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**City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs
Receives California Arts Council
“Creative California Communities” Grant**

**Department of Cultural Affairs’ “Warner Grand World Stage” project
is among thirty projects funded statewide in support of
transforming communities through the arts.**

[Los Angeles / San Pedro, CA] - The **California Arts Council** announced plans to award **\$50,050** to the **City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA)** as part of its Creative California Communities grant program.

The Creative California Communities program supports large-scale collaborative projects that harness arts and culture as a key economic and/or community development strategy. The thirty funded projects will benefit residents and visitors in California’s communities by leveraging the assets of the creative sector, which includes artists, cultural organizations, and arts-related businesses.

The City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs, in partnership with the **San Pedro Historic Waterfront Business Improvement District**, will create the “**Warner Grand World Stage**,” to take place monthly during the **First Thursday San Pedro Artwalk**. Located outside the historic **Warner Grand Theatre**, a 1931 Art Deco performing arts center operated by DCA. Performances will be free and will showcase contemporary and traditional dance, music, and spoken word artists, including performing arts from Latin American, Asian and Pacific Islander, and European cultures.

The Artwalk draws approximately 4,000 people monthly to visit over forty galleries in the area. The *Warner Grand World Stage* will greatly increase the size and attendance of the Artwalk, and provide new economic opportunities to LA-based artists and local businesses.

Additional *Warner Grand World Stage* partners include:

- 1) **dublabb**, a nonprofit web radio station dedicated to the growth of music, arts, and culture that will feature live DJ sets and broadcast performances to an international audience;



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- 2) The **Grand Vision Foundation**, the official friends group of the Warner Grand Theatre;
 - 3) The **Museum of Latin American Art in Long Beach**, which will help procure high-quality music and dance from both local and visiting Latin American and European artists;
 - 4) The **Los Angeles Harbor College Music Department**, which will provide suggestions for world music artists and help ensure that the diverse Harbor communities are represented in performances;
 - 5) The **Homeland Cultural Center**, which celebrates Cambodian and Hmong art forms;
 - 6) The **Pacific Islander Community Council**, a Harbor-based organization that promotes cultural awareness of the Pacific Islander community;
- and,
- 7) The **Los Angeles Jazz Society**, which will work with local schools to provide in-school programming before and after select events.

"The *Warner Grand World Stage* will feature high-quality cultural entertainment to generate additional activity at the already vibrant street scene, provide new economic opportunities to LA-based artists and businesses, and showcase the important role of the Harbor communities and the Port of LA to the cultural life of Los Angeles," said **Danielle Brazell, General Manager of the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs.**

Joe Buscaino, Councilmember of the City's 15th Council District said, "The *Warner Grand World Stage* will showcase a diverse array of music and dance at the San Pedro First Thursday Artwalk, advancing tourism and creating economic development for our artists and businesses in the community. The timing of this award is perfect to coincide with the redesign of the LA Waterfront and the Ports O'Call Village. As downtown San Pedro becomes a more vibrant, world-class waterfront destination, working with our Department of Cultural Affairs on the *Warner Grand World Stage* project will be an important part of this evolution."

"The San Pedro Historic Waterfront Business Improvement District is delighted to partner with the Department of Cultural Affairs, the Office of Mayor Eric Garcetti, and Councilmember Joe Buscaino to increase participation in San Pedro's First Thursday Art Walk through the creation of a new stage to showcase high-quality world music and dance performances. The Artwalk includes over 40 galleries and artist studios; 20 restaurants; 5 theaters; and 15 gift, clothing, and book stores. Increased visitorship will sustain and further develop businesses and support new and existing jobs," said **Stephen Robbins, Executive Director of the San Pedro Historic Waterfront Business Improvement District.**



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“California Arts Council grants support a wide range of projects that are crafted by each community to reflect their values and needs,” said **Donn K. Harris, Chair of the California Arts Council**. “It is always exciting to see what creative minds attempt to do when working collaboratively. With an increased state investment, we are able to further spark the powerful growth and prosperity that result from the deep arts engagement provided by our grant programs.”

To view a complete listing of all Creative California Communities grantees, visit <http://arts.ca.gov/news/pressreleases.php>.

About the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs

The **Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA)** generates and supports high quality arts and cultural experiences for Los Angeles’ 4 million residents and 40 million annual visitors. DCA advances the social and economic impact of the arts and ensures access to diverse and enriching cultural activities through: grantmaking, marketing, development, public art, community arts programming, arts education, and building partnerships with artists and arts and cultural organizations in neighborhoods throughout the City of Los Angeles.

DCA’s operating budget and managed portfolio totaled \$56 million in fiscal year 2013/14. It consisted of: \$13.4 million in City related and indirect cost allocations; \$10.5 million in Transient Occupancy Tax funds; \$9 million in one-time City funding; \$9 million in funds from the Public Works Improvements Arts Program (PWIAP); \$7.5 million from the Private Arts Development Fee Program (ADF); and \$6.3 million in private and public funds raised from foundation, corporate, government, and individual donors.

DCA significantly supports artists and cultural projects through its Public Art Division by administering a portfolio that totaled \$16.5 million in PWIAP and ADF funds in FY13/14. Of this amount, typically 15% to 20%, or between \$2.5 and \$3.3 million, was attributable to artists’ fees.

DCA’s Marketing and Development Division has raised \$34 million over the last 12 fiscal years to re-grant to LA-based artists and arts and cultural organizations, and to support DCA’s special programming and facilities. DCA also grants approximately \$2.3 million annually to 268 artists and nonprofit arts and cultural organizations through its long-established Grants Administration Division. Additional special project support of more than \$1.5 million is also awarded annually for a total of approximately \$3.8 million invested each year in LA’s creative community.

DCA provides arts and cultural programming through its Community Arts Division, managing numerous neighborhood arts and cultural centers, theaters, historic sites, and educational initiatives. DCA’s Marketing and Development Division also markets the City’s arts and cultural events through development and collaboration with strategic partners, design and production of creative catalogs, publications, and promotional materials, and management of the culturela.org website visited by over 3 million people annually.



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About the California Arts Council

The Mission of the California Arts Council, a state agency, is to advance California through the arts and creativity. The Council is committed to building public will and resources for the arts; fostering accessible arts initiatives that reflect contributions from all of California's diverse populations; serving as a thought leader and champion for the arts; and providing effective and relevant programs and services. Learn more at arts.ca.gov.