

# ARTS OF LA

## Arts Education in LAUSD

**Purpose:** To support the mission of LAUSD. To ensure all students have access to quality arts education.

**Goal:** To provide LAUSD leadership with advocacy support in adopting and implementing the second ten-year plan for quality arts education.

**Background:** In 1999 the Los Angeles Unified School District took a historic leadership role unparalleled in the US by adopting a ten year plan of rigorous, standards-based arts education and hiring a talented implementation team to ensure that all students receive quality arts instruction in every arts discipline, arts-integrated instruction to enhance engagement in learning across the curriculum, and quality experiences with community-based artists and cultural institutions.

By 2008, LAUSD was implementing a world-class model of arts education providing quality, access and equity.

With the California and Los Angeles budget crisis of 2008, LAUSD faced and continues to face unprecedented budget deficits. As a result, a myriad of budget reducing measures were proposed by the board, including the elimination in 2010-11 of nearly 50% of all elementary arts teachers in dance, music, theatre and visual arts, and the elimination of the remaining 50% in 2011-12. On June 22, 2010 the board approved a reduction of 30% of the elementary arts teachers, restoring 5 million back into the budget to retain 70%.

In response to this crisis, Arts for LA, the UTLA Arts Teachers, the LAUSD Arts Education Branch and others have been working together to demonstrate community support for arts education to the LAUSD Board of Education. Actions have included forming an advisory committee, generating over 1200 letters to the school board, meetings with board members, endorsement of Measure E and a full-page open letter published in the Business Section of the LA Times.

LAUSD's first ten-year plan for arts education has expired and with a 2009 Wallace Foundation grant of \$600,000, the Arts Branch of LAUSD is developing the "Second Ten Year Plan." With the support of a national foundation and the announcement of LAUSD's new Superintendent of Schools, now is the time to advocate for arts education and LA's world-class model of quality, access and equity.

### Decision Makers:

<p><b>LAUSD Board of Education</b></p> <p>Marguerite LaMotte, District 1          Monica Garcia, District 2          Tamar Galatzan, District 3          Steve Zimmer, District 4          Yolie Flores, District 5          Nury Martinez, District 6          Richard Vladovic, District 7</p> <p><b>LAUSD Superintendent</b></p> <p>Ramon Cortines</p>	<p><b>Chief Academic Officer</b></p> <p>Judy Elliott</p> <p><b>Administrative Coordinator</b></p> <p>Robin Lithgow</p> <p><b>Chief Financial Officer</b></p> <p>Megan Reilly</p>
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### Timeline of Arts Education in LAUSD:

#### 1998

- Blue Ribbon Committee is formed
- 3 Legged-Stool Philosophy is developed
  - Arts and Music Specialists (credentialed)
  - Arts Integration/Teacher Professional Development
  - Arts Community Partnerships

#### 1999

- 10-year Arts Plan adopted with unanimous board support

#### 2006

- State of California approves AB1181 Arts and Music Block Grant

#### 2008

- Fiscal crisis - District cuts Arts Community Partnership Network funding

#### 2010

- Strategic advocacy campaign formed by Arts for LA to save elementary arts