CITY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

CHAMPIONING ARTS, CULTURE, AND CREATIVITY FOR ALL!

inclusion diversity equity excellence access
“Art has extraordinary power to transform...”

Mayor Eric Garcetti
City of Los Angeles

Los Angeles is the creative capital of the world, so culture isn’t an afterthought for us — it’s part of who we are, and it’s essential to the health and happiness of our people. Art has extraordinary power to transform perceptions, attitudes, and behaviors, especially when it lives in places that are accessible to everyone. We’re proud to invest in the creative expression that thrives in our city, because it gives Angelenos more opportunities to exercise their imaginations and inspire one another.
DCA and it’s dedicated staff continue to respond to our communities’ challenges…

The Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) presents this FY19/20 Annual Report as a stellar example of the resiliency and the fragility of Los Angeles’s cultural ecology. The first two quarters of FY19/20 reflect an unprecedented level of cultural services delivery through: youth and adult arts education; museum-quality visual art exhibitions; new performing arts initiatives such as the Blacks in Dance, Promise Zone Arts, Social Justice Artist in Residency, and CURRENT:LA Food; as well as our robust grantmaking portfolio that serves over 300 nonprofit arts and cultural organizations and artists and community groups throughout our city. The second two quarters reflect an unexpected and dramatic decline in how arts, culture, and creativity are equitably accessed and experienced throughout our region.

The COVID-19 crisis and resulting mandatory stay-at-home orders canceled all in-person arts and cultural events in the City of Los Angeles, resulting in the same catastrophic financial impact on individual artists and nonprofit arts organizations as on hotels, restaurants, and others in the entertainment and travel sectors. Left without earned revenue, these artists and organizations struggle to stay afloat and identify new models to monetize their services. DCA is in a similar position with the loss of its primary funding source, the Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT). As a result, the city is at grave risk of losing essential arts and cultural organizational services that are critical to our city’s identity and will be essential to accelerate our regional recovery.

Danielle Brazell
General Manager
City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs
As outlined in the City’s Administrative Code, the Department of Cultural Affairs shall:

“Strengthen the quality of life in the City of Los Angeles by stimulating and supporting cultural activities and ensuring access to such activities for residents and visitors to the City.

To fulfill the above, the Department shall:

1. Administer such cultural, historic, or scientific programs as may be assigned to it in this ordinance and by any ordinance adopted subsequent to the operative date of this chapter;
2. Administer a program of grant support to arts organizations;
3. Cooperate with the private sector in technical services to cultural organizations and artists;
4. Coordinate the efforts of other City Agencies that affect cultural activities, policy, or planning;
5. Develop an appropriate relationship between the City and other public and private organizations having similar interests and responsibilities;
6. Encourage and approve the development of aesthetic design in the City, its public facilities, and lands;
7. Develop interest and activity in historic preservation and rehabilitation of buildings and sites through increased awareness of architecture, archeology, paleontology, and other cultural and scientific disciplines; and administer such programs as may be assigned by ordinance in fulfillment thereof;
8. Promote the cultural and artistic offerings in Los Angeles as a resource to attract economic development; and
9. Further recommend to the Mayor and City Council policies and programs that encourage a productive environment in the City for the arts, sciences, and historic preservation activities in both the public and private sectors.”

Los Angeles is ranked third in the country in terms of arts and cultural markets and first in terms of artist and talent. LA is an artist supercity with a creative workforce that straddles for-profit/commercial creative industries with the nonprofit sector. As the workforce readiness pipeline for the commercial creative industries, nonprofit arts organizations employ more than 27,000 employees and contractors. They are the primary employers of arts workers
and creative artists (musicians, dancers, visual artists, muralists, etc.). The direct employment generated by the county’s creative industries and the indirect employment they create through multiplier effects constitutes 16.3% of Los Angeles County’s total employment. [Source: 2020 Otis Report on the Creative Economy]

The sector includes over 735 nonprofit organizations in LA, generating more than $2.2 billion in revenue for the regional economy. Aggregate expenditures totaled nearly $1.9 billion annually, including staffing, facility management, marketing, and talent. However, like most small businesses, arts organizations with budgets under $250,000 annually have low cash reserves, leaving the sector highly vulnerable to economic downturns. In addition, the sector relies heavily on earned revenue to compensate for lower philanthropic investment in the cultural sector than that of other global cities.

