



Monthly Memo

February 2017

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 Arts Commission approved grant awards to 120 organizations, funding 132 summer internship positions through the LA County Arts Internship Program, which provides full-time, paid opportunities to undergraduate college students during the summer. A list of available internship positions will be available online at the end of March.

On February 3, a group of 32 people from 27 different local arts funders were convened to discuss the Cultural Equity and Inclusion Initiative (CEII) recommendations. There was robust discussion of the initiative and participants expressed strong support for the recommendations. Participants also expressed an interest in partnering with the County in implementing the recommendations, and, while foundation and corporate grantmakers can only fund recommendations to the degree that they meet their existing funding priorities, budget and grantmaking cycles, we anticipate ongoing discussions as the work continues to move forward.

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Arts Education, Arts for All

California Alliance for the Arts Policy Council Meeting

On February 9, Denise Grande, director of arts education, presented Arts for All's work with juvenile justice reform at the California Alliance for the Arts Policy Council meeting in Sacramento. The focus of this meeting was how to use state legislation to ensure all students receive quality arts education. Topics included the passage of SB 916 (Allen), the Theatre and Dance Act (TADA!), and AB 2862 (O'Donnell) requiring California to update Visual and Performing Arts Standards; as well as new legislation requiring elementary school data collection and possible legislation to move the statewide delivery system towards true compliance with education code language on arts education.

Arts Education Profile Launch

Arts for All announced the March launch of the Arts Education Profile, a County-wide survey designed to identify the quality, quantity and equity of arts education in LA County public schools. The Arts Ed Profile will reveal the distribution of arts instruction across grades, schools and districts; supplement data reported in the California Arts Education Data Project and provide a fresh roadmap for ensuring that all LA County public school students receive high quality arts instruction. Findings will also empower districts to make data-based decisions for advancing arts education. This will be the most comprehensive snapshot of arts education in LA County to date.

Grantsmanship Basics: Raising Funds for Arts Education Workshop

On February 24, Thomas McKenzie, development manager of arts education, led a workshop at Walnut Valley Unified School District's "Mini-University," a day of professional development for classroom teachers and school administrators. "Grantsmanship Basics: Raising Funds for Arts Education" provided basic tools for securing grants for arts education in the classroom, school, school district or charter school network. Participants learned about the lifecycle of grant-funded programs, identifying prospective donors and the fundamentals of quality grant proposals. The workshop included an opportunity to work in small groups to develop or refine a key area of a current grant proposal.

Civic Art

Olive View-UCLA Medical Center Installation

The installation of four artworks at Olive View-UCLA Medical Center was completed on February 6. Building upon the Medical Center's burgeoning art collection, Civic Art program staff initiated an art purchase program for the first floor lobby, second floor hallway and second floor pharmacy areas. A curatorial approach was crafted to include both existing and site specific artworks for purchase. Christine Nguyen, David Hicks and Joe Zaldivar were the three artists selected for the art purchase program.



Where the Sea and Cosmos Meet by Christine Nguyen



From L-R: Aerial view of Sylmar, California and Olive View-UCLA Medical Center by Joe Zaldivar

Civic Art

AC Bilbrew Inaugural Exhibition and Rededication

Community members were welcomed to AC Bilbrew Library's Rededication event on February 24 by two new civic art installations. The first is the inaugural exhibition of the Golden State Mutual (GSM) Life Insurance Company art collection, acquired by the County in 2015. These artworks were part of one of the largest corporate collections of African American art in the United States. (Include link to more details about the collection)

The second installation is a new artwork by artist team Greenmeme, Freyja Bardell and Brian Howe, who were commissioned to develop an artwork for the interior courtyard that incorporated native landscaping into the design. This resulted in a green wall with ten sculptural metal forms that serve as seating benches.



View out to AC Bilbrew Library's interior courtyard installation.



Civic Art

Los Angeles County Mural Ordinance

On January 10, the Board of Supervisors directed the Arts Commission to work with Regional Planning and Public Works to draft the County's first mural ordinance for the unincorporated areas of the County. The mural ordinance will provide opportunities for artistic expression, increase community cultural assets, deter vandalism and foster a sense of neighborhood pride. Since the board meeting, staff from the Arts Commission have met with staff in Planning and Public Works and will be reporting back to the Board in May with a timeline of processes and recommendations for going forward with the ordinance, which is anticipated to launch in 2018.



Productions

Free Concerts for Public Sites Program

Parks, civic centers, libraries, probation camps, senior citizen centers and nonprofit performance venues submitted applications for the Free Concerts in Public Sites Program. Applications for the program closed on March 1.



Grants and Professional Development

Organizational Grant Program

Half of the 215 grant applications submitted for the 2016-17 Organizational Grant Program (OGP) were assessed and scored by peer review panels in February. To date the panels have been comprised of approximately 40 artists, arts professionals and community members with knowledge and professional qualifications in the arts, as well as familiarity with the Los Angeles region's arts sector. The review process continues through the end of March. Panelists' assessments and scores become the basis for applicant rankings and recommendations to the Arts Commissioners.

Arts Service Organization Convening

On February 16, organizations including LA STAGE Alliance, Arts for LA, Dance Resource Center, the Actor's Fund and California Lawyers for the Arts met for a quarterly convening of arts service organizations facilitated by the Arts Commission and hosted by the Alliance for California Traditional Arts. Participants shared how issues of civic engagement were impacting their day-to-day work and brainstormed areas of collaboration.

Arts Tune-Up

On February 25, the Arts Commission hosted an Arts Tune-Up in partnership with the City of West Hollywood. Over 40 attendees participated in roundtable sessions covering topics such as budgeting basics, surviving tax season, the arts and activism, arts/non-arts collaborations, and more.



ARTS COMMISSION: MARCH-APRIL 2017 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
March 15	9:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Organizational Grant Program Panel: Arts Education - Performing Arts	LA County Arts Commission
March 16	9:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Organizational Grant Program Panel: Theatre	LA County Arts Commission
March 17	9:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Organizational Grant Program Panel: Theatre	LA County Arts Commission
March 22	9:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Organizational Grant Program Panel: Theatre	LA County Arts Commission
March 23	9:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Organizational Grant Program Panel: Visual Arts	LA County Arts Commission
March 29	1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Reporting 101 <i>A workshop for OGP grantees to get helpful information about putting together their required reporting documentation for their OGP-funded projects.</i>	LA County Arts Commission
April 7	9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.	Real Estate 101 <i>A full-day workshop designed to equip OGP grantees of mid-sized arts organizations with the skills and knowledge to make difficult real estate choices. The workshop is geared toward individuals who have decision-making authority within their organization regarding space, budgets and long-term planning.</i>	Community Partners



ARTS COMMISSION: APRIL 2017 UPCOMING EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES CONT.

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Date	Time	Event	Location
April 17	TBA	2017 Arts Internship Program Supervisor Orientation	Getty Center
April 22	9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Arts Access Datathon <i>A one-day event exploring how data can be used to improve access to the arts for everyone.</i>	Downtown LA campus of Claremont Graduate University at The Reef