

#### Dear friends and supporters,

As we reflect on another remarkable year at Inner-City Arts, I am filled with deep gratitude for the incredible community that continues to support our mission. This year's impact report, "Fundamentals, Form, and Freedom," captures the essence of our work and the transformative journey we offer to the youth of Los Angeles through art.

In our classrooms, every stroke of a brush, pinch of clay, and note of music begins with the fundamentals. Just as a foundation is essential to any structure, these basics are the building blocks of creativity. They are the starting point where our students first explore the vast potential within themselves.

But it is through form that these fundamentals take shape. Our dedicated instructors guide students through the nuances of each medium, helping them connect deeply with their chosen art forms. In this connection, our students begin to see the possibilities — where technique meets imagination and becomes a vehicle for their ideas.

And then comes freedom, the ultimate gift of creative expression. With a solid grasp of the fundamentals and a deep connection to their chosen art forms, our students are free to push boundaries, tell their stories, and explore new horizons.

This impact report, "Fundamentals, Form, and Freedom," is a testament to the power of art education and the profound difference it makes in the lives of our students. It is also a reflection of your unwavering support — because none of our work would be possible without you. Thank you for believing in our mission, for investing in the future of our youth, and for being a part of this vibrant community.

With gratitude and excitement for the future,

Shelby Williams-González

President & CEO





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3,681

School-day students

425

Students in Saturday classes

**31** 

Work of Art interns

266

Professional Development participants

6,300

Audience members in The Rosenthal Theater

More than **3,000** hours of studio instruction.

11 of 14 LA schools served were Title I.

4 Work of Art interns received a total of \$6,000 in scholarships.

Work of Art interns earned a total of \$154,961.12.



Teacher observation (elementary level) and student self-reporting (grades 6-12) surveys showed our studio programs led to improvement in these skills in up to the following percentages of students:

**79%**Knowledge of the art form

**84%**Critical thinking

**87%**Creative confidence

86%
Interpersonal skills and collaboration

**82%**Self-efficacy

**86%**Communication

Arts

Al Soundscapes, Animation,
Film Production, Fonts/Logo Design,
Graphic Design, Transportation Design

PERFORMING
Arts

Dance, Drama, Comedy/Improv,
Music Production, Rock Band

## Inner-City Arts students represent many backgrounds and neighborhoods throughout Los Angeles County:



75% Latino or Latinx 7.7% White 7.3% Black or African American 5.9% Asian 3.4% Two or more races 0.5% Other 0.1% American Indian or Alaska Native 0.1% Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander



A Saturday class partnership with ArtCenter College of Design gave students exceptional instruction in Transportation Design and Interactive Design, along with a field trip to tour the illustrious ArtCenter campus.

Our school-day program, Learning and Achieving Through the Arts, included high school students for the first time this year in partnership with both Options for Youth Charter Schools and Jordan High School!

Talented artists from Unicorns & Unicorns, a BIPOC women-owned studio working in the tech and advertising worlds, opened doors to our middle school students to create art for augmented reality platforms.

Our friends from Skid Row Arts
Alliance brought the uplifting
Holiday Called Home event back to
our campus — celebrating with our
neighbors is a great joy!

Work of Art interns in visual arts worked with gallery professionals, under the mentorship of our own teaching artists, to exhibit artwork at the Untitled Gallery in UCLA's Broad Art Center.

Our first immersive musical,

Maestro's Treehouse by our CoArtistic Director Michael Sample,
appeared in The Rosenthal
Theater, delighting audiences
with music, dance, visuals from
around the world, and a heartfelt
story for the child in all of us.



## FUNDAMENTALS

# Perenchio Foundation brings comfort to campus

This year Inner-City Arts received a generous grant from the Perenchio Foundation to make facilities improvements for the comfort, health, and well-being of all who spend time on our campus. Thanks to the foundation's philanthropic support, Inner-City Arts upgraded the HVAC in the Visual Arts building from an outdated and noisy system that had been a big distraction for both students and staff.

