

**SUMMER
2026**



e-STAR

A TEXAS ART EDUCATION ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

OUR MISSION:

The purpose of TAEA is to promote quality visual arts education in Texas by promoting visual arts education as an integral part of the State of Texas' curriculum. This support will be through professional development of knowledge and skills, representation of the arts educators of Texas, service and leadership opportunities, and research and development of policies and decisions relative to practices and directions in visual arts education. Concurrent purposes are to sustain and advance professional development and to encourage and promote the advancement of knowledge and skills in the art field.

TAEA ★ 14070 Proton Road, Suite 100 Dallas, TX, 75244. ★ 972.233.9107 ★ info@taea.org

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Be a part of the next

e-STAR

We invite members to submit articles and events by submitting them to the editor.



Deadline for the next issue:

November 1st, 2026

The e-star is the official newsletter of the Texas Art Education Association and is published four times a year: Fall, Spring, Summer, Winter.

For more information, visit:

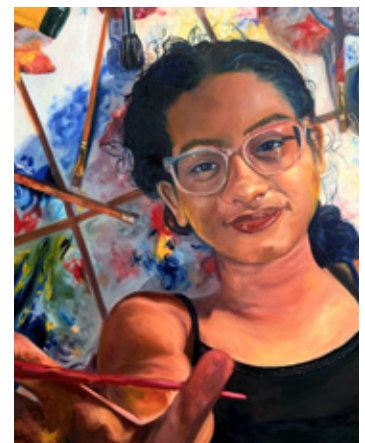
[TAEA E-STAR](#)

Cover Art:

"Act II"

by Pratyasha S.

Coppell High School
Coppell ISD



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Hello TAEA Membership,

As we begin another school year together, I am reminded how fortunate we are to be part of a community that believes deeply in the power of visual arts education. Every day, TAEA members inspire creativity, advocate for students, and strengthen our profession.

This year, we will continue to be guided by three words: Grace, Gratitude, and Growth. These pillars remind us to lead with kindness, appreciate those who serve alongside us, and continually seek opportunities to learn and improve.

I am especially encouraged by the positive momentum that came from our recent Sara Chapman Leadership Retreat. TAEA members gathered with a shared commitment to collaboration, thoughtful planning, and strong governance. The conversations were productive, the energy was inspiring, and the dedication to serving our membership was evident throughout the retreat.

As we move forward together, I am excited about the opportunities ahead. Thank you for your continued support, your passion for art education, and your commitment to TAEA. It is an honor to serve as your president, and I look forward to all we will accomplish together.

We look forward to seeing you in Galveston in November 2026!

With appreciation,

Sandra Newton





SAVE THE DATES!

txEDCON TASA/TASB REGISTRATION DEADLINE

9/22/2026

TAEA FALL CONFERENCE

11/12-11/14

YAM EXHIBITION REGISTRATION

12/4/2026

YAM FLAG DESIGN DEADLINE

12/11/2026

Are you following us?

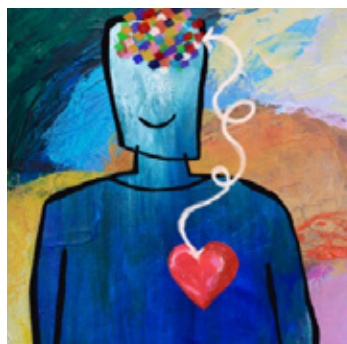
Click below to follow our accounts!



Upcoming NAEA Professional Learning Webinars



**A Curious Classroom:
Designing for Discovery Through
Thinking Routines**
Wednesday, Sept. 16th | 7–8pm ET



**Practices for Healing and
Connection in Art Education**
Wednesday, Nov. 4th | 7–8pm ET

ARTISTIC INTELLIGENCE



"You won't want
to miss out
on this inspiring
conference!"

create

connect

learn

Save the date!



Nov. 12-14, 2026

**Moody Gardens Hotel and
Convention Center
Galveston, TX.**

REGION 6

Summer Workshop

Dr. Lisa Davis
Conroe ISD



This June, Region 6 hosted its Summer Mini Conference, bringing together passionate educators for two days of professional learning and collaboration.

Participants explored 21 engaging sessions focused on a variety of media, innovative instructional strategies, and community engagement. Throughout the conference, teachers gained practical tools, discovered new lesson ideas, and built meaningful connections with fellow educators and community organizations from across the region.

Together, we're building stronger classrooms and stronger communities!

