



**HOBBIES/INTERESTS:**

- Theatre
- Reading
- Paddle Boarding

**ART FORMS**

- Theatre
- Visual Arts
- Dance

## COURTNEY CLARK

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

I was drawn to arts education because of my own experience with the arts in school. Also, once I got into college, I realized my strength was programming and management, and I began to utilize those skills to help young people in a meaningful way.

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

I've struggled with serious mental health issues for a strong majority of my life. Being involved in theatre and dance gave me an outlet to express myself and work through some of the things I was struggling with. I found that I was able to get in touch with my emotions and experiences through my art in a way I couldn't just outwardly communicate. Theatre became a form of therapy and a place of healing for 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?**

That arts admin is a thing! I've always loved being a practicing artist, but the leadership side of the arts is my calling and I wish I had known about it when I was in high school.

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

People's perceptions.