

Arts COUNCIL LONG BEACH







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LETTER FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Arts Council for Long Beach is dedicated to fostering creativity and culture throughout our great city. This work would not be possible without the hard work of our grantees, artists, performers, and arts supporters who helped us *Keep Arts Working*. What has transpired in the last year has made an enormous impact on our lives, yet we know as an arts community we have great skill in redirecting, of changing the course so creativity may continue to heal us. We are grateful for the hard work Mayor Robert Garcia and City leadership have done to support the arts and inform all residents during the pandemic. Thank you for ensuring our safety.

Our advocacy in 2020 concentrated fully in providing relief, financially and emotionally. We understand arts funds aren't merely supporting a performance or visual art experience; art grants are an investment in real change and positive growth within our great city. The projects we created uplifted voices, businesses and neighborhoods.



Art Kit Delivery with Future Superheroes | Judy Estrada





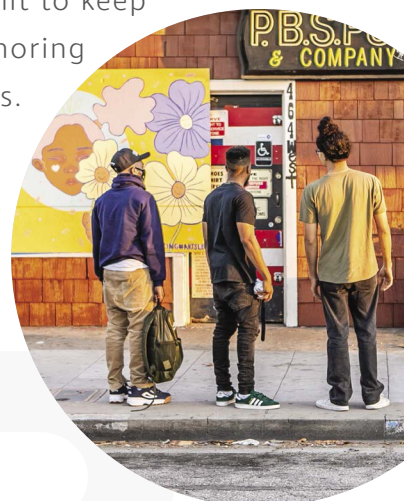
As we continue our work in 2021, we know it is more important than ever to ensure our arts and culture remain a vital component of our city's identity. We bring with us a new mission, vision and more grounded values as a result of our strategic planning process. The pandemic halted our process, but the board and staff persevered to complete the plan to ensure an inspired new year. While COVID-19 changed our plan, the national and local protests against the murder of George Floyd put up a mirror on our history.

Although we started the journey of acting on our diversity policy in 2015, the movement for social and racial justice continues to hold us accountable on how we work toward equity. As a community, we can no longer depend on the privilege of art for art's sake. We commit to keep arts working so a new way of living and honoring our humanity emerges because we create us.

WITH A CREATIVE SPIRIT

Brian Trimble, Board President

Griselda Suárez, Executive Director



ARTS COUNCIL FOR LONG BEACH

MEET THE TEAM



Griselda Suárez
Executive Director



Lisa DeSmidt
Director of Programs



Laura Nelson
Office and Development Manager



Cynthia Luján
Public Art Manager



Judy Estrada
Marketing and Grants Manager



Betty Rosen
Eye on Design Teaching Artist



Meghan Boterenbrood
Arts Learning Assistant



ARTS COUNCIL FOR LONG BEACH

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Daniel Alvarado Orange County District Attorney's Office, Attorney/Videographer

Helene Ansel (Executive Committee, Member at Large)
Congressman Alan Lowenthal's Office, Senior Field Representative (*retired*)

Gloria Arjona California Institute of Technology, Instructor

Loara Cadavona Memorial Care Health Systems, Director Business Integration

Marc Davidson LB Music Council/Make Music Long Beach, OLLI, BRDG, JFCS,
Art of Song, HGA Architects (*retired*), Board of Directors

Sean Devereaux (Secretary), Aquarium of the Pacific, Director of Volunteer Engagement

Nicolassa Galvez Long Beach Gives, Campaign Director

Tasha Hunter (Past President), Uptown Business District, Executive Director

Greg Johnson (Treasurer), Hannibal Media Group/DreamKreator Studio, CEO/Co-Managing Director

Randel King CSULB Japanese Garden — Board of Directors, Kaiser Permanente, Physician (*retired*)

Anne Lattime City of Long Beach, Office of City Attorney, Attorney

Chelsea McIntyre JD Dance Company

James Nash CBS News & Production — Staff Director & Producer, Directors Guild of America (*retired*)

