

Enriching Lives



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LOS ANGELES COUNTY ARTS COMMISSION AWARDS \$4,418,000 IN GRANTS TO 153 COUNTY ARTS GROUPS

The Los Angeles County Arts Commission has announced \$4,418,000 in two-year grants to 153 nonprofit arts organizations through its Organizational Grant Program (OGP). Although the amount for 2009-11 is slightly (2%) lower than the awards for 2008-10 announced in July 2008, almost the same number of organizations (153 vs. 155) were funded. An estimated 9 million people will be served by the organizations receiving grants.

Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Chairman Don Knabe noted, "The fiscal situation has forced a small reduction in the total grant amount, but the County understands the value of the services our cultural organizations provide. The support to the 153 groups has a ripple effect in terms of free access to events, arts education programs and performances, exhibitions that enrich our lives and build bridges between communities, and, of course, jobs."

Arts Commission President Araceli Ruano commented, "These grants will ensure that many cultural organizations can do their work even as the economy results in reduced funding. Times like this are when all Angelenos need the arts to lift their spirits."

Organizational arts grants by Los Angeles County for fiscal years 2009-10 and 2010-11, broken down by size of organization, are as follows.

SMALL BUDGET (under \$100,000) – 52 grants totaling \$562,200

MID-SIZE BUDGET 1 (\$100,000-\$500,000) – 66 grants totaling \$1,356,200

MID-SIZE BUDGET 2 (\$500,000-\$1,500,000) – 21 grants totaling \$981,000

LARGE BUDGET (more than \$1,500,000) - 14 grants totaling \$1,518,600

Grant amounts range from \$4,100 (Classical Theatre Lab) to \$286,600 (Los Angeles Opera). Grantee organizations are spread throughout L.A. County with offices located in 45 of the County's 88 municipalities.

Seventeen (11%) of these organizations are receiving County arts grants for the first time. Of these, 13 are in the Small Budget category, 3 are in the Mid-Size Budget 1 category, and 1 is in the Mid-Size Budget 2 category.

A complete list of grantees for 2009-11 is online on the Arts Commission's Web site.

The list by size of grant is at

<http://lacountyarts.org/grants/grant0910grantsize.pdf>

The list alphabetical by artistic discipline is at

<http://lacountyarts.org/grants/grant0910grantdiscipline.pdf>

(for non-electronic media)

Go to www.lacountyarts.org, click on "Grants," then "About the OGP Program."

All Arts Commission OGP grants are for two years. Two-year grants increase stability for arts organizations enabling them to plan ahead and lighten their administrative work load because they prepare grant proposals every other year instead of annually.

In addition to the 153 arts organizations whose grants were approved by the Board of Supervisors on July 14 are 155 organizations that are receiving the second installment of two-year grants awarded last year. These grantees bring the total number of arts organizations receiving County funds to 308.

Cultural projects supported by County funds over the next two years include:

Arts education

To support the Shakespeare for Youth tour, including pre- and post- performance workshops (Friend of the Cerritos Center, \$45,100)

To support a pilot collaboration between Pasadena USD, Side Street Projects and the Gamble House for 3rd grade students, (Side Street Projects, \$29,000)

To support funding for the live concert component of the “Music in the Schools” program, (Downey Symphonic Society, \$13,500)

To support marketing and education position and that “Bring Students to the Theatre” and “Big Read” programs, (Will and Company, \$38,100)

To support development of a youth writing program, mentorship program, and literary arts events, (PEN Center USA, \$36,800)

Financial support for artists and arts administrators

To support eight new California artist residencies and expand gallery hours (18th Street Arts Complex, \$50,100)

To support artists’ fees for two concert seasons, (Long Beach Community Concert Association, \$13,500)

To support artists’ salaries for two bilingual theatre productions, (Grupo de Teatre SINERGIA, \$16,600)

To support the Program Director, professional development for teaching artists, and program evaluation, (Culture Shock Los Angeles Dance Troupe, \$19,400)

To support the payment of dancers for rehearsals and education programs (La Danserie, \$6,900)

To support a staff position for accounting and fundraising activities, (American Museum of Ceramic Art, \$33,900)

New work and artists

To support a weekly exhibition program of experimental film, video art, documentaries and animation, (FilmForum, \$17,700)

To support partnerships with hunger relief organizations to create oral histories and puppet-theatre plays, (501 (see three) ARTS, \$5,100)

To support two fully-staged contemporary operas, (Long Beach Opera, \$35,700)

To support the 18th and 19th Annual Young Playwrights Festivals, (Blank Theatre Company, \$22,900)

Free performances and events

To support temporary public art projects in vacant lots, (Arts Council for Long Beach, \$75,500)

To support seven free multidisciplinary performances each summer, (Grand Performances, \$49,600)

To support four experimental architecture and landscape design exhibitions that are free to the public, (Materials and Applications, \$14,900)

To support World City, a free family performance series, (Music Center Education Division, \$78,100)

Technology upgrades and training

To support the creation of an online Latino Media Resource Guide, (National Association of Latino Independent Producers, \$49,800)

To support a communications plan and Web site upgrade, (Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions, \$25,300)

To support the update of the organization's Web site and technology needs, (Young Artists International, Inc., \$17,100)

To support marketing and technology initiatives, (Pasadena Dance Theatre, \$39,900)

The Los Angeles County Arts Commission, Laura Zucker, Executive Director, provides leadership in cultural services of all disciplines for the largest county in the United States, encompassing 88 municipalities. In addition to its grants program, the Arts Commission provides leadership and staffing to support the regional blueprint for arts education, *Arts for All*; oversees the County's Civic Art Program for capital projects, funds the largest arts internship program in the country in conjunction with the Getty Foundation, programs the John Anson Ford Theatres and supports the Los Angeles County Cultural Calendar on ExperienceLA.com. The Arts Commission also produces free community programs, including the L.A. Holiday Celebration broadcast nationally, and a year-round music program that funds more than 50 free concerts each year in public sites. The 2009-10 President of the Arts Commission is Araceli Ruano.

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