The inequities inherent in this analysis fall along racial and cultural lines as well. BIPOC (black, Indigenous, and people of color) and low-income communities are disproportionally affected in terms of infection and unemployment rates. So too are the organizations that serve these communities, including City-owned and operated community arts centers and performing arts venues.

DCA and its dedicated staff continue to respond to our communities’ challenges by working to ensure LA does not lose its creative identity and our valuable cultural ecosystem. As the pandemic ensued, DCA’s Neighborhood Arts and Cultural Centers pivoted to bring arts learning, exhibitions, and community forums online. Our Grants Administration team followed suit to ensure all grantees had the option of revising their scope of work for DCA to provide services online.

DCA launched an Emergency COVID-19 relief fund in collaboration with Community Partners and helped 350 artists through a $290,000 allocation utilizing funds from both the City and outside support. Our Public Art team developed a new strategy to keep artists working by increasing commissions to artists. The required pre-approved vendor lists for mural artists and mobile providers were established, and we deployed Arts Development Fees for COVID-19 relief to artists and cultural organizations.
Our Marketing and Development team launched **DCA at Home**, a portal for people to access online arts, cultural, and creative experiences produced by DCA and our grantees, and launched an extensive **Resource Guide** for artists and nonprofit arts organizations looking for grant relief and other forms of assistance. This moment in history calls upon us to deepen our commitment to arts, culture, and creativity and re-imagine how to support, sustain, and deliver activities and provide experiences online as we move toward recovery. As DCA continues to provide quality art experiences through innovative means, we advance racial equity, maintain our regional cultural infrastructure, and accelerate our economy.

The role of the artist and community-based cultural organizations is essential in our society; artists and cultural workers are critical collaborators during times like this, offering hope and resiliency through a range of expressions to help voice our collective trauma. When we re-imagine the future, the arts are vital to our economic recovery.

Our actions during this challenging moment in time will be remembered for years to come. Our thoughts remain with all our communities and especially with the individuals most impacted by these shifts, including healthcare workers and first responders, deeply hit by the COVID-19 crisis.

**Danielle Brazell**
General Manager
City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs
$17.8 MILLION
THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES’S OVERALL INVESTMENT IN THE ARTS

2,806,000 GRANT FUNDED PROJECT PARTICIPANTS
592,368 SOCIAL MEDIA FOLLOWERS AND WEBSITE USERS
324,303 COMMUNITY ARTS PARTICIPANTS
149,812 PERFORMING ARTS PARTICIPANTS
147,500 PUBLIC ART FUNDED PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

4,019,983 TOTAL PEOPLE SERVED

Daniel Tarica
Assistant General Manager
The Grants Administration Division supports over a thousand programs and events each year by funding local artists, arts organizations, and festival producers. Up to $4.16 million is awarded to over 300 organizations annually to stabilize and support this sector and to create free and low-cost arts and cultural experiences for Angelenos in neighborhoods across the city. This year over 800 individual artists were supported through the Artist Emergency Relief Fund in response to canceled events because of the pandemic.

DCA’s grants system uses a competitive peer-review process to contract with 387 nonprofit and individual grantees for services in every community.

Joe Smoke
Grants Administration Division Director
grants administration division

FY 2019/20

$4,160,000 TOTAL GRANT INVESTMENT

2.8 MILLION AUDIENCE MEMBERS SERVED

3,275 ARTS JOBS CREATED

1,600 ARTS EVENTS SUPPORTED

365 NONPROFITS SUPPORTED

34 INDIVIDUAL ARTISTS SUPPORTED
Inclusive and representative high-quality arts and cultural experiences are the hallmarks of the Community Arts Division. The Division encompasses 37 neighborhood arts and cultural centers, theaters, and historic sites serving young people and adults.

The centers and theaters are community hubs that are familiar places for unique and highly coveted art experiences and educational programs staffed by dedicated full and part-time art instructors. The historic sites are architectural treasures that are carefully conserved for future generations to enjoy.

Leslie Thomas
Community Arts Division Director
community arts division

DCA ART CENTERS LOCATIONS

FY 2019/20

324,303 COMMUNITY ARTS PARTICIPANTS SERVED

13,012 COMMUNITY ARTS ACTIVITIES
community arts division

DCA MANAGED ARTS CENTERS

Isabelle Lutterodt
Barnsdall Park and Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery

Stuart Vaughan
Canoga Park Youth Arts Center

Angelica Loa Perez
Lincoln Heights Youth Arts Center

Jesus (Chuy) Rangel
Sun Valley Youth Arts Center

Rosie Lee Hooks
Watts Towers Arts Center Campus

Amitis Motevalli
William Grant Still Arts Center
Music, dance, theater, and performance art thrive in LA through the Performing Arts Program. The Program supports seven theaters whose productions play a vital role in providing a catalyst for economic development, community engagement, and civic identity. These community theaters reshape attitudes, counter cultural stereotypes, and inspire creativity. These venues will be a vital part of the economic recovery of our creative enclaves.