SAVE THE DATE!

2027 NAEA NATIONAL CONVENTION | MARCH 4-6

 **NEW YORK**



**Dale Battle
Conference
Scholarship**

**APPLY
TODAY**





Blanton All Day

Austin's biggest all-day art event





Photos courtesy of Rebecca Core





ROBERT PARKER

Senior Symposium

On June 15 the Retired Division hosted the Fifth Annual Robert W. Parker Senior Symposium at Blinn College in Brenham. While rain and flooding tried to dampen the day, everyone enjoyed a full day of creating, collaborating, conversations with good friends, food and fun. A variety of workshops were offered from collaborative painting, neurographic card making, gelli plate techniques, new techniques with oil pastels, creative journals and creating for self-care with collage, watercolor and more. Attendees had the opportunity to watch and talk with a master painter and help paint a chair for TAEA Conference Silent Auction.

Join us next year!



CHAIR-ISH THE MASTERS



**MOODY GARDENS
GALVESTON, TX.
NOV. 12-14**



**DESIGN A CHAIR FOR A FAMOUS
ARTIST TO DONATE TO OUR SILENT
AUCTION AT THIS YEAR'S CONFERENCE!
THE CHAIR SHOULD BE STANDARD SIZE
OR SMALLER (NO OVERSIZED CHAIRS).
JUST BRING YOUR CHAIR TO CONFERENCE
AND REGISTER IT ON SITE.**

**CHAIRING
IS
CARING!**

SOCORRO ISD

at the Governor's Mansion
Candace Printz



YOUTH ART MONTH™



Our Fine Arts Department was taken aback when we received an email that one of our Socorro ISD student artworks had been selected from the 2026 Youth Art Month Spring Exhibition by the First Lady of Texas, Cecilia Abbott, to be on display in the Governor's business office for one year. SSG Manuel R. Puentes Middle School art teacher, Karina Alvarez, submitted the artwork from Sandy Buendia, a very talented 7th grader. The Shine of the Skull was a beautifully crocheted piece she'd worked meticulously on throughout the school year. Flaunting delicate stitches, her work depicts a sugar skull composed of pinks, reds, and purples against a subtle seafoam green background.



The news stunned us since we knew that only thirteen students from the entire state of Texas were selected for this elite honor. Suddenly, the realization that the rote paperwork and photo submissions would have a real-world impact on a student swelled within me. This was the first time in the history of us participating that we'd been selected. I couldn't wait to contact the teacher and student with this exciting news!



After weeks of coordinating travel, we eagerly awaited our departure from the El Paso International Airport on June 29, 2026, primed for our adventures in Austin! In addition to having Sandy's work on display, we were invited to attend a private ceremony at the governor's mansion. Being that we came from far West Texas, we also took advantage of Trader Joe's, In-N-Out Burger, the magnificent Downtown Austin Library, and everything in between.

The moment we were the most enthusiastic and curious about was the visit to the governor's mansion, though. Directly across the street from the Texas State Capitol Building was the mansion. Concealed by a large exterior wall, a guarded entrance, and a canopy of trees, the two-story Greek Revival house stood tall. With its strikingly white exterior and 6 Ionic columns hugging the building, it was a stunning site to see once we cleared the check point.

At the mansion entrance, we were immediately greeted by the smiling faces of TAEA representatives, docents, and servers with trays of the notorious Governor's Mansion Summer Peach Tea Punch. Our student, her mother, and the art teacher couldn't contain their smiles as they marveled at the 16-foot-tall ceilings, elegant chandeliers, and the plethora of antiques. Amidst the beautiful furniture and historical paintings were the chosen artworks of the 13 honored students.

Artists, teachers, and family members were treated to snacks, took plenty of pictures throughout the living quarters, and were given private tours of both floors of the house. There were numerous relics from past governors who once lived in the residence, dating back to 1856. We even got to lay on Sam Houston's mahogany four-poster bed!





First Lady of Texas, Cecilia Abbott, took the time to speak to the group, award the students with a certificate, and took photographs with everyone! She graciously spoke to each attendee, which made the event even more special. Afterwards, we were able to visit the State Capitol. This experience was a first for most of our group.

Karina Alvarez said, "It was an honor to visit the governor's mansion. I am so grateful to our district for making this opportunity possible. Knowing that my student's artwork was displayed in Austin was already exciting, and then finding out it was selected as one of only 13 pieces in the entire state of Texas was just incredible. It was a proud moment I will always remember, and I am thankful to have been part of such a special reception."