"Inner-City Arts is vital to unleashing creativity in our region, and they play a key role in the community. Funding for this indispensable organization to make improvements to facilities is deeply needed and yet often difficult to obtain," Perenchio Foundation Chief Executive Officer Stephania Ramirez says.

"Our hope is that this support will bolster them in both the immediate and long-term future."

Redesigning the heating and air and changing the model of the units significantly improved the learning environment in a building that welcomes hundreds of youth each week. Now that the racket of the old equipment is gone and our studio spaces are at a comfortable temperature even during extreme weather, the space is filled only with the joyful buzz of creativity it was designed for!



In May our friends from the <u>Cal Ripkin, Sr.</u>
<u>Foundation</u> and <u>Niagara Cares</u> cleared out and updated our design studio and break room on campus. Cal Ripken, Sr.
Foundation Assistant Director of Programs & Grants Courtney Stephens says, "[Inner-City Arts does] such great work, and we're happy we could give your team that space!"



The ultimate intention in our mission is to shape a society of creative, confident, and collaborative individuals. This year highlights of Inner-City Arts' work appeared in multiple media outlets, affirming our goal to spread the power of exceptional arts education far beyond our city.

"[Inner-City Arts'] future forward approach [to arts learning] not only bolsters and supports the individual student, but also contributes to a more equitable and diverse arts industry, giving historically marginalized students the tools, experiences, and connections they need to navigate and ultimately thrive in the field."

Rachael Hip-Flores, "Making Friends With the Arts and Each Other" (American Theatre, Oct. 11, 2023)

"Inner-City Arts has built a network of more than 35 companies or artists ... When they focus on community thriving, arts educators and funders encourage coordination rather than competition between community institutions."

Kylie Peppler, Maggie Dahn, Mizuko Ito (<u>The Connected Arts Learning Framework,</u> UC Irvine with funding from The Wallace Foundation)

"Inner-City Arts brings the benefits of a safe, creative environment to children in downtown neighborhoods, engaging young people in the creative process in order to shape a society of creative, confident and collaborative individuals."

Stephi Wild, "Biddy Mason Comes to Inner-City Arts" (*BroadwayWorld*, May 9, 2024)



# Immersing Jordan High School in creativity

A marvelous partnership with Jordan High School in Watts has grown this year like many of Inner-City Arts' endeavors — from a seed into a thriving plant of many branches. Inspired by a staff retreat on our campus for Jordan's educators in December 2023, the school engaged our Professional Development services this year for training in digital equipment, arts strategies, and creative support for a spring showcase celebrating the Watts centennial.

Jennifer Carroll, Inner City Arts' associate director of education who leads our Professional Development (PD) program, says, "I am most proud of our unwavering commitment to serve the students through adult engagement and play. Ongoing work over time is the best way to make a sustainable impact. Our relationship with administrators and teachers has become more tailored to their specific needs while still maintaining the integrity of what we do."

After our teaching artists provided multiple sessions of training in curation techniques, use of virtual reality equipment, improv games, and showcase preparation, the Jordan Visual and Performing Arts Magnet secured funding for twice the amount of PD in 2024-25 and an Inner-City Arts residency to teach their students as well. Jennifer explains the Jordan partnership has become an exemplary model for growth: "It is my goal for Inner-City Arts to be a go-to organization for scaling arts integration efforts in schools and partnering artists with teachers to meet the social, emotional and academic needs of the youth of our city."



High schoolers became filmmakers in our Visual, Media, and Performing Arts Institutes program this year, thanks to our friends from Kids in the Spotlight (KITS). The script-to-screen journey included collaboration with industry professionals to create and produce short films based on the students' own stories — plus a chance to be part of the KITS Film Awards at Paramount Pictures Studios! Inner-City Arts is grateful and proud to count KITS among our many partners who help us launch creative youth into the broader LA arts community.



