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Community Rejuvenation Project receives 'Artists in Schools' grant

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The California Arts Council announces that the Community Rejuvenation Project has received an "Artists in Schools" grant for the 2011-2012 school and fiscal year.

The "Artists in Schools" program from the state's arts agency is designed to support professional teaching artists in residency activities in classrooms and after school programs.



1 Cultural Equality mural done in 2007 by the first class of Arrow-Soul Students

The Community Rejuvenation Project in Oakland will continue the after-school arts mentorship program, the "Arrow-Soul Council", at Oakland Unity High School. The program will begin with a comprehensive unit that traces the development of the New York City subway writing movement and culminates in the students creating their own master works of art. The students will also study mural design to create an increasingly intricate series of projects, culminating in a full-scale community mural. The organization received \$9,000 in funding. There are 135 arts organizations that received "Artists in Schools" grants to help bring music, theater, dance, visual arts and related arts to children statewide during the 2011-2012 school year.



2 Students participate in rites of passage mural project where they create their first solo pieces without any assistance.

"The arts are crucial to a student's educational development and especially enhance the essential life and career skills of creativity and imagination," said Craig Watson, Director of the California Arts Council. "Our agency supports standards-based arts education through the Artists in Schools program so professional teaching artists can enhance the imagination and creativity of our state's school-age children."

Music, theater, dance, and the visual arts are at the core of these standards-based teaching artists residencies that will engage students from different socio-economic backgrounds in positive artistic expression. Examples of residencies vary from robust music programs to public-art projects that involve students and members of the community to theater training and public performances.

The organizations receiving funding are in two categories: teaching-artists residency activity, or planning grants. There are 129 organizations which will receive funding to bring professional teaching artists to in-school and after-school settings, and six organizations will receive planning grants designed to assist the arts organization and school partner to plan a course of action and strategies to incorporate arts into the classroom and community. The total amount allocated for the 2011-12 Artists in Schools program is \$1,099,995.



3 A dedication to Leo's daughter on her first birthday.

Source: <http://oaklandlocal.com/posts/2011/09/community-rejuvenation-project-receives-artists-schools-grant>