



April is Arts, Culture, & Creativity Month!

The [Alameda County Arts Commission](#) is excited to celebrate [Arts, Culture and Creativity Month](#) of April! This month-long event is the 6th annual, statewide event that was first established by the California legislature in 2019 and is led by [Californians for the Arts](#).

On April 2nd, the [Alameda County Board of Supervisors](#) and [Board President Nate Miley](#) proclaimed April as Arts, Culture and Creativity month at the Board of Supervisors meeting. Arts, culture and creativity are essential to every thriving community and inspire discovery, create connections, and spark positive change.



2024 Arts, Culture and Creativity proclamation event participants include (from left to right): Theresa Rude, Arts Commission Vice-Chairperson; Rachel Osajima, Arts Commission Director; Nate Miley, President of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors; Lena Tam, County Supervisor; Winda Shimizu, Arts Commission Chairperson; Elisa Márquez, County Supervisor; Keith Carson, County Supervisor; Eileen Dalton, Economic and Civic Development Department Director; Melissa Wilk, Auditor-Controller/Clerk-Recorder; Sandra Rivera, Community Development Agency Director; Kimberly Gasaway, General Services Agency Director; Violet Harlo, Arts Commission Program Coordinator.

The Arts Commission’s arts education program is [CREATE Alameda County](#). In honor of Arts, Culture and Creativity Month, through the CREATE Alameda County program the Arts Commission is distributing 35,000 arts education advocacy activity sheets and paint brushes with partners throughout the County.



The sheets have watercolor paint embedded in the paper, so all that is needed is a little water. Major supporters are the [Alameda County Board of Supervisors](#) and the [Alameda County Auditor-Controller/Clerk-Recorder Agency](#). Additional community partners include [Alameda County Library](#), [Alameda County Community Food Bank](#), [First 5 Alameda County](#) as well as [Oakland Vet Center](#), [CREATE CA](#), [Californians for the Arts](#) and more.



CREATE Alameda County is the arts education program of the Alameda County Arts Commission focused on advocacy and engagement. This activity sheet was created by the Alameda County Arts Commission, a Division of the County of Alameda, under the leadership of Melissa Wilk, Auditor-Controller/Clerk-Recorder.



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[Californians for the Arts \(CFTA\)](#) encourages all community members to get involved in Arts, Culture and Creativity Month! Connect your arts events to this statewide celebration by using the [Arts, Culture & Creativity month logo](#). Use hashtags #ACCM24 and #CreateAlamedaCounty to tag your arts events on social media. Share the value of the arts with your network. Download the logo and social media images from the [Arts, Culture and Creativity toolkit](#).

CFTA is presenting the annual [CA Arts & Culture Summit](#) in Sacramento on April 16th. This day-long event will feature speakers, insightful conversations and workshops aimed at exploring initiatives that profoundly impact and shape the lives of all who work in the arts and all that is possible when we center art, creativity, imagination, and inspiration as integral to society. Learn more and purchase tickets [here](#).



You are also invited to attend [Arts Advocacy Day](#) in Sacramento on April 17th. Join CFTA and community members from throughout California for a rally and press conference on the steps of the State Capitol. The rally will include remarks by elected officials and a group photo of all the attendees. Bring your voice to Sacramento in support of the arts! Learn more and register to attend [here](#).

Communities throughout Alameda County are participating in Arts, Culture and Creativity Month. Each year many city councils make proclamations supporting this special month! Cities that have participated in the past or plan to make proclamations this year include Berkeley, Dublin, Emeryville, Hayward, Fremont, Livermore, Oakland, Pleasanton, Union City and others.



Everyone is encouraged to attend and support the many exciting events this month. A few highlights include the Fremont city-wide celebration presented by [Fremont Creates](#), exhibitions featuring artworks created by Hayward youth and art teachers presented by the [Hayward Arts Council](#), community events and exhibitions presented by the [Dublin Arts Collective](#), spring art show presented by the [Livermore Art Association](#) and exhibitions presented by [Pleasanton Art League](#).

You are invited to learn more about [CREATE Alameda County](#) and [download the coloring page](#) version of the activity sheet on the Arts Commission's website. Print it at home and color it in using markers, colored pencils, crayons, or watercolor paint. Use your imagination! Over 10,000 coloring pages and crayons are distributed annually at County events and agencies including at the [Alameda County Clerk-Recorder's Office](#).



CREATE Alameda County is a regional partner with [CREATE CA](#) which is a statewide coalition dedicated to advocating for arts education for all students. To this end, Create CA is providing an [Arts and Music in Schools Planning Toolkit](#) to help schools and school district use historic arts funding through Prop 28. Through resources like this, Create CA supports arts education throughout California.