The Performing Arts Program uses an independent, peer-review panel and a public review process to select artists to create and present programming at the theaters.

Ben Johnson
Performing Arts Program Director
performing arts program

DCA THEATER LOCATIONS

FY 2019/20

149,812 PERFORMING ARTS PARTICIPANTS SERVED

1,498 PERFORMING ARTS ACTIVITIES
performing arts program

Debbie Livingston
Barnsdall Gallery Theatre

James Burks
Leimert Park Village Cultural Hub

Christopher Riedesel
Madrid Theatre

Dolores Chavez
The Taxco/Canoga Park Stage Arts Lab

Lee Sweet
Warner Grand Theatre
The Marketing, Development, Design, and Digital Research Division communicates the vitality of the arts in LA by designing and promoting policy, programming, initiatives, exhibitions, and other cultural events. The division works with local, state, national, and international arts organizations to promote cultural awareness and increase access to arts education.

The division raises funds from government agencies, corporations, private individual donors, and foundations to support arts and culture and promote the local creative economy. With a social media reach of 1.57 million, the division highlights the city’s cultures and creative communities by building innovative campaigns; developing relevant content for culturela.org; crafting communications for the media; and designing digital tools in addition to engaging publications, catalogs, event calendars, and cultural guides.

Will Caperton y Montoya
Director of Marketing, Development, and Design Strategy
FY 2019/20

$17.8 MILLION
CITY’S INVESTMENT IN THE ARTS

1,568,269
SOCIAL MEDIA IMPRESSIONS

$253,715
FUNDS RAISED

525
FESTIVALS & EVENTS CURATED IN CULTURAL GUIDES
The Public Art Division creates relevant art that gives neighborhoods a sense of space and belonging. The division engages residents and visitors through five types of arts programs: the Public Works Improvements Arts Program, the Private Arts Development Fee Program, the Murals Program, the Airport Public Art Exhibition Program, and the City Art Collection.

Art in the public realm represents an invitation to engage. Murals are neighborhood conversations; sculptures describe place; festivals, whether in-person or online, are opportunities for cross-cultural connections. Art becomes a remedy for walls and fences as each program enriches communities with cultural amenities, giving a sense of regeneration, ownership, and pride for residents while remaining an expression of our city’s rich cultural diversity for visitors.

Felicia Filer
Public Art Division Director
FY 2019/20

$4,412,734
TOTAL VALUE OF ACTIVE PERCENT FOR ART PROJECTS

147,500  PUBLIC ART PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

13,747  SQUARE FEET OF REGISTERED MURALS

27  NUMBER OF ACTIVE PERCENT FOR ART PROJECTS
DCA’s General Administrative and Support Program encompasses personnel, payroll, facilities, budgeting, and accounting. The team is responsible for processing over 500 contracts annually, positioning DCA as the second ranking agency in terms of the number of City of LA contracts awarded and administered. The proper and smooth administration of the department ensures that the city continues its tradition as a leading artistic destination, incubator and cultural hub.

Alma Gibson
General Administrative and Support Program Director
general administrative and support program

FIVE YEAR SUMMARY: BUDGET AND STAFF POSITIONS

BUDGET IN MILLIONS

NUMBER OF POSITIONS

FTE (Full Time Employees) / PTE (Part Time Employees)
Council District

Single Facility

Multiple Facilities
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

ARTS AND CULTURAL CENTERS

29 DCA ARTS AND CULTURAL CENTERS AND HISTORIC SITES

DCA Managed (18)

A. Barnsdall Park
   4814 Hollywood Boulevard
   Los Angeles, CA 90027
   Barnsdall Arts Center (BAC)
   Barnsdall Junior Arts Center (JAC)
   Barnsdall Junior Arts Center Gallery
   Hollyhock House Historic Site
   Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery (LAMAG)
   323.644.6295 Barnsdall Arts Center
   323.644.6275 Barnsdall Junior Arts Center
   323.913.4031 Hollyhock House
   323.644.6269 Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery (LAMAG)

