



## Virginia Art Education Association

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*To promote, support and advance visual arts education through professional development, leadership, research and service.*

Dear School Administrator:

I am pleased to announce the 2021 Virginia Art Education Association Professional Development Conference will be held in Virginia Beach, VA, October 14-16, 2021. This year's theme is "Shape of Memory".

This annual gathering of nearly 500 professionals (representing professors of higher education, school district administrators, art specialists and educators of the visual arts, museum educators and prospective art educators) provides the most comprehensive opportunity for professional learning of art education in the Commonwealth. The VAEA has hosted over 50 professional conferences and this year promises to be an event not to be missed.

Conference opportunities include over 140 sessions that showcase the latest in research and practice and provide interactive learning through hands-on workshops. All program events are 100% art education content that can be applied immediately to teaching and learning. Our keynote speaker this year is featured Craft in America artist, Ehren Tool, an internationally known ceramic artist whose work can be found in numerous collections worldwide. He currently serves as the Senior Laboratory Mechanician for the Ceramic Department at University of California, Berkeley.

As educators, we know that in this climate of high stakes testing, the arts are critically important in developing human potential in our students. I ask for your encouragement and support of art educators in further advancing their knowledge and professional skills by providing release time and support for their participation, travel and lodging.

The program will be open for registration in August but the preliminary registration costs without individual sessions is available on the VAEA website – [www.vaea.org](http://www.vaea.org). Feel free to contact us if you are in need of further information.

We look forward to providing a valuable and timely professional experience for your art educators!

I thank you for your leadership as we work together toward ensuring a quality education for our nation's youngest citizens — our children and youth.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Holly Bess Kincaid". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Holly Bess Kincaid  
VAEA President