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Annual Conference

Cindy Henry

October 2021

Dear School Administrator,

We are pleased to announce the 73rd annual New York State Art Teachers Association conference will be held at The Double Tree Hotel, Binghamton, New York, November 19–21 2021. The annual conference draws over 500 professionals representing K-12 art educators, higher education art educators, museum educators, and commercial vendors. It provides the largest and most diverse professional development opportunities available to New York State art educators. The 2021 conference provides both in-person and virtual opportunities.

This year's theme ***OUTSIDE THE LINES: Challenging Assumptions, Redrafting Priorities & Reinventing Practice in Art Education*** will explore the powerful role art education plays in developing the full potential of all students. Art making pulls together ideas from many disciplines; transforms them into new ideas through multi-layered approaches and processes. The current research in learning and brain development continues to emphasize creative thinking, critical thinking, and self-discipline to work in both collaborative and independent settings. These skills are deeply embedded in the teaching and making of art.

Conference opportunities include four general sessions and approximately 80 workshops, that provide interactive learning through hands-on engagement and introduce the most pedagogical practices, current technologies, art curriculum and standards, assessments, and advocacy materials available. All program events focus on high quality art education content that can be applied immediately to teaching and learning. This year's general session keynote speakers include Darryl "DMC" McDaniels, cofounder of the legendary rap group RUN DMC and "Darryl Makes Comics"; James Haywood Rolling Jr., Dual Professor of Arts & Teaching Leadership at Syracuse University and President of the National Art Education Association; and artists Nan Park and Nicolas Bruno.

In this era of critical change, we know the arts are vital in developing human potential in our students. I ask your encouragement and support for your art educators in advancing their knowledge and professional skills, by providing release time for their participation and support for conference registration, travel, and lodging.

NYSATA looks forward to providing your art educators a valuable and timely professional experience. Further information about **OUTSIDE the LINES** and other programs are available at www.nysata.org/2021-conference.

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

Sincerely,

Michelle Schroeder

President, New York State Art Teachers Association