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GET NEWS: Stories and Updates



Click the image to read the California Arts Council article ["Creatively Encouraging Census Participation."](#)

Arts and Activism, from the Census to Social Justice

This fall, the United States is undergoing two major democratic processes wherein citizens are called to participate: the 2020 national census and a presidential election. These are occurring with a backdrop of the pandemic, a racial justice reckoning, and here on the West Coast, a record-breaking fire season. We all need hope and connection, and to build community-based agreements and solutions.

Enter the arts. The best way to activate calls to action? Create a visually compelling campaign that highlights an element that brings people together. Need to learn about people in your community of different ethnicities or backgrounds, or educate others about your own? Seek out their music and cultural arts traditions or share yours. Need to find joy or momentum when change or action feels difficult? Write and read poetry to discover other experiences, viewpoints, and ways to cope.

These are a few basic examples to illustrate that arts and activism are naturally intertwined, because activism is--at its core--effective communication, which is synonymous with every art form. Whether a Black Lives Matter street mural or a poster memorializing Native American environmental activism, the message is proven to be best received and most effective when delivered via the arts.

Next step, provide actions. To avoid artwork or events that are only performative (activism done to "increase one's social capital rather than because of one's devotion to a cause" - learn more [here](#)), there must be calls to action or ways to move the cause forward attached.

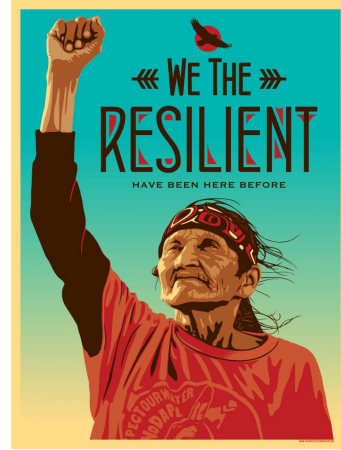


Image from [Amplifier.org](#)

To learn more about organizations that are effectively doing work at the intersection of arts and activism, and for resources and toolkits, click on Learn More. **Locally**, read about a newly formed group of activists, SCAPE (Sonoma County Artists Propelling Equity), in this August Press Democrat article "[New Santa Rosa mural spotlights women activists fighting for equality](#)," and visit Petaluma Art Center's [DEEDS: Art as Action](#), which is a collection of arts projects "intended to activate and inspire" participants and viewers with a call to action to vote in November.

LEARN MORE

WHAT WE'RE UP TO

ARTS EDUCATION

Sonoma County Arts Education Alliance (AEA)

A letter from the AEA has been sent to all school district governance teams to advocate for support of arts education as solution partners. The coalition asks for:

- avoiding cutting arts classes disproportionate to other classes
- considering more arts programming in budget discussions
- contacting the AEA with a district representative to learn more.

Read the letters, [in English](#) or [Spanish](#), and if you are interested in advocating for arts education in your district, contact Debbie.Yarrow@sonoma-county.org.

California Department of Education (CDE) Arts Education Guidance

Last week, the CDE released a document for guidance and resources to support local educational agencies in determining how to safely provide arts education in alignment with California Education Code. Download the document and connect to those resources [HERE](#).

This Week is National Arts Education Week

See [What We're Celebrating](#) below to learn how to participate, and click Learn More to visit the Creative Sonoma Arts Education resource page.

LEARN MORE



Creative Sonoma is a collaborating partner on The Press Democrat's [Brighter Days](#) youth art contest. Click on Learn More to find out how youth in grades TK-12 can submit their artwork. The submission deadline is **September 25, 2020**.

Winners' artwork will be published in The Press Democrat, Sonoma Index-Tribune, and Petaluma Argus-Courier in October, as well as will receive gift cards from Mary's Pizza Shack.

[LEARN MORE](#)

COVID-19 & WILDFIRE RELIEF AND RESPONSE

Visit our resource pages for emergency relief, response, and recovery that are targeted to the creative community, all of which are continuously updated:

Professional Development Recommended by Creative Sonoma:

- From a variety of organizations that serve either artists and/or arts organizations, our Professional Development page includes links to FREE workshops from the Actors Fund, California Alliance for Arts Education, Creative Capital and more. See opportunities [HERE](#).

From Creative Sonoma:

- [Reopening Arts and Culture](#) - guidance on the basics of safely reopening
- [Relief Funds for Creatives](#) - 50+ funds listed, updated September 10, 2020, ranging from COVID-19 relief to fire and other emergencies
- [COVID-19 Resources for Creatives](#) - preparedness and response guides from national arts industry leaders

From the Economic Development Board:

- [SoCo Launch](#) - mitigation and compliance resources to help reopen local businesses as quickly and safely as possible (in English / en Español)
- [LNU Lightning Complex Fires Business Recovery Tools](#)

[LEARN MORE](#)

September 13-19 is National Arts Education Week



Encourage Creativity: Teach the Arts

Passed by Congress in 2010, the second full week of September is designated as National Arts in Education Week. During this week, the field of arts education joins together in communities across the country to tell the story of the impact of the transformative power of the arts in education.

Click on Learn More for participation tools and resources from Americans for the Arts, and if you want to get involved in and support arts education locally, connect with the Sonoma County Arts Education Alliance [HERE!](#)

[LEARN MORE](#)

GET CONNECTED

Arts Events from our Creative Calendar

[SEBASTOPOL CENTER FOR THE ARTS: Event | Virtual Open Studios](#)
Sonoma County, CA (online). September 1-30, 2020.

[LUTHER BURBANK CENTER FOR THE ARTS: Workshop | Online Solutions for Engaging Students in the Arts](#)
Santa Rosa, CA (online). October 6, 2020.

MORE [Events, Workshops, Classes](#)

Opportunities from our Marketplace

[SONOMA VALLEY MUSEUM OF ART: Job Posting | Development and Marketing Coordinator](#)

Sonoma, CA. Posted September 3, 2020.

[SANTA ROSA ARTS CENTER: Call to Artists | VOTE 2020! Artists Respond to Why Voting Matters](#)

Santa Rosa, CA. Submit by September 30, 2020.

[NAPA VALLEY WRITERS: Call to Poets | Passages](#)

Healdsburg, CA. Submit by October 15, 2020.

***MORE [Opportunities](#)** (Auditions, Calls to Artists, Jobs, Grants, Professional Development, and more)*

WITH SUPPORT FROM



The mission of Creative Sonoma is to support and advance the creative community of Sonoma County. We define the creative community as individuals, organizations and businesses whose work is creative at its core. This includes artists, nonprofit cultural organizations, and creative enterprises such as design firms, galleries, recording and video studios, and more.



The e-newsletter CURRENTS is published monthly. Items listed under Events and Opportunities are drawn from our Calendar and Marketplace. To post items, login or register [HERE](#).

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