

Dear School Administrator:

The New Mexico Art Education Association (NMAEA) shares your vision for ensuring your students receive the best possible education and that your faculty possesses a deep knowledge and understanding of teaching and learning. The professional development experience, made available at the NMAEA fall conference for professionals in the field of visual arts education, offers a comprehensive opportunity for educators who are engaged with the arts in learning.

We are excited to announce the 2016 fall conference will be held November 4-6 in Santa Fe with the theme of “Innovate, Integrate, Motivate.” On behalf of your art education faculty, I encourage you to support their participation in this conference. A vibrant, innovative community of professionals representing art specialists, artists, k-12 teachers of visual arts, school district administrators, university professors, and museum educators will connect with the common goal of advancing art education for the benefit of students in schools across New Mexico.

Conference opportunities include education sessions that provide interactive learning through hands-on workshops and showcase the latest in practice. The content of this experience is 100% education-related and can be applied immediately to teaching and learning in your school. NMAEA has worked hard to bring a variety of workshops that address 21<sup>st</sup> century learning skills, which inspired this year’s conference theme.

As educators, we know that in this climate of high stakes testing, 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 educator(s) in your school and district further advances their knowledge and professional skills. In addition, this professional development can be used toward fulfilling the Domain 4 of NM’s teacher evaluation system.

Additional conference details are posted on the NMAEA website, [newmexicoarteducators.org](http://newmexicoarteducators.org). Feel free to contact me for further information at [tammyohw@yahoo.com](mailto:tammyohw@yahoo.com) or you can call me on my cell at 505.304.8958.

I extend my appreciation to you for your leadership as we work together on a common vision of offering quality, comprehensive education to students in our state.

Artfully,

Tammy Crespin  
NMAEA President