Sandy said, "I enjoyed the trip a lot! I got to do and see many things, such as try new restaurants, visit art galleries, and even go to the Capitol! My favorite part about the trip was to meet the other winners at the governor's mansion and experience the culture of Austin."

Having the Texas Art Education Association spearhead events such as this means so much to our students, teachers, and their families. This was a memorable experience for everyone involved.



Beyond the Studio

Finding Inspiration at Mo Ranch



High in the hills above the town of Hunt, Texas, along the North Fork of the Guadalupe River is the Mo Ranch Presbyterian Retreat Center named after its original owner Daniel Moran. When he sold the property, it was named in his honor. Mo Ranch is a transformative and spiritual place for those who wish to have a retreat of any kind, in the Hill Country, whether it is for worship, fellowship, renewal, relaxation, or ART.

Every summer Mo Ranch hosts Art @ Mo, a 5-day, 6-night retreat for anyone wanting to do basically anything artsy. This retreat is for all ages and all people from all walks of life, although you will find many art teachers here to get some or all of their summer professional development hours. Mo Ranch is SBEC certified, and offers a wide array of art offerings. There are main classes in the mornings, and mini sessions offered in the afternoons, along with family friendly evening events like game night, Bingo, a pool party etc... Art @ Mo offers babysitting for infants and young children, and an enriching children's art program during the week. Families save up all year long to come to this amazing retreat year after year.

Main class offerings each year are Welding, Stained Glass, Quilting, Ceramics, Watercolor Painting, Chalk Pastels, and Jewelry Making. If you choose quilting you do have to bring your own sewing machine, and if you choose stained glass, you need to bring your own design blue print. Most of these courses are offered every year, and they are always on the lookout for people who would like to teach things during the week to offer more options. Art studio areas are open all day long so if you choose to keep working in your main art area in the afternoons, you can do that too. I spent most of my time in my classroom painting, but I did do a few of the mini course offerings also. Watercolor Painting was actually new this year. I took this class and it was amazing. Although I know a lot about watercolor painting, I have always had a hard time controlling the water, so this was an amazing class for me, and I believe it will truly make my teaching stronger. Some of the mini courses offered this summer were embroidery, acrylic pour, alcohol inks, origami, glass fusion, canoeing, and yoga. Worship is offered in the mornings and the evenings. There is an indoor chapel and an outdoor chapel on the hill, all very beautiful and spiritually uplifting.





Mo Ranch is all hills. Even though it is riverfront property and very beautiful, most of the facilities are up very high on the hill and safe from the flooding that happened last year, and again this summer. Art @ Mo did take place during the flooding, but we were never in any danger. Safety is a priority, and the Kerr County Sheriff did come around to check in on us. Even with all of the rain, we experienced, I cannot even begin to describe the beauty of the ranch. All of the buildings are stone and wood, and just kind exist within the nature and the surroundings seamlessly. In between the downpours, the kids were out playing volley ball or at the pool. No one's experience seemed to be hurt by the rains.

Art @ Mo isn't cheap, and I am a broke art teacher, but I filled out an entry for their raffle prize in the vendor area at the TAEA Conference in Round Rock last November, and low and behold I won. It's about \$1000 for the week, plus some small supply fees, and it is worth every penny. After attending this summer, I have decided that I will start putting away money for next year, because it was that amazing.

Even with the religious side of things, I felt very comfortable there despite being Jewish. I even had a wonderful and very moving and spiritual moment when I sat in on the first worship the opening evening. It was combined with the welcome and information session, so I sat in. Later I had a visit with the clergywoman and told her how I felt about the things she said and how she had really reminded me of my mother who was a Rabbi. Lots of conversations happened over the course of the retreat with other members of the retreat and what became very clear was that it didn't matter who you are or where you come from, everyone is welcome at Mo Ranch, all day, every day. The last day of the retreat features an art show by all of the participants in the different classes, and the works from the mini classes. It was beautiful. By the end of the week, I mentioned to Rebecca, one of the women running the retreat, that I wished I could afford to come back next summer... "We have scholarships, and a lot of school districts will pay for their art teachers to come, so there is always a way", she said. I will be back there next summer, whatever it takes. It was that amazing. Oh, I said that in the last paragraph. I could say it 100 times. It was that amazing!

