



Contact: Linda Chiavaroli, Dir. of Communications, (323) 871-4554, lchiavaroli@bos.co.la.ca.us
or
Ayanna Hudson, Arts Education Program Director, (213) 974-1343, ahudson@bos.co.la.ca.us

For release September 25, 2002

LOS ANGELES COUNTY TAKES LEADERSHIP ROLE IN EFFORT TO PROVIDE ARTS EDUCATION FOR ALL STUDENTS

***County Task Force on Arts Education formed to direct campaign
to make arts an intrinsic part of the core curriculum.***

Board of Supervisors Chairman Zev Yaroslavsky sounded the call for a massive effort to realize the vision of arts education for every Los Angeles County public school student K-12. Yaroslavsky spoke before a gathering of more than 200 arts education leaders at the official launch of ***ARTS FOR ALL: The Los Angeles County Regional Blueprint for Arts Education*** at the Armory for the Arts in Pasadena today.

"The County is in a unique position to coordinate this effort," said Yaroslavsky. "The Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) serves all 82 school districts in the County, including the Los Angeles Unified School District.

"To achieve the vision of arts education for every school child the Board of Supervisors has established a Los Angeles County-wide Task Force on Arts Education, comprising 30 diverse organizations committed to implementing the goals and strategies of the Blueprint. The Los Angeles County Arts Commission (LACAC), together with the County Office of Education, will lead the task force.

"The Task Force is an unprecedented model of collaboration. It includes not only the arts and education establishments but policymakers and representatives of business and philanthropy on regional and state levels."

Ayanna Hudson, Arts Education Program Director for LACAC, has been named co-chair of the task force. Her fellow chair from LACOE will be named shortly.

Dr. Darline P. Robles, Los Angeles County Superintendent of Schools, stressed that the Blueprint seeks to achieve systemic change. “For arts education to be available to every child, arts must be part of the core curriculum. Quality, sequential arts education needs to be scheduled into the school day and included in the budget of every County school district. The Office of Education is committed to implementing the strategies in the Blueprint starting with the appointment of an Arts Coordinator to co-chair the task force.”

The County Task Force on Arts Education will monitor progress toward the *Blueprint's* goals on a quarterly basis and convene an annual meeting of stakeholders.

The *ARTS FOR ALL Blueprint* has been officially adopted by the Board of Supervisors, the Los Angeles County Arts Commission and the Los Angeles County Board of Education.

ARTS FOR ALL is the result of *Arts in Focus*, the first-ever study of the state of arts education in the County released in May 2001. *Arts in Focus* found that, although there is unanimous agreement about the value of arts education to learning, there is no systemic approach to teaching the arts and wide variations in the degree to which arts are included in the educational experience.

“The strategies outlined in the *Blueprint* are designed to close the gap between vision and reality,” said Yaroslavsky.

The *ARTS FOR ALL Blueprint* focuses on the achievement of high quality K-12 education including the arts as an intrinsic part of the core curriculum through four goals:

1. Each of the 82 school districts in Los Angeles County enacts a policy, adopts a plan with timeline, and approves a budget to implement sequential K-12 arts education.
2. Implementers and policy makers have sufficient tools, information, and professional development to achieve sequential K-12 arts education.
3. Parents, students, arts supporters, and community and industry leaders mobilize to advocate for sequential K-12 arts education.
4. Funding policies of public and private funders support and align with the vision and mission of the *ARTS FOR ALL Blueprint*.

Recognizing that no single agency, organization or interest group can bring about systemic change in the educational system, each goal is linked to a set of strategies and identifies the leaders and leadership partners to implement each strategy. Leaders include governmental bodies, entertainment and technology industries, corporations, parents; funders; educators; arts organizations and artists.

The *ARTS FOR ALL Blueprint* was commissioned by the Los Angeles County Arts Commission under the direction of Ayanna Hudson. Strategic Planning Consultant Terry Wolverton/Consult'Her guided the process, facilitated the Advisory Group and community consultation meetings. More than 150 persons participated in the consultations, including teachers, parents, school administrators, artists, arts education organizations, government officials, entertainment industry and foundation representatives.

The *ARTS FOR ALL Blueprint* was funded by the Los Angeles County Productivity Investment Fund, the California Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts.

ARTS FOR ALL can be downloaded at **www.lacountyarts.org**. Copies may also be obtained from the Arts Commission, 374 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple St., Los Angeles, CA 90012, (213) 974-1343.

###

PLEASE NOTE: The members of the Arts Education Task Force are listed on pages 4 and 5 of this document.

Los Angeles County Task Force for Arts Education —Members Confirmed as of 9/25/02—

Affiliation	Name	Title
Art Center College of Design	Richard Koshalek	President
Association of CA School Administrators	Bob Wells	Executive Director
California Alliance for Arts Education	Laurie Schell	Executive Director
California Institute for the Arts	Steven Levine	President
California State University Dominguez Hills, College of Art and Science	Selase Williams	Dean
California State University Dominguez Hills, School of Education	Sharon Russell	Chair
California State University Long Beach, College of the Arts	Donald Para	Dean
California State University Long Beach, Department of Teacher Education	Catherine DuCharme	Chair
California State University Los Angeles, Charter College of Education	Judith Washburn	Chair
California State University Los Angeles, College of Arts and Letters	Carl Selkin	Dean
California State University Northridge, College of Arts, Media and Communication	William Toutant	Dean
California State University Northridge, School of Education	Raymond Brie	Chair, Elementary Education
California State University Trustees	Jim Spalding	Director, CSU Summer Arts
Entertainment Industry Development Corporation	Tamara Franz	Director, Workforce Program
Los Angeles County Arts Commission	Alis Clausen	Chair, Education Committee
Los Angeles County Arts Commission	Laura Zucker	Executive Director
Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors	Louisa Ollague	Education Deputy, First District
Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors	Del Huff	Education Deputy, Second District
Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors	Adinah Solomon	Education Deputy, Third District
Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors	Gail Tierney	Education Deputy, Fourth District
Los Angeles County Office of Education	Dr. Darline P. Robles	County Superintendent of Schools

Affiliation	Name	Title
Los Angeles Unified School District	Rich Burrows	Director, Arts Education
Music Center	Mark Slavkin	Vice President for Education
Otis College of Arts and Design	Sammy Hoi	President
Southern California Association for Philanthropy	Miyoko Oshima	President
The California Arts Project	Kristine Alexander	Executive Director

Additional Members to be Confirmed:

California Parent Teacher Association
 California State Board of Education
 California State Commission on Teacher Credentialing
 University of California Los Angeles, Graduate School of Education
 University of California Los Angeles, School of the Arts and Architecture
 University of California Regents
 Los Angeles County School Trustees Association