



Monthly Memo

December 2016

Documenting events, activities and projects for the Arts Commission

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Should you have any questions or want more in-depth information on any activity, please call the staff at (213) 202-5858

Update from the Executive Director

The 57th annual production of the *LA County Holiday Celebration* welcomed more than 4,100 people to the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion on December 24, while many more watched the show live on PBS SoCal KOCE. The show, hosted by actor Brian White (*Chicago Fire*) and Emmy-nominated professional dancer Cheryl Burke (*Dancing with the Stars*), featured 21 groups and 540 performers from throughout LA County and included a special opening performance by Arturo Sandoval. We were especially pleased that Supervisors Barger, Hahn and Solis were able to attend the performance and deliver their holiday greetings in person. Thank you to those of you who were able to join us in person and for the many others who watched it on TV.



Hosts Cheryl Burke and Brian White



The Southern California Brass Consortium performing the finale of the 57th Annual L.A. County Holiday Celebration.

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Arts Education, Arts for All

Education Foundation and School District Leaders Convening

On December 6, Arts for All staff hosted a convening, *How Can Education Foundations Support Arts Education?*, at the offices of the Arts Commission. Education foundation and school district leaders gathered to discuss their successes and challenges in supporting arts education in school districts. Together they explored promising practices to align fundraising efforts with strategic arts education plans to achieve their shared goals. The group plans on continuing to work together throughout the coming year.

Executive Committee Meeting

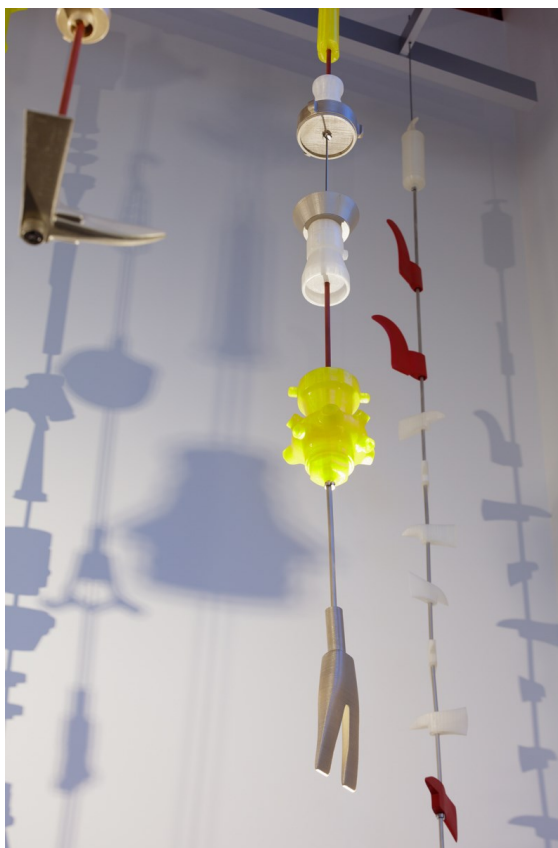
On December 7, Arts for All held its quarterly Executive Committee meeting, welcoming guests from Insyte Partners and the Stuart Foundation. Through funding from the Stuart Foundation, Insyte Partners will work with Arts for All and other arts education stakeholders over the next 10 months to facilitate an “Arts Education Innovation Lab,” which will identify new strategies for achieving scale and equity, so that the arts truly become core in public education – reaching every student in every classroom across LA County.

The Arts for All Executive Committee, comprised of 15 members representing government agencies, nonprofit organizations and the corporate sector, provides feedback on the arts education strategy and programs, and actively promotes the initiative among their constituents and the broader public. Executive Committee members meet with Arts for All staff quarterly to review strategic direction and offer advice on ways to improve existing initiatives.

Civic Art

Dedication at Fire Station 143

Outgoing LA County Supervisor Michael Antonovich, LA County Fire Chief Daryl Osby and other local officials gathered at Fire Station 143 on November 30 to officially dedicate the station. Located in the Hasley Canyon area of Castaic, the station currently houses Engine 143 and its crew. Up to seven people can live at the energy-efficient station. The station's atrium lobby features hanging sculptures by artist Kipp Kobayashi, commissioned by the Civic Art program. Responding to the department's mission of providing improved fire protection, emergency medical and life safety services to the expanding Santa Clarita Valley and adjacent communities, the artist designed a collection of 3D printed resin sculptures based on equipment, tools, mementos and artifacts found in fire stations throughout the region. The 3D printed objects are grouped into 18 vertical strands suspended on an aluminum frame from the ceiling of the two-story high space.



Civic Art

Artwork Installation for Downtown Mental Health, Phase 2

A new mural, *The Bright Forest*, at the Downtown Mental Health Center, was completed on December 2. The project, managed by the Los Angeles-based arts organization Now Art LA, features the work of Aly Timbuctustate. To create the series of murals for the interior hallways of the clinic, Timbuctustate worked closely with the Department of Mental Health staff at the center. The design features a hybrid forest populated by songbirds. Embedded in the tree trunks and bird feathers are graphic patterns and excerpts from the universal statement of human rights.



Civic Art

Creative Graffiti Abatement: Woodcrest Library Launch Event

On December 17, *Butterfly Sculpture*, the new civic artwork for the Woodcrest Library was introduced to the public with a launch event featuring hands-on art activities, educational information related to the metamorphosis of butterflies by the Natural History Museum, a tour of the nearby West Athens Victory Garden, and a meet and greet with the artists Gloria Lee and Nathan Swift of Swift Lee Office. The sculpture helps to reimagine the plaza as an outdoor extension of the library for a place to read, play and think.



Attendees, including Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, at the Woodcrest Library launch event.



Productions

Holiday Celebration

Please see Update from the Executive Director ([page 2](#)).



Grants and Professional Development

Organizational Grant Program (OGP)

There were 221 applications received for the 2017-18 Organizational Grant Program. Sixteen grant review panels comprised of artists, arts administrators and community stakeholders are being assembled to review and score OGP applications during the months of February and March 2017.

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ARTS COMMISSION: JANUARY 2016 UPCOMING EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

If you would like more information about these events or would like to attend, please contact Miriam Gonzalez at mgonzalez@arts.lacounty.gov or (213) 202-5858.

Date	Time	Event	Location
January 18	9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Art Education in North County: A Regional Conversation <i>School district and community arts education leaders from the Antelope and Santa Clarita Valleys are invited to come together for a conversation about arts education in the northern region of the County where they will share implementation strategies, get updates on local and state initiatives, and connect with local and Countywide resources.</i>	City of Santa Clarita Activities Center
January 23-24	9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Arts Education Innovation Lab Launch <i>The Arts Education Innovation Lab will function as a holding space for 40-60 leaders to contribute to the next level of systems change in arts education across LA County. Lab participants will come together as a community of innovators to initiate exploration, build collective capacity and begin to articulate a shared narrative for what matters for students in today's world. This includes taking a systems view to reveal high leverage strategies for achieving scale as well as launching learning journeys inside education and the arts.</i>	The Huntington Library

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Date	Time	Event	Location
January 25	2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Cultural Equity and Inclusion Initiative Advisory Committee Meeting	Arts Share LA
January 27	9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	County Art Coordinators and Leads Meeting <i>District arts coordinators are invited to the first Countywide convening of the new year where they will be encouraged to share implementation strategies and explore how County and Statewide initiatives, such as Title 1 Arts, the California Arts Ed Data Project and the LA County Arts Ed Profile, can support their districts.</i>	Los Angeles County Office of Education