Lyn Pohlmann Long Beach Symphony and International City Theatre, Board of Directors

Jocelynn Pryor AMPED Distribution, Vice President of Marketing

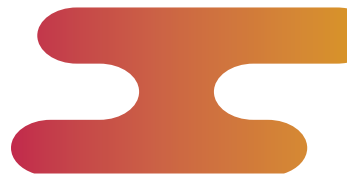
Jessica Quintana Centro C.H.A., Executive Director

Jayro Sandoval Homeboy Industries, Director of Operations

Renee Simon Freelance Writer

Sayon Syprasoeuth (Vice President), United Cambodian Community, Program Manager

Brian Trimble (President), California State University, Long Beach, Assistant Professor, Art Education



CONSULTANTS

Stacey Gibbs

Evonne Gallardo

Tom Peters

Sé Reed – Kerredyn Collaborative

INTERNS

We are truly grateful for the skills and talents our interns bring to our organization.

Anisah Ullah Marketing and Special Projects Intern, funded by the Los Angeles County Arts Commission

Sergio Diaz Public Art Intern, funded by the Getty Foundation

Jennifer Kumiyama Development Intern, funded by the Los Angeles County Arts Commission



From Left to Right: Anisah Ullah, Sergio Alan Diaz, Jennifer Kumiyama | Cynthia Lujan

ARTS PARTNERS





VISION MISSION VALUES

THE ARTS COUNCIL FOR LONG BEACH (ArtsLB)

Vision: The Arts Council for Long Beach envisions a thriving Long Beach that benefits from universal access to and participation in the arts.

Mission: The Arts Council for Long Beach cultivates the physical, social, and economic characteristics of Long Beach neighborhoods by nurturing and enlivening the arts. We serve individuals, groups, and organizations through advocacy, arts education, public art and grant making within the city of Long Beach. We practice profound inclusion as a collaborator and convener for the benefit of all communities.

Our Values: Equitable, Collaborative, Belonging, Inclusive, Diverse, Educational.



Left: Duke Givens
Right: **Duncan Ewington** | Jose Cordon



RACIAL EQUITY STATEMENT

THE ARTS COUNCIL FOR LONG BEACH (ArtsLB)

Pledges to establish, administer, and sustain policies that build a culture of race equity among the artists, grantees, clients, vendors, staff, and its board of directors. The Arts Council for Long Beach guided by the principles in this racial equity statement, will reduce racial inequities within its broadly defined arts environment, commit to positive and sustained changes that eliminate barriers to racial equity, and work to fully and fairly integrate all whom we serve into all programs and operations. We commit to working toward cultural and racial equity by implementing programs grounded in collaborative strategies.

Building racial equity is an active process that requires our continuous commitment to promote and affect change among all artistic and performative genres.

Historically, public policy nationwide tragically has embedded systemic racism throughout our institutions based singularly on skin color. ArtsLB is not immune to this reality. As a local arts agency, we have only begun to address the inequities as of 2015 by implementing a Diversity Policy Statement.



Karina Vasquez | Jose Cordon



Therefore, ArtsLB commits to revisit its Racial Equity Statement at least once a year to reiterate its commitment, assure all board and committee members and staff concur, and revise as necessary because building equity is evolutionary. Moreover, we acknowledge our role as a catalytic funder and dedicate resources to building grants and activities that are inclusive and share a sense of belonging to all participants.

We will strive to develop policies, procedures, and practices that support Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) cultural workers within our organization and in government to best address the needs of the Long Beach arts and culture community.

Spank Grip | Jose Cordon



twenty twenty

A REDEFINING YEAR

ANNUAL REPORT SUMMARY

The Arts Council for Long Beach quickly shifted to allocating resources toward supporting all art genres, non-profit arts organizations, and arts-related businesses in Long Beach with specific focus on the *Keep Arts Working* campaign launched on March 24th, 2020.

