



MEDIA ALERT
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**DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS
AND
CITY OF LOS ANGELES COUNCILMEMBER KEVIN DE LEÓN
ANNOUNCE THE FINALISTS
FOR THE
LITTLE TOKYO PUBLIC ART PROJECT**

Los Angeles - Los Angeles City Councilmember, Kevin De León, and the Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) announced the five finalists for the community public art project to be installed in the heart of Little Tokyo on Alameda and 2nd Street in downtown Los Angeles. The art proposals for the final designs will be presented as part of a virtual community meeting scheduled for March 17, 2022, followed by a final review from a peer panel scheduled for March 23 and 24, 2022. The public may access the virtual community meeting at www.culturela.org.

The Little Tokyo Public Art Project finalists are:

- Art of Development
- Hikaru Hayakawa
- Kipp Kobayashi
- Meeson Pae Yang
- Oblique Labs LLC

“I’m thrilled that we have reached this exciting milestone for the Little Tokyo Public Art Project,” said **Councilmember de León**. “These finalists truly represent some of the most talented artists around and their submissions truly capture Little Tokyo’s historic contributions in shaping not only this community but the rest of Los Angeles in all its vast diversity.”

The corner of Alameda and 2nd Street is heavily transited and sits on the main thoroughfare that connects neighborhoods to the south of downtown, to the center of downtown, and to the north of Union Station. The area surrounding 2nd Street and Alameda is seen as the gateway to the Little Tokyo neighborhood, and it is used as a major access point within Little Tokyo.

“Little Tokyo represents a unique and rich cultural history of the City of Los Angeles, and the Department of Cultural Affairs supports the community’s investment to improve the experience for residents and visitors,” said **Daniel Tarica, DCA Interim General Manager**. “We are especially grateful for our partnership with the Japanese American Cultural & Community Center who partnered with the City to further our community participation throughout every phase of this process.”

The budget for the project is \$250,000. The budget is all-inclusive and covers all expenses associated with the design, fabrication, lighting, artists’ fees, and installation. The City will prepare the site for the artist for the purpose of supporting and facilitating the implementation of the art project. Funding for the project is provided from the Arts Development Fee Trust Fund and private donations.

ABOUT THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS (DCA)

As a leading, progressive arts and cultural agency, DCA empowers Los Angeles’ 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.

For more information, please visit culturela.org or follow us on Facebook at: [facebook.com/culturela](https://www.facebook.com/culturela), Instagram [@culture_la](https://www.instagram.com/culture_la), and Twitter [@culture_la](https://twitter.com/culture_la).

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