



Contact:

Alameda County Arts Commission: Violet Juno, Program Coordinator
(510) 891-5716 | artscommission@acgov.org | www.acgov.org/arts
Alameda County Library: Alicia Reyes, Public Information Specialist
(510) 745-1544 | AREyes@aclibrary.org | www.aclibrary.org

**Alameda County Declares March 2020 Art IS Education Month
and April 2020 Arts, Culture and Creativity Month**



Photo Caption: Pictured from left to right are Nate Miley, County Supervisor; Bill Lepere, County Public Works Agency Deputy Director; Violet Juno, County Arts Commission Staff; Melissa Wilk, County Auditor-Controller; Eric Murphy, Arts Commissioner; Josh Lieu, County Library Staff; Diane Gotanda, Arts Commissioner; Deb Sica, County Deputy Librarian; Scott Haggerty, County Supervisor; Richard Valle, President of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors; Rachel Osajima, County Arts Commission Director; Wilma Chan, County Supervisor; Chris Bazar, County Community Development Agency Director; Susan Muranishi, County Administrator; Willie Hopkins, Jr., County General Services Agency Director; and Keith Carson, County Supervisor.

(Oakland, CA) On Tuesday, February 25, the Alameda County Board of Supervisors recognized March as Art IS Education Month and April as Arts, Culture and Creativity Month. Board President Richard Valle presented the proclamation which also included information that 2020 is the 20th anniversary of the Art IS Education and the 10th anniversary of the Art IS Education partnership between the Alameda County Arts Commission and the Alameda County Library. At the event, Supervisor Valle was joined by the other four members of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors; Susan S. Muranishi, County Administrator; Melissa Wilk, Alameda County Auditor-Controller; Deb Sica, Alameda County Deputy Librarian; Rachel Osajima, Alameda County Arts Commission Director, County Staff, and appointed members of the Alameda County Arts Commission.

“I am pleased to recognize Art IS Education Month of March and Arts, Culture and Creativity Month of April,” said Board President Richard Valle. “These initiatives encourage Alameda County community members of all ages to connect with each other, create solutions, and build community through the arts.”

Alameda County’s Art IS Education Month marks its 20th anniversary of advancing all art forms as an essential part of a high quality and equitable education that ensures every student reaches their full potential. Art IS Education was founded in 2000 by the Alameda County Arts Commission and the

Alameda County Office of Education. This is also the 10th year that the Alameda County Library has joined the partnership to present more than 200 free arts events at eleven library locations across the County each year. These events include a wide range of workshops, performances, concerts, movies, art contests, exhibitions, and storytime activities for all ages. The series also includes a touring family workshop that is part of the 100 Families program and collaborates with the New Beginnings program to help grow a generation of creative problem solvers and transform communities. All library events are listed at www.aclibrary.org.

The Alameda County Arts Commission's Create Alameda County is working in partnership with Create California on a statewide initiative. During the month of March, Create California encourages community members across the state to sign a pledge in support of arts education at www.createca.net.

Arts, Culture and Creativity Month is the 2nd annual statewide advocacy event that recognizes the crucial role of arts, culture and creativity in the lives of everyone in California. This month-long event is being organized by Californians for the Arts (CFTA). CFTA encourages community members and arts organizations throughout the State to participate. CFTA will present a convening in Sacramento on Tuesday, April 14.

##