

March 26, 2025

CTA-AE News This Month!

Howdy, CTA-AE Member!

We hope you are all doing well at this halfway point of the semester.

Big things are happening at CTA Aspiring Educators! 🎉 This past weekend, our board met to push our chapter work forward and finalize details for our Spring Event—and trust us, you won't want to miss it! ☀️ We're thrilled to welcome Keynote Speaker Dolores Huerta, celebrate our Award recipients, and strengthen our chapters across the state. Plus, we'll be rolling out key governing document improvements to support our growing community.

Stay tuned for more details, and get ready for an inspiring and impactful Spring Event! 🚀

Also, a reminder that the deadline for booking flights is this Friday 3/28. Please don't hesitate to reach out cta.ae.madelaineurzio@gmail.com

Madelaine Vera Curzio
Vice President

Save the Date (and register!) for the CTA-AE Spring Event and RA!

We are excited to share details about our CTA-AE Spring Event and Representative Assembly!

Deadline to Register is April 4, 2025. We are no longer offering scholarships to new registrants.

- When: April 19-20, 2025
- Where: Westin Bonaventure, Los Angeles, CA
- Register: <https://bit.ly/CTA-AE25SpringEventReg>

The event is FREE to all CTA-AE members! Become a member or renew your membership here: <https://sctaenroll.cta.org/Enrollnow.aspx>.

We can also provide scholarships to cover hotel and travel but will be prioritizing members from recognized chapters. Please connect with your chapter leaders if you're interested in attending and receiving a scholarship. If you don't have a chapter at your campus, connect with us to create a chapter and submit a Chapter Recognition Form here: <https://bit.ly/CTA-AE24ChapterRecognition>.

In terms of the agenda, we will send something out closer to the date but wanted to preview a couple things for the RA and Business Meeting portion of the event:

Proposed Amendments to the CTA-AE By-Laws and Standing Rules: The CTA-AE Statewide in consultation with CTA-AE Chapter Leaders will be putting forth recommended changes to the CTA-AE By-Laws and Standing Rules that will impact CTA-AE members in teacher residency programs, Statewide Board terms, appointed positions voting on the Statewide Board, quorum for the Statewide Board, and the location of the CTA-AE Fall and Spring Events. For more information, please see [here](#).

Chapter Delegates: In accordance with the CTA-AE Constitution, Article V. Representative

Assembly, Section 2, C, CTA-AE staff will contact Chapter Presidents and Advisors for the names of their Chapter Delegates to the Spring Event and RA. The number of Chapter Delegates each chapter will receive will be calculated by the number of members you have in your chapter as of March 17, 2025. The deadline to submit the names of your Chapter Delegates will be two weeks prior to the CTA-AE RA – Sunday, April 7, 2025.

Graduating CTA-AE Members

At the Spring Event, we honor CTA Aspiring Educators Members, Chapters and Advisors. Awards will be held at the Awards Ceremony over dinner. While many of you already included Graduating CTA-AE Members in our general awards nominations form, we wanted to extend our deadline to get more help to celebrate more Graduating CTA-AE members at our upcoming Spring Event, Awards Dinner, and RA!

As part of the upcoming awards ceremony, we are excited to feature a special slideshow celebrating your achievements. To be included, we kindly ask that you fill out the form linked below. We look forward to showcasing your journey and celebrating your accomplishments at this special event!

Deadline: Sunday, April 13, 2025
Awards Ceremony: April 19, 2025
[Graduating CTA-AE Members Form](#)

Statewide Board Elections at the Spring Event

If you're interested in running for a Statewide Board position for the 2025-2026 year, make sure you register for the CTA-AE Spring Event and RA in Downtown Los Angeles from April 19 -20 where elections will take place and please fill out the [Declaration of Candidacy Form](#).

More information on roles and responsibilities can be found at: www.cta.org/ctaae

Deadline to Declare: April 19, 2025 by 6:00 PM

Please note that it is required for all candidates to attend the Candidates Meeting on April 19 immediately following the Awards Dinner.

CTA-AE Statewide Board Members must:

- Remain members in good standing of the Chapter, CTA Aspiring Educators, CTA and NEA as a condition for nomination to and service in their respective positions.
- Carry at least six (6) units per semester/quarter with a GPA of 2.5 or better.

In addition to duties and responsibilities specific to their position, all Statewide Board members:

- Coordinate the activities of the Association.
 - Be responsible for the implementation and reporting of the policies and positions of the Association.
 - Between meetings of the Representative Assembly, the Statewide Board shall act in the name of the Association in matters demanding immediate action on the part of the Association. More information can be found in the CTA Governing Documents, particularly the [CTA-AE Standing Rules](#).
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State Council Representation Elections and CCTC Applications

There are 3 positions for State Council Representatives for 2025-2026. As a State Council Representative, you will attend the [CTA State Council](#) meetings acting on the behalf of the needs of CTA Aspiring Educators. State Delegates are elected by secret ballot sent to all CTA-AE members. Fill out the [Declaration of Candidacy Form](#) by Sunday April 20th. Ballots will be mailed out on

Wednesday April 23rd.

We are also accepting applications for individuals interested in being considered for the position of California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CCTC) Liaison. Please fill out the [Declaration of Candidacy Form](#) if you would like to be considered.

Chapter Development Updates

CTA Aspiring Educator Chapters are at the heart of CTA-AE!

If you have questions or want to chat about how to build community in your chapter, join us for our monthly (every third Sunday) Virtual Chapter Roundtable meetings.