ANNUAL FUNDING

ARTS EXCELLENCE IN LONG BEACH

\$242,940



CITY OF LONG BEACH GRANT FUNDING

During the 2020 fiscal year, ArtsLB partnered with the City of Long Beach to facilitate a number of grants in support of arts and culture through the City Annual Grant Program and the Percent for the Arts Program.

OPERATING GRANTS I AND II:

\$148,840 in operating support to ten established Long Beach –based arts and cultural organizations.

COMMUNITY PROJECT GRANTS:

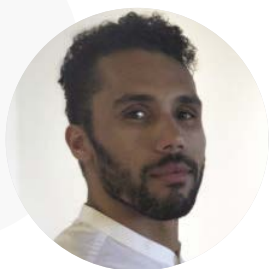
\$41,000 to support 13 exemplary artistic, cultural, and educational projects in Long Beach that encourage innovative, creative, diverse and unique programming.

MICRO GRANTS:

\$38,100 in micro grants for local projects that are free, open to the public and professional development for artists. All grantees moved to virtual platforms during the COVID-19 pandemic.

PROFESSIONAL ARTIST FELLOWSHIP:

\$15,000 to support five artists who live, work or actively create in Long Beach and demonstrate an exemplary exhibition or production record of at least three years.



Martin Etem
Visual Artist



Jason Keam
Visual Artist



Ali Smith
Visual Artist



Kipp Kahlia
Musician



Kelsey Zwarka
Ceramicist

\$1.525 MILLION

PANDEMIC RELIEF

City of Long Beach CARES Arts and Culture funds were granted to organizations as approved by the City Council.

COVID-19 Artists Relief Grants for Long Beach assisted artists and arts organizations who experienced loss of income due to the pandemic.



Spank Grip | Jose Cordon

\$1.4MIL

**Arts and Culture
Nonprofits, Museums
& Performing Arts**

\$50K

**ArtsLB relief with
government, private
foundation &
corporate support**

\$75K

**Individual and
Organization Relief grant
City of Long Beach
CARES funding**



NURTURING CREATIVE MINDS

OUR PARTNERS AND TEACHERS FACED THE CHALLENGES OF COVID-19 WITH PAINT, DANCE AND MUSIC.

EYE ON DESIGN: At Edison and Whittier Elementary Schools more than 150 third-grade students practiced critical thinking and creative problem-solving while learning about Public Art. When we could no longer be in the classroom, ArtsLB distributed more than 500 packages through partner schools and community organizations like Creative Flow, Future Superheroes and the Mayor's Fund for Education.

PASSPORT TO THE ARTS: Five Interdisciplinary Artist Teachers created virtual enrichment through dance, visual art, music and photography.

CREATIVE LONG BEACH INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Living Arts Long Beach at United Cambodian Community:

The program provided hands-on art workshops and pivoted quickly to virtual instruction with guest artists presenting their career paths and sharing their skills.

Empower Arts at Centro CHA:

Artist Big Sleeps facilitated art workshops and the creation of a mural at Long Beach Transit with young artists intersecting community pride and mental health.



CREATING COMMUNITY WITH PUBLIC ART.

Our projects provide residents and visitors insight into our collective heritage and encourage community participation. This vision embodies the Arts Council's resolve to improve the quality of life for all people in Long Beach.

With the continued support of the National Endowment for the Arts, we:

- Worked on the interactive Public Art Map and identified 817 art works that will be added to the website.
- Commissioned Suzanne Shifflett to commemorate 100 years of Women's Suffrage. ArtsLB partnered with LB Suffrage 100 since its inception and this artwork was inspired by one of the group's core values, "Suffrage is Unfinished Business."

In 2020, the Arts Council not only created public art projects with public funds, but also with sponsorships by local businesses and enterprises.

- Downtown Long Beach Courtyard by Marriott commissioned a mural by Cody Lusby for their pool area.

