

CORRESPONDENCE 2 Page 141 Stanislaus Arts Council

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March 7, 2008

Supervisor William O'Brien, Board Chair & District 1 Stanislaus Board of Supervisors 1010 Tenth Street, Suite 6500

Dear Supervisor O'Brien:

The Stanislaus Arts Council, for 28 years the only full-service arts organization in Stanislaus County, recently received notification that we have received a grant from the California Arts Council, under its Artists in Schools Program, to fund exemplary after-school arts programs we are operating in targeted elementary schools in Stanislaus County.

Our STARS Program (Stanislaus Artists as Resources to Schools) has been one of the Council's strongest programs for the past 23 years. Over 40 artists in the disciplines of visual art, dance, music, literature and cultural historical activities are working the schools throughout our county. The STARS Program has enable students to engage in extended learning opportunities in the arts with art instructors who are well-schooled in their media. Together, the STARS artists and the teachers match the program offerings with the standards of the California State Board of Education's Visual and Performing Arts Framework for California Schools.

On behalf of the Stanislaus Arts Council, I am writing to let you know how we value your support. Clearly, arts education and hands-on creativity can change the way we think and often prepares us to appreciate and understand life more fully by providing alternatives and different viewpoints.

Your continued support and financial investment in the arts is greatly appreciated.

Thank you, and keep up the good, hard work on behalf of our arts communities.

Sincerely,

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cc: California Arts Council