



## Resolution to Champion the Arts in Tulare County

WHEREAS, Tulare County Museum envisions a Tulare County where every student in pre-kindergarten through grade twelve has equitable access to high-quality arts learning as part of a well-rounded education.

WHEREAS, Tulare County Museum acknowledges that arts learning – which includes dance, media arts, music, theatre, visual arts, and literary arts – is an essential part of a comprehensive education, providing the necessary skills for student success in the classroom, campus, and community.

WHEREAS, Tulare County Museum endorses the **Tulare County Arts Master Plan** which articulates four strategic directions aimed at advancing arts education across Tulare County:

- Educational Equity for All
- Social and Emotional Well-Being
- College, Career, and Civic Life Readiness
- Sustainable Systemic Change

WHEREAS, Tulare County Museum recognizes the lasting effects of a high-quality arts education reach well beyond the school walls into all aspects of civic life. Every community sector is touched by the arts.

The arts and creativity are integral to improving health, wellness, inclusion, and acceptance. Artistic expression honors and celebrates culture, diversity, history, and traditions. The arts are a gateway to community pride and environmental awareness. Through the arts disciplines, students can understand the world and their unique place within it.

WHEREAS, Tulare County Museum understands the economic impact of the arts. In California, the arts are big business, as one out of every six jobs in the state is in the creative economy. The state averages over \$600 billion in economic output from the creative industries which includes the visual, performing, and media arts. The skills students learn in their arts classes enable them to compete and to become successful in the global community.

WHEREAS, Tulare County Museum acknowledges that benefits of a high-quality arts education extend well past artistic literacy. Participation in the arts boosts student attendance, academic achievement, and graduation rates. The arts also improve school climates by promoting inclusive environments and positive self-esteem. Arts-rich schools report higher student, parent, and stakeholder engagement.

WHEREAS Tulare County Museum recognizes that particular groups of students experience significant barriers to access, participation and success in arts learning and that these barriers are directly linked to historical, persistent, and pervasive inequities in our educational system. These groups have historically included, but are not limited to: Black, Latinx, Native American, Asian and Pacific Islander students, English Language Learners, students with disabilities, foster, homeless, and low-income youth.

WHEREAS, Tulare County Museum recognizes that all students, regardless of race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, language, place of residence, socioeconomic status, documentation status, and/or academic status are entitled to equitable access to high-quality arts learning opportunities.

WHEREAS, educational and community leaders across the state of California are declaring their commitment to ensuring all students are able to reach their full potential by advancing an education model that promotes creativity and the arts for the 21<sup>st</sup> century workforce.

This commitment is reflected in the **Declaration of the Rights of All Students to Equity in Arts Learning** which states, that all students have:

1. The right to equitable access to pre-K-12 free, coherent and sequential standards-based arts learning that is part of the core curriculum and that provides both integrated and discrete visual and performing arts learning opportunities; and the right to equitable outcomes as a result of this access, without distinction on account of race, culture, language, religion, national origin, geographical location or legal status.
2. The right to special protection for every student's artistic and aesthetic development. The right to protection from policies and practices that exclude or preclude certain students or populations from equitable access to and success in powerful and coherent arts learning pre-K-12.
3. The right to arts learning that is culturally and linguistically responsive and relevant, with particular attention to those populations that have traditionally been excluded or precluded, such as English Learners, students of color, foster youth, homeless youth, students in poverty, migrant students and special needs students.
4. The right to arts learning programs in every school, district and community that are funded and supported with the necessary resources – including qualified administrators, teachers, teaching artists and other staff; adequate materials; and appropriate facilities – to support powerful culturally and linguistically responsive arts learning.
5. The right to educators, leaders and parents/community who are knowledgeable about the intrinsic and extrinsic benefits of arts learning for individual students, families/communities, the nation and global society.
6. The right to be brought up in school and community environments that value and protect the arts and equity as essential to the full development of every student and that demonstrate those values/beliefs in their public policies and practices.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Tulare County Museum recognizes the powerful impact that an arts curriculum has on the cognitive and social development of students and its role as an essential component of a comprehensive and well-rounded education. Tulare County Museum adopts this Declaration, endorses the Tulare County Arts Master Plan, and commits to taking actions to ensure equitable arts access in Tulare County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tulare County Museum will demonstrate its ongoing organizational commitment to the arts by becoming a partner member of CREATE TC – Tulare County’s Arts Coalition. CREATE TC serves to promote equitable access to the arts for the students, families, and communities of Tulare County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tulare County Museum will publicly endorse high-quality arts education by posting the CREATE TC logo and the Arts Equity Champion badges on the organization’s website and social media channels.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tulare County Museum will promote arts learning that honors all cultures and languages by developing staff capacities, identifying community resources, and creating opportunities for students to contribute to organizational goals.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tulare County Museum will review all organizational arts programs and projects to ensure that all programming is aligned to the Tulare County Arts Master Plan and the Declaration of the Rights of All Students to Equity in Arts Learning.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tulare County Museum will become a champion for the arts in Tulare County.

Adopted by the Tulare County Museum Board

September 19, 2019