I didn't take my family, I did this on my own, and found deep inspiration in the beauty around me, to drive my art making. This retreat really made me feel like I was refreshed and ready to start my new school year. It truly filled my cup. The youngest attendee at Art@ Mo was 4 months old, and the oldest was 93. Yes, you read that correctly, 93. You can bring your spouse and, or your kids, and if they are not participating in the art activities the cost is about \$500. There are lots of things to do if you are not making art like river activities, spaces to sit and play games, a pool, hiking trails, fishing, birdwatching, biking, and a little café/coffee shop. You can also load up on Mo Ranch gear in their gift shop. Reduce your costs if you bring a friend and share your room. My room had 2 queen size beds.

Accommodations are very comfortable, like staying at a hotel, but a hotel at a sleepaway summer camp. There is WIFI, but there are not refrigerators, microwaves, or TVs in the rooms. All meals are served in the dining hall. This is where sleepaway camp meets retreat center. There were church groups having summer camps there during the same week as Art @ Mo, so there were lots of teenagers around. The food was what I would consider far better than your average sleepaway camp. I was a sleepaway camp kid for several summers as a kid, and my own children went to sleepaway camp, so I know what's out there.

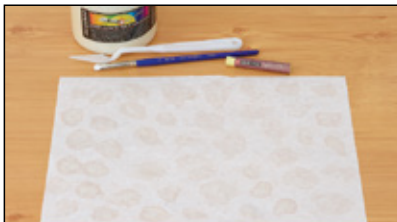
Mo Ranch is a year-round retreat center and even if you don't go for Art @ Mo I highly recommend it for a long weekend getaway and I would have to say it is also strongly endorsed by TAEA since they have their Leadership Retreat here every summer. In the fall they also have a long weekend for making holiday crafts. When you get to the TAEA conference in November be sure to swing by the Mo Ranch booth and fill out a raffle slip for a chance to go to Art@Mo. You will not be disappointed. Or don't go, and I can win it again for next summer. If you need a stronger recommendation, you can contact me at Abigail.eliezer@aliefisd.net.

DECORATIVE ORIGAMI LIGHTS

GRADES 3-12



SCAN TO VIEW LESSON PLAN



Decorate: Use a scrubber brush or palette knife to apply Dorland's Wax Medium to Roylco Color Diffusing Paper.



Paint: Use a soft brush to apply the glitter watercolor with glue and water mixture onto the paper.



Assemble: Cut the paper into a square and scan the QR code for the origami box directions.

Bring shimmer and shine to your celebration
with collaborative decorative lights.

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CLAUDIO ZAVALA

Hey there! My name is Claudio. Why I Am Claudius? Someone once told me, "You're a Renaissance Man! What don't you know how to do?" So I felt the Roman moniker fitting. I'm an educator, photographer, videographer, YouTuber, fine woodworker, and a cook. I can also sew clothing and draw. I love a good taco al pastor, won't shy away from a great cheeseburger, and I'm always in the mood for pizza. I enjoy traveling and the outdoors. I'm always down for hiking and mountain biking. I'm an accomplished drummer. I grew up in SoCal and currently reside in Texas.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Friday, November 13

General Session

Moody Gardens Convention Center



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Crystal Alulema Jogani

Farley Middle School, Hutto ISD

How did you get into teaching?

I've always had a strong connection to art, but over time I realized that I was equally passionate about helping others discover their own creativity. That led me to pursue Art Education at Arizona State University and ultimately into the classroom. One of my biggest goals as an educator is to make art feel accessible to everyone—to expose students to different forms of art and help them believe that they are capable of creating something meaningful themselves. Seven years into teaching, that continues to be at the heart of why I do this work.

Something others may not know about you?

Something not many people know about me is that I only took one art class in high school, and it wasn't until my senior year. I had an incredible art teacher who saw something in me, encouraged me, and helped me realize that art could be more than just something I enjoyed. That experience played a huge part in the path I chose, and it is one of the reasons I care so much about being that kind of teacher for my own students.

What is your favorite medium to work with?

My favorite mediums to work with are acrylic paint and spray paint, especially when creating large-scale murals. I love working with bold color, layering, and texture, and I enjoy how painting on a larger scale can completely transform a space. Murals also give me the opportunity to create art that feels connected to the community and can be experienced by everyone.



What do you love most about teaching art?

What I love most about teaching art is watching students realize that they are capable of creating something they are proud of. I love giving them the space to experiment, take creative risks, and express parts of themselves that they may not always have words for. Seeing a student go from “I can't do this” to feeling confident in their own ideas is one of the most rewarding parts of being an art teacher.

