



HOBBIES/INTERESTS:

- Listening to music
- Hanging out with friends
- Watching movies

ART FORMS

- Writing

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What drew you to arts education, and how do you practice the arts in your own life?

Arts education transpired into my passions as a result of my appreciation for Art History. I took AP Art History my junior year of high school, which compelled me to later pick up Art History as my secondary major. In furthering my understanding of arts education, I took on an internship at the Hammer Museum where I worked in the Academic Programs department. As part of my internship I made art programs accessible for communities across the Los Angeles County. I then conducted research [involving] a culturally relevant arts-based curriculum for low-income students in the public education system.

Tell us about an impactful experience or association with the arts from your youth.

My interest in the arts is rooted in my experiences as a child, sitting in the waiting room of my pediatrician's office. I was captivated by Diego Rivera's "The Flower Seller." The imagery of a culture representative of mine drew my attention and forever resonated with me.

Is there anything you would tell your 15-year-old self with regard to the arts, if you had the opportunity to do so?

I would tell my 15-year-old self to stay in tune with my creativity, and that academia does indeed hold room for the arts. I would emphasize the importance in not letting academia discourage me and my creativity.

In your opinion, what are the biggest barriers to equitable arts education access in Los Angeles?

The biggest barrier is rooted within the lack of education. If the community and people represented by the county [were] more knowledgeable about the ways in which the systems of oppression work, or even [knew] about the forms of oppressions to begin with, then maybe they would be a greater involvement on behalf of the community. I think for there to be a dialogue, there must be some form of intervention that addresses these inequities so that people within the community are on the same page as those in power who make decisions that directly affect the larger body.