

Los Angeles County Arts Commission

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For Immediate Release

MOLINA ANNOUNCES LOS ANGELES COUNTY ARTS COMMISSION'S \$2,259,000 IN GRANTS TO 199 COUNTY ARTS GROUPS

Los Angeles County (July 19, 2005) – Los Angeles County Supervisor Gloria Molina today announced the Los Angeles County Arts Commission's \$2,259,000 in grants to 199 nonprofit arts organizations for fiscal year 2005-6 through its Organizational Grant Program (OGP). The grants create visual and performing arts projects, strengthen infrastructure, and provide access to the arts for children and adults. The grants program total allocation increased by 15% or \$294,000 from 2004-5.

"The Board of Supervisors recognizes the fundamental role of arts in the quality of life of our Los Angeles County communities," said Board Chair Gloria Molina. "I am especially proud that these grants fund projects that make the arts facilities accessible to all County residents and bring arts activity to neighborhood centers, parks and libraries."

2005-6 is the first year of grants to the new category for organizations with budgets between \$500,000 and \$1.5 million. The new category was created to better serve the needs of organizations that anchor communities. Feedback from groups indicated that these organizations needed to focus resources on artistic product and artist employment. The forty-nine grantees in this category will use County funds to increase rehearsal time, commission new works, increase salaries, train artists and teachers, and host guest artists, among other activities.

OGP grants by Los Angeles County for 2005-06 broken down by size of organization:

SMALL BUDGET (under \$100,000) – 55 grants totaling \$349,000

MID-SIZE BUDGET 1 (\$100,000-\$500,000) – 69 grants totaling \$389,400

MID-SIZE BUDGET 2 (\$500,000-\$1,500,000) – 49 grants totaling \$681,500

LARGE BUDGET (more than \$1,500,000) - 26 grants totaling \$839,100

A complete list of grantees for 2005-6 is online on the Arts Commission's web site,
http://www.lacountyarts.org/OGP_granteelist05-06.pdf.

Grantee projects supported by County funds in 2005-6 include:

Creation of new works by County artists

New choral works in Spanish and Portuguese by L.A. Latino composers (Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles, \$16,200)

Workshops and presentation of a theatre piece generated from within the ensemble (Circle X Theatre Co., \$15,200)

Creation of a modern dance project that uses an illustrator (San Pedro City Ballet, \$4,000)

Employment opportunities for artists

Expanded rehearsals for sign language productions in 2005 and 2006 (Deaf West Theatre Company, \$17,200)

Artistic fees and expenses of Bilingual Foundation of the Arts' New Works Festival, (\$11,800)

Mentoring for young artists

Marketing and salaries for the annual Young Playwrights Festival (Blank Theatre Company, \$4,000)

Project:Involve, an artistic mentoring, training, and job placement program for under-represented filmmakers (Film Independent [FIND] – formerly IFP/Los Angeles, \$23,500)

Activities for youth and families

A new mariachi music summer camp (Hernandez Mariachi Heritage Society, \$5,549)

Poetry in the Schools and its programmer (Red Hen Press, \$4,700)

World City, a family performance series at Walt Disney Concert Hall (Music Center Education Division, \$22,800)

Interactive theatrical performances at the new Kidspace Museum (Kidspace Children's Museum, \$10,000)

A new chamber music series for families (Southwest Chamber Music, \$10,000)

Festivals

2005 World Festival of Sacred Music (Foundation for World Arts, \$11,100)

39th Annual Watts Summer Festival (Watts Summer Festival, \$8,900)

Public art

Northwest Portraits, 10 artist/public collaborative billboards in Northwest Pasadena (NewTown Pasadena Foundation, \$4,800)

Four installations at the Sunset Art Site and the production of two weekly art workshops (Jovenes, Inc. Arts Program, \$9,700)

Administrative services for arts organizations

Staff salaries for legal services and education programs for underserved communities (California Lawyers for the Arts, \$11,600)

Expansion of the position of executive director from part-time to full-time (Pasadena Arts Council, \$7,200)

Program coordinator, webmaster and technical upgrades (Theatre of Hearts/Youth First, \$7,700)

A part-time marketing/publicity specialist and technology assistant (Young Artists International, \$4,000)

The **Los Angeles County Arts Commission**, Laura Zucker, Executive Director, was established by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and is responsible for administering the County's Arts Grant Program and supporting the Board's commitment to arts and culture throughout the County. The Arts Commission provides leadership in cultural services of all disciplines for the largest county in the United States, encompassing 88 municipalities. In addition to its grant programs, the Arts Commission provides leadership and staffing to support the regional blueprint for arts education, *Arts for All*; funds the largest arts internship program in the country in conjunction with the Getty Foundation, programs the John Anson Ford Theatres and supports the Los Angeles County Cultural Calendar on ExperienceLA.com. The Commission also produces free community programs, including the L.A. Holiday Celebration broadcast nationally, and a year-round music program that funds more than 60 free concerts each year in public sites. The 2005-6 President of the Arts Commission is Hope Warschaw.

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