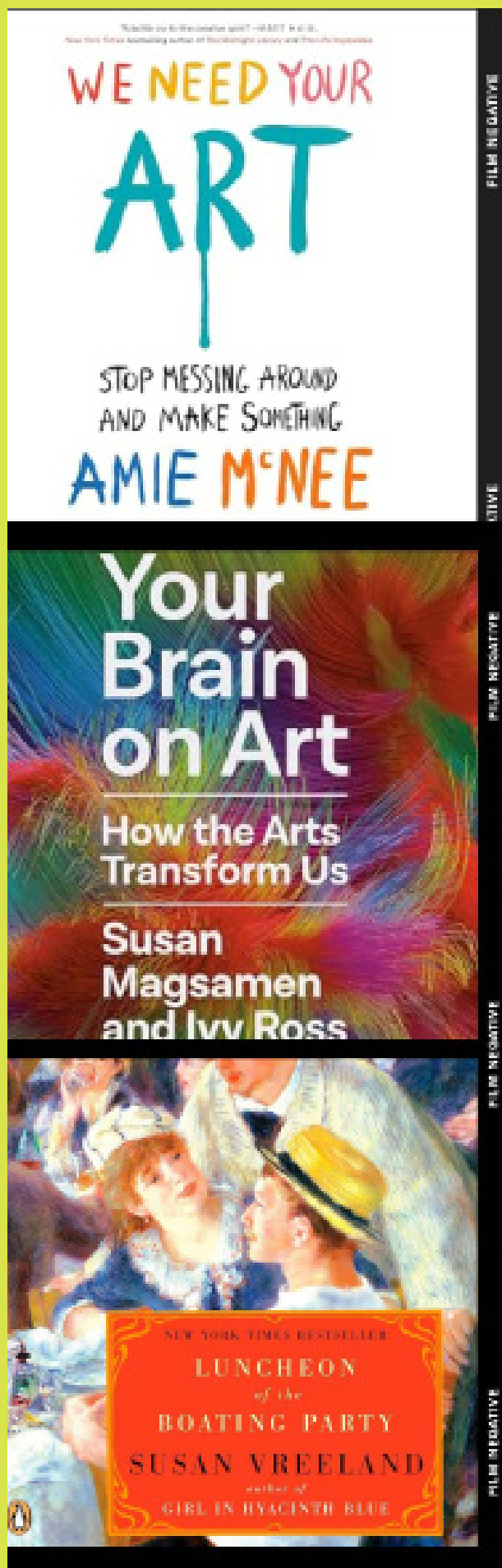
What is your most memorable moment?

Some of my favorite memories as an art educator have happened outside of the traditional classroom—taking students on field trips, introducing them to museums and artists, and watching them experience something new for the first time. I also love involving students in mural projects because they get to see their own work become part of something much bigger than themselves. Those are the moments that really stay with me because we are not just making art—we are creating experiences and core memories that I hope they carry with them long after they leave my classroom.

Nominate someone for the next SPOTLIGHT! Click below:

<https://tinyurl.com/4ys2eva9>





JOIN TAEA IN OUR
UPCOMING

BOOK STUDIES

Get CPE Credits and enjoy
sharing your teaching and
artistic experience with other
book enthusiasts through
Google Classroom discussions

Spring 2027 Top Left Pic
Summer 2027 Middle Left Pic
Summer 2027 Bottom Left Pic

For more information :
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bookstudy@taea.org

ARTISTIC INTELLIGENCE



"You won't want
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Nov. 12-14, 2026