[Register for the Monthly Chapter Leader Roundtable](#)



There are 5 easy steps to becoming a CTA-AE Chapter:

1. Fill out the Chapter Recognition Form below and at: <https://bit.ly/CTAAE24ChapterRecognition>;
2. Show proof of official club status on campus;
3. Show proof of elected leadership, ie: Chapter President;
4. Show proof of at least one advisor, ie: faculty in your campus School of Education; and
5. Share your governing documents, ie: Chapter By-Laws – we have samples you can use!

In addition to all the benefits of being a CTA-AE Member, recognized CTA-AE Chapters receive additional benefits.

Please see below for 5 reasons to become a CTA-AE Chapter:

1. Sponsorship to attend CTA-AE's events like our Fall Event on November 2-3, 2024 or Spring Event and Representative Assembly on April 19-20, 2025;
2. CTA-AE gear like t-shirts, tote bags, pens, pencils;
3. Access to scholarships and awards for school through the [CTA Foundation's Scholarship Programs & Awards](#);

4. Opportunity to meet with CTA-AE Chapters across the state and with [NEA Aspiring Educators](#); Members and Chapters across the nation; and
5. Voting rights at CTA-AE's Representative Assembly.

Link to charter chapter: <https://bit.ly/CTA-AE24ChapterRecognition>

If you are a member whose chapter has not yet been recognized or are unsure, feel free to contact cta-ae@cta.org.

Communications Team Update

Reminder! Content submissions for our social media and newsletter are now open! If you have an article, story, update, or any piece of content that you believe could benefit our community, we'd love to hear from you. Whether it's an insightful reflection, a recent success, or something you're passionate about, your voice plays a vital role in our shared journey. Go ahead and submit your content now—we can't wait to see what you'll contribute! Together, let's keep building a stronger, more connected community through the power of shared knowledge and experience.

As always, don't forget to follow us on Instagram [@cta_aspiringed](#)

Warmly,
Jennifer Kay Garcia and Tiffany Richey

Racial and Social Justice Update

Safe Zone School Districts

Click [here](#) if you are interested in working with C4O organizers and/ or an organizing cohort of other locals around the country to organize and pass **Safe School Zones** policies at a school board or school boards in a district/s you work with as NEA affiliate staff.

NEA is actively organizing around School Safe Zones. When federal immigration authorities aggressively pursue enforcement activities on or around school property and transportation routes — whether by surveillance, interviews, demands for information, arrest, detention, or any other means — it harmfully disrupts the learning environment and significantly interferes with the ability of all students to access a constitutionally guaranteed right to a free public K-12 education.

Honor Steph Littlebird

Steph Littlebird an artist, curator, writer, and a member of Oregon's Grand Ronde Confederated Tribes (Clatsop Chinook, Afalati Kalapuya).

Mark your calendar! Sunday, March 23rd 4-5:30pm PT/7-8:30pm ET - Join Steph Littlebird, member of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, children's book illustrator, and artist in a virtual engagement for NEA members, staff, and allies of education, hosted by the NEA American Indian/ Alaska Native Caucus and Aspiring Educators. Learn about the history of the United States from an Indigenous perspective with Indigenous artist and author Steph Littlebird. Explore hidden histories and discover tools you can use to move beyond land acknowledgements into empowered allies and community members. [Register here](#).

CTA-AE Scholarships, Grants, and Awards

[CCA Emerging Educator Scholarship](#)

Deadline: April 1

The Community College Association (CCA) will award the Emerging Educators Scholarship to

members of CTA Aspiring Educators. CCA recognizes, rewards, and promotes excellence in union advocacy, advocacy for the profession, attention to inclusion, equity, diversity and community, and/or the development of leadership skills. The scholarship will be awarded to CTA AE members who demonstrate outstanding accomplishments in all of these areas and present a financial need. Please submit application materials to director@cca4us.org by April 1st.

[Jack Kinnaman Scholarship](#)

Deadline: April 15, 2025

No educator can succeed alone. That is why NEA members come together to support each other, from the classroom to the picket line. The Jack Kinnaman Memorial Scholarship Fund is part of this proud tradition. NEA-Retired members recognize the stress we face and that college costs go far beyond just tuition. That's why they have generously set up scholarships of \$3,500 for five Aspiring Educators.

[2024-2025 CTA/NEA-Retired Pedretti Credential Candidate Scholarship](#)

Deadline: May 17, 2025

Dedicated to Gloria's former students, this scholarship will provide financial aid to potential educators pursuing a Pre-K through 12th grade teaching credential through an accredited institution of higher education.

[LGBTQ+ Safety in Schools Grant & Scholarship Program in Honor of Guy DeRosa](#)

Deadline: May 30, 2025

The grant program will support groups, projects and presentations that promote understanding of and respect for LGBTQ+ persons. In addition, the scholarship program will support self-identified LGBTQ+ active CTA/CTA Aspiring Educators members enrolled in a teacher/counseling credential or graduate program who are pursuing a career in public education and who understand the importance of LGBTQ+ educators as role models in our public schools.

Questions? email scholarships@cta.org or humanrightsdept@cta.org

2025 NEA Aspiring Educator Awards Program

Fill out the form to nominate a person, chapter or program for a GramAE to recognize their outstanding work this year. Once an award type is selected, questions will populate in the form.

Award winners will be announced at the Aspiring Educators Conference this summer in Portland. You do not have to attend the NEA Aspiring Educators Conference in order to submit a nomination.

Application deadline is Monday, April 14, 2025

[2025 NEA Aspiring Educators Awards Form](#)

(Applications submitted by March 31 will receive a special prize)

If you need help submitting this form, please email us at AspiringEd@nea.org.



You received this email at cta-ae@cta.org because you are signed up for
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