



## Monthly Memo

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# October 2017

Documenting events, activities and projects for the Arts Commission

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## **Update from the Acting Executive Director**

The work of the Cultural Equity and Inclusion Initiative (CEII) continues to move forward at a steady pace.

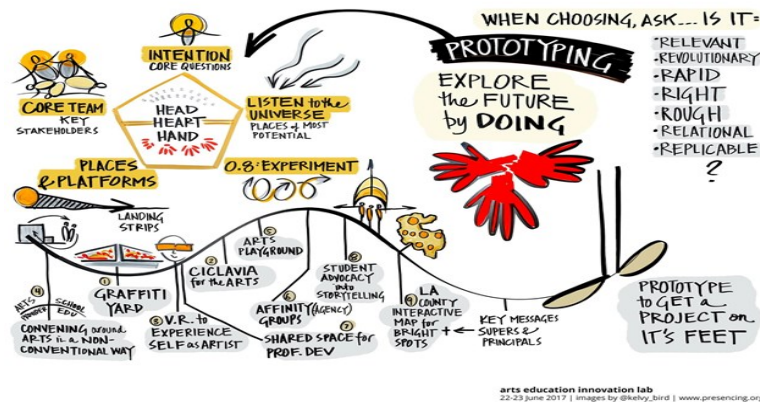
Two County departments will be hosting Creative Strategists this year (CEII recommendation #7: Artists Working Cross-Sector to Address Social Problems). The Department of Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk will work with an artist in residence to develop and implement an engagement strategy in support of the Voting Systems Assessment Project (VSAP). The County Library Public Services division will work with an artist to develop the program strategies, evaluation and implementation at library facilities to host a rotation of public events exhibiting a broad range of artistic disciplines and engagement opportunities for local communities.

Additionally, major progress has been made in fulfillment of CEII recommendation #2: Inclusive Language, Policies and Infrastructure to Recruit and Retain Diverse Staff and Boards in LA County Arts and Cultural Organizations. With the help of CEII co-chairs, a consultant has been identified to help design and deliver training and resources to FY18-19 grant applicants. We anticipate technical assistance to begin next spring.

Commissioners also began a preliminary discussion about what a cultural policy may look like for LA County. It was a thoughtful conversation and the start of exciting work that lies ahead for all of us.

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

## Arts Education



Arts Education Innovation Lab is a project of the LA County Arts Ed Collective, and is coordinated by the LA County Arts Commission, LA County Office of Education, Arts for LA and funded by the Stuart Foundation. Launched in January 2017, the Innovation Lab brings together arts and education leaders from across sectors to surface innovative solutions for reaching full scale so that all students engage in the arts as a core part of their schooling.

On October 3-6 the Prototype Marketplace events took place across Los Angeles County followed with a Prototype Boot Camp on October 23. Administrators, arts organizations, teaching artists and other community arts partners gathered to identify prototypes that bring ideas into the world with a mindset of experimentation and learning. The minimally viable projects will be designed with just enough features to learn about the approach and it's potential. The Prototype Boot Camp was a day-long session where the Prototype Teams engaged together to map out their prototype, test it with others, iterate it and launch it.

On October 24, The LA County Arts Education Collective and LA County Office of Education co-hosted STEAM: NASA's Art and the Cosmic Connection. Administrators, after school leads, Technology Enhanced Arts Learning (TEAL) coaches and CSULA pre-service TEAL teachers participated with NASA-affiliated Eureka educators in a full day of in-person Professional Development that engaged integrated earth and space science activities, demo lessons in Math, Technology, and Literacy. This is the first of four sessions which will happen throughout the year with different topics.

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## Civic Art

### Artesia Library Installation

Installation on the tile mural for Artesia Library is complete. The civic artwork reflects the diversity of the Artesia community and the important contribution of water in the development of the city. *Lady Artesia* depicts a compressed, multilayered visual timeline of the city's past, present and future. The silk screened ceramic tile composition features a blue and white pattern of people surrounding a prominent central figure. In reference to blue and white Portuguese and Spanish Azulejo tile, Mexican Talevera tile, and Chinese and Middle Eastern porcelain wares, artist Sonia Romero chose the reoccurring blue and white ceramic color composition to represent the city's intense diversity and to highlight Dutch and Portuguese farmers who settled Artesia and the surrounding areas into flourishing dairy districts. People featured in the pattern include Artesia residents Romero met and photographed at the city's Annual International Fair and Portuguese Festa events.



