In an effort to bring you a variety of perspectives on the arts and education, we will occasionally publish articles written by experts in the field. Our first "guest blogger" is Anne Campbell, Superintendent of the San Mateo County Office of Education and Art in Action Board Member.

Jeffrey Dollinger, Executive Director

superintendent anne campbell endorses arts education

Whether March comes in like a lion or a lamb, one thing is certain. Throughout America, local school districts will be celebrating March as Arts Education Month. California will join the rest of the nation in calling attention to the importance of arts education in the lives of our students. Art in Action is on the forefront of heralding the importance of the visual arts in our schools. Thanks to Art in Action, this year 50,000 students will have the opportunity to participate in a robust K-8 arts education program, learning about great artists, inspiring art techniques, and creative possibilities. This is a great track record, but we still have far too many students in California without access to arts education in their schools, so we have a ways to go in sharing the impact programs like Art in Action can have. Read more...

don't miss object:art: march 27, 2015

Lavish hors d'oeuvres, free-flowing cocktails, a silent auction and the presentation of our first Art Visionary Award. You don't want to miss this lively evening.

Join us for our annual fundraising event, OBJECT:ART on March 27, 2015 at the legendary Computer History Museum in Mountain View, CA. Bid on top-quality artwork by established and emerging California artists as well as exclusive art-themed experiences while we honor Dennis Hwang for his role in encouraging visual expression and art appreciation through the Google Doodle initiative.

The event is sure to sell out, so don't wait, purchase your tickets now. Be sure to check out our full list of generous sponsors, including these corporate sponsors:
friends of art in action tour: march 7

Enter the complex world of the Yoshiwara district in Edo (present day Tokyo) through more than 60 works of art in the Asian Art Museum’s exhibition *Seduction: Japan’s Floating World*. Sign up now for this private, docent-led tour that will also take you through the concurrent exhibition *The Printer’s Eye: Ukiyo-E from the Grabhorn Collection*. The tour offers the opportunity to explore the intersection between art and desire in Edo Period Japan and your attendance supports Art in Action.

aia lessons teach art from around the world

In celebration of the Chinese New Year, a second grade student from Laurel Elementary School in Atherton, CA learns about Chinese painting during a lesson based on eleventh century artist Li T’ang. Students are always delighted to learn that trees can be painted using tools other than paint brushes and in this lesson they use twigs dipped in black tempera paint. Fingers dipped in red paint serve as a fingerprint or signature of the art work.

full STEAM ahead at recent conferences

As we develop and test new curriculum for the upcoming school year and beyond, one theme that is front and center is looking at art from a STEAM perspective (integrating art, math, and science together to engage students more deeply). One of the lessons being tested, "Spirals in Nature," was presented at two recent conferences to great acclaim: the SF Bay Area STEAM Colloquium in San Ramon and the Connectivity STEAM & Arts Integration Online Conference. Art in Action is becoming a leader in visual arts education professional development. Look for us at more conferences like this in the future.

For more information on bringing Art in Action to your school, contact Jonelle.

thank you volunteers

We are grateful for the support from the following schools, companies and organizations. During the past month these dedicated volunteers packed art supply boxes that are shipped locally and nationwide.

Jump Associates
Santa Clara University
Lynbrook High School
Menlo School

One Brick
Stanbridge Academy
Homestead High School

Jump Associates employees enjoyed a lesson on artist Faith Ringgold after they packed boxes.

Contact Lisa for volunteer opportunities.