**Moody Gardens Hotel and
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Galveston, TX.**

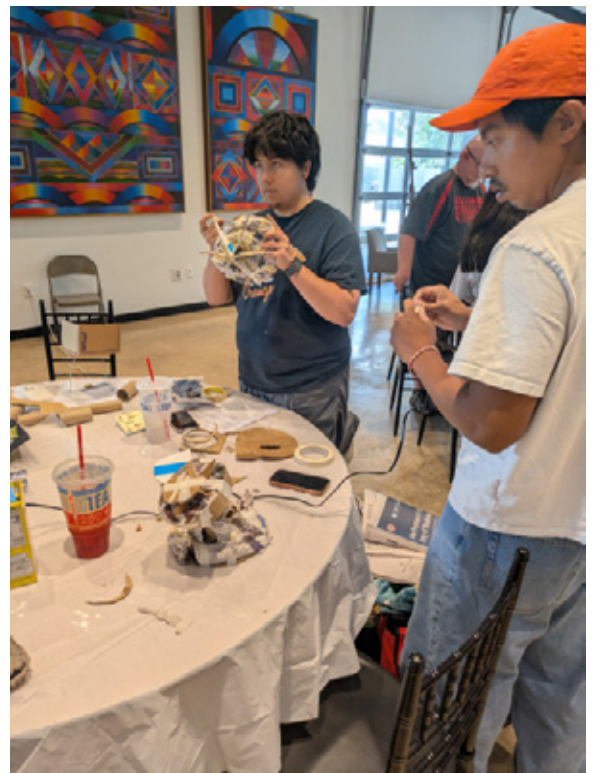


REGION 12

Summer Workshop

Bonnie Holmstrom







JEFFIE BREWER

We are given a brief amount of time together. As an artist, I consider it a gift to be able to share my vision and experience. Sometimes it's serious, sometimes it's thoughtful and a lot of the time it's just silly. The shared experience of existing, living, loving, thinking... seeing beauty, knowing fear, feeling passion, and just being is further magnified through art - creating, discussing, collaborating, learning and teaching. I have been privileged to have great mentors, teachers and friends; to continue to share this with viewers is fantastic. - Jeffie Brewer

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Saturday, November 14

General Session

Moody Gardens Convention Center





*Teacher
Art!*

ANNUAL MEMBER SHOW

2D, 3D, Photo/Digital

Check Out the Show
at Conference and
Online!

For More
Information
check out
our website
or contact
us at

artshow@taea.org

SUBMISSIONS
Aug 1 - Oct 1

REGION 10

Summer Workshop



Making Waves:

Region 10 Celebrates First Regional Mini-Conference. Charles Petty

Big things are happening in North Texas! On June 4, TAEA Region 10 successfully hosted its very first Regional Mini-Conference, titled “The Collective Canvas: Many Voices. One Vision.” Held at Henry W. Longfellow Middle School, this landmark day of professional development brought area art educators together for an energetic experience dedicated to connection, rejuvenation, and hands-on learning.

Our primary goal was to make high-quality, studio-based professional development accessible right in our own backyard. This milestone event would not have been possible without our wonderful partners, Dallas ISD Visual & Performing Arts. We extend our deepest gratitude to their team, with a special thank you to Special Project Manager Kristin McCloskey, whose hard work and behind-the-scenes support truly made this vision a reality.

The studio workshops were an absolute success. Educators shed their roles as instructors for the day, stepping back into the shoes of the artist to earn 6 CPE credits. Attendees raved about the unique Encaustic Cloisonne session and the hands-on craft of Needle Felting. Our still life sessions, “Las Flores de Ayer” (Yesterday’s Flowers), were massive hits, providing deep dives into both drawing and painting focus areas. Beyond these highlights, the event featured a rich variety of learning opportunities, including Rebuilding Creativity in Adults, Haiku Collage, and Quilling.

This inaugural event proved that we are truly stronger when we create together. Thank you to our incredible presenters, hosts, and attendees—we look forward to making this a regional tradition!





Texas Art
Education
Foundation

Advance Art Education in Texas

Supporting Texas Art Educators
and Students through
Grants and Scholarships

HELP US GROW - DONATE TODAY!

Donations accepted at txartedfoundation.org

For additional information contact
Tim Lowke, Foundation Chairman
at
tim.lowke@txartedfoundation.org

Exciting Members Art Show Changes for 2026!



We are pleased to share exciting updates about the upcoming annual Members Art Show hosted by the Texas Art Education Association (TAEA). This year, the show has been thoughtfully re-envisioned to better highlight and celebrate the exceptional artwork created by our members.

Streamlined Categories

In response to member feedback, we have simplified the entry categories to make the submission process more intuitive. Previously, some participants found it challenging to determine the most appropriate category for their work. To address this, we have refined the categories into three clear divisions:

- Photography/Digital
- 2D
- 3D

This streamlined structure ensures a more straightforward experience for entrants while maintaining the diversity and richness of artistic expression within our community.

With the consolidation of categories, we are also pleased to announce an increase in prize money. Best of Show and first-, second-, and third-place winners in each category will receive enhanced awards, further recognizing the outstanding talent and dedication of our members.

