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NATIONAL ART EDUCATION ASSOCIATION HONORS OLENTANGY TEACHER AS WESTERN REGION ART TEACHER OF THE YEAR

The National Art Education Association (NAEA) has named Jonathan Juravich, Liberty Tree Elementary, as the recipient of the Western Region Art Educator of the Year, which includes the states of Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, and Wisconsin.

This prestigious award recognizes the exemplary contributions, service, and achievements of outstanding NAEA members annually within their region. The award was presented during the 2025 NAEA National Convention March 20-22 in Louisville, Kentucky.

"I joined art education and Olentangy Schools with a mission to make each day a little brighter, a little better, and a whole lot more colorful for my students and our community," shared Jonathan Juravich. "It has been an honor to continue to approach each day with this mission, and I appreciate the continued support of both my Liberty Tree and Olentangy communities."

At the conference, Mr. Juravich also presented two workshops and assumed the role of the Elementary Division Director-Elect, a national position voted on by elementary peers. He will serve as director-elect for two years before stepping in to lead as director.

Mr. Juravich has received prior awards from the National Art Education Association. In 2023, he was named the NAEA National Elementary Art Teacher of the Year and was eligible for this most recent honor after being selected as the 2024 Ohio Art Educator of the Year at the Ohio Art Education Association state conference last fall.

The mission of the National Art Education Association (NAEA) is to champion creative growth and innovation by equitably advancing the tools and resources for high-quality visual arts, design, and media arts education throughout diverse populations and communities of practice. For more information about the association and its awards program, visit the NAEA website at www.arteducators.org

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Olentangy Schools is the fourth largest school district in the state of Ohio with 28 schools, located predominately in Delaware County. Olentangy's mission is to facilitate maximum learning for every student.