These program partners joined us in delivering exceptional arts opportunities to youth with their time and talents this year. Thank you all for your generous dedication to young people!

#### **ORGANIZATIONS**

826LA

A Noise Within

ArtCenter College of Design

Arts for LA

Best Start Wilmington

**BOND Creative MGMT** 

Celebration Theatre

chamanvision

Cider

Community Lawyers, Inc.

Corlore Entertainment Design

David Kordansky Gallery

Debbie Allen Dance Academy

**DMST Atelier** 

DreamWorks Animation

Film Independent

Getty

**GPSN** 

Hammer Museum

Hauser & Wirth

Heidi Duckler Dance

**HERO Theatre** 

Inner-City Education Foundation (ICEF)

Jordan High School VAPA Magnet

Junior High

Kids in the Spotlight (KITS)

LA Contemporary Dance Company

LA's BEST Afterschool Enrichment Program

LAUSD Cultural Arts Passport Program

LAUSD, District Office of Transition Services

Los Angeles Academy of Arts and Enterprise

Los Angeles County Registrar

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Mindshow

Munchkin

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Nickelodeon

Options for Youth Public Charter Schools

Paradigm Talent Agency

Paramount

Playing for Change Foundation

Para Los Niños

Poieto

Sarah Ford Creative

SCI-Arc

SEED Design

Sequovah School

Skid Row Arts Alliance

Sofar Sounds



"This is a wonderful new opportunity for us to open the doors of [our] studio and share the many possibilities for a life in the arts with a group of aspiring young students."

#### PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS cont.

Street Symphony

Stüssy

TBWA/Media Arts Lab

Tenderfoot TV

The Creative Pack

The Realist & the Dreamer

The Los Angeles Education Consortium

The Mill

UTA

Urban Voices Project

Versa-Style Street Dance Company

Wiseman Studios, LLC

Wolf Entertainment

#### **INDIVIDUALS**

Rupal Banerjee

Christina Benedetti

Tiffany Bratcher

Cache

Dom Chanel

John Conley

Kealy Farra

Ali Gallagher

Kenny Keil

Angel Kristi Williams

Samuel Larsen

Brenna Malloy

Henry Phipps

Adam Silver

Rich Ting

Tim Walsh

David Wiseman





Guiding our Work of Art performing arts interns to turn Sophocles' ancient tragedy Antigone into a culturally relevant production for young audiences in our Rosenthal Theater was an adventure that decorated playwright Megan Tabaque handled with aplomb. Antigone's Last Birthday packed the house in April and captured audiences as a contemporary Latine tale of power, resilience, and the relentless fervor of teenage girls as agents of change.

## Music opens new worlds to all ages

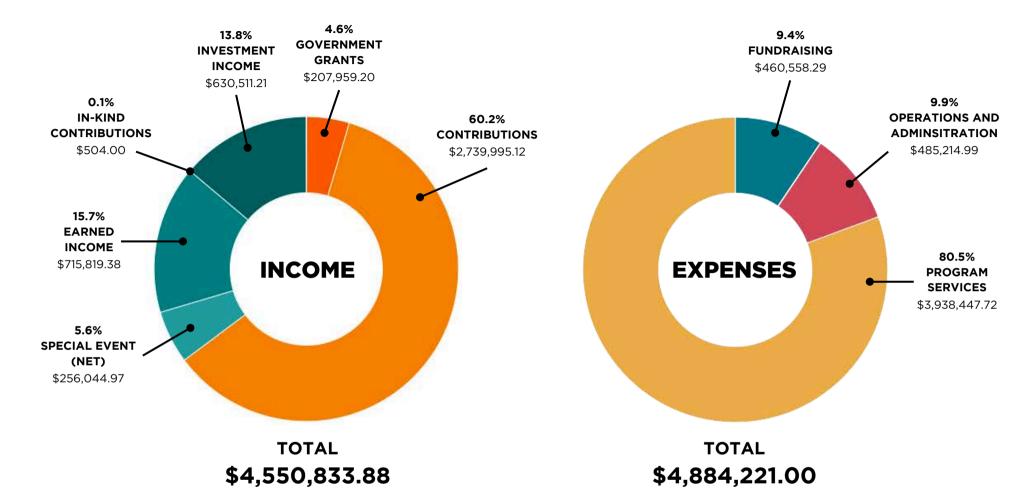
Our teaching artists equip the young people in their studios with essential tools for creativity to take form, and this year, music classes under Matías Anaya's guidance have been a magical laboratory for testing those tools. Whether giving school-day students their first try at digital music production, helping a class explore cultures on strings and percussion, or diving into the math of rhythm with teens in a Saturday rock band class, Matías helps their music flow with endless enthusiasm.

