



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Creative Sonoma Announces Grant Awards to Three Public School Districts

Funding Provided by The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation and the California Arts Council

Creative Sonoma is pleased to announce that three public school districts have received grants to encourage and support delivery of more arts education by implementing new or strengthening existing arts education curriculum and through arts integration. These grants will allow districts to get the help they need to make arts education an essential component of their work to create a better future for their students. Grantee school districts are Bennett Valley Union, Santa Rosa City, and Sonoma Valley Unified.

“There is significant evidence indicating that an arts-rich education improves student outcomes,” said Supervisor Chris Coursey, Chair of the Board of Supervisors. “These grants offer access to both funding and professional services to help school districts be intentional about incorporating arts into their student’s curriculum and overall school experience.”

Grants will allow districts to create or update their Arts Education plan and receive funds for implementation of key elements of the plan. Grantee districts will also receive a customized arts planning consultancy. Each grantee will identify a Leadership Team that will work together over the course of the grant period to oversee the project work, and to work as a learning cohort with the other grantees.

This is the third round of funding from Creative Sonoma for grants and professional consulting to county schools and districts. It complements work that was completed in 2019 to create a countywide “Arts Education Framework” that schools and districts can adapt to their unique circumstances to help leverage more arts education in schools. Additionally, Creative Sonoma and the Sonoma County Arts Education Alliance are actively engaged in providing networking, trainings, and information services to schools, parents, and the arts community to ensure that all students in Sonoma County have access to arts education.

For more information on the Arts Education Alliance, the Framework, and arts education resources, please visit <https://www.creativesonoma.org/artsed-alliance/> or contact Debbie.Yarrow@sonoma-county.org.

Creative Sonoma is a division of the Sonoma County Economic Development Board dedicated to supporting and advancing the creative community of Sonoma County. Please visit www.CreativeSonoma.org for more.

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Arts Education Framework and Implementation Grantees

Bennett Valley
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Santa Rosa City Schools
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Sonoma Valley Unified School District
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