**ARTS ED DIGEST**

**FOR RELEASE ON**

**APRIL 19, 2011**

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**Southeastern Arizona Arts in Academics (SAAA**) **Arts Integration Model Program**

a PDAE grant.  
  
Over the past three years, the U.S. Department of Education has invested a grant of approximately $900,000 in the Southeastern Arizona Arts in Academics (SAAA) Arts Integration Model Program in Southern Arizona’s rural schools. SAAA is a consortium of eight rural Arizona schools. The project is a unique concept to bring arts integration through professional teaching artists to the SAAA schools. Karen Husted, Director of *The Arts for “Border” Children,* is the facilitator for the SAAA professional development project  
   
Culminating events are currently being planned to celebrate the close of this project.  Students from the eight schools participating in the grant program will present performances and display their work to the community on the following dates:

* Thursday, April 28, 10:00am–2:00pm; Safford Performing Arts Center, Safford, AZ;
* Wednesday, May 4, 1:00pm–4:00pm; Phoenix Art Museum, Phoenix, AZ.

In addition, SAAA student art will be displayed at the Arizona State Capitol as well as twenty-two other locations throughout the Valley.