



ARTSWISE

A QUARTERLY BULLETIN

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L.A. COUNTY CELEBRATES THE HOLIDAYS -- LOCALLY, NATIONALLY, GLOBALLY

Two shows produced by the Arts Commission will have a wider reach than ever this year.

"L.A. Holiday Celebration" premieres on PBS December 9

This one-hour television music and dance special highlights the best performances from the 2008 live six-hour show at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion (see below for details on this year's live show). This national special will be carried by PBS stations across the country, including KCET, on Wednesday, December 9, 2009 at 8:00 p.m. Groups chosen for this year's national show are **Antics Performance, ARC Handbell Choir, Backhausdance, Celtic Spring, Colburn Children's Chorus, DreamDance II, Klezmer Juice, Lisa Haley and the Zydekats, Mariachi Sol de México de José Hernandez, Motion Tribe, Mt. Rubidoux Seventh Day Adventist Church Choir, Palmdale High School Choral Union, Royal Crown Revue, Salvation Army Tabernacle Children's Chorus, TAIKOPROJECT and United Children's Chorus of Los Angeles.**

More information, including the artists' favorite holiday rituals and recipes plus mini-documentaries on selected artists, can be found at <http://www.pbs.org/holidaycelebration>.

50th Annual "L.A. County Holiday Celebration" on December 24 at the Music Center will be streamed live on the Web for the first time

This year, there are more ways than ever to enjoy this music and dance extravaganza featuring over 1,000 performers. The Arts Commission, the show's producer, is expanding the reach and format of this popular, admission-free holiday staple. As it has for 44 of the show's 50 years, KCET will broadcast the show live and it will also be screened on the JumboTron on the Music Center Plaza. For the first time, the celebration will be streamed live on the Web via kcet.org. The audio portion will be simulcast on KPFK, 90.7 FM.

"It's Your Turn" is the theme of the 50th anniversary celebration, the country's largest multicultural holiday show. Patrons are invited to carol and dance on the Music Center Plaza before the show, while the six-hour spectacular on the Dorothy Chandler stage will include surprise opportunities for audience interaction. To keep in touch with all things Holiday Celebration become a fan at <http://www.facebook.com/LAHolidayCelebration>.

The **50th Annual L.A. County Holiday Celebration** takes place on **Thursday, December 24** from **3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.** Admission and parking are **FREE**. Doors open at 2:00 p.m. Patrons may come and go throughout the six-hour performance. Reservations for tickets to the show or parking are not necessary. For more information go to www.HolidayCelebration.org.

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ENSEMBLE STUDIO THEATRE'S HIT PLAY "TREE" RUNS THROUGH DECEMBER 13 AT [INSIDE] THE FORD

You still have time to catch Ensemble Studio Theatre's Company's world premiere production of Julie Hébert's *Tree*. Three generations divided by race, culture and time connect when a white Southern woman discovers old love letters leading her to an African-American half-brother. Here's a sampling of the raft of great reviews garnered by the production.

LA Times Critics' Choice

Wry, complex and tender, this Ensemble Studio Theatre-LA production gets everything right from the elegant direction and design to the terrific performances. [Click here for full review.](#)

Backstage Critics' Pick

A remarkable cast and evocative designs beautifully support the play's incisive and deeply moving portrait of self-discovery and rebirth. Hébert's play is a gem, graced with a stunning premiere staging by EST-LA. [Click here for full review.](#)

LA Weekly says "GO!"

... a riveting family drama. [Click here for full review.](#)

For more information and to purchase tickets, go to <http://fordtheatres.org/en/events/details/id/60>

Tree is the opening production of the [Inside] the Ford 2009-10 New Play Series. Next up is the Los Angeles premiere of *bobrauschenbergamerica* by Charles Mee opening January 23. The season is supported by the Los Angeles County Arts Commission and the Ford Theatre Foundation, with funding from the National Endowment for the Arts. Please find season

information at <http://fordtheatres.org/en/events/category/id/8>.

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L.A. COUNTY'S ARTS EDUCATION INITIATIVE PASSES MILESTONE

Arts for All, L.A. County's arts education initiative, is now at work in 39 County school districts representing 517,000 students. This number represents over half - 53% - of the County public school population (minus Los Angeles Unified School District, which has a separate initiative).

Seven years ago, in September 2002, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors adopted *Arts for All: Los Angeles County Regional Blueprint for Arts Education*. This strategic plan to restore arts education - in dance, music, theatre, and the visual arts - to all students in the County has made great strides in that time. The *Arts for All 7th Year Review* provides a summary of all aspects of the initiative to date. It can be found at <http://www.lacountyarts.org/UserFiles/File/artsed/Resources/7thYearReview.pdf>.

The most recent evidence of progress, and the challenges and needs that remain, is in the report on case studies of the first 11 districts to join the initiative. The case studies and cross-case analyses in *Arts for All: The Vanguard Districts - Case Studies from the First Five Years* offer new insights about the differences between planning to restore arts education and making that plan a reality. The case studies are available at <http://lacountyarts.org/artsed/casestudies.html>.

