



CURRENTS | August 2023

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## OUR TOP STORY



### **Creative Sonoma in Transition**

*A letter from Kristen Madsen*

As many of you know, I am stepping down from my role as Director of Creative Sonoma at the end of September which will mark 8 ½ years since I started. What a

journey it has been, filled with remarkable opportunities, creative endeavors, and wonderful people. And while I'm incredibly proud of the work we have done together, we have really just scratched the surface of what can be accomplished.

With a committed Advisory Board, a thoughtful and passionate staff, and the support of the Economic Development Board and the County of Sonoma, the future looks bright.

In these past months, we have been working to ensure that our programs will maintain continuity during the transition to new leadership. Among many other activities, staff is poised to launch new phases of existing grants and professional development programs this fall. And we have a solid foundation for the new Fire Memorial project which has project management and an advisory Task Force in place.

The search for a new Director is now open; you can find the application and process description [HERE](#) (apply by August 21, 2023). We hope that if you are interested in this role, you will step up and submit an application. Or if you are aware of others who can help shape Creative Sonoma's future course, please forward this information, and encourage them to apply.

My last day is scheduled for Tuesday, September 19<sup>th</sup>. I look forward to our paths crossing again, and again, as we continue our pursuit to keep creativity at the center of our Sonoma County experience.



[Learn More](#)

## OUR WORK

### Grants



Sonoma County nonprofit arts and culture organizations as well as culturally-specific organizations that produce arts and culture programs, services, and events are invited to apply for the 2024 Arts Impact Grants for Organizations. This program is funded by the County of Sonoma and the National Endowment for the Arts.

This program is designed to help sustain Sonoma county's creative and cultural nonprofits and to advance their impact in our community. Grantees will expand arts and culture opportunities for County residents and visitors.

Given the urgency of Sonoma County's climate change challenges, applications for projects that also advance the community's awareness and understanding of environmental sustainability are encouraged.

- Application Opens: August 14, 2023
- General Info & Application Workshop: August 22, 2023, 1:00pm PT. Register via the grant webpage.
- **Application DEADLINE: October 2, 2023**
- Funding Notification: November 2023
- Funding Period: January – December 2024 (12 months)

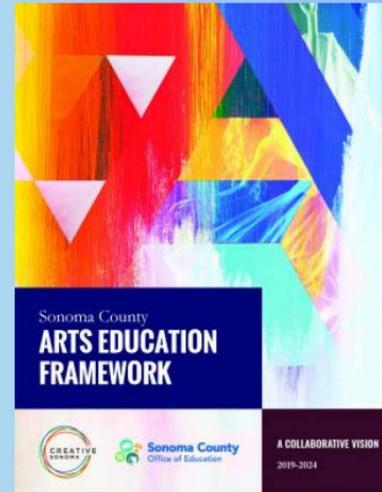
[Learn More](#)

# Arts Education Framework Grants

*Application opens August 14, 2023  
Apply by September 25, 2023*

★ Sonoma County Public School Districts are eligible for either a planning grant or an arts showcase grant.

★ Get the help your district needs to make arts education an essential and exciting part of a better future for students!



Sonoma County Public School Districts are invited to apply to the fourth annual Arts Education Framework Grants. These grants are funded by the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation.

For this round of funding, districts may apply to one of two options: those that currently have a strategic arts plan can apply for funding to support a district or regional Showcase with an option to include a local artist, and those without a strategic arts plan can apply for support to write a plan with a district leadership team and consultant.

- Application Opens: August 14, 2023
- General Info & Application Workshop: August 29, 2023, 4:40pm PT. Register via the grant webpage.
- **Application DEADLINE: September 25, 2023**
- Funding Notification: October 2023
- Funding Period: January – June 2024 (6 months)

[Learn More](#)

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## Public Art



## OPPORTUNITY FOR FEEDBACK

### Draft of Sonoma County Public Art Plan

For the past 18 months, Creative Sonoma has engaged in a process to develop a master plan for public art in Sonoma County. Many of our municipalities already have plans and percent-for-art ordinances in place. But we do not currently have an ordinance or master plan for the whole county or its unincorporated areas.

