

## ARTIST IN THE CLASSROOM PROGRAM LAUNCHES

New program offers an art and farm experience to Davis second graders

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A new program for Davis second graders is being launched by the Yolo County Arts Council in partnership with the Davis Farmers Market Foundation. This "Artist in the Classroom" program will bring artists into Davis Joint Unified School District second grade classrooms as part of a farm and art appreciation project focused on Yolo County agriculture and art.

Designed to complement the existing DJUSD Farm to School program, the "Artists in the Classroom" program begins with an all-day field trip to a local farm, followed up by an in class artistic experience to reinforce the hands-on farm encounter. Through drawing, painting, mosaics and working with clay, children will connect to the agricultural landscape by drawing on their imaginations to develop a sense of place and pride about local farms.

"Davis Farm to School Connection is excited to be cooperating with this phenomenal opportunity to connect farm visits to art through the talented artists with the Yolo County Arts Council's art education programs," said Dorothy Peterson, president of the Davis Farmers Market Foundation.

This program is a part of the Art and Ag Project coordinated by the Yolo County Arts Council in partnership with the Davis Farmers Market Foundation, and the Yolo Land Trust. The Art and Ag project brings artist and farmers together to raise community awareness of the importance of agriculture and visual art, while cultivating a dialogue between farmers and artists. The Farm to School Program connects students with farmers in an effort to illustrate how food choices affect personal health, academic achievement and preservation of the farmland around us. Local artists Linda FitzGibbon, Mark Rivera, Emma Luna, JuliAnn Blanco, Megan Mitchell and Joyce Winter are actively involved in the project.

For more information about the program contact Janice Purnell, 530-908-4321, [artag@yoloarts.org](mailto:artag@yoloarts.org).