

2024-25 GRANT AWARDS

Creative Youth Development



The Creative Youth Development program is rooted in the CAC’s belief that arts learning is an essential tool for healthy human development and that it should be available to all young people throughout California, including but not limited to those whose lives have been impacted or interrupted by the justice system. The CAC envisions that all of California’s young people are provided with meaningful, culturally responsive arts-learning experiences so that they can reach their full potential. All projects may occur during or outside of traditional school hours and should take place at arts and culture venues, community centers, court/school sites, juvenile halls and camps, county-operated correctional facilities, social services agencies, and other youth-oriented settings.

Creative Youth Development is a commitment to supporting young people’s stories, ideas, and dreams through creative expression and honoring their lived experience. In order to create environments that promote Creative Youth Development, these three concepts must be present:

- Racial Equity and Social Justice
- Youth Voices
- Collective Action

Beneficiaries of Creative Youth Development projects include youth from infancy to 25 years of age. Support for system-engaged, system-impacted, and/or at-promise youth are an additional priority with successful projects being tailored specifically to respond to their needs. These may be youth and young people who were dismissed from middle, high and/or continuation schools; have been subjected to racial profiling; have been arrested or are on probation; are currently incarcerated at a juvenile justice facility or attending a court-appointed educational institution; are undocumented; are unhoused and/or migratory; are refugees; have incarcerated parent(s) or guardian(s); and/or are pregnant or young parents themselves.

Number of Grants Awarded: 115

Total Investment: \$1,928,961

Organization Name	County	Application ID	Approved Grant Amount	Grant Request Summary
11 11 A CREATIVE COLLECTIVE	Los Angeles	CYD-24-23040	\$16,203	With support from the California Arts Council, 11 11 A CREATIVE COLLECTIVE will collaborate with Artist Judy Leventhal, LCSW, Registered Art Therapist, to produce an afterschool program at Pacoima Charter Elementary which empowers youth voices through the therapeutic art of mask making.
916 INK	Sacramento	CYD-24-22780	\$16,203	With support from the California Arts Council 916 Ink will provide five sessions of our weeklong Amplify Summer Creative Writing Camps in June, July and August of 2025 to 125 students in grades 3-8. In each session, up to 25 students will receive 30 hours of immersive literary arts instruction and publish 3-5 pieces of original creative writing.
A REASON TO SURVIVE	San Diego	CYD-24-24745	\$16,203	<p>With support from the California Arts Council, A Reason to Survive (ARTS) will elevate the Creative Youth Development framework with young people in South County San Diego through meaningful, culturally responsive arts-learning experiences:</p> <p>We co-create an environment where young people have creative experiences that will help them become confident, compassionate, and courageous as they see themselves in the role of community builders.</p> <p>Our “Create, Connect, and Catalyze” framework our work, impact and partnerships, and culture align with our mission, and include:</p> <p>1) high-quality creative youth development programming, for youth ages 8-24, centering social justice, youth voice, and collective action; 2) mobilizes arts and culture within our and community committed to self-care, health equity, and justice; and 3) grows our Community of Care network of partners offering services, rooted in healing-centered engagement.</p>

ALTERNATIVE THEATER ENSEMBLE	Marin	CYD-24-23023	\$16,203	With support from the California Arts Council, Alternative Theater Ensemble will launch an arts education apprenticeship program to invest in the creative development and workforce readiness of transitional age youth from marginalized identities, providing professional leadership and skill-building opportunities across artistic disciplines.
ARAB COMMUNITY CENTER FOR INTEGRATION SERVICES	Sacramento	CYD-24-24548	\$9,735	With support from the California Arts Council, Arab Community Center for Integration Services (ACCIS) will enhance integration programs for refugees in Sacramento. Founded in 2019 but active since 2014, ACCIS has supported over 6,000 Arab refugees through Referral Services, Women and Youth Empowerment Programs, and Cultural Integration Activities. Our proposal targets Youth Enrichment and Community Involvement. Funds will expand our youth programs like Cultural Summer Camp, Artistic Expression Workshops and Dabke Dance sessions. ACCIS aims to minimize cultural shock and create a welcoming environment, empowering immigrants to thrive in their new community while preserving identity. This project will unite children and youth in a healthy environment promoting cultural exchange, inclusion, social, emotional, and artistic development. It will provide equitable resources to underserved youth, celebrate cultural heritage, and empower refugees to thrive in their new community.
ARMORY CENTER FOR THE ARTS	Los Angeles	CYD-24-23779	\$17,360	With support from the California Arts Council, the Armory will provide sequential, after-school visual art classes serving 400 youth aged 5-18 from under-resourced, system-impacted neighborhoods in Pasadena and the San Gabriel Valley. Classes are held year-round at six accessible community partner sites in Pasadena—including social services organizations, recreation centers, city parks, and libraries—and one LA County Probation Camp in La Verne, housing teens in the juvenile justice system. All classes are free to participants and represent the Armory's longstanding, 35-year commitment to making high-quality visual art education accessible to everyone.
ART LEAGUE OF LINCOLN	Placer	CYD-24-22956	\$16,203	With support from the California Arts Council, the ART LEAGUE OF LINCOLN will provide art instructional support for the Western Placer Unified School District (WPUSD) in Lincoln, California under Proposition 28, the Arts and Music in Schools (AMS) Act of 2022. The WPUSD Superintendent of Education, alongside school staff, will partner with us to develop culturally relevant art education programming for K through 12th grade students. Our efforts will be directed towards Title 1 schools, representing under-served students with the greatest achievement gap. These Title 1 schools draw from communities in the lower quartile of the Healthy Places Index, with many students who have been impacted by family members in the correctional system.
ART OF ELAN	San Diego	CYD-24-23022	\$16,203	With support from the California Arts Council, ART OF ELAN will provide Young Artists in Harmony (YAH), an after-school 10-week music composition residency offered in spring and fall for at-risk youth and low-income first-generation college seekers. The residency culminates in free public concerts recorded for online streaming and enjoyed by listeners worldwide. This request will support the spring 2025 residencies in partnership with A Reason to Survive (ARTS) and The Preuss School.
ARTE AMERICAS THE MEXICAN ARTS CENTER	Fresno	CYD-24-24253	\$16,203	With support from the California Arts Council, Arte Américas will expand our successful Bilingual Storytime and Art program to establish bilingual curriculum resources for educators engaged with TK-6th grade students, bridging the gap between the classroom and Arte Américas, which supports positive self-identification and respect for diverse cultures. This program fosters creative abilities of youth through culturally and linguistically responsive arts learning and connects children and families with the vibrant community of professional artists that exists in the Central Valley. Interdisciplinary artistic processes inspired by children's literature will inspire young people to use their own voices and share their own unique narratives, and perspectives all while deepening parent-child bond through creative problem solving and self expression.
ARTHATCH	San Diego	CYD-24-22571	\$16,203	With support from the California Arts Council ArtHatch will work with a group of teens from Compact, who are participating in a court ordered/probation after school program, in creating, producing, and installing a full art exhibition. Racial Equity and Social Justice are at the center of all programs at ArtHatch. Teens will work with artists from around the world to encourage use of their Youth Voices and Collective Action to construct the art and participate in all aspects of producing an exhibition. The project will engage youth in writing and sending press releases, creating promotional materials, hanging and lighting the exhibition, and planning and attending the opening reception. At the end of the exhibition teens will assist in deconstructing the exhibit including, packing, mailing, patching and painting the gallery space.