The process has been guided by public art consultant Todd Bressi, as well as from an Ad Hoc committee of the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors (Susan Gorin and David Rabbitt). After community presentations, one-on-one interviews, and analysis and comparison of existing plans in other communities, we are happy to present a draft plan for review and input.

1. Please take a look at the draft plan located [HERE](#).
2. And when you are finished, please share your feedback and thoughts [HERE](#).

We plan to bring the plan to the Board of Supervisors for action in mid-September 2023; the deadline for community feedback is **August 18, 2023**.

[Learn More](#)



### Ongoing from ArtSurround:

ArtSurround Artists Julian Billotte and Anna Wizarde recently installed their project "Rosa Californica" in the courtyard of Santa Rosa City Hall, in collaboration with the City of Santa Rosa Public Art Program. A public dedication ceremony will take place on **Wednesday, August 23, 2023**, 4:00-6:00pm at 100 Santa Rosa Avenue.

As ArtSurround projects are installed or presented, they are added to our project webpage, [CreativeSonoma.org/ArtSurround-Projects/](https://CreativeSonoma.org/ArtSurround-Projects/). Multiple projects are underway, with some extended into late summer 2023 - watch the page as well as follow Creative Sonoma's [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) pages for more details.

[Learn More](#)



### Fire Memorial Public Art Project

[Fire Memorial Email List Sign Up Form](#)

If you are interested in any opportunities to participate in the Fire Memorial project - from community meetings or surveys, to artist opportunities and more - please fill out this brief interest form. Emails will only be sent as opportunities arise.

- Complete the English and Spanish Bi-Lingual Sign Up Form [HERE](#).

[Learn More](#)

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## Arts Education



PHOTO: [Mitote Food Park](#) by Sarah Stierch (CC BY 4.0)

### Arts Education Alliance Mix & Mingle

Join the Arts Education Alliance's Mix & Mingle to meet and reconnect with arts educators and advocates. Everyone is welcome to this casual event, while enjoying the fun environment at Mitote Food Park. Bring a friend - it's always a good time with new connections!

**Mitote Food Park**  
635 Sebastopol Road, Santa Rosa  
**Wednesday, August 9, 2023, 5:30-7:00pm**

[Register](#)

# Student Arts Spotlight

A Summer Camp Collaboration:  
Kimzin Creative, Grupo Folklórico Quetzalén, and La Luz



Aventura Artística

**This monthly feature celebrates excellence in local arts education!**

Learn more: [www.creativesonoma.org/artsed-news-august-2023](http://www.creativesonoma.org/artsed-news-august-2023)

Brought to you by the Sonoma County Arts Education Alliance and Creative Sonoma

## ArtsEd BLOG

Read the monthly Arts Education Blog for more information on this month's Student Arts Spotlight, as well as for local resources available in the field of arts education.

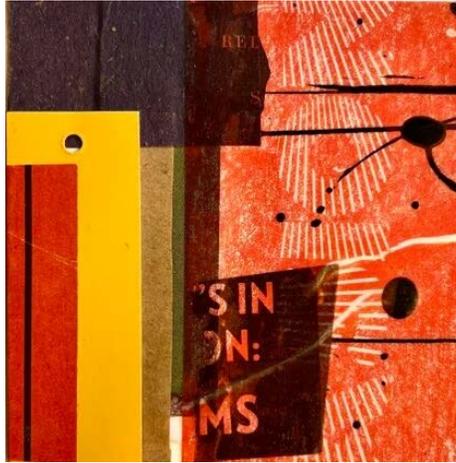
[Read the Blog](#)

## Arts Education Newsletter

Do you want to receive more information on local arts education news and events? The [Sonoma County Arts Education Alliance](#) newsletter is published monthly. Click on the Sign Up button to stay in the know about arts education initiatives in Sonoma County!

[Sign Up](#)

## CREATIVE CALENDAR & OPPORTUNITIES



### From our Creative Calendar:

**Abstract Collage and the Creative Process.** Join French-American artist Catherine Cruz for one of her most popular workshops at the Healdsburg Center for the Arts. Aug 19, 11am-3pm.

### MORE Events



### From our Opportunities:

**Laguna de Santa Rosa Foundation** has issued a Call to Artists for those interested in exhibiting and selling their artwork in their Heron Hall Gallery. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis for the year 2025.

## MORE Opportunities

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