

May 21, 2025

## CTA-AE News This Month!

Hello Fellow Aspiring Educators,

### **We're Future Educators. We're Fighting Now.**

On May 17, Aspiring Educators across California rallied to protect public education. And, we showed up with power and purpose. From standing up for safe schools to demanding funding for the programs our students need, we made our voices heard. We as aspiring educators must continue to be the lasting change needed in society, not only for us but our future students and communities we serve. Let's continue to stand together and fight for public education, now, forever, and always.

To our graduating members: Congratulations! Your journey as educators is just beginning, and you're stepping into this work already organized and ready to lead.

Let's keep building momentum together in community and solidarity.

In Solidarity,

Ethan Collier-Moreno (he/him/él), CTA-AE President

Mali Vera Cruzio (she/her/ella), CTA-AE Vice President



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## Statewide Board Elections at the Spring Event

At the Spring Event RA we elected our Statewide Board for 2025-2026 school year. CTA-AE delegates elected the following:

**President:** Gabriel Medoza Jr. (UC Berkeley)  
**Executive Vice President:** Queen Udofia (Irvine Valley College)  
**Secretary-Treasurer:** Ethan Collier-Moreno (UC Berkeley)  
**Region 2 Director:** Tiffany Richey (CSU Stanislaus)  
**Communications Editor:** Andrea Guevara (CSU Stanislaus)  
**Racial and Equity Affairs Committee:** Giselle Reyes (Santa Ana College), Jennifer Kay Garcia (Western Governors University), Elias Antunez (UC Berkeley)

Congratulations to the new 2025-2026 CTA-AE board!

**Existing Board Vacancies include:**

- Communications Editor (2)
- Racial and Equity Affairs Committee (1)
- Region 1 Director
- Region 3 Director
- Region 4 Director

Each of these vacant positions can now be appointed by the incoming 2025-2026 CTA-AE State-Wide board.

**We are accepting applications for individuals interested in being considered for the position of California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CCTC) Liaison until June 15.**

Please fill out the [Declaration of Candidacy Form](#) if you would like to be considered for any of the above vacant positions.

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## State Council Representation Elections

Our 2025-2026 AE State Council Representatives have been elected!

There are 3 positions for State Council Representatives for 2025-2026. State Delegates are elected by secret ballot sent to all CTA-AE members. AE members were able to cast their votes for up to three candidates.

The results were as follows:

- Madison Saldana, UC Berkeley: 16 out of 20 votes- 80%
- Sofia Reynoso Sandoval, UC Berkeley: 15 out of 20 votes- 75%
- Daniel Smothers, UC Berkeley: 15 out of 20 votes- 75%

Congratulations to our newly elected State Council Representatives! 🎉

As a State Council Representative, they will attend the 4 [CTA State Council](#) meetings acting on the behalf of the needs of CTA Aspiring Educators.

Please note that the deadline to file challenges is May 30, 2025.

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## 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/CTA-AE24ChapterRecognition>;
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 or Spring Event and Representative Assembly;
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](mailto:cta-ae@cta.org).

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## Chapter Highlight: Santa Ana College

On May 15th, 2025, Santa Ana College celebrated student leadership at its annual banquet. Club Apple (CTA-AE) was recognized as Student Organization of the Year for 2024–25 and received the Most Creative Award for its innovation and campus engagement.

Known for their dedication and leadership, Club Apple has been active throughout the year, connecting with peers and promoting future educators. One of their advisors was also honored

with the Outstanding Advisor Award, reflecting the group's strong commitment to mentorship and student success.



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## Communications Team Update

Thanks to everyone for sharing out the flyers for the Fight For Schools rally! Congratulations once again to all our graduates and best of luck on finals to those who have yet to take them! Before the school year closes out, we'd like to remind everyone to renew their membership for next year and to remind new local leaders that they will need to recharter the chapter for the next year.

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

Warmly,  
Jennifer Kay Garcia and Tiffany Richey

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## CTA-AE Scholarships, Grants, and Awards

[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](mailto:scholarships@cta.org) or [humanrightsdept@cta.org](mailto:humanrightsdept@cta.org)

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## State Council Representative Election Email

Hello CTA-AE Members,

There are 3 positions for State Council Representatives for 2025-2026. As a State Council Representative, you will attend the 4 [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. The deadline to declare for the State Council Representative position was April 28. **Elections will begin on May 5.** For reference, please view the State Council Representation Election Timeline below:

- April 28, 2025 by 4PM - deadline to declare for the State Council via the form:
- May 5, 2025 – voting will begin on election buddy
- May 12, 2025 – voting will end on election buddy 11:59PM
- May 20, 2025 – results will be shared with members and submitted to CTA Elections Committee
- May 30, 2025 – deadline to file challenges



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