## Yolo arts in education network forming

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A new coalition to support arts education in public schools is forming in Yolo County.

A breakfast hosted by YoloArts, Yolo County Office of Education, and the California Alliance for Arts Education on Wednesday, March 5, will kick-off the formation of this new local arts advocacy team.

The focus of this effort is to activate support for arts education in Yolo County by joining with parents, educators, business leaders, arts organizations and elected officials to ensure strong and diverse arts education opportunities for all students countywide.

School districts throughout Yolo County have struggled to keep arts education programs funded during the recent years of budget cuts due to California's fiscal crisis. This local effort is part of a larger, statewide effort to advocate to help change policies, funding, and accountability measures at the state and school district level.

Organizers of the event hope to create a Yolo County advocacy coalition that can pro-actively preserve and strengthen arts education in schools.

Ensuring that Yolo County students are prepared for the expectations of the 21st century, which include the ability to innovate, communicate and collaborate. Statewide, the California Alliance for Arts Education has joined with educators, parents, administrators, policymakers, arts and community organizations in advocating for quality arts education for all students in K-12 public schools.