

LA County Department of Arts and Culture

Kristin Sakoda, Director
Wednesday, May 21, 2025

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Mission

To advance arts, culture, and creativity throughout Los Angeles County.

Vision

We envision a region in which arts, culture, and creativity are integral to every aspect of civic life for all people and communities.

Programs & Services

- Grants and technical assistance for nonprofits
- Civic Art Collection, Care, Commissions
- Arts Education and Youth Development
- Creative Career Pathways
- Cross-Sector Arts Strategies
- Research and Evaluation
- Professional Development
- Home to Arts Commission, LANAIC and Arts Ed Collective





- Established in 2002 by Board of Supervisors
- Public-private, collective impact initiative
- Prioritizes resources for youth historically excluded from learning in the arts
- Supports regional efforts to expand school-based arts education, community-based arts education, creative career pathways for youth, learning and leadership among practitioners and advocates, research and evaluation, and public awareness about the value of arts education.
- Strategic direction for the initiative is guided by the Leadership Circle and Funders Council



Our Shared Vision and Shared Values were collaboratively developed over two years, beginning with the LA County Arts Education Innovation Lab in 2018 and continuing through community meetings held in summer 2019 to elicit input from the general public as well as specific stakeholder groups.

School-based Arts Education

Directs resources to school districts to help expand arts education in schools through strategic planning and coaching, matching grants, professional development for classroom teachers, and networking that allows promising practices to be shared across school districts.



Community-Based Arts Education

Embeds arts-based youth development across LA County systems of care to help young people, families, and the adults who work with them to heal and thrive.



Community-Based Arts Education

Youth in Institutions



Inner City Youth Orchestra of LA Drum Corp
Program at Barry J, Nidorf Juvenile Hall



Spirit Awakening Foundation
at Dorothy Kirby Center

Creative Wellbeing

In Schools and Community

LA County
**ARTS &
CULTURE**



A R T S FOR
HEALING
AND
JUSTICE
N E T W O R K



LOS ANGELES COUNTY
**DEPARTMENT OF
MENTAL HEALTH**
hope. recovery. wellbeing.



Los Angeles County Department of
Children and Family Services



Creative Career Pathways for Youth

Addresses systemic barriers within creative industries and supports young people of color in entering and shaping LA County's creative economy.



Grantmaking and Professional Development



Woodcraft Rangers



The Music Center

Cross-Sector Arts Collaborations: Creative Strategists in County Departments



Carol Zou led activities at the Potrero Heights Park Community and Senior Center



East LA Services Center, Community Garden

Civic Art Collection, Commissions & Conservation



Wrapped in Sunbeams, 2022, Matthew Mazzotta
Department of Health Services, Rancho Los Amigos Restorative Care Village

Research and Evaluation



Untitled by Dora De Larios

Policymaking

- Programs invest in arts sector and cultural services that reflect and serve our diverse communities, with 99% zip codes reached
- Policies advance arts and culture in the region adopted by Board of Supervisors:
 - Cultural Equity & Inclusion Initiative
 - Countywide Cultural Policy & Strategic Plan
 - Regional Blueprint for Arts Education
 - County Arts and Justice Reform Plan
- Integrating Arts into County Plans (e.g. Aging, Sustainability, LA River Master Plan)
- Practices leverage arts and culture as equity strategy across sectors of civic life

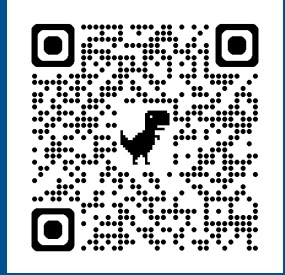
COUNTYWIDE CULTURAL POLICY STRATEGIC PLAN



Thank you!



www.lacountyarts.org



2023-2024 Annual Report



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Countywide Cultural Policy

