

Dear Principals, Teachers and SPECTRA Contacts,

I am pleased to announce that we are able to offer SPECTRA Matching Grants for the 2013-14 school year. This year's application is an automated form, and is posted on our website. No need to print, email, or fax. It will automatically post to me.

You may apply for up to \$2,000. The purpose of these grants is to assist public schools in augmenting their arts education curriculum by bringing SPECTRA professional Teaching Artists into classrooms for visual, performing, or literary arts workshops, residencies, and performances. All Santa Cruz County public schools are eligible to apply. (This year's grantees must have returned completed evaluation forms to the Cultural Council in order to be eligible).

Applications will be accepted through **Friday, September 27, 2013 at 5pm**. Once all applications are received, matching grants will be considered, with county-wide equity in mind, and with an emphasis on sustainable models.

SPECTRA Teaching Artists' program descriptions, fees, and contact information are available online in the Cultural Council's **Teaching Artist Directory**. SPECTRA artists have been screened by a panel of educators, artists, and Cultural Council staff, and are familiar with best practices for Teaching Artists and the California Department of Education VAPA content standards. They are independent contractors and will contract directly with schools.

The Teaching Artist Directory is currently under construction and is anticipated to be complete sometime this summer.

When contacting SPECTRA artists, please discuss your curriculum goals so their lesson plans or performances can be adapted to student needs. An orientation meeting with classroom teachers and the artist is the best way to ensure that you make the most of your collaboration.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if I can assist you in selecting an artist for your school.

Wishing you a happy summer!

Warmly,
Sarah Brothers
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