ARTOGETHER	Alameda	CYD-24-23821	\$17,360	<p>With support from the California Arts Council, ARTTogether will engage 10-15 refugee and immigrant youth participants in creative activities at the ARTTogether Center in downtown Oakland. Meeting bi-weekly, our Youth Creative Impact Studio (YCIS) program will create art projects addressing community issues like climate change, water conservation, and mental wellness.</p> <p>Through printmaking and board game design, our young cohort will learn creative tools for community-building and social justice advocacy. YCIS will include guest speakers and artists guiding the youth in using art as a tool for activism. Additionally, participants will attend local events to practice public speaking and leadership skills.</p> <p>The Project will culminate in a final exhibition showcasing their work, highlighting the program's impact on empowering youth through creative expression and cultural connection.</p>
ARTREACH	San Diego	CYD-24-24839	\$16,203	<p>With support from the California Arts Council, ArtReach will expand the Youth ArtReach Studio (Y.A.S.) program. Y.A.S. provides youth-centered after-school visual art workshops that teach traditional arts and cultural practices through contemporary mediums and showcase artists and art practices from marginalized communities. Y.A.S. aims to reach at-risk youth populations ages 5-25 in San Diego County for whom extracurricular art activities are inaccessible due to financial barriers, the school they attend, or an absence of mediums in which they are interested. Funds awarded for Y.A.S. will cover the cost of materials for 44 workshops serving up to 1,320 youth, Teaching Artist and Culture Bearer fees, and the staff wages required for teaching and administrative tasks directly related to Y.A.S. for the duration of the grant cycle. Workshops will take place at the newly expanded ArtReach Studios.</p>
ARTS COLLABORATIVE OF NEVADA COUNTY	Nevada	CYD-24-23079	\$16,203	<p>With support from California Arts Council, Nevada County Arts Council will offer therapeutic music curricula focused on transformational learning at Mountain Valley Child and Family Services. Mentored by professional bassist and seasoned music educator, Pancho Tomaselli, system-engaged youth will gain resilience, confidence and communication skills outside the classroom.</p>
ARTS COUNCIL OF KERN	Kern	CYD-24-22720	\$16,203	<p>With support from the California Arts Council, ARTS COUNCIL OF KERN will expand the Art4Rehabilitation (A4R) program we piloted in 2023-24 that brought the arts to youth in one juvenile detention center. We have been asked to add more classes and one-to-one mentoring at APEX, and take all programs to additional facilities. This transformative program, through visual and literary arts, music, and hip hop, creation has proven to be a catalyst for reducing violence, mental and behavioral distress, and recidivism. Through pre/post release, one-to-one mentoring, youth hone their skills, and learn presentation, portfolio and recording demo techniques, enabling them to be better prepared to find and hold creative economy jobs or pursue additional training or education. In 2025, we expect to double the number of students served and increase the depth of instruction to all.</p>
ARTS COUNCIL SANTA CRUZ COUNTY	Santa Cruz	CYD-24-22606	\$16,203	<p>With support from the California Arts Council, in ARTS COUNCIL SANTA CRUZ COUNTY's Mariposa Arts high school students find their voices and discover their creative gifts through training that supports the development of powerful life skills such as public speaking, planning, and time management. Student teachers co-teach lessons with teaching artists at middle and elementary schools, sharing creative experiences with 1,500 youth. Through TEACH programs in visual art, guitar, and mural creation, high school youth become leaders, mentors, and role models and develop their artistic skills through community projects. Mariposa Arts encourages self-directed learning, promotes complexity in the learning experience, and teaches students how to take positive risks and turn mistakes into opportunities through the arts. Funding supports teaching artists and high student teacher wages, supplies, and administration.</p>
ARTS FOR HEALING AND JUSTICE NETWORK	Los Angeles	CYD-24-23576	\$16,203	<p>With support from the California Arts Council, Arts for Healing and Justice Network (AHJN) will expand healing arts education and opportunities for systems-impacted and at-risk youth in Los Angeles County. Building upon the previous success of our Youth Leadership Development (YLD) program, we plan to support youth through healing arts education, advocacy and art skill-building and connections to stable employment in the local creative economy.</p>

ARTSCCC	Contra Costa	CYD-24-23077	\$16,203	<p>With support from the California Arts Council, ARTSCCC (Arts Contra Costa County) will secure a “Poetry Series Program” to serve one of Contra Costa County’s most vulnerable populations, youth at John A. Davis Juvenile Hall in Martinez. A community-based artist team leads monthly spoken-word workshops to build youth confidence for educational and professional opportunities by strengthening reading, writing, and artistic skills. Youth participate in team building initiatives using creative expression tools of spoken-word, storytelling, and writing.</p> <p>There are three units at Juvenile Hall and the “Poetry Series Program” currently works with Trinity Unit male youth. The largest population of Juvenile Hall youth come East, then West, and Central Contra Costa County. ARTSCCC seeks funding to support the Trinity Unit program and provide new services to the Coed Unit to include female youth for equitable access.</p>
BERKELEY ART CENTER ASSOCIATION	Alameda	CYD-24-24607	\$16,203	<p>With support from the California Arts Council, Berkeley Art Center will pilot its Curatorial Youth Coalition, supporting a cohort of 7 Bay Area transitional age youth in developing curatorial & cultural organizing values/ statements and gaining skills in exhibition making and public programming. This program will activate youth voices, narratives, and perspectives by influencing BAC’s core exhibitions programs, and cultivates skills of community responsive cultural organizing, critical curatorial frameworks, and administrative skills needed to develop, organize, and implement exhibition programs.</p>
CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY EDUCATION CENTER INC	San Luis Obispo	CYD-24-22679	\$16,203	<p>With support from the California Arts Council, California Community Education Center will implement the California Youth and Justice Arts Education Project. The purpose is to create social-emotional arts education programs for underrepresented youth in California that are LGBTQIA+ affirming and accessible to youth with disabilities. Project activities include providing music theory and piano instruction; providing opportunities for self-expression and story-telling through the collaborative creation of virtual and visual art; creating opportunities for youth to meaningfully engage their peers; and, offering opportunities for showcase and performance via community concerts. Intended beneficiaries of the project are California youth identifying with: BIPOC communities, LGBTQIA+ communities, justice-impacted communities, disabilities, homelessness, foster care, English language learning, and youth living in vulnerable regions of the state.</p>
CENTER FOR URBAN EXCELLENCE	Solano	CYD-24-24670	\$23,147	<p>With support from the California Arts Council, the Center for Urban Excellence will reignite the weekly “Art is Resilience” program to engage 30 system-impacted youth and young adults ages 12-25 in Solano and Contra Costa Counties. Professional Teaching Artists, Music Professionals, wellness practitioners, and Juvenile Justice professionals will create a space for youth to channel their strength, resilience, and hope through a poetry, visual, and recording activism. We empower young artists to lead, create, and articulate their vision for the future, strengthening their voices and promoting positivity. Through these vibrant artistic expressions, we illuminate the inherent power of our youth, sparking an enduring beacon of resilience in their communities.</p>
CHAPTER 510 INK	Alameda	CYD-24-23399	\$16,203	<p>With support from the California Arts Council, Chapter 510 Ink will hold its 2024-2025 “SoundSpace” podcasting program for 9th-12th graders. Using audio storytelling as a creative medium, 10-12 students will create a podcast on the theme of “Futurism.” This theme will ask students to imagine creative alternate solutions for issues of interest or concern in their communities (e.g., mental health challenges, what it means to be a young woman, or the impacts of social media), document their own experiences, and become investigators into the experiences of other Oakland teens. Each participant will write and produce a podcast episode which will be made available to the public on major podcast platforms. Students will practice creative writing and learn audio production tools to creatively express themselves and share the stories that matter most to them.</p>
CHILDREN’S ART STUDIO RICHMOND / TALLER DE ARTE PARA NIÑOS RICHMOND	Contra Costa	CYD-24-23820	\$16,203	<p>With support from the California Arts Council, the Children’s Art Studio Richmond / Taller de Arte Para Niños Richmond will expand our process-based and nature-inspired arts program for underserved and under-resourced learners aged 2-5 and their families. Building on our program’s strengths, we will continue to nurture creativity, social-emotional skills, and family engagement through workshops, exhibitions, and community events. Our culturally responsive approach and unique bilingual programming ensure inclusivity for these communities of color. We will partner with existing Richmond arts organizations, leveraging spaces to uplift the need for arts and early learning investments while showcasing young talent. This program fosters critical thinking, problem-solving, and collaboration, enriching the lives of an estimated 180 students, 90 parents, and 200 community members.</p>