New Incentive to Enter

In addition to expanded awards, we are introducing a new incentive for participation. Each teacher who submits artwork will receive one additional entry into the conference giveaway drawings. Please note that this incentive applies per teacher, not per artwork submission. With the incredible prizes generously provided by our valued vendors and sponsors, this added opportunity offers even more reason to participate.

Introducing the Winners Circle Show

This year also marks the debut of our Winners Circle Show. While the exhibition will continue to be featured online and displayed digitally during the conference, we will now also host a physical showcase highlighting the top winners in each category. To make participation as convenient as possible, teachers will not need to transport their original artwork. Printed reproductions will be created for display in the physical exhibition.

Our Commitment to You

With all of these exciting changes, we want to assure you that entry costs will remain minimal for our art teachers. We are committed to keeping the show accessible while elevating the overall experience and recognition for participating artists. Entry fees will remain \$5 per submission.

These enhancements reflect our ongoing commitment to celebrating the extraordinary creativity and professionalism of TAEA educators. We look forward to seeing the incredible work our members will share and to honoring the remarkable talent within our community.

Stay tuned for the 2026 entry forms coming in August! If you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out to Members Art Show Chair Robin Perkins at rperkins@gainesvilleisd.org

About the Juror

Ruthie Partin is a multidisciplinary artist, tattooist, and muralist based in Gainesville, Texas. She is the owner of Bold Hearts Tattoo and manages multiple art-driven companies, bringing together fine-art training, entrepreneurial vision, and a deep commitment to creative community building.

Ruthie holds a B.F.A. in Studio Fine Art from East Central University in Ada, OK, where she focused on large-scale metal sculpture, pottery, and other sculptural media. She went on to earn a Master of Arts from the University of Oklahoma, and will begin pursuing her Ph.D. in Arts Administration in 2027.

Her artistic practice spans custom tattoo design, large-scale murals, and fine art, often defined by expressive linework, symbolic imagery, and strong emotional narrative. Working alongside her husband and creative partner, Charles Partin, she has contributed to several public art projects throughout Oklahoma and Texas.

Ruthie continues to shape the region's creative landscape through her studio work, public art, and the growing network of art businesses she leads.



CLICK HERE TO REGISTER NOW!

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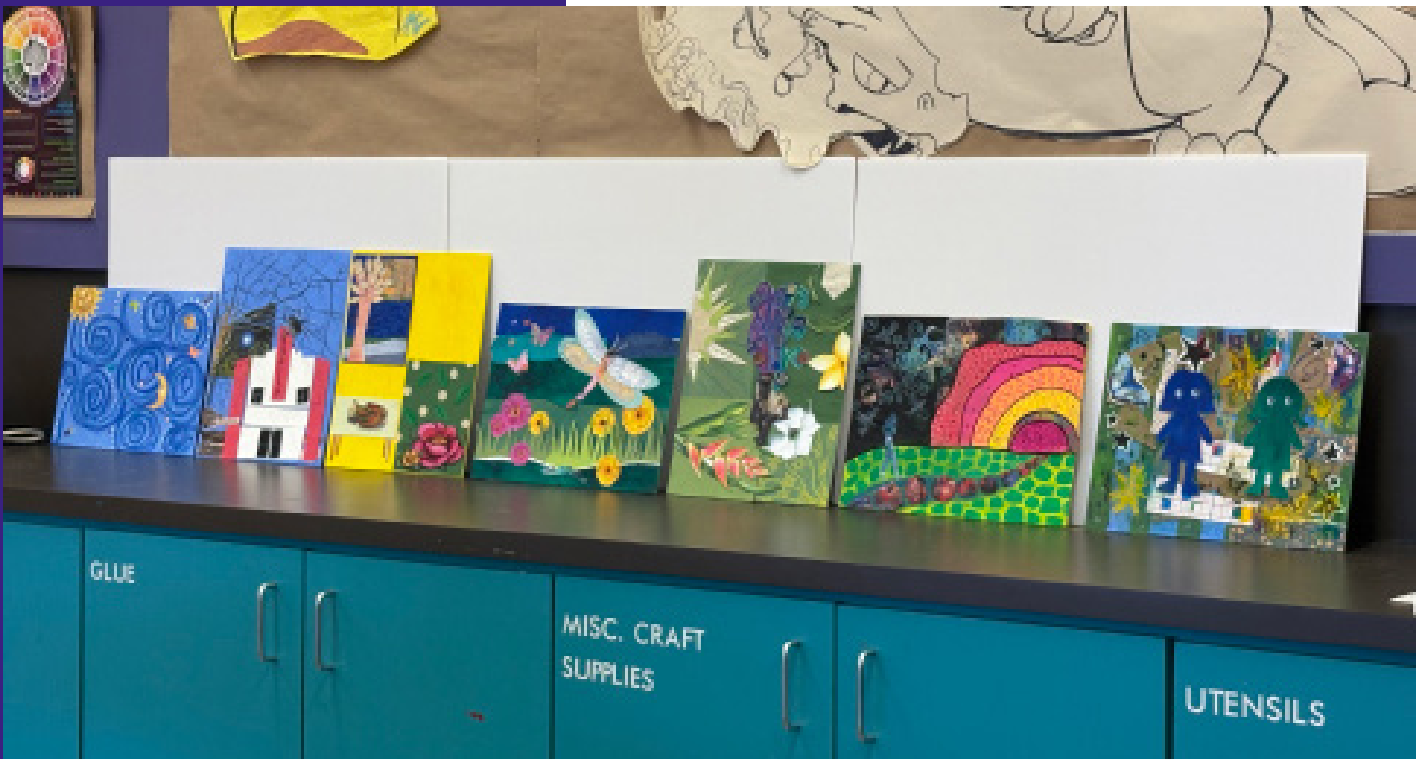
**Are you following TAEA
on social media?
Scan the QR Code to
connect with us!**



