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September 1, 2011

Dear School Administrator:

I am pleased to announce that the 63rd annual New York State Art Teachers Association conference will be held November 18-20, 2011 in Tarrytown, New York. This annual conference draws over 600 professionals representing art educators, higher education, museum educators, and commercial vendors. It provides the largest and most diverse professional development opportunity available for New York State Art Educators.

This year's theme, ***Imagine That: Unlocking the Power of Creativity and Innovation in Art Education***, explores the powerful role that art education can play in developing the full potential of students. 21st century skill building emphasizes ways to think that are creative, critical and collaborative in nature, and art naturally connects us all as human beings and gives students something meaningful to think about across the curriculum.

Conference opportunities include over ninety workshops and three general sessions that showcase recent research and practice, provide interactive learning through hands-on engagement, and introduce the most current art and curriculum materials available. All program events focus on art education content that can be applied immediately to teaching and learning.

In this era of high stakes testing, we know the arts are critically important in developing human potential in our students. I ask your encouragement and support of your art educators in advancing their knowledge and professional skills by providing release time for their participation and support for travel and lodging.

Further information about the New York State Art Teachers Association Annual Conference and other programs is available at www.nysata.org. Please feel free to contact us through our website for further information on the organization or specific programs.

NYSATA looks forward to providing your art educators a valuable and timely professional experience!

Thank you for your leadership as we work toward ensuring a quality total education for all students.

Sincerely,

Patricia Groves, Conference Programs Coordinator
New York State Art Teachers Association