



For Immediate Release

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FULLERTON SCHOOL DISTRICT ***Ladera Vista Junior High School of the Arts*** ***Celebrates Redesignation as a National Schools to Watch***

(Fullerton, CA) – Ladera Vista Junior High School of the Arts has been redesignated as one of California’s 2021 Schools to Watch-Taking Center Stage Model Middle Schools. Ladera Vista Junior High School of the Arts originally earned this status in 2018 as part of a statewide program implemented by the California League of Middle Schools, California Department of Education, California Middle Grades Alliance, National Forum to Accelerate Middle-Grades Reform and the Schools to Watch Taking Center Stage Model Schools.

Schools that apply to become a National Schools to Watch recipient undergo a rigorous process of application, staff input and reflection, and full-day site visit that includes a review the application along with evidence of student engagement, parental involvement, as well as academic interventions, enrichments, and opportunities. Redesignation includes providing evidence of progress on established goals and areas of school-wide growth.

The high-performing National Schools to Watch model schools demonstrate academic excellence, social equity, and responsiveness to the needs of young adolescents. National Schools to Watch middle schools are noted for making a great impact on students and supporting students’ needs, which helps close achievement gaps and creates a better future for these young students.

California’s Schools to Watch-Taking Center Stage program uses a competitive, rigorous review process to identify high performing, high impact middle schools so that all middle schools may have models of real-world success. Ladera Vista Junior High School of the Arts serves 7th and 8th grade students in the Fullerton School District and is one of just of 130 schools to receive the designation statewide since 2003.

The Fullerton School District is located in northern Orange County, California and serves over 12,100 students in grades TK – 8th. The Fullerton School District includes 20 schools, 15 elementary schools,

two K-8th grade schools, and three middle schools. The mission of the Fullerton School District is to work collaboratively with the community to provide an innovative, high-quality educational program for all students in a safe learning environment. The District motto, “*Great Schools - Successful Kids*” exemplifies the belief that all students will achieve academic excellence, acquire interpersonal skills, and develop technological expertise to contribute as productive citizens in a democratic society. For more information, call 714/447-7400 or visit www.fullertonsd.org.

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For more information, please feel free to contact William Lynch/Principal, Ladera Vista Junior High School of the Arts at 714/447-7765