

**CA State PTA Legislation Information Alert-
SMARTS Newsletter**

August 14, 2003

SMARTS: BRING BACK THE ARTS

CALIFORNIA STATE PTA ONLINE NEWSLETTER

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everychild.onevoice.

August 2003

The California State PTA wants to create advocates for quality arts education at every school in California!!

Extensive research during the past decade now confirms the arts improve academic and personal success. Please join our efforts to help parents, teachers, and legislators understand the importance of the arts.

Please email this newsletter to PTA district, council, and unit members.

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State Cuts Arts Funding

Read news updates and analysis of state funding cuts on the Web site of California Arts Council.

<http://www.cac.ca.gov/>

PTA Reflections Program

Learn about National PTA's annual Reflections Program that encourages children of all ages to express themselves through musical composition, photography, literature, and the visual arts. (Resources in Spanish and English.)

<http://www.capta.org/sections/programs/reflections.cfm>

ARTSEEDGE Mini-sites: Truly cool resources for parents and teachers
These mini-sites provide a rich mix of multimedia, primary sources, contextual information, and instructional activities, making them suited to school or at-home use.

<http://artsedge.kennedy-center.org/exploring/artsedge.html>

Arts Legislation Update: PTA/CAAE arts bill SB 469 (Scott)

The PTA co-sponsored arts bill goes to Assembly Appropriations on August 20. It has passed through the California Senate and Assembly Education Committee.

Find out the latest information about this bill by going to

[http://www.legweb.com/cgi-](http://www.legweb.com/cgi-bin/toc.cgi?session=51d203192516dedb10cc859a945138e4&billid=19970)

[bin/toc.cgi?session=51d203192516dedb10cc859a945138e4&billid=19970](http://www.legweb.com/cgi-bin/toc.cgi?session=51d203192516dedb10cc859a945138e4&billid=19970)

Music Education Advocate's Toolkit:

Strengthening Music in Your Community

Check out the Music Education Advocate's Toolkit, a powerful collection of sample letters, press releases and research summaries that you can use to bolster support for music education.

<http://www.amc-music.org/toolkit>

Support Music: A Public Service of the Music Education Coalition

Visit this new Web site with strategies to support music education in your school.

<http://www.supportmusic.com/index-home.html>

Music Lessons 'boost verbal memory'

Psychologists have found children who learn to play a musical instrument could be improving their memory and academic performance.

http://www.apa.org/releases/music_memory.html

Grants and Funding Sources

You can find grant and funding sources on the California State PTA *SMARTS: Bring Back the Arts* Web site.

<http://www.capta.org/sections/programs-smarts>

Start with Art Teacher's Guide

Take a look at this instructional program for four-, five- and six-year-olds that uses the arts to assist young children, including those with disabilities, in exploring themes commonly taught in early childhood classrooms.

<http://www.vsarts.org/programs/swta/index.html>

Mr. Holland's Opus Foundation

The Mr. Holland's Opus Foundation supports music education through the donation and repair of musical instruments to underserved schools, community music programs and individual students nationwide.

<http://www.mhopus.org/>

Planning an Arts-Centered School: A Handbook

You can download this handbook as a PDF. It covers curriculum development, governance, funding, assessment, and community participation.

<http://www.dana.org/books/press/artshandbook/>

The Latest Research on Arts and Education

The Arts Education Partnership gives you extensive resources on the power of arts education.

<http://www.aep-arts.org/>

ArtsEdMail Bulletin

The California Alliance for Arts Education publishes an essential newsletter for parents and teachers on arts and education. You can subscribe on line.

<http://www.artsed411.org/newsevents/artsedmail.stm>

To view the latest issue, click below:

<http://www.artsed411.org/newsevents/artsedmail073003.stm>

Visit the SMARTS: Bring Back the Arts Web site

<http://www.capta.org/sections/programs-smarts/index.cfm>

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