CHRYSLIS STUDIO	San Francisco	CYD-24-23044	\$17,360	With support from the California Arts Council, Chrysalis Studio will partner with Still Here San Francisco to conduct one cohort of Queer Ancestors Project Kaleidoscope: eight free intergenerational workshops for LGBTQ2S+ transitional age youth age 18-24. Participants will pair with QTBIPOC Teaching Artists to explore Queer Ancestry through storytelling and writing. The final 4 workshops will be devoted to revision and performance development in preparation for our culminating free public reading held at STRUT in SF's LGBTQ Cultural District. CAC funds will support Participant Stipends, Artist Fees, and other production expenses of this program.
CITY OF SAN FERNANDO	Los Angeles	CYD-24-22891	\$16,203	With support from the California Arts Council, the City of San Fernando will connect Grammy winning artists with underserved youth in after school learning experiences that emphasize mariachi folk instrument instruction, arrangement and performance skills from beginning through advanced. Targeting youth and young adults, this project embodies artistic and historical concepts preserving mariachi music.
COMMUNITY ARTS & EMPOWERMENT	Santa Cruz	CYD-24-24208	\$17,360	“With support from the California Arts Council, COMMUNITY ARTS & EMPOWERMENT will continue operating a free mosaic arts center where both paid and volunteer high school youth create public art mosaics for the City of Watsonville at the Muzzio Mosaic Arts Center located in Muzzio Park. We will use the CAC grant funds to further our community-engaged arts practice by creating 200 square feet of mosaics to be installed on the outside of our Arts Center. The mosaics will be designed by high school youth who will be paid a stipend for their designs and fabricated by high school volunteers and student interns.
COMMUNITY MUSIC CENTER	San Francisco	CYD-24-22408	\$16,203	With support from the California Arts Council, Community Music Center (CMC) will continue offering the tuition-free Mission District Young Musicians Program (MDYMP) to 25 primarily Latinx youth ages 11 – 18, outside of school time. This bilingual program, presented in a Latinx cultural context, is designed to engage and empower students through the music of Latin American countries. Youth receive, free of charge, a comprehensive music education in Latin music at CMC's Mission District headquarters, including private lessons, ensemble rehearsals, theory classes, and performances, with a focus on social-emotional learning and creative expression. MDYMP is critical to CMC's efforts to amplify the voices of black and brown students and faculty. Inspired by their training and MDYMP's powerful Latinx teaching artists, students become not only skilled musicians, but creative leaders and community culture-bearers.
DANCE AND DIALOGUE	Los Angeles	CYD-24-24090	\$17,360	With support from the California Arts Council, Dance and Dialogue will host its after school Community Centered Program at Wisdom Elementary School. This program will focus on Folklórico as a means of dialogue and expression to empower youth and their families to cultivate joy, cultural pride, and collaboration within their community.
DIABLO BALLET	Contra Costa	CYD-24-23768	\$23,147	With support from the California Arts Council, Diablo Ballet will lead its PEEK (Performing Arts Education & Enrichment for Kids Program), a creative movement and social and emotional program for at-risk teenage boys and girls currently in the judicial process at Mt. McKinley Court School at John A Davis Juvenile Hall (Mt. McKinley) in Martinez. The PEEK Program teaches students how to utilize movement to overcome behavioral and mental health roadblocks that impact their lives.
DRAWBRIDGE AN ARTS PROGRAM FOR HOMELESS CHILDREN	Marin	CYD-24-23613	\$17,360	With support from the California Arts Council, DrawBridge will connect local artists with children in homeless shelters, affordable housing facilities, and community centers across the San Francisco Bay Area. Celebrating the creativity and diversity of the communities we serve, DrawBridge community artists will provide inspiration and mentorship for children ages 5-18.
EAST BAY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS	Contra Costa	CYD-24-24396	\$17,360	With support from the California Arts Council, EAST BAY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS will deepen the quality of its Young Artist Diploma Program (YADP) by fostering holistic youth development through trauma-informed, cross cultural, multidisciplinary performing arts education. The program aims to engage Richmond adolescents in intensive, culturally resonant artistic training, support their academic and personal growth, and promote equity and community well-being.

EAST LOS ANGELES BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB	Los Angeles	CYD-24-25034	\$16,203	With support from the California Arts Council, EAST LOS ANGELES BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB will address the evolving needs of students in our underserved communities and our system-impacted, at-promise youth through an important resource. high-quality creative arts education. We will use our four complementary concepts: (1) Social Emotional Learning through the Arts (2) Development of life skills such as critical thinking, problem solving, leadership, and collaboration. (3) Utilize cultural assets of the local community to support positive self-identification and respect for diverse cultures. (4) Support youth voices, narratives, and perspectives. Through the arts program, ELABGC will provide over 10 hours weekly of visual arts lessons for eight weeks to nearly 100 students enrolled in the Summer 2025 program.
EL SISTEMA SANTA CRUZ	Santa Cruz	CYD-24-22577	\$13,578	With the support of the California Arts Council (CAC), El Sistema Santa Cruz will launch a 30-week after-school audio production program specifically designed for 20 high-risk students at New Community Day High School in Watsonville, CA. Tailored for continuation and credit recovery youth, ages 14-20, this media career-focused educational program will provide opportunities outside of school hours to explore media industry jobs, develop technical skills, and practice leadership. The program combines structured curriculum, project-based learning experiences, workshops, and networking events with industry partners. It aims to prepare students for real-world internships, apprenticeships, and career opportunities in the media industry and beyond.
EL TEATRO CAMPESINO	San Benito	CYD-24-23656	\$16,203	With support from the California Arts Council, El Teatro Campesino will provide a third year of “Teatro de Nosotros” (“Theater of Us”) - a free bilingual Youth Theater program for Watsonville youth. Unfolding in two parts over the summer, Part 1 is a unique developmental week to inform an original script and Part Two is a three week rehearsal and production process to bring that new script to life with an all youth cast. CAC funds will support artist fees for teaching, script development, production design, directing, and physical production costs in order to support the creative development of these youth.
EPACENTER	San Mateo	CYD-24-24974	\$17,360	With support from the California Arts Council, EPACENTER will build on its rich history as a youth arts organization, created by youth and for youth in San Mateo County, and develop a new Youth Leadership Program with the aim of creating a vibrant arts district in the city of East Palo Alto. EPACENTER will invest in a diverse cohort of young adults, ages 18-24, who will participate in a series of visioning exercises and art projects for the community. During first phase of this project, EPACENTER’s Youth Fellows will identify how arts and culture can address the needs of East Palo Alto, and the role that EPACENTER can play in creating a vibrant arts district in the city. The second phase will include large scale arts events that uplift local artists and showcase youth leadership.
EVERYBODY DANCE LA	Los Angeles	CYD-24-24095	\$17,360	With support from the California Arts Council, Everybody Dance LA! (EDLA!) will provide 150 low-income students with the Middle and High School Enrichment Program, which offers students advanced dance instruction, opportunities to choreograph original work, field trips, master classes, mentoring, and assistantships and internships.
FERN STREET COMMUNITY ARTS INC	San Diego	CYD-24-22829	\$23,147	With support from the California Arts Council, FERN STREET COMMUNITY ARTS will teach circus free-of-charge to youth in San Diego’s City Heights neighborhood: juggling, tightwire, tumbling and clowning. This artistic, athletic activity develops kinesthetic awareness, spatial reasoning, critical thinking, and emotional understanding, while encouraging joyful social-emotional learning.
FILIPINO AMERICAN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA	Los Angeles	CYD-24-24283	\$16,203	With support from the California Arts Council, the Filipino American Symphony Orchestra will address segregation and its inequities by directly providing music education to youth from BIPOC communities, fostering a healthy environment and an empowering identity context.
FILM2FUTURE INC	Los Angeles	CYD-24-24583	\$23,147	With support from the California Arts Council, Film2Future will provide an Intensive Animation Program that provides students underserved Los Angeles youth hands on experience creating short films and prepares them for careers in media arts by growing students’ professional creative skills and industry network.
FIRST 5 AMADOR	Amador	CYD-24-23798	\$15,430	With support from the California Arts Council, First 5 Amador will provide music, movement, and child-led visual art opportunities for families with children 0 - 5 years of age as well as family child care providers and preschool sites focusing our efforts in rural communities. Our programs will offer an array of education and experiences to lay the foundation for a lifelong appreciation of the arts and support early childhood development for Amador’s youngest. Offering these resources and programs to early care providers will create a sustainable system for ongoing music and visual arts for current and future children in their care.

