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November 15, 2011

Dear TAEA Vendors,

I personally want to thank all of our TAEA vendors for your most gracious hospitality and warm welcome as I take over the job of Texas Art Education Association Commercial Exhibitors Director. Your kindness and patience is greatly appreciated as I stepped into a large job and attempt to fill the large shoes that Daphna Lilienstern has worn so well for so long.

As you well know, commercial exhibits are one of the highlights of our annual conference. Teachers look forward to visiting the exhibit hall seeking new ways to use materials, new products, and to bring back new ideas to students. The demos at the booths are always a hit, and many art educators feel they are just as powerful as a regular workshop session or a walkup workshop.

A special big thank you to all of the vendors who presented workshops along with having a booth with us. This really is going the extra mile! Our members love all of the door prizes that are donated, and return often to the hall searching for their names in hopes of being a prize-winner. This truly does keep the flow of our TAEA members coming back for repeat visits.

The Galveston conference was a huge hit – even in a tough financial climate. The total attendance for the 2011 Conference was 1,499. The total membership of TAEA is 3,342. TAEA works hard to put on a quality conference for its members. You are part of the reason that our members come back year after year. Plans are already being formulated for the **2012 TAEA Conference** to be held in **San Antonio at the Henry B. Gonzales Convention Center, November 14 – 18**. The host hotel will be the **Hilton Palacio del Rio**. 28 exhibitors have already reserved booths for our San Antonio 2012 conference. Don't be left out, reserve your space as soon as possible.

I am looking forward to working for you to make this a memorable and profitable conference for you.

Somos El Arte! (We are Art)  
Start a Revolution  
San Antonio 2012

Thanks for a Warm Beginning  
Ricia Kerber, TAEA Commercial Exhibits Director