



# Amplifying the Arts

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The Moreno Valley Unified School District's Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA) program was reinvented in 2015 as an investment for all students and has proven to be an exceptional program with its recent Golden Bell Award designation. Reviewing research, securing quality leadership, and implementing critical skill sets in art education were essential components for a solid curriculum foundation. VAPA has dramatically enhanced the learning experiences for over 41% of the more than 31,000 student population, and continues to successfully survive the COVID-19 pandemic via virtual lessons, performances, and exhibits.



## Highlights of the Moreno Valley Unified School District's VAPA program are:

**Document Today: "Document Today"** is an intentional approach for social and emotional well-being. It is about encouraging our students to use the arts (Visual, Music, Dance, Theater, Literary Arts) to share their feelings about the world we find ourselves in, and how they are coping emotionally with this pandemic. Art kits with drawing supplies were purchased for every student in the district. The district is also creating an archive of student submissions to share their pandemic experiences, from a student perspective, with future generations. Initiatives like Document Today are essential for students to explore and express their emotional health and create connections with teachers.

**New Performing Arts Center:** As part of the district arts plan, construction of the new Performing Arts Center for Moreno Valley High School began in 2018. This 624 seat theater will have state-of-the-art LED lighting and digital sound. The sixty-foot proscenium will provide one of the largest stages for student performances in southern California. This facility is currently scheduled to open at the end of this school year and will include student classrooms for their CTE Arts and Entertainment pathway as well as Band, Choir, and Theater.

**Increased Opportunities for Students:** Since 2015, the school district has provided new opportunities for arts experiences for both students and families, including honor bands and choirs, art shows for all grade levels, and summer arts experiences for students. Our VAPA program provides end-of-the-year updates every June for our school board and community. Read June of 2020 [HERE](#).

Follow @Morenovalleyusd and @morenovalleyusdvapa on all social media platforms to stay connected with the #MVUSDDocToday campaign and other VAPA highlights!