FLORICANTO DANCE THEATRE	Los Angeles	CYD-24-24276	\$17,360	With support from the California Arts Council, FLORICANTO DANCE THEATRE will provide after school alternatives throughout the year through traditional music, dance and visual arts classes. Floricanto will provide instructors for the after school program, produce 2 recitals and a city wide children's festival, all open to the public.
FLYAWAY PRODUCTIONS	San Francisco	CYD-24-22474	\$23,147	With support from the California Arts Council, FLYAWAY PRODUCTIONS offers GIRLFLY-- an artist-as-activist training program for girls/gender-nonconforming (gnc) youth who don't have regular arts access. Participants learn aerial dance, site-specific dance, visual art and creative writing that center racial/gender justice, belonging, and self-esteem built through performance. Participants receive a \$550 stipend. In 2022, we observed how much trauma students carry from the pandemic, climate change, racism, immigration challenges, poverty, and the intersection of issues. Our response moving forward is to prioritize joy, ease and how artists create joy, in tough contexts. We focus on building a healthy community within the program via community agreements, active peer support and processing challenges as a group as they arise.
FOSTERING DREAMS PROJECT	Los Angeles	CYD-24-22462	\$16,203	With the support of the California Arts Council, Fostering Dreams Project will provide free, high quality dance and music therapy programs to up to 30 high needs students in Monroe Community of Schools District.
FREE ARTS FOR ABUSED CHILDREN	Los Angeles	CYD-24-23406	\$23,147	With support from the California Arts Council, Free Arts for Abused Children (FA) will increase capacity to provide culturally responsive art programming to more underserved and underrepresented youth. Funding will support the purchase of art supplies and pay teaching artists to provide workshops to 16,500 youth and their caregivers at schools, hospitals, court, family resource centers and community centers.
FRIENDS OF SCRAP INC	San Francisco	CYD-24-23687	\$17,360	With support from the California Arts Council, SCRAP will fortify and expand its Arts Education Outreach programs providing high-quality art enrichment opportunities for students K-12 in San Francisco's most underserved communities. Working with our community nonprofit partner organizations, we will offer programs free of charge to approximately 1,000 students, 30 weeks a year. Programs will be 1 to 1.5 hours one or twice per week.
FUA DIA KONGO	Alameda	CYD-24-25018	\$17,360	The Kizingu project by Fua Dia Kongo empowers African descent youth in California through an innovative performing arts and leadership program. Rooted in Kongolese dance, drumming, and traditions, Kizingu celebrates cultural identity, fosters creativity, and nurtures leadership among ages 9-19. With CAC grant funds, Kizingu offers comprehensive arts education including dance, drumming, theater, storytelling, and staging training. The program provides apprenticeship opportunities for mentorship in traditional arts, leading to performance experience. Participants share their talents through staged performances, sharing cultural heritage. Grant funds cover instructor fees, materials, venue rentals, administrative costs, and apprenticeship support. Kizingu aims to preserve cultural heritage, empower youth, and promote social change, aligning with Creative Youth Development goals in California.
FUTURENOMIC RESOURCES INCORPORATED	Riverside	CYD-24-24589	\$13,888	<p>With support from the California Arts Council, FUTURENOMIC RESOURCES INCORPORATED DBA Coachella Valley Arts Institute (CVAI) will bridge arts education inequity for HPI underserved communities. Our "Explore AI" project offers free art programs to unhoused youth, integrating art therapy and AI technology in music, animation, and special effects. This initiative promotes racial equity, social justice, and youth voices, fostering healing and mental well-being through rhythm, mindfulness, and energy-medicine techniques.</p> <p>We will document the journey and transformation of participating youth, culminating in a final project from each student. CAC grant funds will cover program costs, including AI technology, art supplies, and professional instructors. By offering these programs, CVAI aims to improve self-esteem, mental health, and economic status among low-income, at-risk youth, and BIPOC communities, empowering them to explore creativity and build resilience.</p>
GEOFFREY'S INNER CIRCLE	Alameda	CYD-24-22509	\$16,203	With support from the California Arts Council, Geoffrey's Inner Circle will offer its second annual Youth Arts Intensive in Spring 2025. This free program, held twice weekly for a 10-week session, will engage Black youth ages 10-16, offering instruction in singing and dance, culminating in a free showcase recital for the community.

GET LIT WORDS IGNITE INC	Los Angeles	CYD-24-23029	\$23,147	With support from the California Arts Council, Get Lit–Words Ignite will implement our Creative Lab in 2025. The Lab will provide under-resourced southern California youth ages 12-19 with after-school training in a wide variety of creative fields including filmmaking, screenwriting, music production, and spoken word performance. Students will network with and be mentored by our professional partners in the entertainment industry, preparing our youth for success in a competitive job market. In addition to technical and artistic skill development, the Lab includes workforce preparation such as resume and portfolio development, media literacy, visual presentations/pitching, communication and interview skills, and financial literacy; and development of “soft” skills such as communication, teamwork, problem-solving, adaptability, and professionalism.
GHETTO FILM SCHOOL LA INC	Los Angeles	CYD-24-23856	\$23,147	With support from the California Arts Council, Ghetto Film School will provide 30 LA high-school students with an intensive, afterschool four-month Fine Art & Cinema program, engaging students in more than 150 hours of art history and filmmaking coursework in partnership with the Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens. All students will write and produce their own two- to four-minute films using hand-cranked Bolex cameras, 15 of which will be selected for public exhibition in the Museum’s galleries and website. Tuition is free, and healthy meals, transportation, and equipment are provided. Fine Arts & Cinema is the third course in the GFS Fellows Program - a 2.5 year, graduate level program in cinematic storytelling that trains students in the art and business of multimedia storytelling while preparing them to advance to higher education.
GIVE 4 KIDZ	Riverside	CYD-24-22807	\$15,821	With support from the California Arts Council, GIVE4KIDZ will use the grant funds to host Creative Youth Art Project, which will provide school-aged children no-cost art workshops, materials, and community art exhibitions celebrating the young artists. These initiatives will focus on children living in the lowest quartile of the Healthy Place Index in southern California. The program aims to foster creativity, enhance artistic skills, and promote cultural engagement among underserved communities. By offering a platform for artistic expression, GIVE4KIDZ will help participants build confidence, develop critical thinking abilities, and gain exposure to various art forms. The grant will cover costs related to materials, venue rentals, artist stipends, and promotional activities to ensure accessibility and participation. This project seeks to create an inclusive environment where every child has the opportunity to explore and appreciate the arts.
GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL PARKS CONSERVANCY	San Francisco	CYD-24-24287	\$17,356	With support from the California Arts Council, the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy will fund an emerging artist specializing in Media Arts and supporting staff to collaborate with Urban Trailblazers at the Crissy Field Center on a media project. This project will explore the themes of community, identity, and leadership through digital media. The Urban Trailblazers program (UTB) will delve into these themes during a summer-long media program in 2025. Under the guidance of media artist Koby Park, 44 middle school-aged youth from underserved communities in the San Francisco Bay Area will engage in photography, videography, and digital audio projects. These activities aim to help the participants develop as leaders and elevate their narratives through visual storytelling.
GRANT DRUM LINE MUSIC ASSOCIATION	Sacramento	CYD-24-22622	\$9,722	With support from the California Arts Council, the Grant Drum Line Music Association will take 15 youth from at risk communities in the Sacramento region to perform for the Celebration of American Music in Australia in the summer of 2025. Our drum line represents the religious, gender identity, and ethnic diversity of the region. Socioeconomically, these youths come from backgrounds that often lack access to enriching extracurricular activities. The trip to Australia will be an opportunity for these young musicians to represent their community, develop their leadership abilities, showcase their talent and serve as a profound educational journey that broadens their horizons, deepens their cultural sensitivity, and enhances their understanding of global interconnectedness.

GREEN ROOM THEATRE COMPANY	Riverside	CYD-24-24372	\$16,099	<p>With funds from California Arts Council, Green Room Theatre Company Coachella Valley will provide the Black Butterfly Resiliency Project to under-resourced schools, churches, Boys and Girls Clubs, and other youth institutions to educate students in literacy and mental health strategies based around the bilingual play “Black Butterfly.”</p> <p>GRTCCV has provided outstanding theatre education for 15 years. This request builds on recent accomplishments partnering educational programs with bilingual youth-oriented plays (“Maggie Magalita” and “Novio Boy”).</p> <p>CAC funding will bring a performance-component based, educational, mental health program into public schools to help at-risk students in high need areas relate to, process, and learn emotional resiliency skills based on thematic issues raised in “Black Butterfly” and the Californian Latina teen characters’ lives. Students will also learn resiliency skills through direct instruction, through peer interaction, and through peer support.</p>
GITARS ANTIQUA MUSIC PROGRAM	Los Angeles	CYD-24-22637	\$10,740	<p>With support from the California Arts Council, Guitars Antiqua Music Program will provide free afterschool guitar lessons to youths in the Lawndale and Hawthorne community. This project will include group lessons, workshops, performances, and will empower social and emotional development through peer learning, mentorship and community engagement.</p>
HANFORD MULTICULTURAL THEATER COMPANY	Kings	CYD-24-23025	\$16,203	<p>With the support of the California Arts Council, Hanford Multicultural Theater will provide youth in a predominately rural, agricultural, and diverse community, experiences in theatrical arts which include acting, improvisation, playwriting, poetry, and puppetry skills. Two sites will provide these skills with teaching artists including a bilingual performance artist. The culmination of the experience will be a public performance to showcase the youth’s new skills from both sites.</p>
HAVEN ACADEMY OF THE ARTS	Los Angeles	CYD-24-23185	\$16,203	<p>With support from the California Arts Council, Haven Academy of the Arts will continue its tuition-free, year-round programming at the Haven Pico Union site of our LA City Branch.</p>
HEALING HEELED	Sacramento	CYD-24-24900	\$16,203	<p>With support from the California Arts Council, Healing Heels will be able to create a meaningful production, highlighting artistic expression and mental health awareness. This grant will enable us to provide comprehensive training and performance opportunities for our diverse group of youth participants.</p> <p>The artists involved will benefit from industry-level mentorship and development, enhancing their skills and boosting their confidence. By offering professional training and resources, we empower these young artists to reach new heights in their creative journeys, fostering a sense of achievement and career pathways in the arts. The community will also reap significant benefits from this showcase. It will serve as a unifying event that celebrates the “art saves lives” mantra. Moreover, the showcase will spark important conversations around mental health and cultural identity, contributing to a more inclusive and understanding community.</p>
HEALING RHYTHMS	San Diego	CYD-24-25049	\$16,203	<p>With support from the California Arts Council, Healing Rhythms will facilitate an after school West African drumming program for children, ages twelve-fourteen two days a week. This program will be a series of workshops on Thursdays and Fridays at two different after school programs in the underserved community of North Palm Springs.</p>
HEALTHY BLACK FAMILIES	Alameda	CYD-24-24499	\$17,360	<p>With support from the California Arts Council, Healthy Black Families will produce an After-School Arts Program in early 2025. This free program prioritizing Black youth ages 10-18 will offer classes in spoken word/rap and drum corps, and will take place twice weekly for a series of 10 weeks, culminating in a free final performance for the community.</p>