B. Canoga Park Youth Arts Center (CPYAC)
   7222 Remmet Avenue
   Canoga Park, CA 91303
   818.346.7099

C. Henry P. Rio Bridge Gallery at City Hall
   200 North Spring Street
   Los Angeles, CA 90012

D. Lincoln Heights Youth Arts Center (LHYAC)
   2911 Altura Street
   Los Angeles, CA 90031
   323.224.0928

E. Manchester Youth Arts Center at The Vision Theatre (MYAC)
   3341 West 43rd Place
   Los Angeles, CA 90008
   213.202.5508

F. Sun Valley Youth Arts Center/The Stone House (SVYAC)
   8642 Sunland Boulevard
   Sun Valley, CA 91352
   818.252.4619

G. Watts Tower Arts Center Campus
   1727 East 107th Street
   Los Angeles, CA 90002
   Charles Mingus Gallery
   Charles Mingus Youth Arts Center (CMYAC)
   Dr. Joseph and Bootsie Howard Gallery
   Noah Purifoy Gallery
   Watts Towers Historic Site
   Watts Towers Arts Center (WTAC)
   213.847.4646 Watts Towers Arts Center
   323.566.1410 Charles Mingus Youth Arts Center

H. William Grant Still Arts Center
   2520 South West View Street
   Los Angeles, CA 90016
   323.734.1165
   William Grant Still Arts Center (WGSAC)
   William Grant Still Arts Center Gallery
29 DCA ARTS AND CULTURAL CENTERS AND HISTORIC SITES, CONTINUED

Public/Private Partnerships (8)

I. Art in the Park  
   5568 Via Marisol  
   Los Angeles, CA 90042  
   323.259.0861

J. Eagle Rock Community Cultural Center / Center for the Arts Eagle Rock  
   2225 Colorado Boulevard  
   Los Angeles, CA 90042  
   323.561.3044

K. Encino Arts and Cultural Center  
   16953 Ventura Boulevard  
   Encino, CA 91316

L. Lankershim Arts Center  
   5108 Lankershim Boulevard  
   North Hollywood, CA 91603  
   323.561.3044

M. Los Angeles World Airports Public Art Exhibition Program  
   1 World Way  
   Los Angeles, CA 90045

N. McGroarty Arts Center  
   7570 McGroarty Terrace  
   Tujunga, CA 91042  
   818.352.5285

O. William Reagh – LA Photography Center  
   2332 West Fourth Street  
   Los Angeles, CA 90057  
   213.382.8133

P. Van Nuys Airport San Fernando Valley Public Art Exhibition Program  
   16461 Sherman Way  
   Van Nuys, CA 91046

Prop K Facilities in Development (3)

Q. Downtown Youth Arts Center Fire Station #23 (DYAC)  
   225 East 4th Street  
   Los Angeles, CA 90013

R. Highland Park Youth Arts Center (HPYAC)  
   111 North Bridewell Street  
   Los Angeles, CA 90042

S. Oakwood Junior Arts Center Vera Davis McLendon Youth Arts Center  
   610 California Avenue  
   Venice, CA 90291
7 DCA THEATERS

DCA Managed (5)

T.  Barnsdall Gallery Theatre (BGT)
   4814 Hollywood Boulevard
   Los Angeles, CA 90027
   323.644.6272

U.  Madrid Theatre
    21622 Sherman Way
    Canoga Park, CA 91303
    818.347.9938

V.  The Taxco/Canoga Park Stage
    Arts Lab
    7742 Owensmouth
    Canoga Park, CA 91303
    818.347.9419

W.  Vision Theatre
    3341 West 43rd Place
    Los Angeles, CA 90008
    213.202.5508

X.  Warner Grand Theatre (WGT)
    478 West 6th Street
    San Pedro, CA 90731
    310.548.7672

Public/Private Partnerships (2)

Y.  Los Angeles Theatre Center / The NEW LATC
    514 South Spring Street, 2nd floor
    Los Angeles, CA 90013
    213.489.0994

Z.  Nate Holden Performing Arts Center (NHPAC)
    4718 West Washington Boulevard
    Los Angeles, CA 90016
    323.964.9768
As a leading, progressive arts and cultural agency, the Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) empowers Los Angeles’s vibrant communities by supporting and providing access to quality visual, literary, musical, performing, and educational arts programming; managing vital cultural centers; preserving historic sites; creating public art; and funding services provided by arts organizations and individual artists.

