy and Planning

5/31 - Curatorial Guidance

#### **Learning Cohort**

Amy Kweskin of Artsightful is in the midst of presenting a six-session series for our Community-Based Arts Centers for them to explore tools and methods to create (or refresh or explore) sustainable business and revenue models as well as operations plans. The series occurs bi-weekly February 29 – May 9, 2024. Five arts centers are participating and are truly excited to be in communications and discussions with one another for the first time! They are:

- Cloverdale Arts Alliance
- Healdsburg Center for the Arts

- Petaluma Arts Center
- Sebastopol Center for the Arts
- Sonoma Community Center

## **ARTS EDUCATION**

### **Workforce Development Committee**

An Arts Education Workforce Committee of 19 members met to begin to shape how they will collaborate and partner. Teacher hiring platforms like Edjoin already have positions posted that need to be filled. Members represent AEA leadership, SSU education and arts, SRJC arts and education deans, LBC, Positive Images, CTEF, two school districts, and EDB.

### **Artful Conversations – A Community Engagement Project**

The first Artful Conversations will be held via Zoom on May 14. The conversation will be focused on a foundational (and exciting) literary work called YOUR BRAIN ON ART: How the Arts Transform Us by Susan Magsamen and Ivy Ross. Topics will include: Impact on Well-Being, Learning, and Community. Presenters include Brandon Krueger (retired Windsor supt.) Aida Herrera-Keehn (PreK teacher) and Obiamake Pistoni ([Datoire Foundation](#)).

<https://www.creativesonoma.org/opportunities/artful/>

### **Arts Educator of the Year**

Luther Burbank Center for the Arts and Creative Sonoma presented the first Sonoma County Arts Educator of the Year Award to Jolene Johnson, Analy HS dance educator. Jolene was acknowledged at the March AEA Mixer and SCOE's Festive Thought Art Open House. Honorable mentions were also recognized at the Mixer: Efrain Nava from Elsie Allen HS, Jessica Martin from West Side ES, Kyle Thompson from Cesar Chavez Language Academy, and Yoshi Makino from Geyserville New Tech Academy. [Press Democrat article 4/1/2024](#)

### **Art Open House**

A Festive Thought Art Open House was held at SCOE on April 4 to share an exhibition of visual art from early childhood teachers and students. Reflections were provided from the Windsor, Bellevue, and Rincon Valley educators, who used art as a tool for communication and learning. Debbie presented about the impact of arts education and opportunities that are made possible.

[Photos](#)

### **Research & Reports**

Counties on the Move is 4-year report from the CA County Superintendents Arts Initiatives on the work in 58 counties across the state. Sonoma County and Creative Sonoma are featured on pages 28-29.

[https://cacountyarts.org/wp-content/uploads/CCS\\_CountiesOnTheMove24\\_Web-FINAL.pdf](https://cacountyarts.org/wp-content/uploads/CCS_CountiesOnTheMove24_Web-FINAL.pdf)

### **NEXT BOARD MEETING: IN PERSON**

Wednesday, July 10

5:00 – 6:30 pm

Meetings are in-person at 141 Stony Circle, Santa Rosa unless otherwise notified.