HEART OF LOS ANGELES YOUTH INC	Los Angeles	CYD-24-22976	\$16,203	With support from the California Arts Council, Heart of Los Angeles (HOLA) will serve 350 elementary through high school aged youth living in historically underserved communities with our afterschool Visual Arts programming, which provides formal class instruction to strengthen fundamental skills in 20+ mediums, both traditional and contemporary, across 100 unique classes led by skilled local teaching artists. The program curriculum is designed to be culturally relevant, center student voice and experience, and provide constructive outlets for expression. Daily classes are complemented by public art projects, a visiting guest artist series, exhibition opportunities, and field trips to local cultural institutions which work collectively to allow each unique creative process to flourish fully. Visual Arts at HOLA aims to develop and affirm students' artistic practice and cultivate a sense of belonging within an artistic environment.
HERO THEATRE INC	Los Angeles	CYD-24-22748	\$16,203	With support from the California Arts Council, HERO Theatre will provide an 11-session participatory acting and writing workshop with the Youth Group at Alexandria House, a transitional residence that provides safe and supportive housing for women and children experiencing homelessness and trauma, in their new community room. It will run a minimum of eleven 2-hour sessions that meet weekly. The project will culminate with a devised play that the Youth Group and HERO will present. We'll promote the play to the general public and present it to the residents and staff of Alexandria House and the local community, generating an audience of 40 or more. In addition, props and costumes will be made during the workshops, and we'll invite adult residents and smaller children to join, engaging multiple generations at Alexandria House in the project.
HIGHSTEPPERS DRILL TEAM INC	San Diego	CYD-24-22496	\$16,203	With support from the California Arts Council, The High Steppers Drill Team, Inc. will expand and deepen our core creative youth development programs, enabling us to further realize our mission of positive, accessible, and equitable programming and social/emotional creative experiences through the unique artistic and cultural mediums of step, drill, and dance.
HIJOS DEL SOL ARTS PRODUCTIONS	Monterey	CYD-24-23961	\$17,360	With support from the California Arts Council HIJOS DEL SOL ARTS PRODUCTIONS will conduct programming from the newly opened HIJOS DEL SOL EXPERIMENTAL ARTS STUDIO. The free and open studio is our unique model, key for youth to find freedom and express themselves while allowing for collaborative innovations. Through this arts collective and hub, Hijos del Sol will conduct professional visual arts instruction, provide supplies and materials. Participants contribute toward the creation of a) cultural events with annual exhibits, A Toda Madre, Día de Muertos, and Garabatos, that foster a sense of belonging and appreciation of our heritage by keeping our Native American and Latino traditions alive. b) community mural projects include symbolic images and vibrant colors that uplift our community and spread messages of unity and hope by reflecting the strength of our people.
HONEY ART STUDIO	San Francisco	CYD-24-24031	\$16,203	With support from the California Arts Council, Honey Art Studio will offer the Creative Edge Lab project, a 12-week workshop series for young adults in San Francisco's Fillmore neighborhood. Ten participants will receive 108 hours of instruction in entrepreneurship, Interior Design, Fashion Design, and Culinary Arts to create pathways into creative careers for under-represented members of San Francisco's BIPOC communities.
INFINITE FLOW - A WHEELCHAIR DANCE COMPANY	Los Angeles	CYD-24-24366	\$16,203	With support from the California Arts Council, INFINITE FLOW DANCE will support Infinite Flow Kids, an inclusive kids dance company, where kids with and without disabilities dance and grow together, cultivating young leaders and dancers, and shaping a new generation where inclusion is the new standard.
INLAND VALLEY REPERTORY THEATRE INC	Los Angeles	CYD-24-23506	\$16,203	With support from the California Arts Council, Inland Valley Repertory Theatre will provide educational outreach programs Camp IVRT and I Love Chorus.
INNER-CITY ARTS	Los Angeles	CYD-24-23725	\$16,203	With support from the California Arts Council, Inner-City Arts will engage approximately 60 after-school students, during the grant period, to explore visual storytelling through photography. Students will gain basic skills and learn about design principles to convey emotions, ideas, and narratives while developing their own photographic style, culminating in photo series projects weaving cohesive narratives.

ISING SILICON VALLEY	Santa Clara	CYD-24-23730	\$16,203	With support from the California Arts Council, iSing Silicon Valley will operate iSing@RWC, a fully subsidized, after-school choral education program for 3rd-5th grade children attending Title 1 schools in Redwood City, CA. iSing@RWC will feature a semester of hour-long classes, held after school, on campus at partnering schools, culminating with a family friendly public concert. Led by a dedicated teaching team with extended experience of iSing's innovative curriculum for elementary age children, culture of welcome, and emphasis on safe and supportive learning, participants will gain new musical skills, grow together as a team, and celebrate the joy of singing together.
JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER OF SAN FRANCISCO	San Francisco	CYD-24-23528	\$16,203	With support from the California Arts Council, the Jewish Community Center of San Francisco will continue to preserve Jewish-Russian heritage and traditions for 80-100 students and their families through the Tikvah School of Music and Dance. Every Saturday during the school year, children ages two- to seventeen engage in bilingual dance, music and theater arts instruction, connecting to their families' past while gaining valuable life-skills to pursue their imagined futures. For over 30 years, this program has served generations of Bay Area-based former Soviet Union émigrés ages 2-17 through arts education. The program also works to preserve Jewish heritage and traditions for the Russian American community – including many Ukrainian refugee students – through community events and culturally-informed arts-based programming.
JOE GOODE PERFORMANCE GROUP	San Francisco	CYD-24-24403	\$16,203	With the support from the California Arts Council, Joe Goode Performance Group (JGPG) will create an original dance theater performance piece elevating the stories and experiences of middle-high school age youth using JGPG's signature creative methodologies. This free program supports youth in training and creating alongside dance theater professionals.
JUSTICE FOR MY SISTER COLLECTIVE (FBO COMMUNITY PARTNERS)	Los Angeles	CYD-24-23935	\$16,203	With support from the California Arts Council, Justice For My Sister will cover 4 days of stipends for on-the-job training of 21 PA Certification Program students. This initiative provides participants ages 18-24 with highly sought-after professional opportunities as early-career filmmakers of color after training them on soft and technical skills required to start a career in the Film & TV industry. By placing our participants on BIPOC film & TV productions, we provide them with tools to start their careers while increasing capacity on set for those productions that are usually under-resourced.
KAIROS MUSIC ACADEMY	Alameda	CYD-24-23349	\$16,203	<p>With help from the California Arts Council, Kairos Music Academy (Kairos) will complete the planning & implementation for a reprise of our successful East Bay Youth Choral Festival, which ran for several consecutive years beginning in 1998-2010.</p> <p>Planning has begun and this will intensify through the latter half of 2024 and into mid-2025 when the reiteration of the Festival will take place on April 24-27, 2025, or the weekend of June 5-8. A diverse creative team will solidify the project ideas and implementation.</p> <p>Culturally-reflective (African-American and Latinx) Independent guest choral music artists and composers will provide much of the instruction and select and/or compose the music. The Festival contributes a powerful musical offering for the community with several local and more broadly recognized artists. Major support for their participation through this grant program is sought.</p>
KERN DANCE ALLIANCE	Kern	CYD-24-23147	\$16,203	With support from the California Arts Council, KERN DANCE ALLIANCE will encourage the development of youth, specifically the unhoused and those living at or below the poverty level, by using the arts to inspire children to read via the 9th annual Books in Motion®: DANCE + LITERACY program in Kern County, Ca.
LIVING JAZZ	Alameda	CYD-24-22999	\$16,203	With support from the California Arts Council, Living Jazz will offer a summer music and dance sleep-away camp for youth with a diverse range of backgrounds and abilities in July 2025. Jam Camp's spectacular setting nestled amongst redwoods, focus on cultural respect and pride, and supportive learning environment foster community-building and artistic, social and personal growth. Faculty artists offer daily workshops in a variety of traditional and contemporary styles of music and dance, including Blues, rock, Funk, Afro-Cuban, Hip Hop, Latin Jazz, and more, appropriate for campers with and without prior music training.