Working with the youngest Inner-City Arts students in a kindergarten classroom at Crescent Heights Elementary School, Matías walked in one February day to find them rehearsing a dance routine to a medley by The Jackson 5 to celebrate Black History Month. With her agile creativity, Matías seized the moment and connected the Jacksons' "Do re mi, ABC, 123" to an impromptu solfège lesson on the musical scale.

That kind of magic-in-the-moment is rarely planned but happens often with music in the mix. Helping budding musicians make connections to the world around them, Matías has brought cumbia, a traditional Latin American music and folk-dance form to older students learning to play music as a group. In a heart-warming culmination of their study, one fifth-grade class performed "Cariñito" on ukulele and marimba (with their teacher on congas!) for a rapt audience of first-graders who had stopped in from their ceramics class on our campus.

As Matías puts it, "A multitude of opportunities abound to blend art lessons seamlessly into the day," whether working with students in their own schools or on our downtown campus. Judging by the growing waiting lists of middle and high school students eager for our Institutes rock band class each term, Matías is truly doing her part to help Inner-City Arts inspire a new generation of artists.

## **2023-24 FINANCIALS**



Government grants	\$207,959.20
Contributions	\$2,739,995.12
In-kind contributions	\$504.00
Special event (net)	\$256,044.97
Earned income	\$715,819.38
Investment income	\$630,511.21
TOTAL REVENUE	\$4,550,833.88

Program services	\$3,938,447.72
Operations and administration	\$485,214.99
Fundraising	\$460,558.29
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$4,884,221.00

Figures based on unaudited 2023-24 financial records.

Deficit reflects auditor-recommended one-time recording of a multi-year grant with its related expenditures recorded in each subsequent program year. 2022-2023 audit linked here



Young artists turn to Inner-City Arts for safety and creative guidance, seeking an outlet for healthy expression. Thank you for helping us support them! This list reflects gifts to Inner-City Arts between July 1, 2023, and June 30, 2024. If your records differ from ours, please reach out to Senior Director of Development Alma Villegas at alma@inner-cityarts.org.

