



Advancement Grant

GUIDELINES AND INSTRUCTIONS

ELIGIBILITY

Los Angeles County school districts that are in partnership with the Arts Ed Collective and will be implementing board approved strategic plans for arts education in 2020-21 are eligible to apply.

Interested school districts must submit a funding request via the Los Angeles County Department of Arts and Culture's (Arts and Culture) online grant portal at [LACountyArts.org/Apply](https://lacountyarts.org/Apply) by **6:00 pm, Wednesday, March 11, 2020**. Arts and Culture strongly recommends submitting the application at least five days prior to the deadline to give ample time to troubleshoot.

These guidelines and other grant resources are available at:
lacountyartsedcollective.org/advancement

The Advancement Grant Program is administered by the Los Angeles County Department of Arts and Culture. Since launching in 2014-15, the program has received generous support from The Herb Alpert Foundation, The Angell Foundation, The Boeing Company, The Sheri and Les Biller Family Foundation, California Community Foundation, Colburn Foundation, The Carl and Roberta Deutsch Foundation, The Eisner Foundation, Music Man Foundation, Rosenthal Family Foundation (CA), The Dwight Stuart Youth Fund, and the LA County Arts Ed Collective's Funders Council.

HOW DOES THE ARTS ED COLLECTIVE SUPPORT SCHOOL DISTRICTS?

The Los Angeles County Arts Education Collective is dedicated to making the arts core in K-12 public education by working with school districts and community arts partners to increase the quantity, quality, and equity of arts instruction provided in schools.

The Arts Ed Collective offers a continuum of services to school districts to help build sound infrastructure for arts education.

Coaching for Strategic Planning

Coaching is provided to school districts interested in creating or updating strategic plans for arts education. A district arts committee comprised of local stakeholders develops a five year plan for sustaining long-term district-wide arts education. Applications for coaching support during the 2020-21 school year are available at www.surveymonkey.com/r/ArtsEdPlanning.

Coaching for District Arts Coordination

Once the local school board approves the strategic plan, a year of coaching is available to help build the capacity of the arts committee and district staff to coordinate and manage successful implementation of the plan. School districts completing strategic plans in spring 2020 will be offered another year of coaching. School districts with new staff assigned to arts coordination for 2020-21 may also request a coach.

Countywide Network

Ongoing support for arts coordinators and district arts committee members is available through a countywide network of leaders and practioners who convene regularly to learn and collaborate. Events can be found at www.lacountyartsedcollective.org/events.

District Liaisons

An Arts Ed Collective staff member serves as a dedicated liaison for each district, connecting colleagues and strategies across the County.

Arts Ed Profile

The LA County Arts Ed Profile online tool allows teachers, parents, administrators, and others to find data about arts education provided by LA County public schools. The Arts Ed Profile Report 2015-18 provides key recommendations for addressing quantity, quality, and equity of arts education. The online tool and report are available at www.lacountyartsedcollective.org/research-evaluation/arts-ed-profile.

Funding for Implementation

School districts in partnership with the Arts Ed Collective that have school board-adopted strategic plans for arts education are eligible to apply for grant funding. These matching grants help districts initiate or expand strategies that increase and improve arts education in their district.

It is through the combination of support for strategic planning, arts coordinators, district arts committees, and purposeful plan implementation that the Arts Ed Collective advances the countywide vision that every public school student in Los Angeles County receives quality K-12 arts instruction.

It is recommended that you contact your district liaison (see page 8) for assistance in considering your entry point for participation in Arts Ed Collective services for 2020-21.

WHAT IS THE GOAL OF THIS GRANT?

The Advancement Grant offers financial support to Los Angeles County school districts working to provide quality arts education to all students. The goals of the grant are to:

- assist school districts in achieving key action items in their strategic plans for arts education, and
- generate resources, practices, skills, or knowledge that will be sustained beyond the term of the grant.

HOW IS PROGRAM SUCCESS MEASURED?

Program success is measured by the increase in quantity, quality, and equitable distribution of arts instruction provided in participating districts. These measures have been defined in the [Arts Ed Profile](#) report as follows:

Quantity

Our measure of quantity for arts education includes the following variables: the amount of arts education being offered for each discipline; the ratio of credentialed instructors to the student body; the count of types of arts instructors.

Quality

Our measure of quality includes all of the following variables: arts instruction offered as discrete courses and/or integrated into other subjects; shared written curriculum among instructors teaching the same discipline; knowledge-based and/or performance-based assessment tools; technology used in teaching the arts; arts instructors participation in professional development training.

Equity

The question of whether high quality arts education is distributed equally to all students is critical to the mission of the Arts Ed Collective. The measure of equity is analyzed through the following categories: Race/Ethnicity; English Learners; Students on free and reduced price meals; School enrollment; District size.

Funded programs will be asked to report on progress at the conclusion of the granting cycle.

WHAT WORK DOES THE GRANT SUPPORT?

Eligibility

Los Angeles County school districts that are in partnership with the Arts Ed Collective and will be implementing board approved strategic plans for arts education in 2020-21 are eligible to apply (see page 8). If you are interested in learning more about becoming an Arts Ed Collective district partner, contact artsedcollective@arts.lacounty.gov for additional information.