Courtyard by Marriott, Cody Lusby | Cynthia Lujan





Covid Cover Up Jose Cordon

- Long Beach Transit contracted ArtsLB to integrate its art collection on the Public Art Map and assisted in creating assessments for potential restoration projects.

PUTTING VALUES INTO ACTION

By restructuring the Public Art Committee into the Community Arts Projects Committee, we are committing to collaboration. This committee historically had a large amount of power in the public art process. In its new form, the committee will serve administratively to ensure equity and inclusion but will not make decisions. The committee work will be decentralized into community committees that will help create the program, select artists and conduct outreach for community engagement. We will focus on fundraising efforts for these projects to create more opportunities for residents and community members to exercise their agency in the public realm.

With respect to the civic art collection, the Arts Council for Long Beach continued its commitment as stewards. In 2020 the Arts Council collaborated with the Long Beach Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine by providing critical feedback on a mural toolkit for best practices when administering mural projects. Additionally, as a restoration partner, we helped to abate graffiti, including restoring three murals from the 2017 Cambodia Town Mural Project.



ART AS SOCIAL ACTION

Art sprung up along many of the city's corridors as a direct result of the demonstrations and civic uprising in response to the murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis and we made an exception to accession temporary artworks into our archive. Acknowledging some artists worked independently, while others requested support, ArtsLB provided supplies and advocacy in archiving and documenting their work. There were numerous community stakeholders committed to documenting the civic uprising, including students and faculty at California State University, Long Beach. We look forward to working with the university on any future projects on the significance of these panels. Lastly, we partnered with the Downtown Long Beach Alliance on their initiative to archive the Civic Art Storefront Murals, which included photographing and identifying more than 60 artworks, composed of more than 150 4x8 ft wood panels, and created by various artists in the Long Beach Community.



Left: Hugo Lomeli | Jose Cordon
Right: Archiving Panels | Jose Cordon





Big Sleeps | Cynthia Lujan



ADVOCACY

CREATING A SEAT AT THE TABLE DEVELOPING PARTNERSHIPS AND BUILDING COMMUNITY SUPPORT

ArtsLB worked to convey the profound impact of arts and culture in Long Beach by participating in advocacy at all levels of government. Arts advocacy means working to support a thriving ecosystem that is responsive to organizations, artists and performers seeking opportunity and funding.

We strive to create policies that support inclusivity and a more equitable arts infrastructure.



Left & Right: **State of the Arts** | Jose Cordon



ADVOCACY

OUR ADVOCACY INCLUDED PARTNERSHIPS AND PROPOSALS SUCH AS:

- Requesting the use of Community Development Block Grants for artist relief to meet basic needs at the Economic Development and Finance Committee.
- Submitting a proposal on behalf of our grantees for LB CARES funding.
- Connecting grantees and arts businesses with municipal and state representatives to best serve the sector's need for funding, relief and COVID-19 protective supplies.
- Working closely with The Nonprofit Partnership in creating surveys, training, and affinity meetings in order to better understand the impact of COVID-19 on nonprofits.
- Meeting regularly with the Mayor's Restart Long Beach Task Force to create safety protocols for the arts and culture sector.
- Participating in the Los Angeles County Public Health Cultural Institutions focus group meeting with Dr. Barbara Ferrer.





Erick "Sparc" Guadarrama and Benedetta Chan | Jose Cordon

- Assisting the Los Angeles County Department of Arts and Culture with county CARES funding identification of eligible grantees and dissemination of application information.

In addition to local advocacy, Executive Director Griselda Suárez holds a seat on the Executive Committee for the United States Urban Arts Federation, an alliance of the chief executives of local arts agencies in the nation's 60 largest cities.

These leaders advocate, network, and meet to discuss the social, educational, and economic impact of the arts in their regions and were instrumental in advocacy for COVID-19 relief to all levels of government. Suárez also currently serves on the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Advisory Committee for the Cultural Equity and Inclusion Initiative.



