



David Tamori
Class of 2021

Dave came to work at Oroville High School (OHS) in 1973 and enjoyed a highly successful 37-year career teaching Art, Art Appreciation, Graphic Design, Advanced Art, and AP Art and Design. In addition to his teaching, he served as Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA) Subject Matter Coordinator for several years and was head wrestling coach from 1973 to 2011.

As wrestling coach at OHS, Dave was also the Eastern Athletic League Representative to the Northern Section Wrestling Coaches Rules Committee. In addition to his teams experiencing great success, for several years, he hosted the Greg Wells North Area Novice Tournament at OHS. As a wrestler himself, Dave was a Northern California Champion at Diablo Valley Community College, a two-time Far Western Conference Champion at Cal State Chico (CSUC) and twice named the Conference Outstanding Wrestler. He holds the Yodan Fourth Degree Black belt in the art of Judo. He is a member of three Halls of Fame - Ygnacio Valley High School, CSUC and Northern California Sports Association.

Dave's additional contributions to OHS in Art, Visual and Performing Arts, (VAPA) and students are numerous and include:

- Forming the OHS Judo Club
- Forming the OHS Chapter of the National Art Society.
- Advising the OHS Culture of the Imagination Coti-HI Club and presented at several National CONTACT Conferences held at NASA Aims Research Center.
- Enabling the California State Assembly Resolution No. 377 to be passed for an OHS Hmong art student, now Dr. Nhia Vang. It recognized his efforts as an immigrant with no formal education being able to achieve academic success.
- Serving as Guest Artist for Art Classes and lecturer for US History classes on Japanese Internment.
- Teaching one semester at Prospect High School working with at-risk students.
- Teaching one semester at Table Mountain School working with juveniles who were incarcerated. (Juvenile Hall School).
- Teaching Summer School and Adult Education Sculpture and Ceramic Classes.
- Mentoring over 35 CSUC student teachers.
- Served as Guest Artist for Art Classes and lecturer for US History classes on Japanese Internment.
- Being a member of University of California Cadre of Visual and Performing Arts Experts reviewing subject requirements for A-G certification.
- California Art Project Staff member 1988-2010.
- Served as College Board, Advanced Placement Art & Design Table Leader and rater for several national portfolio reading sessions.
- Helped introduce the fifth standard in California's VAPA.

Dave received numerous personal honors throughout his career in education and also in retirement including being named California Art Education Association Outstanding Secondary Educator in 1992, State of California naming OHS as a State Outstanding Visual Program in 1996, Being named the National Art Education Association Pacific Region Secondary Art Educator in 1999 and in 2001, receiving the OHS Distinguished Service Award.

Dave's work did not end with his formal retirement from OUHSD in 2011. He has continued his exemplary school service into his community serving four years as chairman of the City of Oroville Arts Commission, giving presentations at many local events and judging numerous student competitions in Butte County.

He is president of Artist of River Town. The Artist of Rivertown Studio at The Brushstrokes Gallery is a non-profit organization whose mission is to operate an arts venue that supports and promotes the work of local artists while providing educational opportunities, greater knowledge, understanding and involvement by persons in the Oroville community. The gallery also provides space for local students to display their art work.

In addition, Dave has found time to perform in local productions including Community Choir, Sleeping Beauty, The Nutcracker, Damn Yankees, Kismet and Music Man.

As a US Army Reserve Veteran with an Honorable Discharge, Dave makes his home in Oroville with his wife Carolee. He has three daughters, six grandchildren and one great granddaughter.