



**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education**

April 14, 2017

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Steven R. Staples, Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUBJECT: 2017 Art Teachers Summer Workshop: *Teachers as Artists and Artists as Teachers*

The Virginia Department of Education (VDOE), in partnership with the Virginia Coalition for Fine Arts Education, is pleased to offer the 2017 Art Teachers Summer Workshop: *Teachers as Artists and Artists as Teachers* on July 25-27, 2017, at the Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center, Abingdon, Virginia. This workshop is provided at no cost to selected public sector educators and includes lunch, materials, and supplies. The VDOE will not provide travel reimbursement or overnight accommodations to participants. Approximately 30, K-12 visual arts educators will be selected based on instructional training and experience in visual arts education and balanced regional representation.

The purpose of the Art Teachers Summer Workshop is to provide intensive study in a specific media and effective teaching strategies to enhance and provide high-quality K-12 visual arts education. The three-day workshop will have two offerings: Creative Book Art and Precious Metal Clay (PMC). Studios will be open each evening. Participants will be required to complete an offsite assignment. At the conclusion of the workshop, each participant will be awarded 90 points for licensure renewal, pending local approval.

All nominees who wish to attend this workshop must download and complete the application found on the VDOE's [Fine Arts](#) webpage. Applications must be signed by a school administrator prior to submission. Completed applications must be submitted by May 12, 2017, to Cherry Gardner, Virginia Department of Education, P.O. Box 2120, Richmond, Virginia 23218-2120 or by email at Cherry.Gardner@doe.virginia.gov. Selected educators will be notified by email by May 26, 2017.

If you have questions, please contact Cheryle C. Gardner, Principal Specialist of Fine Arts, Office of Humanities and Early Childhood, by email at Cherry.Gardner@doe.virginia.gov or by telephone at (804) 225-2881.

SRS/CCG/vdg