KEEP ARTS WORKING

COVID-19 PANDEMIC ARTS RESPONSE

On March 24, 2020, the Arts Council for Long Beach launched *Keep Arts Working*, a series of events and art commissions that sought to illuminate the vital work being created amid the COVID-19 pandemic response, alleviate anxiety from our minds and bodies through the arts, and recuperate the creative sector.



\$55K

in small project
contracts to artists
and performers

50
EVENTS

sponsored by
ArtsLB

OVER
700

artists in our
database



ART AND BUSINESS COLLABORATIONS: In addition to online arts engagements, we also connected artists with 25 businesses to paint storefronts or parklets during the COVID-19 Stay at Home Order. Funding for the project was provided by the City of Long Beach Office of Economic Development, Arts Council for Long Beach, Long Beach Community Foundation, Long Beach Post and Dark Arts Emporium.

COLORFUL HEROES LB: In solidarity with our state and county partners, the Arts Council for Long Beach commissioned nine artists from the Artist Registry to create a series of illustrations for coloring book pages highlighting essential workers in Long Beach and surrounding areas.

Featured artists were Alex Diffin, Dan Nguyen, London Battle, Mili Makianich, Monique Dominguez, Natalie Mancillas, Paula Oum, Sharniece Chantal, and Omar Howard. The series brought to light the unseen heroes in Long Beach doing the work every day to keep the city functioning and ensuring everyone has access to food, care, resources, and information. We are stronger and safer because of them.

ADVOCACY FOCUS

AN ESSENTIAL TOOL FOR KEEP ARTS WORKING

With more than 700 artists in our database, an artist's individual page was shared with businesses for potential commissions, and it showcased each artist's or performer's unique style. It also served as the first step for any artist or performer requesting COVID-19 Relief grants.



Samantha Tagaloa

”

I'M A BLACK, FEMALE
PROFESSIONAL MUSICAL ARTIST,
AND AS AN ARTS COUNCIL OF
LONG BEACH PROFESSIONAL
ARTIST FELLOW, I'M THRILLED
TO HAVE THE SUPPORT.

Last year, a sudden national and international spotlight was focused on the continued abuse of African Americans in the U.S. It's made my social justice show ("You, Me & Everyone Else: A Musical Conversation About Diversity") a super-timely event; people are finally interested in the history and the socio-political perspective of people of color on a whole new level. The fellowship will give my project a thoroughly welcome boost.

Kipp Kahlia
Professional Artist Fellow 2020



GRANTS

2020 OPERATING LEVELS I AND II GRANTEES

Able ARTS Work*
Art Theater of Long Beach
International City Theatre*
Long Beach Camerata Singers
Long Beach Symphony Orchestra*
Long Beach Opera*
Long Beach Playhouse
Museum of Latin American Art*
Musica Angelica
Musical Theatre West

COMMUNITY PROJECT GRANTEES

Act Out Theater
Cambodia Town Inc.
Carpenter Performing Arts Center
Hmong Association of Long Beach
Kleefeld Contemporary*
LGBTQ Center of Long Beach
Literary Women
Long Beach Blues Society
Long Beach Community Band
Rising Tide
Rock Club-Music is the Remedy
South Coast Chorale
South Coast Dance Arts Alliance

*(Creative Long Beach Intern Host)

”

THE MICROGRANT PROGRAM
IS USEFUL IN THAT IT ALLOWS
ARTISTS TO BEGIN DEVELOPING
LARGER PROJECTS AND TEST
THEM BEFORE GOING FOR
SIGNIFICANT GRANTS.

