

ARTS EDUCATION CONNECTION

San Diego

Extreme Makeover Edition!

Fall 2021

Dear Friends –

I really enjoy home improvement and personal style shows like “Flip or Flop” and “What Not to Wear.” I compare the variety of scenarios, sometimes a few surface or cosmetic tweaks are all that a make-over needs, while others require major structural changes, digging deeply into the foundation. But, overall it's the idea of transformation (like my beloved butterfly that I mentioned in our Summer newsletter) that's really intriguing – the idea that a home or person can truly make the most of hidden potential.

For the past few months, **Arts for Learning San Diego** has also been transforming our organization. Sparked by the events of 2020, we knew it was time to do some soul searching and gritty evaluation. Throughout this time, we've requested and received amazing feedback from our constituents, giving us greater understanding of our place in the San Diego arts education community. In the end, our original values were validated -- it's the human connection that will always give our work its meaning. With that in mind, I'm so very excited to announce that we have evolved the organization's brand and changed our name to



ARTS EDUCATION
CONNECTION
— SAN DIEGO —

where arts are essential, learning is critical, and arts in learning is transformative.

For those of you who have supported us over the years, rest assured that our core mission has not changed. We'll continue to provide high-quality arts education programs to students in schools and community venues.

To further demonstrate this update, we have a fantastic new logo, and a rebranded website has launched (www.artsedsd.org). This strategy reflects both the evolution of our organization as well as our vision for the future. Our new logo is bright, bold, colorful and modern. The concentric circles represent the “ripple effect” that **Arts Education Connection San Diego** programs have on students, classrooms, schools, and communities. We hope you love it as much as we do.

We are grateful to the Conrad Prebys Foundation for supporting our rebranding and organizational transformation project with a generous grant as part of their summer grant cycle.

THE CONRAD PREBYS FOUNDATION

Should want to reach us for any reason, here are our new staff emails:

Adrienne Valencia, Executive Director: adrienne@artsedsd.org

Keri Jhaveri, Professional Learning and Community Programs Manager: keri@artsedsd.org

Deirdre Moore: Residency Programs Manager: deirdre@artsedsd.org

Erika Paul: Operations Administrator: erika@artsedsd.org

We'd love to hear from you!

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QUICK SUMMER RECAP

We've also been keeping busy this summer with programming and other events:

Girl Scout Summer Camp

For the 3rd year in a row, our artists participated in the annual Girl Scout summer camp, introducing the girls to various art forms. Visual artist Stacie Greene taught the girls how to make art out of recycled materials and drummer Silvio Diaz showed the girls how to make their own percussion instruments. Sounds like fun, *right?*

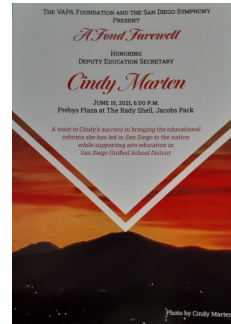


A Fond Farewell to Cindy Marten

Many of you may know that San Diego Unified School District Superintendent Cindy Marten was chosen to become our nation's Deputy Secretary of Education. Program Manager Keri Jhaveri and I had the opportunity to attend her send-off event hosted by the SDUSD Visual and Performing Arts Department in mid-June.



We only took our masks down to snap this photo!



We appreciate Cindy's leadership and support of arts education in the district. To follow the hiring process for the new Superintendent, visit: www.sandiegounified.com and click on "Superintendent Search."

Support Arts Education at the National Level

Speaking of supporting arts education, there is new bill is being introduced to Congress, the **Arts Education for All Act**, by Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR). "The Arts Education for All Act, the broadest arts education policy bill ever introduced in Congress, includes key provisions that will support and encourage the offering of arts education and programming experiences to Americans including our youngest learners, K-12 students, and youth impacted by the juvenile justice system. Crucially, the bill will also include provisions that would allow for rigorous arts and arts education research to be carried out, to further inform how elementary and secondary education in our country is improved."

Please consider lending your support to this effort by visiting the Grantmakers in the Arts website at www.giarts.org and clicking on "Register your Support for the Arts Education for All Act." You can fill out the simple form (just requires name, city, state and zip code) and play a part in ensuring all students have access to quality arts instruction.

As always, we appreciate your encouragement, engagement, and support. Be on the look-out for even more exciting things happening here – like new partnerships, programs and our fantastic holiday card offer launching in November!

Thanks so much for staying with us as we press on towards greater impact in the coming months!

Stay safe. Stay healthy. Stay creative.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Adrienne Valencia".

Adrienne Valencia, Executive Director
Arts Education Connection San Diego



Follow us on Social Media!