LOCAL COLOR	Santa Clara	CYD-24-22521	\$16,203	With \$25,000 support from the California Arts Council, Local Color will provide our free Color Me Rad program during spring and summer breaks for three cohorts of ten historically underserved 11-17-year-old students (30 total) who are considering professional careers in the arts. Led by professional teaching artists, students learn one medium (i.e. murals, screen printing, lithograph, etc.); create a completed artwork; learn how to market, showcase and price their artwork; receive professional development such as how to build a portfolio, write an artist statement, and create an online presence; practice being in the public eye by doing interviews, talking in front of a camera, and talking about themselves as artists and their artwork; receive a stipend to honor their artistic labor; and have opportunities to sell their artwork to the public.
LUTHER BURBANK MEMORIAL FOUNDATION	Sonoma	CYD-24-22950	\$16,203	With support from the California Arts Council, Luther Burbank Memorial Foundation will provide free Mariachi Summer Camps and a free year-round Ensemble where 350 youth from historically underserved communities will learn music fundamentals and cultural practices of this culturally responsive art form while developing and deepening vital life skills. These programs deliver much-needed free music education and engagement to underserved youth during critical out-of-school hours, helping them to discover and develop their unique talents, foster their personal identity, and build their communication and teamwork skills. Working with outstanding teaching artists and mentors through a culturally significant creative outlet, youth achieve success, gain confidence, build healthy relationships, and learn new arts skills. Instruction, instruments, meals, uniforms, books, and academic tutoring are provided at no cost to the students or their families.
MEZTLI PROJECTS	Los Angeles	CYD-24-22452	\$16,203	With support from the California Arts Council, Meztlí Projects will offer our Cultural Worker Apprentice Alumni Program (CWAA) to Native and Indigenous young artists. The program offers young artists the opportunity to create arts programming that uplifts young people's stories, ideas, and dreams through creative expression and honoring their lived experience by offering them stipends, implementation funds, mentoring and logistical support. Young artists will be guided and supported in developing programming that centers Racial Equity and Social Justice, Youth Voices and Collective Action. Youth are provided a \$1,000 stipend for program development and \$1,000 for project supplies and implementation. They are provided technical assistance, mentorship and guidance from the Meztlí Projects team as well as other artists, culture bearers and Tribal Leaders.
MID-CITY COMMUNITY MUSIC	San Diego	CYD-24-24891	\$23,147	With support from the California Arts Council, Mid-City Community Music (MCCM) will provide a free of cost music performance workshop to under-resourced youth in Central San Diego. MCCM connects middle and high school aged youth in weekly group music lessons and performance rehearsals. Students prepare a 30 to 45 minute set filled with songs they selected, learned, and interpreted as a group. Every 12 weeks, students are given an opportunity to perform alongside other MCCM artists in a concert for family, friends, and community members. Funding from the CAC would ensure that this program can continue to be accessible and allow for growth in enrollment.
MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART SAN DIEGO	San Diego	CYD-24-23233	\$16,203	With support from the California Arts Council, the Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego will offer the Teen Art Collective (TAC) Program. 20-25 Grade 11 students, from diverse schools and communities across San Diego will participate in a free, bi-weekly, intensive, year-long program where they will explore contemporary art, the museum world, and careers in the arts. Students build new friendships, networks with diverse peers, and foundational career skills. Extensive artmaking enables them to develop their creativity and build their portfolios. Professional artists offer workshops, and students participate in field trips to artist-run exhibition spaces. Students plan a culminating celebratory showcase. This program provides the students with the foundation, insight, and confidence to successfully apply to higher education institutions leading to careers in the arts.
MUSICIANS AT PLAY FOUNDATION INC	Los Angeles	CYD-24-23796	\$16,203	With support from the California Arts Council, MUSICIANS AT PLAY FOUNDATION INC will expand our music mentorship program to serve youth attending Monroe Community of Schools in the chronically underserved and underfunded community of North Hills, California.

NATIONAL ACADEMIC YOUTH CORPS INC	Sacramento	CYD-24-23827	\$16,203	With support from the California Arts Council, we will expand and strengthen our Youth Docent program. We will increase our annual Youth Docent staff from six to ten docents, host a monthly guest speakers series (including artists, scholars, and entrepreneurs), take the docents on educational field trips, and expand our annual Juneteenth celebration (facilitated by our docents). This grant will also allow us to hire an artist as the Youth Docent Program Manager, which will take some of the pressure off of our Executive Director, Shonna McDaniels, who currently facilitates all of the programs at the museum herself.
PEOPLES CONSERVATORY	Alameda	CYD-24-24813	\$16,203	With support from the California Arts Council, The People's Conservatory will provide dynamic, empowering, high-quality, professional, culturally-based professional afterschool arts programming for marginalized youth in the proposed schools in Oakland, CA. This programming will serve students across levels in grades K-8, from January 6 through May 29, 2025
PLAYWRIGHTS PROJECT	San Diego	CYD-24-23884	\$16,203	With support from the California Arts Council, Playwrights Project will empower system impacted youth (youth who are justice involved, in foster care, struggling with housing insecurity, or pregnant/parenting) to take part in restorative circles and write plays that reflect on their personal strengths, voice their stories, and communicate the changes they want to see in the world. By uplifting individual voices, youth will gain confidence in their creative skills and resilience, develop greater empathy for one another, and demonstrate to the public the importance of second chances and countering negative stereotypes. The grant will fund artists' fees and program and production costs.
PRESCOTT CIRCUS THEATRE	Alameda	CYD-24-23148	\$16,203	With support from the California Arts Council, Prescott Circus Theatre will provide a year-round continuity of circus and theater arts education programs for as many as 65 low-income Oakland youth that will foster engagement, creative growth, leadership, and opportunities to shine for their communities.
ROOT DIVISION	San Francisco	CYD-24-24349	\$16,203	With support from the California Arts Council, ROOT DIVISION will provide free visual arts education to 800+ San Francisco youth. We will recruit, train, place, and support 15 Studio Artists/Fellows to teach in 8 after-school partner sites, serving low-income, BIPOC, English-Language Learners, and/or immigrants in Mission/SOMA/Tenderloin neighborhoods. This program provides access and opportunities for safe social-emotional art experiences, fosters creative abilities through culturally and linguistically responsive arts learning, and activates youth voices, narratives, and perspectives. The program includes space for youth to connect meaningfully with professional artist-mentors, empowering youth in the creation, presentation, and celebration of visual art-making.
SAN FRANCISCO BOYS CHORUS	San Francisco	CYD-24-22664	\$16,203	With support from the California Arts Council, SAN FRANCISCO BOYS CHORUS (SFBC) will provide in-depth, sequential, after-school choral arts instruction and performance opportunities to 180+ choristers (grades 1-8) at four Bay Area rehearsal sites (San Francisco, Marin, Oakland, San Mateo) during the grant period (1/1/25-9/30/25). SFBC will also continue to provide tuition assistance for choristers from low-income families, in keeping with its founding commitment to provide equity in access to choral arts training for all eligible candidates, regardless of economic background. CAC-CYD funds will be used to help underwrite artist fees for instruction and performance during the nine-month grant.
SCHOLARSHIP AUDITION PERFORMANCE PREPARATORY ACADEMY	Los Angeles	CYD-24-24639	\$16,203	With support from the California Arts Council, SAPPa will provide free musical instrument instruction and performance opportunities for 100 low-income youth in South Los Angeles and Watts. In the program, called the Watts Willowbrook Music Academy and Youth Orchestra, participants learn to play orchestral instruments, develop their musical skills and knowledge, and perform for the public.
SENDEROS	Santa Cruz	CYD-24-24141	\$17,360	With support from the California Arts Council, Senderos will provide equitable access to after school performing arts to 80 Latino immigrant youth ages 5-24 with free Mexican folkloric dance (Centeotl Danza y Baile) and music (Ensamble Musical) instruction, particularly from Indigenous Oaxacan cultural traditions. Working with experienced bilingual teaching artists, youth will learn Mexican cultural arts, teamwork and leadership skills, deepen their connection to their family heritage, gain self-confidence and a stronger sense of self-identity, and showcase their talents with pride at over 20 school and community events, including Senderos' signature annual Vive Oaxaca Guelaguetza festival.