#### **INDIVIDUALS**

Jesse Abraham

Nevelyn Abraham

Jordan Abrams

Simon Acker

Kingsley Afemikhe

Karalyn Ahmanson

Esthela Alarcón-Teagle

Kelley Albert

Jasmine Albuquerque

Yarah Alcantara

Angelica Alonso

Liliana Alonso

Helen Alonzo

Sanjay and Rachael Amin

Javier E. Arango

Elizabeth Arellano

Max Armour

Kim Baer

Heidi Baggott

Amadea Bailey

Allison Bajracharya

Kelly Balch

Tracy Walsh and Zach Balin

Julie and Steven Bank

William Barnet

Ruby Barrios

Jon Basalone

Rob Bell

Marion and Craig Benell

Maureen Winter and Devin Bennett

Jim Berger

Alexa Bergman

Alan Berro

Katherine Biscoe

Robert Blackmon\*

Jodie Semp Blaskey

Brian and Mandy Blatz

Richard Bloch

Beth Bloom

Pamela Blum

Saru Ramanan and Phil Boileau\*

Olia Bolotina

Sarah Borrello

Erica Boyd

Christina Bragg

Tiffany Bratcher

Stephanie Bravo

Aaron Brooks

Jaye Buchbinder Charles Buckley Claire Buckley Tim Bumatay

Kianna Bunggo

Mike Bunn Holly Burgin

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Arlina Cai

Cheryl Callaway Gillian Calof Todd Calvin Kerin Cantwell

Sherie and Stephen Carroll

Ayodele Carroo

Deborah Lacusta and Daniel Castellaneta

Briana Castro

Anita Caudillo Joy Chase

Mownika Chawla

Hailyn Chen

Chiang-Spolyar Family

Joanne Childers

T Chin

Susan Chivaratanond

Cindy Chow Tiffany Christian Rolanda Chu Lindsey Clough Andrew Cohen

Eric and Kelley Coleman

Maximus Conley Rocio Contreras Magdalena Cordoba Makenna Cortney

Carla Coseo
Dazetian Crain
Laura Crawford
Holly Crosby

"Attending Inner-City Arts as a child was a wonderful experience for me. I took dance and music classes that really helped me come out of my comfort zone. Now my son has

the chance to experience that same environment, and it's

amazing to see him express himself through art."

Kristyanne Crosby

Maria and James Cummings

Tina and David Dahl\*

Jacob Danton

Hai Dao

Lisa Brownfield and Mark Davidson

Elohim Nycalove Davoren

Rodrigo De Moraes

Kim Deister Lisa Delgin Caroline DeMar Owen Demers

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Patricia Flores

Esmeralda Xochitl Flores

Alexander Ford

Katie Ford

Sarah Ford

Theresa Foree

Joyzell Fortich

Jesika Lee Foster

Justin Francisco

Rachna Fruchbom

Jessica Furman

Ashlea Gabumpa

Julieta Garza

Allie Gay

Anne Geffner

Max Geier

Sydnie and Herb Geismar

Esa and Marianne Gerardo

Marlon Gerardo

Elizabeth Gerber

Marshall Glass

Janalyn Glymph

Judith Golden

Kelly and Stephen Goldstein

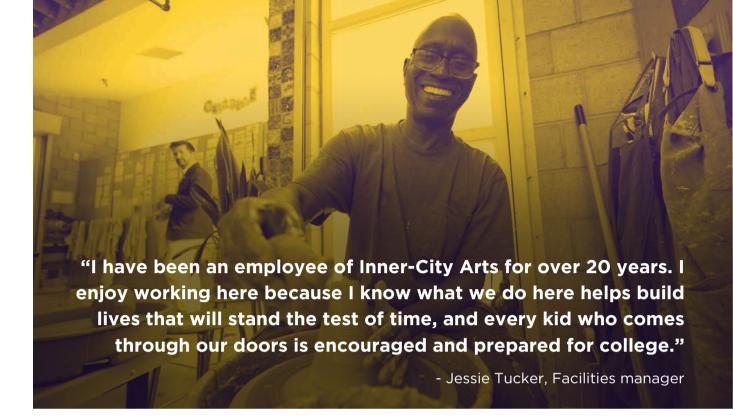
Daniel Goldstein\*

Shelby Williams-González and

Beto González

Jennifer Gonzalez

Alexandria Gordon



Marcelyn Gow

Allison and Michael Graff-Weisner

Melissa Grant

Kenny Gray

Bobbie Greenfield

Cathy Greenwold

Catherine Gudis

Angela Gulliver

Jessika Gyllander

Vlad Gyster

Beth Hagenlocker

**Evan Hamilton** 

Ariel Hammer

John Drage and Jonathan Hancock

Gabrielle Hanggono

Sarah Hanner

Jackie and Daniel Harman

Carolyn Hart

Sharon Hauptman

Mitch Heeger\*

Damon Hein

Marsha and Eugene Heller

Kristine Hemady

Jessica Hemingway

Mark Herbert

Elizabeth Hernandez

Gabriela Hernandez

Maria Hernandez

Roth Herrlinger

Jordan Hess

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Thien Ho



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Renee Hubener

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Julia Levinson James Liddell Karina Limon Hillary Litberg Humberto Lopez