REGION 2

Summer Workshop

Ana Aguilar





2026-2027 YAM Program Dates to Remember

**txEDCON (TASA/TASB) Registration
August 17- September 22, 2026**

**YAM Flag Design Submission Dashboard
due by midnight Friday, December 11, 2026**

**YAM Spring Exhibition Registration
November 2- December 4, 2026**

**YAM Meeting- TAEA Conference, Moody Gardens
November 14, 2026**

**CELEBRATE YOUTH ART MONTH
MARCH 2027**

**YAM Spring Exhibition
Bullock Texas State History Museum
March 2027**

**YAM Spring Exhibition Ceremony & Reception
(invitation only)
March 21, 2027**

**YAM Scrapbook Submissions
March 12 - June 12, 2027**



**Due to the growth in our Youth Art Month Programs,
BOTH txEDCON (TASA/TASB) and
YAM Spring Exhibition will be juried.**

**There will be NO FIXES after the registration
deadline. All information must be registered online
AND all artwork images and digitally completed
permission forms must be uploaded by the deadline.
Incomplete registrations/uploads will be disqualified
and labeled as a DQ. All registrations, regardless
of disqualification status, must be paid by the
responsible party.**





MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Dr. Mikaela Bachmann

University of North Texas



How did you get into teaching?

My parents said, "If we're paying for art school, you're going to also earn the teachers certification." I fell in love with teaching during my first art education course with Dr. Ron Aman at West Virginia University and have been hooked ever since!

Something others may not know about you?

I am currently writing a book for educators on teaching art to neurodiverse students and students with disabilities. I've spoken on national platforms such as the NAEA Webinar Series and The Kennedy Center Access/VSA Network Webinars on the topic. I'm incredibly passionate about making art education accessible and inclusive.

What is your favorite medium to work with?

I am a woodworker alongside my husband. I love designing, building, and finishing pieces that bring a little character to others' homes. I also enjoy crochet and painting from time to time. I dabble in a lot of things.

Who is your favorite artist

I identify a lot with Mary Cassatt, being a female artist from Pittsburgh who studied in Philadelphia like myself. However, I am also a huge fan of Mark Bradford.



What do you love most about teaching art?

I love the freedom. Any topic can be explored through artmaking and creative thought. Although there are standards, we and our students are not confined to narrow concepts. I also love that there are no right answers, that art education is more about exploration than conformation.

What does it mean to be a TAEA member?

Being a member of TAEA means being a part of a community that invests in the future of art education. Texas, specifically Keller ISD, gave me my first art teacher job when nobody would hire a recent graduate. TAEA has allowed me to not only grow as an educator but become a leader in ways I would have never thought. In this organization I was able to be a VASE Regional Director for 7 years, and am now stepping into a new role as State VASE Director. I've been able to be a part of different communities such as the secondary and higher education divisions as I continue in my career. This organization is a second family.

Nominate someone for the next SPOTLIGHT! Click below:

<https://tinyurl.com/4ys2eva9>

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

ELEMENTARY DIVISION

Julie Gallow

MIDDLE SCHOOL JR. HIGH DIVISION

Leanne Rainey

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