



MEDIA ALERT
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA ALERT

June 10, 2022

Contact: Juan Garcia
Public Information Director
juan.garcia@lacity.org

**City of Los Angeles
Department of Cultural Affairs,
California Institute for the Arts
Community Arts Partnership,
and
Sony Pictures Entertainment
Celebrate
Sony Pictures Media Arts Program
25th Anniversary Culmination Screening**

Los Angeles – The **City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA)**, the **California Institute of the Arts (CalArts) Community Arts Partnership (CAP)**, and **Sony Pictures Entertainment (SPE)** celebrate the 25th anniversary of the **Sony Pictures Media Arts Program (SPMAP)**. The SPMAP is a public-private media arts educational partnership that has provided free artistic and technical training to underserved young people of Los Angeles since its inception in 1997. On Saturday, June 11, 2022, at 1:00 p.m., a culmination screening of student projects developed by this year’s cohort will be available online via Zoom.

Through the SPMAP partnership, middle school students receive instruction in drawing, animation, and media arts at: the Center for the Arts, Eagle Rock; DCA's Charles Mingus Youth Arts Center at the Watts Towers Arts Center Campus; the Pacoima Public Library; SPMAP Online; DCA's William Reagh Los Angeles Photography Center; and the Wilmington Public Library. This year’s SPMAP cohort included 118 students, 26 teachers, and three paid interns.

“The Department of Cultural Affairs is extremely proud of the SPMAP public-private partnership that has provided valuable training and arts education to young people across Los Angeles,” said **Daniel Tarica, DCA Interim General Manager**. “The impact of the program can be seen through the successes of our student participants, including those who have pursued higher education goals at California Institute of the Arts, and returned to SPMAP to support the program by assisting and teaching. The 25-year investment in arts education continues to generate

equity and access throughout the City of Los Angeles.”

"CAP is thrilled to partner with DCA and Sony in this work to provide programming for the young people of Los Angeles that allows them to create art, increase their agency, and let them know that the lens through which they see the world is important, distinct, and needs to be seen and heard," said **Veronica Alvarez, Wallis Annenberg Director, Community Art Partnership California Institute of the Arts.**

"The CalArts Community Arts Partnership is pleased and excited to present the animation work of this year's group of Sony Pictures Media Arts Program students," said **Annapurna Kumar, Program Manager to the CalArts Community Art Partnership (CAP).** "They've been working hard over the past 30 weeks making their dreams and stories come to life!"

Sony Pictures Media Arts Program Culmination Screening 2022

Saturday, June 11: 1:00 – 3:00pm

<https://calarts.zoom.us/j/92234114070>

Meeting ID: 922 3411 4070

One tap mobile:

+16699006833,,92234114070# US (San Jose)

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, Instagram [@culture_la](https://instagram.com/culture_la), and Twitter [@culture_la](https://twitter.com/culture_la).

ABOUT SONY PICTURES ENTERTAINMENT (SPE)

Sony Pictures Entertainment (SPE) is a subsidiary of Sony Corporation of America, a subsidiary of Tokyo-based Sony Corporation. SPE's global operations encompass

motion picture production and distribution; television production and distribution; home entertainment acquisition and distribution; a global channel network; digital content creation and distribution; operation of studio facilities; development of new entertainment products, services, and technologies; and distribution of entertainment in 159 countries. For additional information, please visit: <http://www.sonypictures.com/>.

ABOUT CALARTS COMMUNITY ARTS PARTNERSHIP (CAP)

For the past three decades, the CAP program has mentored young people between the ages of 10 and 18 at 60 sites throughout LA County, employing some 60 CalArts faculty members and nearly 300 student instructors to deliver free instruction in fine art, photography, printmaking, graphic design, digital media, animation, video, jazz, world music, chamber music, theater, puppetry, dance, and creative writing. Educating more than 8,000 young people each year, the CAP program has received numerous accolades – including the John Anson Ford Human Relations Award from the Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations in 2008, the Ovation Award for Community Outreach from the Los Angeles Stage Alliance in 2006, and the Coming Up Taller Award in 2004 – a national recognition of outstanding community arts and humanities programs that celebrate the creativity of America's young people, providing young people with learning opportunities and chances to contribute to their communities. For additional information, please visit: <http://calarts.edu/cap>.

ABOUT CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF THE ARTS (CalArts)

CalArts is recognized internationally as a leading laboratory for the visual, performing, media, and literary arts. Housing six schools – Art, Critical Studies, Dance, Film/Video, Music, and Theater – CalArts educates professional artists in an intensive learning environment founded on art making excellence, creative experimentation, cross-pollination among diverse artistic disciplines, and a broad context of social and cultural understanding. CalArts also operates the Roy and Edna Disney/CalArts Theater (REDCAT) in the Walt Disney Concert Hall complex in downtown Los Angeles. For additional information, please visit: <http://calarts.edu/>.

###