SHIPYARD TRUST FOR THE ARTS	San Francisco	CYD-24-23314	\$16,203	With support from the California Arts Council, Shipyard Trust for the Arts (STAR) will engage the local community by providing hands-on visual arts experiences and learning to local preschool to elementary age students, while also connecting them with seniors aging in place, as part of an intergenerational art program. This program will take place in various community settings, including the Dr. George Davis Senior Center and local schools, creating meaningful interactions between young students and seniors. Through collaborative art projects, participants will explore cultural heritage, express their creativity, and build mutual understanding and respect. The program creates a nurturing and inclusive environment that supports the social-emotional development of the youth and enriches the lives of the seniors through shared creative activities.
SOUND ART	Los Angeles	CYD-24-23007	\$17,360	With support from the California Arts Council, In The Band (formerly Sound Art) will offer after-school music education at five sites located in underinvested Los Angeles neighborhoods. Using contemporary music taught by professional musicians, composers and audio engineers, rhythm section and songwriting will be offered to 250 underserved, low-income youth in grades K – 12. Additionally, In The Band will teach songwriting, recording and production to 50 system-affected, at-promise homeless and former foster youth, ages 17 – 24, residing at Covenant House in Hollywood.
SOUTHERN EXPOSURE	San Francisco	CYD-24-23231	\$17,360	With support from the California Arts Council, SOUTHERN EXPOSURE will engage 20–40 young artists, ages 14–19, in Mission Voices Summer, a free, intensive summer arts program that provides teens with a visual art space to explore issues relevant to them, exercise leadership skills, and utilize art as a tool for social change.
TEAPOT GARDENS	Los Angeles	CYD-24-23728	\$17,360	With support from the California Arts Council, TEAPOT GARDENS will fund Pathway to Art Oasis, a pre-program consisting of 5 free art therapy workshops in Los Angeles parks and gardens for 150 participants. Designed for system-impacted youth aged 13-20, CAC grant funds will fund art therapists, cover art supplies, and facilitate community outreach. These workshops provide therapeutic environments for emotional healing and personal growth, preparing participants for our Art Oasis mentorship program. The program aims to provide tools to process trauma, enhance emotional well-being, and improve social skills. By fostering a sense of community and developing critical life skills, Pathway to Art Oasis offers a transformative experience, paving the way for youth to pursue creative careers and personal development.
THE DANCE BRIGADE A NEW GROUP FROM WALLFLOWER ORDER	San Francisco	CYD-24-24002	\$17,360	With support from California Arts Council, DANCE BRIGADE A NEW GROUP FROM WALLFLOWER ORDER (aka Dance Mission Theater) will provide youth ages 3-18 years with weekly out of school dance classes in styles that range from hip hop to modern to salsa, serving approximately 400 low to moderate income youth/ year from San Francisco. Approximately 75% of students attend for free or receive financial support.
THE DAVID S HARP FOUNDATION INC	San Diego	CYD-24-24943	\$17,360	With support from the California Arts Council, The David's Harp Foundation will empower justice-involved youth at East Mesa and Kearny Mesa Juvenile Detention Facilities through culturally relevant media production programs. This initiative aims to elevate the voices of marginalized youth, especially those reintegrating into the community after the closure of state facilities. By offering art-making opportunities, mentorship from trusted adults, and equitable access to the local creative economy, we provide a holistic support system for these young individuals. Grant funds will be used to employ graduates of TDHF who have successfully completed probation, hiring them as beat-making instructors to work alongside our Artist Mentors within all county juvenile detention facilities. This ensures continuity of support and the development of a strong, positive community for youth both during and after their time in the detention facilities.
TRANSCENDANCE YOUTH ARTS PROJECT	San Diego	CYD-24-22864	\$17,360	With support from the California Arts Council, TRANSCENDANCE YOUTH ARTS PROJECT will engage up to 65 youth from marginalized communities in our CREATE Performance Group program from January – September 2025. Students ages 9-19 years will experience the holistic and culturally-affirming creative process with professional Teaching Artists through a robust performing arts program. Through this Creative Youth Development (CYD) programming we will address community-identified needs including youth mentorship, access to youth-tailored creative spaces, making art with a racial equity lens, and providing a platform to amplify youth voice and vision.

UNUSUAL SUSPECTS THEATRE CO	Los Angeles	CYD-24-22751	\$16,203	With support from the California Arts Council, The Unusual Suspects Theatre Company (USTC) will deliver three total 10-week Youth Theatre Conservatory performance residencies across three arts-poor, Title 1 school sites. These after-school residencies will provide 75+ LA County high-school students the opportunity to create and perform original plays based on their personal experiences and shared culture. Each residency will provide an intensive, youth-driven creative process that combines a standards-based, healing-informed, and culturally-responsive curriculum with deep mentorship to address risk factors that threaten the healthy development of youth in under-resourced communities, including 98% Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC). Each residency will culminate in 1-2 public youth performances witnessed by the participants' peers, families, neighbors, and school administrators. Funds will support key USTC staff and Teaching Artists (TAs) who implement the program at each site.
URBAN SCHOLAR ACADEMY	Los Angeles	CYD-24-23380	\$16,203	With the generous support from the California Arts Council, Urban Scholar Academy is excited to announce that we will be enhancing and expanding the Urban Scholar Film Academy (USFA) during the upcoming 2024-2025 school year. Our proven success lies in the implementation of a small cohort model. Our goal for the upcoming year is to serve 15-20 students; similar to prior years. In order to achieve this, we are requesting funding for program costs, including short film production expenses. Secondly, we are in need of professional-grade editing software. We are confident that with the California Arts Council's support, we will be able to provide our students with the resources they need to thrive and succeed in their filmmaking endeavors.
VENTURA COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL	Ventura	CYD-24-23362	\$16,203	With support from the California Arts Council, The Ventura County Arts Council through its Arts & Youth Justice program will provide arts instruction to formerly homeless youth, teens in a residential program for trafficked girls and youth currently incarcerated in juvenile hall. This program is focused on project-based learning with a trauma-informed approach to arts instruction.
VERSA-STYLE DANCE COMPANY	Los Angeles	CYD-24-23781	\$16,203	With support from the California Arts Council, Versa-Style Street Dance Company (VSDC) will provide high quality Hip Hop and street dance education to the Black and Brown youth of Los Angeles County (LAC) through our flagship youth program, Versa-Style Next Generation (VSNG). Students will engage in hands-on, culturally responsive arts learning in street dance styles coming from Black and Brown communities such as Hip Hop, popping, locking, house dance and whacking to develop the creativity, skills and knowledge necessary to become self-realized artists. The VSNG program provides a social-emotional creative experience in a safe and nurturing environment that fosters the creative abilities of the youth participants, utilizing the cultural assets of the local LAC community to reclaim the cultural practices of Hip Hop and street dance culture.
VIA INTERNATIONAL INC	San Diego	CYD-24-24461	\$16,203	With support from the California Arts Council, Via International will expand our successful pilot program, Somos La Voz Arts & Cultural Heritage, to offer contemporary and folkloric art programming to approximately 60 Mexican, Chicano, and Latinx at-promise youth in historic barrios of San Diego. Through this program, Mexican and Chicano teaching artists will offer intensive courses in art mediums representative of Chicano and Mexican cultures, such as Son Jarocho, Aztec Dance, Graffiti Art, Painting, and more. These classes will 1) introduce youth to specific art techniques representative of Chicano and Mexican cultures and theory of art as a tool for social justice and 2) connect youth with their unique cultural legacy. Somos La Voz will empower youth who face discrimination and erasure to harness the power of art as an expression of activism and social justice.
VIETNAMESE EDUCATIONAL & CULTURAL ASST	Alameda	CYD-24-24531	\$16,203	<p>With the generous support of CAC, the Vietnamese Education & Cultural Association (VECA) and the Blood Moon Orchestra (BMO) are proud to present a workshop series for underserved youth in the East Bay area through the exploration of traditional music. Led by esteemed master traditional artist Van-Anh Vo, this series comprises 10 workshops spanning six months. Beyond cultivating musical proficiency, these sessions are designed to cultivate a profound appreciation for the cultural heritage woven into the music, fostering the growth of future cultural ambassadors.</p> <p>Van-Anh Vo brings over a decade of experience in mentoring youth and conducting music and cultural education workshops throughout California. Our initiative is specially tailored to address the needs of marginalized youth in the East Bay Area, offering access to music education and cultural insights often overlooked in mainstream educational settings.</p>

