



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Leap's 37th Annual Sandcastle Classic
Benefits Bay Area Students, Features Supersized Castles
FREE TO THE PUBLIC!**

SAN FRANCISCO – **On Saturday, October 26, Leap Arts in Education will take over Ocean Beach to host the largest sandcastle contest in Northern California;** featuring team competition, food trucks, and live music all day. The public is invited to join in the fun and experience the construction of dozens of jaw-dropping, supersized sand sculptures.

The 37th Annual Leap Sandcastle Classic, an iconic San Francisco tradition, raises awareness and funds for quality visual and performing arts and architecture education for more than 8,500 Bay Area public school students who would otherwise go without. Annually, thousands flock to Ocean Beach to build giant sand sculptures with 100+ architecture, design, technology, engineering and construction companies in partnership with students from local public schools.

This year's theme is "Let's Play!" and spotlights all the joyful ways we engage and create, from games to sports to music! The Classic will feature celebrity judges, live music, and Community Castles so *everyone* can join in the fun, cheer on teams, and get their hands dirty! The public is invited to bring a blanket, grab a bite from the food trucks on site, participate in the competition, and spend a FREE day in the sun, all to support essential arts education.

Where: The free event will be held at **Ocean Beach and Balboa**, near the Cliff House, plentiful, with free public parking, rain or shine.

When: Saturday, October 26, 2019 from 11AM - 4PM

Who:

- Hosted by KOIT's Freska (<http://www.koit.com/hosts/freska>)
- Live musical performances by:
 - Grammy-nominated Alphet Rockers (<http://alphetrockers.com>)
 - SF Rock Project (www.rockprojectsf.org)
- Students
- Professionals from 100+ companies representing the Architectural, Engineering, Design, Construction and Technology industries
www.leapsandcastleclassic.org

Sponsors: SAFTI FIRST, ARUP Group

Every Fall, Leap orchestrates the spectacular Sandcastle Classic as its major fundraising event. Funds raised from the Sandcastle Classic ensure that Leap can continue its important mission to keep the arts alive in Bay Area schools. Leap's 2019 goal is to raise



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\$300,000. Leap executive director, Jill Dineen, says an arts education is essential because it “helps kids develop 21st Century skills like critical thinking, resilience, collaboration and communication. The arts provide a special vehicle to create equity and close the achievement gap for our kids regardless of their zip code or socio-economic status. An arts education is essential for students to achieve their full potential in school and in life.”

For more information, visit: www.leapsandcastleclassic.org.

About LEAP:

Leap Arts in Education is a private nonprofit organization founded in 1979 in response to the severe cuts in California’s school budgets that effectively eliminated the arts from elementary education. Leap’s mission is to provide high quality arts education to Bay Area children by bringing visual and performing artists and architects into the classroom to help students build skills and achieve their full potential. This year, Leap served over 8,500 children in 32 Bay Area schools.

Arts Education Matters:

- Students with an arts education increase test scores across every subject
- Students with an arts education are 4X more likely to be recognized for academic achievement
- Students who receive a quality arts education have higher attendance and graduation rates

Bay Area classroom teachers agree that an arts education is fundamental to student success:

- 74% agree that students develop/apply **critical thinking**
- 89% agree that students develop/apply **communication** skills
- 85% agree that students practice **collaboration**

Leap provides quality arts education to Bay Area schools. You can help.

Attend. Volunteer. Give.

For more information call 415-512-1899.

Sandcastle Website: www.leapsandcastleclassic.org

Donate to Leap: www.leaparts.org

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