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~Media Advisory~

Student Voices Summit and Screening- Los Angeles

March 7, 2017- In California, students are guaranteed a voice in planning and budgeting for their school district. But is their voice heard? As part of the annual **Student Voices Campaign**, students across the state were asked “how would you make their school a better place?” They were invited to capture their vision in a creative video and submit them to their local school board as a way for their voices to be heard. In addition, winning videos selected by a panel of experts will be honored at a special screening and awards ceremony.

The **California Alliance for Arts Education** together with the **CalArts Community Arts Partnership, Arts for All, Arts for LA** and **Plaza de la Raza** will host the **4th annual Student Voices Summit and Screening**, Saturday, April 29, 2017 from 10:30am to 5pm at Plaza de la Raza in East Los Angeles.

The Summit is the culmination of the campaign and features a screening of winning videos as well as student-led advocacy workshops and a panel with professionals from a variety of creative careers.

Over 100 students from all over the state will be in attendance at this free event which provides young people with opportunities to practice civic engagement and the creative process. The event will also introduce young people to a variety of creative careers, empower them to see themselves in these roles and give them strategies to pursue them.

The Student Voices Summit and Screening is presented with support from The Boeing Company, California Arts Council, California Film Commission, Clarence E. Heller Charitable Foundation, Rosenthal Family Foundation, Sony Pictures Entertainment and Stuart Foundation.

Media are invited to attend. 20 Finalists will be announced on April 10, 2017.

What: Student Voices Summit and Screening
When: Saturday, April 29, 2017
Where: Plaza de la Raza, Cultural Center for the Arts & Education
3540 North Mission Road, East Los Angeles, CA 90031
Hosts: [California Alliance for Arts Education](#), [Arts for LA](#), [Arts for All](#),
[CalArts Community Arts Partnership](#), and [Plaza de la Raza](#)
Who: Students grades 7-12, their teachers, teaching artists, parents and friends from
across California and especially Los Angeles
Online: <http://studentvoicescampaign.org/>
Social: #CASStudentVoices @artsed411

The **Student Voices Campaign** is a creative way for young people to make their voices heard in their school district. Launched by the California Alliance for Arts Education, the campaign invites students in grades 7-12 to create videos that show their vision for their school and their education to share with their local school board as part of the annual Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) planning process, between November 1, 2016 and April 1, 2017.



The **California Alliance for Arts Education** advocates for high quality arts education for all students by providing policy expertise and by mobilizing a statewide network of advocates and allied partners. The Alliance is in its fifth decade of working to build a brighter future for our state by making the arts a core part of every child's education. A statewide leader and convener, the Alliance galvanizes California's educators and other experts in arts and culture to increase access to quality arts education and improve the quality of arts education. <http://artsed411.org>



The **California Alliance for Arts Education's Arts Now California** campaign spotlights opportunities for schools, districts, and counties around the state to establish and advance creative education. The campaign celebrates districts taking a leadership role in prioritizing arts education and encourages other districts to prioritize arts education. Recent Summits in San Diego, Humboldt and Napa have provided guidance, expertise, and inspiration to those working in the field.

Arts for LA is a voice for the arts in Greater Los Angeles that informs, engages, and mobilizes individuals and organizations to advocate for access to the arts across all communities; arts education for every student; robust investment in the arts; and inclusion of diverse and underrepresented voices. Arts for LA invests in leadership development, growing networks of civically engaged advocates; building deep relationships with elected officials; and working in partnership across sectors to make LA a vibrant, prosperous, creative, and healthy society. <http://www.artsforla.org/>

CalArts Community Arts Partnership (CAP) is in its 27th year providing tuition-free, imaginative, in-depth programs in the visual, performing, literary, and media arts for youth ages 6-18 at dozens of locations throughout Los Angeles County. CAP is a partnership between California Institute of the Arts and community-based arts and youth organizations, public schools, and social service agencies, and is committed to sustaining long-term, mutually beneficial relationships with many communities. CAP also provides professional development for classroom teachers in arts integration. CAP translates the innovative curriculum and pedagogy to young artists through project-based and student-centered teaching and learning, and trains over 200 CalArts students as instructors each year. www.calarts.edu/cap

Arts for All is the Los Angeles County initiative dedicated to making the arts core in K-12 public education. Established in 2002 by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, Arts for All is a partnership between the Los Angeles County Arts Commission and the Los Angeles County Office of Education. Arts for All currently works with 65 of 81 Los Angeles County school districts, plus four new charter networks, to implement policies and plans that support high quality arts education for the 1.5 million public school students in the County. www.lacountyartsforall.org

Plaza de la Raza - Founded in 1970, Plaza de la Raza Cultural is a private nonprofit community arts venue that provides after-school arts education programs to 4,100 children, teens and adults each year. Our mission is to foster enrichment of all cultures bridging the geographic, social, artistic and cultural boundaries of Los Angeles and beyond. Our School of Performing & Visual Arts offers 450+ classes and workshops each year, taught by local teaching artists in beginning to advanced level dance, music, theater and the visual arts. In addition, the center attracts more than 25,000 visitors each year with free or low cost cultural programs, and manages almost 300 community volunteers. www.plazadelaraza.org.