

MEDIA RELEASE

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Mariposa County Arts Council Awarded California Arts Council "JUMP StArts" Grant
State funds support local arts programming for at-risk youth

[MARIPOSA, CA] – The California Arts Council announced its plans to award to the Mariposa County Arts Council a grant to fund their ongoing work with probation and foster youth as part of its JUMP StArts program.

JUMP StArts supports arts education and artists-in-residence programs for youth engaged in the juvenile justice system. Activities may take place in classroom, after-school, social services, or incarceration settings. All projects are designed and developed in partnership between an arts organization and a juvenile justice or social services entity, demonstrating significant planning and a collaborative relationship between the organizations.

Here in Mariposa, the Mariposa County Arts Council and partner, Sierra Quest Human Services Foundation, will expand their existing visual arts program serving probation/foster youth. This program supports research indicating that exposing youth to art promotes emotional intelligence and critical thinking skills. This program focuses on visual literacy and visual projects through artist-residencies, facilitated art talks, and field trips to major Bay Area museums. Program enrichment is already underway, with enhanced framework and curriculum design ready for its 3rd consecutive year this fall.

The Arts Council is one of only 23 grantees statewide chosen for this program. The news of the Arts Council's grant was featured as part of a larger announcement from the California Arts Council, which can be viewed online at <http://arts.ca.gov/news/pressreleases.php>.

"The benefits of arts access is exponential when considering our state's most vulnerable young people," said Donn K. Harris, Chair of the California Arts Council. "The California Arts Council is proud to support the Mariposa County Arts Council and its partnership

with Sierra Quest Human Services Foundation. The school-to-prison pipeline leaks, and then breaks through these arts engagement efforts.”

The Jump StArts program is augmented through the generous support of Arts Council members, individuals invested in the arts for the benefit of community members across multiple and diverse generations and backgrounds.

To view a complete listing of all JUMP StArts grantees, visit http://arts.ca.gov/programs/files/CAC_JUMPStArts_Grantees_2016-17_FINAL.pdf.

Past JumpStArts programing can be explored on the Mariposa County Arts Council’s website at:

<http://mariposaartscounci.org>

The MARIPOSA COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL, INC. is an incorporated not-for-profit organization, created to promote and support all forms of the cultural arts, for all ages, throughout Mariposa County.

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