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Exhibitors,

On behalf of the Art teachers, TAEA Executive Board and Commercial Exhibits Team; we all want to say “Thank You” for everything you have done to support **all** of us during this time making this pandemic just a little brighter. You came through during this extraordinary time offering a helping hand to all the Texas art teachers through your help, support and encouragement.

As you well know, commercial exhibits are one of the highlights of our annual conference. This continues to be the glue that holds this whole effort together, working to support our teachers. 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. Your compassion and understanding during this time, making yourself available to our teachers with enthusiasm and a large heart is so commendable. As always, you went above and beyond to make this an outstanding conference outstanding, and your efforts have not gone unnoticed.

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 door prizes not picked up this year were given to the Art and Soul – R.O.C.K.- Ride on Center for Kids.

The total attendance for the 2021 Conference was over 1800. The total membership of TAEA is 4,777. 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 **2022 TAEA Conference** to be held in **McAllen, November 9 – 12, 2022**. Please reserve your space as soon as possible.

Thank you for your dedication to TAEA. I appreciate each one of you coming to support our conference during the culmination of COVID. You all have such big hearts, and it has shown during this time more than ever.

Thanks for a being part of our TAEA Family and be well,

Ricia Kerber