Alignment with District Plans and Capacity Building

The project outlined in your funding request must demonstrate alignment with existing district plans, such as the district's strategic plan for arts education and the Local Control Accountability Plan. It must also demonstrate the development of district capacity in the arts. Capacity Building, as defined in Criterion 1, is demonstrated by a clear aim at generating resources, practices, skills, or knowledge that will be sustained beyond the term of the grant.

Eligible Projects

Your district may submit a request for funding to **initiate or expand** activities or services that address one or more goals for advancing arts education in your schools.

Ineligible Project Expenses

The funding request and the district cash match cannot include:

- Staffing expenses that supplant the cost of existing district arts coordinator or teacher positions
- Services for students that occur outside of the traditional school day.
- Services from artists or arts organizations that are not listed in the Community Arts Educators directory.

To propose artists or arts organizations not listed in the directory, your arts partner must complete a separate online application by March 25, 2020. Contact the Arts Ed Collective staff at artsedcollective@arts.lacounty.gov to schedule time to discuss this process. Arts partner applications must be reviewed and approved prior to the Advancement Grant panels in April.

HOW WILL THE GRANT FUNDING WORK?

All eligible school districts may apply for up to \$25,000 in matching funds to support strategies detailed in the funding request. Determination of awards will be based on the extent to which the application meets the review criteria (see page 6) and based on priority point areas. Final awards may be less than the requested amount.

School districts that are approved for funding will enter into a contract with the Los Angeles County Department of Arts and Culture, which will govern the delivery of funds. Prior to contracting, all grantees will need to obtain a Los Angeles County Vendor Number and submit an Adjusted Grant Budget and Participation Form where priority point supplemental funds will be accepted or declined. Distribution of supplemental funds will be determined by the most current California Department of Education (CDE) data.

Based on panel score, some applicants may need to participate in technical assistance to adjust their proposed project design prior to contracting.

The funding period will begin July 1, 2020 and will run through June 30, 2021. Grantees will be required to adhere to all provisions of the contract, including:

- Matching Funds must be invested in the project at a minimum 1:1 ratio. These funds may come from the district or its funding partners and must be applied toward the project detailed in the application. As noted above, ineligible project expenses apply to matching funds (In-kind matching funds are not accepted.)
- A project lead must be designated to coordinate, implement, and monitor the project. Note that the project lead will be named as the primary contact in the contract if awarded.
- Grant funds will be distributed in up to three installments:
 - 25% upon completion of all project planning and participation by the project lead in a dedicated Grantee Convening or a countywide network event
 - 50% following a mid-project check-in and site visit with Arts Ed Collective staff

- 25% upon completion of the project and submission of a complete final report that includes participation data, final budget, a brief narrative on project outcomes and at least one work sample.

WHAT IS THE PROGRAM TIMELINE?

Guidelines and Application Available	January 29, 2020
Applications Workshop	February 7 and February 28, 2020
Funding Request Deadline	March 11, 2020
Panel Review	April 2020
Notification of Awards via Email	June 2020
Adjusted Budget and Participation Forms Due	September 2020
Contracts Executed	
Grant Period	July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021
Grantee Site Visit with Arts Ed Collective Staff	October 2020 - April 2021
Final Report Due	May 15, 2021

HOW DO WE SUBMIT THE FUNDING REQUEST?

The Funding Request can be accessed via Arts and Culture’s online grant portal at LACountyArts.org/Apply. All applications must be submitted electronically.

New applicants to the portal must register a user account. Registration will link the user with the school district allowing access to the Advancement Grant funding request. Please review the Application Instructions prior to using the portal at lacountyartsedcollective.org/advancement.

Complete applications must be submitted no later than **6:00 pm, Wednesday, March 11, 2020**. Arts and Culture strongly recommends submitting the application at least five days prior to the deadline to give ample time to troubleshoot.

Applications submitted late or with section(s) blank will be deemed ineligible and will not be considered for funding.

As a public agency, all information submitted to Arts and Culture in conjunction with a funding request becomes public record at the time the application is submitted.

HOW WILL GRANT AWARDS BE DETERMINED?

Applications will be reviewed and scored by a peer panel of experienced arts and education professionals. The panel may include district administrators, community arts partners, funders, and arts educators.

Each section of the application addresses items from one of the review criteria. Applications will be reviewed and scored according to the following:

Criterion 1: STRATEGIC DIRECTION (35 points maximum)

Arts education goal(s) for the upcoming year are described in detail and are included in an active district plan such as the Strategic Plan for Arts Education or the Local Control Accountability Plan. All district plan(s) are clearly cited. There is a clear and compelling justification of why this is the right time to embark on this aspect of the district's arts education plan, how this project builds upon past successes, and how it moves the district towards providing arts education for all students. It is clear how the project initiates or expands strategies for advancing arts education in the district. The proposed project is clearly aimed at generating resources, practices, skills or knowledge that will be sustained beyond the term of the grant. The district has a strong plan for completing the strategy or assuming the full ongoing cost.

