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Press Release **-FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Arts in Education Grant Opportunity for Local Teachers

Lafayette, Colo., Sept. 28, 2012 –Teachers of Lafayette schools may apply for a grant to support arts-related projects with local students. The Lafayette Cultural Arts Commission (LCAC) is proud to offer Arts in Education Grants to local schools and teachers for the 8th year in a row.

The LCAC awards money, not exceeding \$500 per grant, to fund projects in Lafayette schools. These projects may include performance or group art activities with an educational focus or participatory learning opportunities. Teachers may submit an online grant application at the City of Lafayette website; www.cityoflafayette.com/aiegrant. Grant applications are due October 23. All projects receiving grant money need to be complete by May 24, 2013.

According to Susan Booker, Cultural Resources Coordinator with the City of Lafayette, \$14,500 has been awarded to 8 schools in the past 4 years. More than \$18,000 has been granted over the lifetime of this grant program.

Michael Adams, LCAC Chair, said, "Last year we funded six projects that directly impacted well over 500 students, many of them from minority and under represented communities. In addition to the students directly impacted, the grants helped bring cultural arts to the rest of the student bodies as well as the parents, while helping to foster pride, self-esteem, appreciation for the arts, and often awareness of larger social issues."

Last year the LCAC Arts in Education Grants helped to fund projects such as a literacy based field trip to see a play at the Arvada Center, a year long photography club, two school assemblies focused on music education, and a theater production. "I believe that by fostering creative expression in young people we not only help plant a seed for lifelong appreciation of the arts, but enhance overall academic performance," said Adams.

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