

California Exemplary Arts Education Award (EAEA)

Recipient Spotlight #3

California Department of Education
Tony Thurmond, State Superintendent of
Public Instruction



Each month we will highlight a few of the 2026 recipients

Highlights for this month include:

- Gilroy High School
- Hesperia High School
- ICEF View Park Prep High School
- Maywood Center for Enriched Studies
- Mira Costa High School



Gilroy High School



Carnegie Choral Scholars

- Gilroy High School offers classes at all levels in all five arts disciplines. They were recently able to add a Mariachi ensemble and Advanced Placement (AP) Music Theory, further expanding their wide variety of offerings.
- They organize opportunities for all students to perform and display their work, no matter their level, which builds confidence and a sense of belonging in the art world.
- [Home - Gilroy High School 2022](#)

Hesperia High School

- A brand-new arts facility opened in January that includes an auditorium, classrooms, community rooms, and modern equipment.
- In addition to their traditional Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA) classes, Hesperia High School partners with Victor Valley Community College to offer Animation, Art History, and Music which provides additional depth and breadth across those three disciplines.
- [Hesperia High School](#)



ICEF View Park Prep High School



- Literacy-rich analysis and project-based learning embedded in arts instruction have contributed to strong academic outcomes, including a 50-point increase in Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) English and Language Arts and a 74-point increase in SBAC Mathematics.
- At ICEF View Park Prep, students enroll in two elective courses. Approximately 75% of offered electives are designated as VAPA courses.
- [ICEF View Park Preparatory High School - ICEF PS](#)

Maywood Center for Enriched Studies



- The entire community is involved in arts education at Maywood Center, including alumni returning to provide support for events, the city offering spaces for student artwork in public spaces, and a school climate where all teachers support arts in their classes.
- There are at least two student performances, demonstrations, or productions for per semester for every arts discipline.
- MAYWOOD CENTER FOR ENRICHED STUDIES

Mira Costa High School

- Mira Costa's campus art gallery features rotating shows of student work across all levels, including a collaborative mural created by students with a visiting artist.
- An arts education consultant collaborates with the teachers to drive standards aligned art instruction.
- [Home | Mira Costa High School](#)





Thank you!

EAEA Support Team

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<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/sr/ea/>