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For Immediate Release

**ART IN ACTION ENGAGES JOHN W. GARDNER CENTER  
AT STANFORD UNIVERSITY TO CONDUCT RESEARCH**

Study Will Guide Art in Action in its Efforts to Become a National Model  
for Visual Arts Education

Menlo Park, CA--[Art in Action](#), a nonprofit dedicated to bringing comprehensive visual arts programs to schools everywhere, has engaged [The John W. Gardner Center for Youth and Their Communities at the Stanford School of Education](#) to conduct research that will guide Art in Action in its efforts to be a national model for visual arts education.

“The study is significant to us, our funders and other stakeholders as we expand our reach into classrooms across the nation,” Executive Director Jeffrey Dollinger said. “Its findings will enable Art in Action to develop long-term goals, strategies and activities to achieve and report measurable and replicable outcomes. The Gardner Center focus on youth and their communities was a primary reason to partner with them. Our goal is to create communities of art in our schools where art education is integrated into the curriculum.”

The Gardner Center team will conduct research at a variety of Art in Action schools, both regionally and nationally. Data will be collected through program observation and interviewing school administrators, parents, teachers and students. The information will enable Art in Action to better provide classroom teachers and parents with the training, curriculum and tools they need to promote students’ learning, creativity and confidence through the visual arts.

Founded in 1982, Art in Action, a 501(c)(3) organization, enriches the lives of kindergarten through 8th grade students each year in schools through an engaging, hands-on [curriculum](#) that teaches 21st century learning skills through art history, appreciation and practice.

Art in Action is taught annually to 50,000 students in 1,800 classrooms from 22 states. Find Art in Action on [FaceBook](#) and [Twitter](#).

The John W. Gardner Center for Youth and Their Communities at the Stanford School of Education partners with communities to develop leadership, conduct research and effect change to improve the lives of youth. Named for the prolific thinker, innovator and activist John W. Gardner, the Gardner Center was founded in 2000.

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