



Monthly Memo

January 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

2017 is off to a busy start at the Arts Commission.

The Advisory Committee of the Cultural Equity and Inclusion Initiative (CEII) gathered this month and unanimously voted on thirteen recommendations to be included in a report for the Board of Supervisors. The final version of the CEII report will be presented to Arts Commissioners for approval prior to submission to the Board in April.

We're super pleased to announce that the [new Arts Commission website](#) has launched! Not only is the site visually appealing and easier to navigate, the backend is much more user-friendly for our staff to make quick fixes and adjustments. All of this results in a site that provides better access to services for LA County residents.

This month marked significant press coverage for the Arts Commission with our civic art staff interviewed on KCRW's [Press Play with Madeleine Brand](#) and a [front page story in the LA Times](#) about the Fort Moore Pioneer Memorial civic artwork. I also joined Bill Davis, founding president of Southern California Public Radio, and Romina Boccia of the Heritage Foundation in a discussion on the future of federal funding for the arts, humanities and Corporation for Public Broadcasting on [KPCC's AirTalk with Larry Mantle](#).

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Arts Education, Arts for All

Arts Education Regional Conversation

On January 18, Arts for All hosted a regional conversation on arts education in the North County. School district and community arts education leaders from Antelope and Santa Clarita Valleys gathered to share implementation strategies, updates on local and state initiatives, and connect with local and Countywide resources.

Arts Coordinators Convening

On January 27, the LA County Office of Education and Arts for All co-hosted a convening of arts coordinators from Los Angeles County school districts for the first of two annual Countywide meetings. Fifty arts educators and district arts coordinators, representing 20 school districts, were in attendance. They reviewed case studies of district plans that successfully integrated the arts into student achievement goals, shared implementation strategies, and explored 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 district.



Civic Art

FY 2015-16 Civic Art Annual Report

This past year, in support of healthy and vibrant communities, the Arts Commission had 46 creative placemaking events across all supervisorial districts. Through interdepartmental collaborations and public engagement, the Arts Commission produced place-based projects that shaped the physical and social character of communities and leveraged creative potential already present. Included in the report are completed and ongoing civic art projects, progress on documenting County-owned artworks and the scope of community outreach efforts.

Since starting its first project in 2006, the Civic Art Program has commissioned numerous original artworks for public benefit and has completed 105 projects. During FY 2015-16, a total of 44 projects were actively managed. Of those, 15 new civic art projects were initiated and 12 were completed. Civic Art Program activity covered 57 communities and reached over 4,000 community members throughout the County.

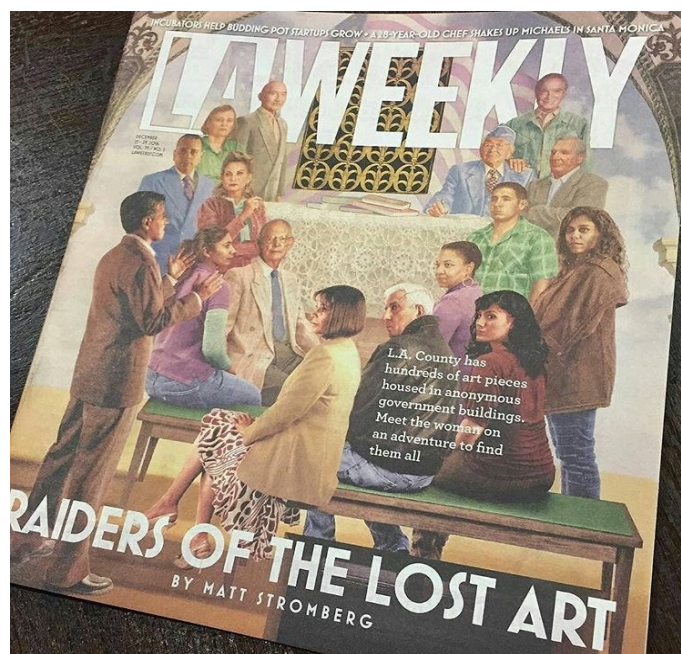
To read the full Annual Report, please visit: <https://www.lacountyarts.org/article/2015-16-annual-report-civic-art-program>

Civic Art

Civic Art Baseline Inventory

The Civic Art staff has completed the site visit phase of the Civic Art Baseline Inventory. Over 800 County facilities were surveyed in an effort to catalog all County-owned art assets. Over 1,500 artworks were found that were previously unknown to the Civic Art Program because they were commissioned or acquired before the Civic Art Policy was adopted in 2004. Additionally 300 artworks already in the Civic Art Collection were reevaluated, documented, assessed and photographed.

The next phase is to determine County ownership of the previously unknown artworks and verify they meet the accession criteria of the Civic Art Collection. It is projected 25% of the found artworks will be accessioned into the County's Civic Art Collection and the rest will be cataloged. Concurrently the Civic Art staff will be providing County departments with lists of artworks found that need critical repairs with cost estimates as well as maintenance guidelines for all artworks in departments' facilities.



LA Weekly cover story featuring the Civic Art Baseline Inventory.



Productions

Musicians Roster

In January, the [Musicians Roster](#) went live on the Commission's new website, including the 56 new musicians and groups who were accepted into the program this past fall. With a more robust search function on a site that is search engine-optimized, the new roster will be a valuable tool for the artists to promote themselves and for organizations and individuals looking to explore the rich musical culture of the region. The Roster represents a wide variety of musical genres, such as African, classical, electronic, folk, jazz, Mexican, R&B and South American, and includes such artists as Grammy Award-winning musicians Lucky Diaz and the Family Jam Band, Oscar Hernandez and the California Feetwarmers, to name but a few.

Free Concerts in Public Sites Program

Community organizations looking to provide more services to constituents and add a cultural dimension to their offerings can explore the Free Concerts in Public Sites Program. Applications opened on January 18. Through direct allocations from each board office, the Commission pays the musicians' fees and the organization coordinates the logistics of a free concert at its site. Los Angeles County-based parks, libraries, hospitals, juvenile halls, probation camps, arts organizations, civic centers, senior citizen centers and other non-profit performance venues are eligible. Applications are due March 1. More info: <https://www.lacountyarts.org/funding/free-concerts>.



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.

Professional Development

The Arts Commission hosted a two day "Essentials of Human Resources" training on January 19 and 26. Provided free of cost to eligible OGP grantees, the training covered topics including California employment law, best practices in recruiting and retaining staff, and effective employee handbooks. Twenty participants attended both days.



ARTS COMMISSION: FEBRUARY 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
February 25	9:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Arts Tune-Up <i>A free half-day mini conference for artists and arts administrators to network and establish new connections with one another, while learning about current trends in the field.</i>	West Hollywood Park Auditorium