SONOMA COUNTY ARTS EDUCATION ALLIANCE

State of Arts Education – Sonoma County 2019
Data Analysis from Create CA database and Arts Education Alliance Surveys

Key Takeaways

1. Arts enrollment in Sonoma County is stagnant and lags significantly in comparison to four surrounding counties.

2. Although access to arts education in Sonoma County is at about the state average, there remain a number of students in schools with no access to the arts.

3. Seventy-nine percent of secondary schools in Sonoma County do not provide the comprehensive arts education required by Education Code, and elementary school rates are even worse.

4. Following state trends, access to arts education in Sonoma County is often a matter of race and place with no equity of access for all students, though there are some encouraging exceptions.

5. Dance and theatre enrollments lag far behind music and visual arts enrollment throughout the county.

6. Sonoma County trails the state in preparing students to participate in California’s $406.5 billion creative economy.

7. There is a great disparity throughout the county in the number of arts teachers provided by schools.

8. Help is needed everywhere; there is no clear relationship between geographic location and arts enrollment.

9. Three important factors can track progress in providing equity and access to high quality arts education across Sonoma County over time: Arts Enrollment, Student to Arts Teacher Ratio, Number of Required Arts Disciplines Offered.

10. There is widespread support for the arts among educators and community members in Sonoma County and across the nation.