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## Alameda County Declares March 2018 Art IS Education Month



Pictured (back row from left) are San Lorenzo High School student; Michael Freed, parent volunteer; Dr. Fred Brill, San Lorenzo Unified School District Superintendent; Cindy Chadwick, Alameda County Librarian; Supervisor Wilma Chan, President of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors; Mary Ann Davis, San Lorenzo High School Art Teacher; Penny Peck, San Lorenzo School Board Vice-President; Rachel Osajima, Alameda County Arts Commission Director; Diane Gotanda, Alameda County Arts Commissioner; San Lorenzo High School student. All others pictured are San Lorenzo High School students.

**Oakland CA – (February 27, 2018)** – On Tuesday, February 27, the Alameda County Board of Supervisors recognized March as Art IS Education month during National Youth Art month. Board President Wilma Chan presented the proclamation in support of Art IS Education and also presented a commendation to San Lorenzo High School Arts Programs and Art Teacher Mary Ann Davis. At the event, Supervisor Chan was joined by Penny Peck, San Lorenzo School Board Vice-President; Dr. Fred Brill, San Lorenzo Unified School District Superintendent; Cindy Chadwick, Alameda County Librarian; Mary Ann Davis, San Lorenzo High School Art Teacher; and sixteen San Lorenzo High School Students whose artwork is featured in an youth art exhibition in the Alameda County Administration Building, Board of Supervisor’s Gallery.

In 2000, Art IS Education was founded by the Alameda County Office of Education and the Alameda County Arts Commission to celebrate youth arts education throughout the County. This is the 8<sup>th</sup> year that the Alameda County Library has partnered with the Alameda County Arts Commission to present free arts events to more than 145,000 community members at twelve Library locations across the County.

“I am pleased to recognize this program that benefits so many youth and families during the month of March,” said Board President Wilma Chan. “This year’s theme, ‘Creative Connections,’ encourages Alameda County youth and community members to connect with each other, create solutions, and build community through the arts.”

The Alameda County Arts Commission and Alameda County Library have partnered together to present a special series of 300 free arts events for all ages including a wide range of workshops, performances, movies, art contests, exhibitions, and storytime activities. Workshops offer hands-on instruction for a broad range of art forms such as origami, painting, quilting, doll making, and creative writing. Interactive performances include poetry nights, sing-alongs, yoga, and more. All events are free and open to the public. More information at [www.aclibrary.org](http://www.aclibrary.org).

In honor of Art IS Education, the Alameda County Arts Commission presents the Youth Art Exhibition at the County Administration Building as part of the Art In Public Spaces program. The exhibition features artwork created by San Lorenzo High School students and artwork submitted to the 2017 Recycling Poster Contest by local youth. This annual poster contest is presented by Union City Recycles, Republic Services & Tri-CED Community Recycling. The exhibition is on display during the month of March on the first and fifth floors of the Alameda County Administration Building at 1221 Oak St., Oakland.

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