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News Bulletin

2020 Tennessee Arts Academy

For Immediate Release

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Local Educator Chosen To Attend The Tennessee Arts Academy

_____ (Your Name), a _____ (teacher or administrator) at _____ School, has been chosen as one of a select group of teachers to attend the 2020 Tennessee Arts Academy, *Empowering Arts Teachers in a Virtual World*. The Academy, the nation's premier summer teacher training institute for K–12 arts education, will officially open on July 12, 2020. Normally hosted on the campus of Belmont University in Nashville, this year's event has been restructured for 2020 as a "virtual" learning experience. More than three hundred and twenty-five K-12 public and private school teachers from across the state will participate in the weeklong session.

The Academy core faculty consists of twenty nationally recognized professors, academic instructors, and artists assembled from leading universities, schools, and arts institutions from throughout the United States. They will teach a diverse range of classes in music, theatre, visual art, and dance as well as special classes in arts leadership and administration. An additional forty presenters will offer single focus classes during the six-day event.

There will be many special moments throughout the week, starting with TAA's opening performance on July 12th by the highly acclaimed string ensemble, Omer Quartet with Hanzhi Wang on accordion. Other major highlights of the week include a speech on Monday to the TAA participants by San Francisco Philharmonic conductor Jessica Bejarano, followed on Tuesday by a presentation from visual artist and bookmaker Frank Hamrick. On Wednesday, Broadway and film composer and lyricist Jason Robert Brown (*Bridges of Madison County*) will address the participants. Rounding out the week will be performances on Thursday by cellist Carmine Miranda, accompanied by pianist Elena Bennett, and on Friday, Tennessee Shakespeare Company's original production of *"Take upon's the mystery of things": Classical Creativity in Isolation*.

Because arts instructors often have higher than normal class loads, the teachers and administrators who annually attend the Academy directly reach anywhere from 150,000 - 200,000 students the following school year in classrooms all across the state. The Tennessee Arts Academy has impacted over 3 million Tennessee students and trained more than 7500 teachers in its 34-year history. The Academy's advanced curriculum, cutting-edge methodology and unique philosophical perspective maximize participants' learning experiences. With renewed energy and knowledge, Tennessee Arts Academy educators are better equipped and motivated to raise achievement standards and affect positive and lasting change for Tennessee students, providing them with the necessary skills to become creative and productive members of our work force and society.

The Tennessee Arts Academy is a program of the Tennessee Department of Education. Please visit www.tennesseeartsacademy.org or call 615-460-5451 for more information.

Tennessee Arts Academy

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