Formed in 1925, DCA promotes arts and culture as a way to ignite a powerful dialogue, engage LA’s residents and visitors, and ensure LA’s varied cultures are recognized, acknowledged, and experienced. DCA’s mission is to strengthen the quality of life in Los Angeles by stimulating and supporting arts and cultural activities, ensuring public access to the arts for residents and visitors alike.

DCA advances the social and economic impact of arts and culture through grantmaking, public art, community arts, performing arts, and strategic marketing, development, design, and digital research. DCA creates and supports arts programming, maximizing relationships with other city agencies, artists, and arts and cultural nonprofit organizations to provide excellent service in neighborhoods throughout Los Angeles.

For more information, please visit culturela.org or follow us on Facebook at facebook.com/culturela, Instagram @culture_la, and Twitter @culture_la.
CITY OF LOS ANGELES

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CITY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS EXECUTIVE AND SENIOR TEAM

Danielle Brazell
General Manager

Daniel Tarica
Assistant General Manager

Will Caperton y Montoya
Director of Marketing, Development, and Design Strategy

Felicia Filer
Public Art Division Director

Alma Gibson
General Administrative and Support Program Director

Ben Johnson
Performing Arts Program Director

Joe Smoke
Grants Administration Division Director

Leslie Thomas
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Cover: courtesy Moses Ball, Protect Black Women (digital edition), 2020

Inside front cover top, pp 6 top, 8 top, 10 top, 12 bottom: 24th Annual Central Avenue Jazz Festival 2019, courtesy CD 9, photo: Dedee Verdin

Inside front cover bottom, 8 bottom, 10 top, 14 top: courtesy Lincoln Heights Youth Arts Center

Pp 2 top, 5 top left and right, 14 top, 40 top left: 2019 Fourth of July Community Festival, courtesy CD 9, photo: Dedee Verdin

Pp 2, 3, 6 bottom, 41 center: Los Feliz Art & Food Festival 2019, courtesy Go As If Productions, photo: Christina Gandolfo

Pp 4 upper left and center, 10 bottom, 18 bottom, 30 top, 34 top, 36 bottom, 42 top: Van Nuys Arts Festival 2019, courtesy CD 6 2019, photo: Baha Danesh,

P 4 right: courtesy Stephen-Regins, 2019-2020 City of Los Angeles Individual Artist Fellow

P 5 center: courtesy Eric “KING CRE 8” Walker, A peace of mind, mixed media, 2020

P 6 bottom: courtesy Echo Park Rising

Pp 11, 16 bottom, 26 bottom, 41 right, inside back cover bottom, back cover: courtesy Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery

P 12 top: courtesy Nisei Week Foundation

P 14 bottom: courtesy Barnsdall Junior Arts Center

P 15: courtesy Center for the Arts Eagle Rock, photo: Carlos Henry Zavala

Pp 16 top, 40 right: courtesy William Grant Still Arts Center

Pp 18 top, 28 top: courtesy Bob Baker Marionette Theater

P 20 top: Fefu and Her Friends, courtesy Odyssey Theatre Ensemble

P 20 bottom: courtesy Geffen Playhouse

Pp 21 and 22 bottom: courtesy Brockus Project Dance Company

P 22 top: courtesy Barnsdall Gallery Theatre, photo: Gerard Sandoval

P 24 top: LA Get Down Festival, courtesy Greenway Arts Alliance, photo: Steffany Ayala

P 24 bottom: still from Open Work, courtesy Roxanne Steinberg, 2019-2020 City of Los Angeles Individual Artist Fellow

P 26: courtesy Liberated Arts Collective

P 27: courtesy Dance Resource Center of Greater Los Angeles

P 28 bottom: courtesy Santa Cecilia Orchestra

P 30 bottom: courtesy Radiatron

P 32 top: courtesy LAX Art Exhibition Program, photo: Matthew Farrar

P 32 bottom: courtesy LAX Art Exhibition Program, photo: Panic Studio LA

P 34 bottom: courtesy Heidi Duckler Dance, photo: Sean Deckert

P 35: Jazz Caravan, courtesy LA 3rd Church

P 40 center: courtesy Mia Doi Todd, 2019-2020 City of Los Angeles Individual Artist Fellow

P 42 bottom: courtesy of Jazz Under Construction’ with Ron Bishop, Trevor Ware, Dexter Story, and guest Taylor Simone

Inside back cover top: courtesy Theatre by the Blind