Steven M. Lopez Rose Marie Lopez

Yareli Lopez Amber Louis

Kim Luu

Jennifer and Rick Madden

Casey Madera Al Mahmood Julie Mak

Haley Maloney

Amy Murphy and Michael Maltzan

Marjeri Manguiat Julie Maresca Stephen Mark\*

Raquel Marks

Mia Mars

Glenn Marshall

Ren Martin

Maya Martinez

Mary and William Martone

Xiomara Mateo-Gaxiola

Leroy Matthews

Ian Mc

Patricia McCaul

Lydia McCoy

Amelia McDonald

Michael McNamara

Zoe Meinelschmidt

Arlyce Melheim

Valerie Meneses

Drew Merrill

Susan Michiels\*

Leighann Miko

David Miller

Hannah Milliern

Jackson Mindt

Miss Mindy

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Christina Nguyen

Vivian Nguyen

Nicole Nicholas

Steve Niles

Maria Noriega

Ornella Nshimiyimana

Hannah Ntephe

Matthew Nuss

Vanessa Walker-Oakes and

**Daniel Oakes** 

Ian Oder

Emma Olcott

"We are lucky to have partners like Inner-City Arts to help nurture our students' creativity. By starting with the fundamentals of various mediums, their programming allows kids' imaginations to take flight. This freedom to explore different forms of artistic expression brings more than just enrichment into our classrooms — it gives our students the opportunity to imagine and create a brighter future."



Norah Olivares

Valeria Olmedo

Adam Olofsson

Desiree Orozco

Maria Ortiz

Sigrid Owen

JJ Palcher

Hannah Parfitt

Brian Park

Hakeem Parke-Davis

Darnell Parker II

Yazmine Gornail and Judith Pascual

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Viola Pasujkovic

Rodolfo Perez Jr

Elizabeth Perry

Jackson Perry

Tika Peterson

Marco Petrini

Elizabeth Pezza

Tan Pham

Georgina Phelps

Leon Pilosof

Kevin and Monica Pleasant

Navoda Portley

Debora and Sheldon Presser

Jackie Provost

Sana Rao

Linda and Larry Rauch

Stephen Reeder

Caleb Reese

Malina Brown Rego and John Rego

Gretchen Schaffner and Alex Reid Amanda Lazar and Ezra Remer

Michelle Rhea

Seeing students grow in confidence, creativity, and selfexpression as they explore their artistic voices is incredibly rewarding. The collaborative environment, where teaching artists work alongside classroom teachers, creates a vibrant and supportive community that thrives on innovation and passion for the arts.

- Eva Perez, Visual Arts lead teaching artist

Darshana Umakanth and Kyle Ribordy

Raven Richard Shirley Rigdon Guadalupe Rivera

David Robles Elena Roby

Bibiana Rosalia Lauren Rosas

Sigrid Rose

David Rosenberg

Alexis Rappaport and Michael Royce

Daniel Rubenstein Sara Ruiz-Meza Maureen Ryan Vanessa Saavedra Katelin Safford Joel Safranek Mark Sandelson Elizabeth Sandoval

Juliana Sankaran-Felix

Jim Sarratori

Vik Sasi

Vanora Savig Su Sazama Ali Schnapp Linda and Eric Schotz

Patricia Wheeler and Jon Schotz Varda Appleton and David Schriger

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Stacie Searcy-Ernsdorf

Amy Paffrath and Drew Seeley

Jazlyn Sengmany Esme Shaller Julie Sharbutt

Melissa Shepherd-Williams

Tina Shi

Claudia Shields Rachel Shilvock

Moira and Rajath Shourie

Talma Shultz Audrey Sica

Shelley Powsner and Stephen Skrovan

Patrick Skrzypczak Grace Snodgrass

Cheryl and David Snow

Michael Soares

"Inner-City Arts taught me how to find resources and to dig a little deeper and polish what I already possess. I carry these lessons in my life and practice them when meeting people both in and out of casting. Everyone has the capacity to do amazing things; it's simply about helping them find it themselves."

