

# news galleryweek

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## TCOE awarded new federal arts grant



In Tulare County, arts education is stepping into the spotlight thanks to the support of a new grant from the U.S. Department of Education (USDOE). The Tulare County Office of Education has been awarded a five-year, \$1.7 million grant under the USDOE's Assistance for Arts Education (AAE) program. For this highly competitive grant, the department reviewed 109 applications and funded 27 programs in 15 states. This is TCOE's first major grant award for arts education. AAE grant funds will support TCOE's new Quality Arts Instruction and Learning (QUAIL) Project. Housed in Educational Resource Services under the direction of Kate Stover, arts staff development and curriculum specialist, the QUAIL Project aims to make an impact on Tulare County. "We are honored to be AAE grantees and are looking forward to expanding all of our arts-related service and support for the students, educators, families, and communities of the county," Stover said. "This funding will enable us to implement the vision of the Tulare County Arts Master Plan, which we completed in 2018, and to make our arts education dreams a reality."

The primary goal of the no-cost QUAIL Project is to provide high-quality, standards-based arts education for all Tulare County students in the five arts disciplines (dance, media arts, music, theatre, and visual arts). Participants in QUAIL will develop and freely share these resources through a rich professional learning series that welcomes all educators – single subject art specialists, general education teachers, administrators, counselors, and community arts educators. In addition to school-year professional learning opportunities, the program will also offer an intensive summer institute training and reactivate the county's artists in schools program.

Rooted in improvement science, QUAIL will provide coaching and mentoring for educators, as well as academic and social-emotional supports for students. The arts aid in developing social-emotional wellbeing by providing students with a vehicle for expression, an opportunity to celebrate culture and history, and a way to understand the world they live in.

The program will also feature an opportunity for local artists and industries to get involved. "Along with all of our support for educators and students, we are expanding our reach deeper into the communities through our existing CreateTC Arts Coalition," Stover said.

For more information on the QUAIL Project, contact project director Kate Stover at [kate.stover@tcoe.org](mailto:kate.stover@tcoe.org)



**The QUAIL Project**  
Quality Arts Instruction and Learning

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## **Anabel González named director for the Migrant Education Program, Region VIII**



Anabel González, M.Ed has been selected to lead the Migrant Education Program, Region VIII. The program provides supplemental academic support services to migratory students and their families in 54 school districts throughout Tulare and Kings counties.

González began her work with the Tulare County Office of Education (TCOE) 11 years ago as a migrant resource coordinator, working closely with 10 school districts for two years. Since 2012, she has served as an area administrator.

For the past seven years, she coordinated the region's Migrant Speech & Debate Program, coaching and training participating teachers for the past three years. In May of 2019, she coordinated the program at the state level. The state competition attracted 600 migratory student participants. She was also responsible for the Out of School Youth

services in which she provided the training for community liaisons and teachers. In November 2019, González led Migrant Education's Federal Program Monitoring review, which resulted in zero findings.

González joined TCOE having served as a dual immersion teacher in the Lindsay Unified School District for seven years. Prior to that, she was employed as a social services worker for the Tulare County Health & Human Services Agency, Child Welfare Services Department. González received her Bachelor of Science in Sociology with a minor in Administrative Studies from the University of California, Riverside and a Master of Arts in Education with a concentration in Curriculum & Instruction from California State University, Fresno. She holds a Clear Multiple Subject Teaching Credential and a Clear Administrative Services Credential.

"We are very fortunate to have Anabel step into this leadership role," said Tim Hire, Tulare County Superintendent of Schools. "In addition to her great passion for the students she serves, Anabel has a special background as a language teacher, social worker, and administrator who is committed to providing migratory students and young adults – in and out of school – the opportunities they need to be successful."

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## Students return to planetarium this month, new public show offered

For the first time in 20 months, the TCOE Peña Planetarium and Science Center is reopening its doors to the public. The center welcomes its first students this month, and already has bookings from schools in Tulare, Kings, and Fresno counties.

Also in October, the planetarium resumes public shows with the first showings on October 22. The first show, *Secrets of Gravity - In the Footsteps of Albert Einstein*, begins at 6:00 p.m. There will be a second, new show, *Space Opera*, premiering at 7:00 p.m. *Space Opera* will only be available as a public show.

In *Space Opera*, viewers will explore our solar system as a passenger aboard a futuristic spacecraft, while listening to Gustav Holst's *The Planets, Op. 32*. During the journey, visitors will discover the historical significance and art related to each planet. *Space Opera* is a unique artistic, philosophic, scientific, and cinematic planetarium experience. The show is 53 minutes and suggested for sixth grade and up, but all are welcome.

Admission is \$4 per person for public shows and tickets are available at 5:00 p.m. at the planetarium box office on the date of the show. However, online ticket sales will be available soon. Attendees are advised to be prompt since shows often sell out and start precisely at the designated time. Entry is not allowed once a show has started.

Visitors to the planetarium will also notice a new entrance that was constructed to showcase astronomy images in a billboard-sized, lit enclosure. The first image is of NGC 6559, a cloud of gas and dust located at a distance of about 5000 light-years from Earth in the constellation of Sagittarius.

There is also a built-in display showing welcome messages for visiting schools, show schedules, and astronomy news and information.

For more information about the planetarium's public shows visit, [tcoe.org/Planetarium/PublicShows.shtm](http://tcoe.org/Planetarium/PublicShows.shtm). Teachers interested in booking classroom visits are encouraged to call (559) 733-6433.



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## Learning Resources

- [Arts All Around Us](#)
- [TCOE Learning at Home](#)
- [TCOE's Educational Resource Services Library](#)

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