VIETNAMESE-AMERICAN ARTS AND LETTERS ASSOCIATION	Orange	CYD-24-24105	\$16,203	With support from California Arts Council, the Vietnamese American Arts and Letters Association (VAALA) will successfully conduct the Youth in Motion Filmmaking Workshop, providing a free-of-charge and an invaluable platform for youth to explore and express their creativity through film. This support enables VAALA to offer high-quality instruction, access to necessary equipment, and a collaborative environment where young participants can develop their storytelling skills. The funding also facilitates outreach efforts to engage the young participants, fostering an inclusive community that celebrates cultural heritage and artistic innovation. As a result, the workshop not only nurtures budding filmmakers but also strengthens the cultural fabric of the community.
WASHINGTON NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER	Sacramento	CYD-24-24681	\$16,203	With support from the California Arts Council (CAC) grant, the Washington Neighborhood Center proposes holistic Chicano, Native, Latinx, 2-Spirit, LGBTQ+ cultural arts and S.T.E.A.M. education for low-income youth and families. This addresses the lack of free, accessible arts programming for marginalized communities and the disinvestment of Sacramento's oldest Chicano cultural arts center. Utilizing grant funds, the project will create education videos, cultural events, Aztec dance workshops, Chicano drawing classes, Native garden sessions, LGBTQ+ dance, art entrepreneurial classes, S.T.E.A.M. and literacy programs, yoga, and writing workshops. This aims to engage 500 California youth and community with the Chicano and Native art activism and education, cultural art and muralism techniques, and the significance of preserving Center as a site of Chicano Art Activism movement to encourage more appreciation and investment in the Washington Neighborhood Center.
WHITE HALL ARTS ACADEMY FOUNDATION	Los Angeles	CYD-24-24346	\$16,203	Funds will support our Soundworks workforce development program that trains justice-affected and transitional aged foster youth in live sound engineering and lighting, then provides internship opportunities within the entertainment industry. Soundworks aims to equip young individuals with valuable technical skills and work experience in the entertainment industry preparing them to participate in the creative economy. We strive to bridge the gap between mental health, social emotional learning, arts development, and creative expression by creating educational arts programming to youth and young adults with the end goal of producing quality live and digital productions.
WOMENS AUDIO MISSION	San Francisco	CYD-24-23145	\$17,360	<p>With support from the California Arts Council, Women's Audio Mission's groundbreaking, award-winning Girls on the Mic (GOTM) after-school program will provide 2,000+ Northern California girls and gender-expansive youth from under-resourced communities (96% low-income, 93% BIPOC) a year with free, hands-on music/media arts training, leadership development, and mentorship in professional recording studio environments to address the chronic gender inequity in the music and media industries, where fewer than 5% of the people creating the sounds, music, and media in the soundtrack of our lives are women.</p> <p>WAM's Girls on the Mic program helps girls access and learn a variety of creative disciplines including music production, podcasting, sound design/soundtrack creation, using code to create sounds, and building speakers and synths to help them express themselves, amplify their voices and support their dreams.</p>
WOODCRAFT RANGERS	Los Angeles	CYD-24-22867	\$16,170	<p>Mariachi has a rich history in Los Angeles, taking root in the in early 20th century with the first wave of Mexican immigration and becoming a formal music education program in schools during the late 1960s Chicano Movement. Unfortunately, due to funding deficits in schools, and a lack of trained instructors, the teaching of Mariachi has steadily declined and risks being lost to future generations. To remain a vibrant artform, school-based programs require support.</p> <p>Woodcraft's Mariachi program thrives in the schools where it is offered. While there is strong demand to expand the program to other school partners, we have been unable to secure qualified instructors. Support from the California Arts Commission will enable us to launch "Mariachi Academy," a training program for staff musicians to become Mariachi instructors and keep this rich tradition alive.</p>
YEAH, ART!	Alameda	CYD-24-24158	\$16,203	With support from the California Arts Council, Yeah, Art! will provide tuition-free after-school arts education programming to schools in Oakland, with an emphasis on low-income districts and communities of color. Our program, led by local professional artists of color, is designed to create artistic career pathways for disadvantaged youth. This year, we plan to emphasize the following disciplines: Art Appreciation, Songwriting (including Pop Songwriting and Protest Songwriting) , Music Production, and 3D Modeling.

YOUNG MENS CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION OF METROPOLITAN LOS ANGELES	Los Angeles	CYD-24-24463	\$16,203	With support from the California Arts Council, the YMCA of Metropolitan Los Angeles will expand its Youth Institute for Media Arts (YIMA) program to reach underserved communities. This initiative will provide low-income youth with hands-on training in digital arts, including filmmaking, graphic design, and music composition. Participants will gain access to state-of-the-art equipment and mentorship from industry professionals. The program aims to enhance academic success, career readiness, and social-emotional development through creative expression. By empowering youth with digital skills and fostering a supportive community, Youth Institute of Media Arts will create pathways for future success and civic engagement, ultimately contributing to the cultural and economic vitality of Los Angeles.
YOUNG MUSICIANS FOUNDATION	Los Angeles	CYD-24-24446	\$16,203	With support from the California Arts Council the Young Musicians Foundation (YMF) will deliver music and media arts education, experience and workforce development training to underserved, underrepresented youth in South and East Los Angeles. The first track are programs that fall under Creative Career Pathways programs for at-promise transitional aged youth (TAY) ages 16 - 24, and justice system impacted TAY re-entering the community. These programs are healing-based and founded on principles of student-led, culturally responsive pedagogies. They emphasize creative self-expression while also providing skills and experience in utilizing music and media arts production technologies, laying foundational skills required for participation in the creative economy.
YOUTH ART EXCHANGE	San Francisco	CYD-24-24177	\$16,203	With support from California Arts Council, Youth Art Exchange will partner with its Youth Advisory Board, artists, and community partners in the activation of YAX's new high school youth lounge on the ground floor of a 100% affordable housing site in San Francisco as a creative third place for youth to hang out, engage in arts learning, and connect to others. Through this space, we are prioritizing overall well-being and aiming to reduce isolation and provide a safe space to come during out-of-school time where they feel a sense of belonging and creative inspiration. Youth will engage in multidisciplinary arts learning centered on racial equity and open studios as they explore social justice issues, youth-driven social action, and how to express themselves through the arts. The project will engage both youth as facilitators and participants.
YOUTH BEAT -- A FISCALLY-SPONSORED PROJECT OF THE OAKLAND PUBLIC EDUCATION FUND	Alameda	CYD-24-23569	\$16,203	With support from the California Arts Council, YouthBeat will provide free, accredited, film and animation training to 100+ Oakland high school students -- mostly low-income youth of color. Participants will get 120+ hours of afterschool and/or 100+ hours of summer instruction. They will build technical, artistic and storytelling skills, as well as confidence in speaking up and sharing their ideas. Six program graduates ages 18-24 will participate as paid Teaching Assistants.
YOUTH IN ARTS	Marin	CYD-24-23864	\$16,203	California Arts Council support for Youth in Arts will advance our impactful Intensive Arts Mentorship (I AM) program for teens and fuel our growth as a community leader in equity-focused initiatives. Bolstering resources for I AM will facilitate economic development through public art and workplace empowerment for Marin's marginalized youth; amplifying their creative voice, while paying them as working artists. The CAC funds will enable Youth in Arts to continue to evolve as a key advocate for educational equity in and around the North Bay area. The CYD grant will directly support mentorship activities, public art creation and installation, teaching artists' fees, and the student participants' stipends, ensuring that our programs continue to provide valuable skills, opportunities, and exposure for underrepresented youth in our community.
YOUTH ORCHESTRAS OF FRESNO	Fresno	CYD-24-24554	\$17,360	With support from the California Arts Council, the Youth Orchestras of Fresno will partner with local art teachers to involve high school students in a project-based learning experience creating stage sets inspired by and illustrative of the music programmed at concerts during our 75th Anniversary season.
YOUTH SPEAKS INC	San Francisco	CYD-24-23017	\$16,203	With support from the California Arts Council, Youth Speaks' Creative Youth Development program will provide 350 youth ages 13-19 with culturally responsive, generative experiences in writing, poetry, poetry slam and performance during out-of-school time opportunities across 6 community sites/artistic venues.

ZACCHO S F	San Francisco	CYD-24-22894	\$16,203	With support from the California Arts Council, Zaccho will continue to provide our award-winning Youth Performing Arts Program (YPAP) to San Francisco Bayview Hunters Point (BVHP) youth in partnership with public elementary schools and after-school programs. Zaccho launched YPAP in 1990, in collaboration with SF Unified School District, to integrate our nationally renowned performance work with the experiences of our young BVHP neighbors. YPAP engages 100-250 children annually by offering BVHP youth ages 7-17 free in-school and after-school art education (Oct to May) plus a two-week free Summer Camp. Our after-school programming provides 85 students with 250 hours of instruction annually, culminating in an end of academic year performance at the Bayview Opera House. Since its inception, YPAP has served over 6,800 BVHP youth. Funding from CAC-CYD would only support our YPAP after-school programming.
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