

R IMMEDIATE RELEAS

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## **MEDIA ALERT**

November 18, 2021

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City of Los Angeles
Department of Cultural Affairs
and the
Office of City Councilmember Mitch O' Farrell (CD 13)
announce
19 Los Angeles Theater Groups
selected for
Business-Stimulus Contracts

Los Angeles, CA - The City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) and the Office of Los Angeles City Councilmember Mitch O' Farrell today announced the selection of 19 Los Angeles Theater Groups to receive \$5,000 in business-stimulus contracts. In an effort to support the theater community within the 13th Council District, DCA and Councilmember O'Farrell offered nonprofit and for-profit theater businesses, theater troupes, and venues that support theaters to create online performing art experiences such as: theater workshops, community classes, play-readings, one-person shows, or edited versions of past performing arts events to apply.

"Part of what makes a city thrive is its arts and culture, and live theater means so much to the cultural and economic fabric of Los Angeles, especially here in the 13th District," said Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell. "COVID-19 has been exceptionally difficult on our live theater community. This program is not only helping our theater artists do what they do best - create and perform - but it's also helping them stay afloat through challenging economic times."

Councilmember O'Farrell and DCA identified \$130,000 in Arts Development Fees to support the theater community within the 13<sup>th</sup> Council District. Funds may be used for operational costs such as: rent, salaries, artist fees, videography, marketing, website administration, and other related costs incurred since January 1, 2021. As part of the business-stimulation contract award, applicants will be required to produce, present, or provide in-kind production support for one virtual/online performance, workshop, or theater arts event that is free and publicly accessible on both the organizations' website and on DCA's website.

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"With the success of DCA's prior efforts to provide a similar program to stimulate nonprofit and for-profit theater businesses in Council District 2, we were more than eager to work with Council District 13 to provide this opportunity to Theatre Row and to theaters in other cultural pockets within the district," said Felicia Filer, DCA's Public Art Division Director. "After the devastating impact of the quarantine, this program will provide relief to these cultural outlets to help them get through this recovery period."

The award recipients include: 2220 Arts Cooperative; Actors Co-Op; Art Time Presents; Bazalaam Beats Productions; Circle X Theater; FilAm ARTS; Fountain Theater; Gloria Gifford; Grok Acting Studio; Hudson Theaters LLC; Independent Shakespeare Company; Jaxx Theatricals; Lizzy Ross; Skiptown Playhouse; The Blank Theater Company; The Sacred Fools Theater; The Open Fist Theater Company; The Yard Theater; and Two Wilder, Inc.

Each award recipient will receive a \$5,000 contract that is payable in two installments of \$2,500. The initial payment will be made upon contract execution, and the second payment will be made after the public project is completed and submission of a final invoice. As the City advances into the less restrictive COVID-19 tiers, in-person performances, workshops, or theater arts events that are free and publicly accessible can be recorded for later online presentation.

The **Center for Cultural Innovation (CCI)** is an administrative partner and will manage the funds disbursement to award recipients.

## **About the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA)**

As a leading, progressive arts and cultural agency, 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 grant-making; 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.



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## **About the Center for Cultural Innovation**

The Center for Cultural Innovation (CCI) was founded in 2001 as a California 501(c)3 nonprofit corporation. Its mission is to promote knowledge sharing, networking, and financial independence for individuals in the arts by providing business training, grants, and incubating innovative projects that create new program knowledge, tools and practices for artists in the field, and conditions that contribute to realizing financial self-determination. For more information, please visit www.cciarts.org.

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