

## **SchoolsFirst FCU Partners with Friends of Sacramento Arts for the 2026 Heroes of Arts Education Gala**

**TUSTIN, Calif. (March 24, 2026)** – [SchoolsFirst Federal Credit Union](#) partnered with [Friends of Sacramento Arts](#) to honor educators and community advocates at the fourth annual Heroes of Arts Education Gala on March 12 at The Sofia, Home of B Street Theatre in Sacramento, Calif. The event celebrates the educators and leaders working to expand access to arts education in K-12 schools across the Sacramento region.

“We’re proud to partner with SchoolsFirst Federal Credit Union to honor art and music teachers who inspire creativity and self-confidence every day,” said Allison Cagley, founding executive director of Friends of Sacramento Arts. “We’re grateful for the generous support and great friendship SchoolsFirst Federal Credit Union has had with the education community for so many years. Together, we’re advocating for arts education and investing in our schoolchildren and teachers.”

Friends of Sacramento Arts is a nonprofit supporting arts organizations and school districts by providing resources, connections and support to create equitable access to the arts. The Heroes of Arts Education Gala spotlights outstanding arts educators and supporters, including the presentation of awards to teachers from school districts across the Sacramento region who bring arts education into classrooms in creative and impactful ways.

“As a Credit Union founded by and for educators, we recognize the teachers who inspire creativity, build confidence and make a lasting difference in students’ lives every day. Arts education is essential to student success, and partnering with Friends of Sacramento Arts to is a meaningful reminder of why that work matters,” said Josh Smith, vice president of school and community relations at SchoolsFirst FCU.

###

### [About SchoolsFirst Federal Credit Union](#)

SchoolsFirst Federal Credit Union is the largest credit union serving school employees and their families, and for the seventh year in a row, Forbes has named SchoolsFirst FCU the top credit union in California. The organization is dedicated to delivering World-Class Personal Service and improving the financial lives of its Members. In J.D. Power’s 2025 inaugural U.S. Credit Union Satisfaction Study, its Members ranked them #1 for overall satisfaction. Today they serve more than 1.5 million Members with a full range of financial products and services. SchoolsFirst FCU was founded in 1934, when 126 school employees pooled \$1,200 and established a Member-owned cooperative to help improve each

other's lives. The Credit Union has more than \$35 billion in assets and remains the largest credit union in California and the third largest credit union in the United States. For more information about SchoolsFirst FCU, visit [schoolsfirstfcu.org](http://schoolsfirstfcu.org).

Insured by NCUA.



**Photo Caption:**

Left to right: Julie DePrada-Schott, School & Community Relations, SchoolsFirst Federal Credit Union; and Allison Cagley, Founding Executive Director, Friends of Sacramento Arts.

**Contact:**

Robin Wachner  
Vice President, Communications & Member Engagement  
[media@schoolsfirstfcu.org](mailto:media@schoolsfirstfcu.org)