**Also the program is useful in examining the market
for potential donors and participants before
committing to a massive, full-scale project.**

Sunny Nash,
Micro Grantee

GRANTS

MICRO GRANTEES

Jonathan Andrino-Vela	Leadership Long Beach Radio
AOC7 Neighborhood Organization	Loiter Galleries
Amber Arnold	Long Beach Council PTA
Art Escape (Ms. Lee)	Long Beach Creative Group
ART REALM Collective	Long Beach Music Council
BodySport Capoeira Academy	Long Beach Zine Fest
Brentwood Art Center	Mid-City Studio Tour
Brockus Project Dance Company	Musty Boyz
Madison Clark	Raul Nario
Jennifer Corday	Aydinaneth Ortiz
Creative Flow LB	OUT LOUD: A Cultural Evolution
Tristan C Cruz	Puente Latino Association
East Village Caravanserai	Rancho Los Cerritos Foundation*
Fight Club LBC	Revelation Films/Act Out Theatre Company
Joshua Garcia	Joandrea Reynolds
Global Water Dances	Social Change Coalition
Graham Goddard	Success Steel Orchestra
Helena Maria Viramontes Lecture Series (California State University, Long Beach)	Akari Takahashi
Historical Society of Long Beach*	Toaster Music
InspiredLBC	United Khmer Students Culture Night
The Jewel Box Children's Theater Company	Ignacio Villanueva
Khmer Girls in Action	Christa Weston
Bailey Koch	Willmore City Heritage Association
	Gregg Young

*(Creative Long Beach Intern Host)

TO OUR GENEROUS PARTNERS, SPONSORS & DONORS

Special thanks to Mayor Robert Garcia and Long Beach City Council members who voted unanimously in support of the CARES funding for arts organizations and individuals during the COVID-19 pandemic.

We are ever grateful to our donors who supported our relief campaigns and Long Beach Gives. You opened your hearts and helped sustain our work in a difficult year.

Our advocacy, grantmaking, programming, and support for the arts would not be possible without the generous donations and grants from the following organizations:



THANK YOU

ArtsLB Board of Directors

AMPED Distribution

Assemblymember Patrick O'Donnell

Bess J. Hodges Foundation

Bixby Knolls Business
Improvement Association

California Arts Council

California Community Foundation

California State University, Long Beach
— Office of the President

Cambodia Town Inc.

Chronic Pain Relief Center
of Long Beach

Courtyard by Marriott,
Downtown Long Beach

The Dark Art Emporium

Downtown Long Beach Alliance

DreamKreator Studios

Earl B. and Loraine H. Miller
Foundation

Edison International

Evalyn M. Bauer Foundation

F & M Corporation

Farmers & Merchants Bank

Fuzz Inc.

The Getty Foundation

The Green Foundation

Linda Gunn

International City Bank

International Transportation Services

interTrend

JetBlue

Kelly Sutherlin McLeod Architecture

Kroger

Landmark Theatre Company

Lazy Acres

Lola's Mexican Cuisine

Long Beach Airport

Long Beach Area Convention
& Visitors Bureau

Long Beach City Prosecutor,
Doug Haubert

Long Beach Community Foundation

Long Beach Convention
& Entertainment Center

Long Beach Gives

Long Beach Home + Living

Long Beach Post

Long Beach Transit

Long Beach Water Department

Los Angeles County Department
of Arts and Culture

Los Angeles County
Supervisor Janice Hahn

Matson Foundation

MHP Structural Engineers

Midtown Business Improvement District

Millworks

The Munzer Foundation

National Endowment for the Arts

Network for Good

The Nonprofit Partnership

The Port of Long Beach

Ralph Parsons Foundation

Revolution Financial Management

Richard and Karen Carpenter
Performing Arts Center

Ruth & Joseph C. Reed Foundation
for the Arts

SA Recycling

SCAN Health Provider

Scottish Rite Event Center
P3 Theatre Co.

Sister Cities of Long Beach
Mombasa Chapter

SMG Taverns Inc.

Southern California Edison

Studio One Eleven

Temple Family Charitable
Foundation

Wrinkle Free IT





CONTACT THE ARTS COUNCIL

FOLLOW US, EMAIL, OR CALL

Tell how the arts and culture in Long Beach is making your day.

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@ArtsCouncil4LB

