

Deborah B. Reeve, EdD | Executive Director

## Dear School Administrator:

The National Art Education Association (NAEA) shares your vision for ensuring that your students receive the best possible education and that your faculty possesses a deep knowledge and understanding of contemporary learning and assessment practices within the standards environment. The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) provides further opportunities for teachers to focus on the four Cs of collaboration, communication, creativity, and critical thinking—all components of a quality visual arts education.

The professional learning opportunities offered through the NAEA National Convention are unparalleled in the field of visual arts education. This epic professional development event provides a comprehensive opportunity for all educators who are engaged with the arts to experience exemplary practices and methodologies supported by research and aligned with best practices.

We are pleased to announce that the 2017 NAEA National Convention will be held March 2-4 in New York City, with the theme of "The Challenge of Change." On behalf of your art education faculty, I encourage you to support their participation in the 2017 NAEA National Convention. A vibrant, innovative community of more than 6,000 professionals representing art specialists and teachers of the visual arts, school district administrators, university professors, scholars and researchers, and museum educators will participate—with the common goal of supporting student learning in and through art education, and preparing students for college, career, and citizenship.

Convention opportunities provide over 1,000 education sessions that showcase the latest in research, teaching, and assessment practices; provide interactive learning through hands-on workshops; and offer museum and art studio tours. The program provides 100% education content that can be applied immediately to helping advance your school-wide goals. Participating educators can choose to earn professional development hours or university credit through California State University, Chico.

As educators, we know that in this climate of high stakes testing and state implementation of ESSA the arts are critically important in developing the habits of mind that nurture human potential and prepare our students for success in today's world. By providing released time for this professional development opportunity, and supporting travel and lodging, your encouragement of the art educators in your school further advances their knowledge and professional skills. Additional Convention details will continue to be posted on the NAEA website at <a href="https://www.arteducators.org">www.arteducators.org</a>. Please contact us with questions or for further information.

In closing, please accept my gratitude for your leadership as we work together to achieve a shared vision that ensures a quality, well-rounded education for all of our students.

Sincerely,

Deborah B. Reeve, EdD Executive Director