Artist Sonia Romero and Civic Art Project Manager Iris Anna Regn in front of the newly installed *Lady Artesia* at the Artesia Library

## Civic Art

### South Whittier Library Installation

*The Coming Together of a Community* by Louise Griffin is a series of 17 sculptures placed along the library's landscaping and walkways. The artwork reflects the written words given to the artist by residents when describing their community: "together," "family," "unity" and "home" inspired Griffin to design the sculptures in varying heights, from 3 feet to 7 1/2 feet, and diameters, from 4 inches to 13 inches, to depict the multicultural and generational make up of the community. Fabricated in powder-coated aluminum, the vibrant sculptures display collaged images of South Whittier's history such as the Tongva Tribe, Pio Pico, the railroad industry and the Pacific Electric light rail. Alongside images are taken from the natural landscape and wildlife that make up the local ecology. The sculptures are organized thematically, and include the names of all five South Whittier Neighborhoods in bold white text. Internally lit at night and perforated in unique patterns, the artworks transform into large lanterns across the site, as their placement direct visitors towards the entrance of the new library.



South Whittier Library's newly installed civic artwork by artist Louise Griffin: *The Coming Together of a Community*

## Civic Art

### **Artist Selected for the San Fernando Mental Health Center**

On Wednesday, October 11, the Project Coordination Committee (PCC) for the civic art project at San Fernando Mental Health selected artist Christine Nguyen from a shortlist of finalists. Her proposal includes a photo-based aluminum mural piece, a mobile sculpture and an acrylic wall divider, public engagement project for children and the public to create Ojo de Dios pieces – with some intended to be on display at the new facility– and coloring pages with images from the mural for the children’s waiting room. In this project she incorporates the surrounding natural world of the region such as the flora and fauna found in the San Fernando/Los Angeles area creating a playful and inspirational imaginary world that gives a sense of wonder, comfort, healing and recovery. Construction on this new facility will begin in early 2018. The center will deliver an array of outpatient mental health services to children, their families and care providers.

#### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROJECT



sample of Ojo de Dios crafts



## **Free Concerts in public sites / Musician's Roster**

The [Musicians Roster](#) is currently accepting applications for the 2018 roster update. Accepted musicians and artists will be eligible to perform as part of the 2018 Free Concerts in Public Sites Program. Deadline to submit an application is November 21.



## Grants and Professional Development

### Grant Application Workshops

Application workshops for organizations wishing to apply to the Organizational Grant Program, the Community Impact Arts Grants and the Arts Internship Program were held at seven locations throughout the County in September and October. Locations included the San Gabriel Mission Playhouse, South LA's A Place Called Home, Venice's Beyond Baroque, the Port of Los Angeles High School in San Pedro, the Brand Library and Arts Center in Glendale and the Watts Labor Community Action Committee. In addition, an OGP application workshop webinar was hosted for the first time. Over 200 people were in attendance at these workshops.

In addition, on October 4 and 18, the Arts Commission held "virtual open office hours" via conference call to discuss questions related to the 2018 Arts Internship Grant application. Fifteen individuals attended.

Grant Application Deadlines for each program are listed below:

October 11	Organizational Grant Program Budget Category 3 & 4 Community Impact Arts Grant
October 18	Organizational Grant Program Budget Category 2
October 25	Arts Internship Program
November 1	Organizational Grant Program Budget Category 1

### Arts Internship Program

The 2017 Arts Internship Program Final Report, which provides a summary and evaluation of the program from the perspectives of both interns and supervisors, is available on the [Arts Commission website](#).





## ARTS COMMISSION: November 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](mailto:mgonzalez@arts.lacounty.gov) or (213) 202-5858.

Date	Time	Event	Location
<b>November 13, 2017</b>	10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Arts Commission Meeting	1055 Wilshire Blvd., #800, Los Angeles, CA 90017
<b>November 16, 2017</b>	1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.	Los Angeles Visionaries Association and the Arts Commission Tour of Bob Hope Patriotic Hall	1816 S Figueroa St, Los Angeles, CA 90015
<b>November 18, 2017</b>	10:00 a.m.	Los Nietos Library Civic Art Dedication	8533 Duchess Drive Whittier, CA 90606