



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **Alhambra USD adopts K-12<sup>th</sup> grade Arts Education Plan becoming 12<sup>th</sup> County district to restore comprehensive arts education since California schools cut the arts in 1978**

**Tonight** the Alhambra Unified School District's Board voted to adopt a comprehensive arts education plan to give its 19,800 students who attend 13 K-8 elementary schools and three high schools sequential K-12 arts education based on California's Visual and Performing Arts Standards. The vote makes Alhambra USD the 12th County district – and the fourth in the San Gabriel Valley with Hacienda La Puente, Pasadena and Rosemead districts – to adopt a budgeted plan to restore comprehensive arts education to the general curriculum since the County Board of Supervisors launched *Arts for All: Los Angeles County Regional Blueprint for Arts Education* in 2002.

Administered by the Los Angeles County Arts Commission, *Arts for All* seeks to restore comprehensive arts education, cut from California classrooms in 1978 when passage of Proposition 13 reduced property taxes and consequently local public school funding. *Arts for All* guides districts to restore the arts to the general curriculum commensurate with the other core subjects.

District Superintendent **Dr. Julie Hadden** said that the voted reflected the commitment and tireless work of the Alhambra arts education committee whose members, led by Educational Services Director **Dr. Terry Jaurequi** and including Board member **Adele Andrade-Stadler**, have been working since August 2005.

"This arts education vote recognizes how vital the arts are to a comprehensive education and the role they play in invigorating learning, engaging students and building self concept. We are grateful to our Board for their wisdom and to all who participated to ensure that the arts are fully at the table at Alhambra for all students," said Hadden.

In addition to Alhambra USD, Hacienda La Puente USD, Pasadena USD and Rosemead SD, the other districts that adopted arts education plans are Beverly Hills USD, Burbank USD, Castaic SD, Culver City USD, Compton USD, Norwalk-La Mirada USD, Santa Monica-Malibu USD and the Los Angeles County Office of Education that educates special populations.

Three other districts ABC USD, Little Lake City SD and Palos Verdes Peninsula USD began the *Arts for All* process in fall 2005 and are on track to adopt arts education plans this year. The Los Angeles Unified School District that educates 700,000 of the County's 1.7 million students adopted an arts education plan prior to *Arts for All*.

*Arts for All* is supported by the *Arts for All* Pooled Fund, launched in February 2004 with a \$500,000 gift from the Entertainment Industry Foundation that also includes Boeing, The Getty Foundation, The James Irvine Foundation, Jewish Community Foundation, JPMorgan Chase Foundation, The Rosalinde and Arthur Gilbert Foundation, Sony Pictures Entertainment, Thelma Pearl Howard Foundation, and Warner Bros. Entertainment. The Dana Foundation, Los Angeles County Arts Commission and Target Corporation are also members of the Pooled Fund for support of specific Arts for All initiatives. Pooled Fund member the Herb Alpert Foundation formed a partnership with P.S. ARTS to restore comprehensive arts education at Lawndale Elementary School District.

To further serve districts, the Arts Commission created an arts education website [www.LAArtsEd.org](http://www.LAArtsEd.org) for one-stop shopping for quality arts programs meeting California curriculum standards. Featuring more than 175 programs scrutinized by arts education experts, the interactive directory includes audio and video samples of the programs searchable by artistic discipline (music, dance, theatre, visual arts), school subject area (history, math, English, science), grade level, program type (performance, workshop, field trip, residency) and cultural origin.

**ARTS FOR ALL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Rita Hadjimanoukian, *Deputy, Supervisor Antonovich*  
Janice Pober, *Senior Vice President, Corporate Social Responsibility, Sony Pictures Entertainment*  
Dr. Darline P. Robles, *Superintendent, Los Angeles County Schools*  
Laurie Schell, *Executive Director, California Alliance for Arts Education*  
Mark Slavkin, *Vice President of Education, Music Center*  
Gail Tierney, *Senior Deputy, Supervisor Don Knabe*  
Hope Warschaw, *Immediate Past President, Los Angeles County Arts Commission*  
Laura Zucker, *Executive Director, Los Angeles County Arts Commission*

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 the Arts Commission providing leadership and staffing to support the regional blueprint for arts education, *Arts for All*, the Arts Commission administers a grants program that funds more than 250 nonprofit arts organizations annually, 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 60 free concerts each year in public sites. The 2006-07 President of the Arts Commission is Marjorie Lyte.