The initiative is helmed by the *Arts for All* Executive Committee, managed by the Los Angeles County Arts Commission and includes more than 100 private and public partners.

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ARTS AND THE ECONOMY

Non-profit arts sector a major employer in the Los Angeles region

An analysis of 304 arts and cultural organizations that receive grants from municipal arts agencies in Los Angeles County demonstrates the nonprofit arts sector is a major employer in the region. The arts and cultural sector provides more than 21,000 full-time, part-time and contract jobs in Los Angeles County. When compared to the 25 largest private-sector employers in Los Angeles County ranked by the number of employees, as reported by the *Los Angeles Business Journal* in August 2008, the nonprofit arts and cultural sector is the second largest employer in the region. The nonprofit arts sector checks in behind Kaiser Permanente, with 36,500 employees, and ahead of Northrop Grumman Corporation, with 20,500 employees.

This data is the result of an analysis of California Cultural Data Project (CDP) data, a statewide data collection project, from six municipal arts funders in Los Angeles County. The employment data numbers were self-reported by organizations for 2007 and 2008. While the data typically reflects employment numbers prior to the economic crisis, the number of jobs counted by the sector is expected to rise as more organizations participate in the California CDP.

Municipal arts agencies participating in the California CDP and this study are the Arts Council for Long Beach, City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs, City of West Hollywood, Culver City Cultural Affairs Division, Los Angeles County Arts Commission, Pasadena Cultural Affairs

and Santa Monica Cultural Affairs Division.

Another good source of information on arts and the economy is the latest *Report on The Creative Economy of the Los Angeles Region* from Otis College of Art and Design:

[http://www.otis.edu/assets/user/Creative%20Economy%202009%20report\(1\).pdf](http://www.otis.edu/assets/user/Creative%20Economy%202009%20report(1).pdf).

Federal Stimulus funds to preserve jobs in the arts in Los Angeles awarded to 16 arts organizations

Grants totaling \$420,084 to support the retention of staff positions in local arts organizations have been announced by the Los Angeles County Arts Commission and the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs. The awards come from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds from the National Endowment for the Arts. Twenty-one positions in 16 arts organizations have been preserved through the grants.

L.A. County Arts Commission grants went to:

Angels Gate Cultural Center, \$35,080, Education Director
Eagle Rock Community Cultural Association, \$20,900, Director of Education
H.E.Art Project, \$39,520, two Workshop Coordinators
Hollywood Entertainment Museum, \$20,000, Program Manager
Jazz Bakery Performance Space, \$25,200, Administrative Assistant and
Web Marketing Consultant
Ryman/Carroll Foundation, \$25,840, Administrative Coordinator
Southwest Chamber Music Society, \$38,460, Production Manager

Department of Cultural Affairs grants went to:

Contra-Tiempo, \$15,256, Administrative Assistant
East Los Angeles Classic Theatre, \$21,000, Production Manager
Friends of Chinese American Museum, \$14,000, Educator
Greenway Arts Alliance, \$36,000, Production Manager and Office Manager
LA Stage Alliance, \$45,000, Executive Director and Program Manager
Latino Theater Company, \$31,728, Technical Director
Pan African Film and Arts Festival, \$18,560, Associate Director, Film Programming and
Film Traffic Coordinator
Unusual Suspects Theatre Company, \$18,000, Program Manager
We Tell Stories, \$15,540, Director of Education Programs

The Arts Commission and Department of Cultural Affairs worked together to create a streamlined grant application and review process designed to ensure rapid deployment of funds. The agencies used the same application form and all proposals were reviewed by the same review panel to ensure a quick turnaround.

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Join the official Los Angeles County Arts Commission facebook page to learn about opportunities for funding, performance, technical assistance and inclusion in vetted arts education and musician directories; find out about arts education tools and resources; and obtain the latest news on civic art projects, summer and winter seasons at the Ford Theatres, Holiday Celebration and free concerts in Los Angeles County. Click [here](#) to become a Friend.



Where to go? What to do? How to choose?

Explore the L.A. region's leading cultural web portal! Consult the Arts Commission-sponsored L.A. County Cultural Calendar on www.ExperienceLA.com. It's searchable by several criteria - including "free" - and provides links to transportation information.

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ArtsWise is the quarterly e-newsletter of the Los Angeles County Arts Commission. The Commission fosters excellence, diversity, vitality, understanding and accessibility of the arts in Los Angeles County. The Commission provides leadership in cultural services for the County, including information and resources for the community, artists, educators, arts organizations and municipalities. The Commission offices are located at 1055 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 800, Los Angeles 90017. The Commission does not trade, sell or rent its e-mail list to anyone.

Complete Arts Commission information is available at www.lacountyarts.org. To view the online press kit, visit http://www.lacountyarts.org/UserFiles/File/onliepresskit_09032009.pdf.

This e-mail was sent by Los Angeles County Arts Commission, located at 1055 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 800, Los Angeles 90017 in the USA.