- Sharon A., 2019 Work of Art graduate

#### INDIVIDUAL DONORS cont.

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The Califa Arts Chapter of the Society, Inc.

CASA of Los Angeles

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CIELOS

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CollinsKim LLP

"Inner-City Arts aligns closely with the mission of the Snap Foundation by empowering underrepresented youth to explore and experience careers in creative industries. Their work is instrumental in breaking down barriers that have historically prevented young people of color from envisioning themselves as leaders in the arts community of Los Angeles."

- Joel Arquillos, Snap Foundation

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Flexfit LLC

Fluids Manufacturing Inc.

For Arts Sake Cosmetics

Foundry LA

The Garcia Companies

Hauser & Wirth

**Hunter Douglas Architectural** 

IMA Financial Group

Institute of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles

JPMorganChase

Kirkland & Ellis LLP

Lionsgate

Los Angeles Chargers Impact Fund

"Converse is delighted to support Inner-City Arts' Work of Art program ... to [help] youth explore and launch careers in the creative economy. The program is a phenomenal opportunity for LA youth to build the skills and experience they need to succeed as creative professionals."

The Lucas Museum of Narrative Art

Mainstay Entertainment

Major Major

Mimochai

MLR Consulting Partners

Mythical

**NBCUniversal** 

Netflix

Nickelodeon

Night Palm

Oaktree Capital Management

One Love Fund

PayPal

PoEtikLA

PrettyLitter

Public Opinion

R/GA

Reel Estate Partners, LLC

SCI-Arc

Smosh

Sony Pictures Entertainment

SoundCloud

Standard Communities

Sugerman Communications Group

Target

UMG Taskforce for Meaningful Change

Trader Joe's

Ubisoft Film & Television

Us Artworks

**UTA** 

The Walt Disney Company

We Social

William Morris Endeavor

Wiseman Studio, LLC

The Wonderful Company

#### **GOVERNMENT**

City of Los Angeles Department of Economic and Workforce Development City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs L.A. for Kids - Proposition K Program LA County Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell, 2nd District Los Angeles County Department of Arts and Culture National Endowment for the Arts

#### IN HONOR/MEMORY

YC C., in honor of Zack Cohen Kellie Carlin. in honor of Link Neal Marcello Dolce, in honor of Emma Wheeler Carolina Enciso, in honor of Jimmy Shimabukuro Carlos G., in memory of Oso De Oro Mercado-Gallegos Royce Grubic, in honor of Leilani Cranford and Micah Munck Jeffrey Hollingsworth\*, in memory of Rita Hollingsworth Amy Hood, in honor of Hoodzpah Connor Humphreys, in honor of Daren Magee Julia Keith, in honor of John Keith Nina Litvak, in memory of Jaime Davidovich Dawn Lloyd, in honor of Brayden Deskins and Claire McCracken Marysia Miller, in memory of Ursula Bower Stephen and Jesse Nathan, in honor of Phil and Monica Rosenthal Bonni Nisbet. in honor of Sara Nelson Joshua Payne, in honor of Tania Barrientos Anna Richards, in honor of Maja Dlugolecka Aurin Squire, in honor of the Dramatists Guild Writers Group Haylee Strauser, in honor of Link Neal Steve and Ellen Sugerman, in honor of Malina Brown, board member May Wilkerson, in honor of Jane and Tim McCaffrey

"It was such a pleasure and a gift to share creative space with the interns. It's possible they taught me more about my work than I taught them. [For] a teaching artist, this program and the students it empowers are a dream."

- Megan Tabaque, playwright



<sup>\*</sup> Designates annual membership donor