Criterion 2: QUALITY OF PROJECT PLAN (30 points maximum)

The project is thoughtfully designed and clearly described. The project plan identifies specific activities that can be realistically accomplished with the designated resources and timeline. The project activities clearly reflect the district goals and strategies. The proposal conveys overall clarity and coherence.

Criterion 3: QUALITY OF PROJECT EVALUATION (10 points maximum)

There is a clear and specific plan to monitor project results. The project has measurable goals and a clear and appropriate evaluation methodology in place that uses qualitative and quantitative data to address the quantity, quality, or equitable distribution of arts instruction offered in the school district. The evaluation methodology is appropriate to the anticipated outcomes.

Criterion 4: PERSONNEL CAPACITY (15 points maximum)

Professional staff with strong qualifications are in place to manage and implement the project. District administration has an identified role and there is evidence of support from multiple levels of district leadership. Staff providing instruction or professional development has demonstrated expertise. Community arts partners have been approved for the Community Arts Educators Directory. The roles and responsibilities of the staff, district administration, and proposed partners are clearly defined.

Criterion 5: FISCAL CAPACITY (10 points maximum)

Project expenses are clearly described and calculated accurately. Specific activities have been appropriately budgeted. The costs are consistent with equivalent programs or services in the arts education field. A minimum of one to one matching funds are committed and identified.

Priority Point Area 1: STUDENT POPULATION (8 points maximum)

Districts serving large student populations will earn priority points for supplemental funding as follows:

- Enrollment of 10,000 – 19,999 = 4 priority points
- Enrollment of 20,000 or greater = 8 priority points

Priority Point Area 2: UNDUPLICATED PUPIL COUNT (4 points)

Districts with an Unduplicated Pupil Count equal to or greater than 71% will earn 4 priority points for supplemental funding.

TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS = 112*

* Scores over 100 may receive more than the funding request.

HOW CAN WE LEARN MORE?

Application Workshop

We are offering an in-person and online application workshop for school districts interested in applying. Join us to learn about the 2020-21 guidelines, hear tips for submitting a strong request, and have your questions answered by Arts Ed Collective staff. If you are interested in receiving one-on-one support from your district liaison, join us for office hours following the workshop. Please note that both workshops will cover the same material.

Friday, February 7, 2020

Webinar: 10:00 am – noon

2020advancementgrantwebinar.eventbrite.com

Friday, February 28, 2020

Workshop: 10:00 am – noon

Office Hours: noon – 2:00pm

2020advancementgrantworkshop.eventbrite.com

Los Angeles County Department of Arts and Culture

1055 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 800

Los Angeles, CA 90017

Schedule a Meeting at Your District

Arts Ed Collective staff will come to you. We are happy to schedule a meeting at your district where we can discuss this opportunity. Contact your district liaison (page 8).

Contact Our Staff

Feel free to contact our staff if you have any questions about your district's eligibility or the application process. All school districts are assigned a staff member as a liaison. Listed below each staff member are the school districts that are eligible for this grant.

Gregg Johnson
Program Manager
gjohnson@arts.lacounty.gov
213-202-5933

Antelope Valley Union
Arcadia Unified
Castaic Union
Eastside Union**
Gorman Joint
Green Dot Public Schools
Hughes-Elizabeth Lake Union
iLead Charter Network
Keppel Union
Lancaster
Los Angeles County Office of Education
Magnolia Charter Schools
Monrovia Unified
Newhall
Palmdale
PUC Schools
Saugus Union
Sulphur Springs
Westside Union
Wilsona**

Megan Kirkpatrick
Senior Manager
mkirkpatrick@arts.lacounty.gov
213-202-3949

Alhambra Unified
Beverly Hills Unified
Burbank Unified
Culver City Unified
Duarte Unified
El Monte Union
El Rancho Unified
Glendale Unified
Hacienda La Puente Unified
ICEF Public Schools
Inglewood Unified
Las Virgenes Unified
Pasadena Unified
Rosemead
San Marino Unified
San Gabriel
Santa Monica-Malibu Unified
South Pasadena Unified
Temple City Unified

Gillian McCarthy
Program Manager
gmccarthy@arts.lacounty.gov
213-202-6953

ABC Unified
Centinela Valley Union
Compton Unified
Downey Unified
Hawthorne
Hermosa Beach City
Lawndale Elementary
Lennox
Lynwood Unified
Manhattan Beach Unified
Norwalk-La Mirada Unified
Palos Verdes Peninsula Unified
Paramount Unified
Redondo Beach Unified
Walnut Valley Unified
Wiseburn Unified

Keelia Postlethwaite
Program Manager
kpostlethwaite@arts.lacounty.gov
213-202-5936

Azusa Unified
Baldwin Park Unified
Bassett Unified
Charter Oak Unified
Claremont Unified
Covina-Valley Unified
East Whittier City
El Monte City
Garvey Elementary
Glendora Unified**
Little Lake City
Los Nietos
Montebello Unified
Mountain View
Pomona Unified
South Whittier
Valle Lindo
West Covina Unified
Whittier City
Whittier Union

**Contingent upon the submission of a district adopted Strategic Plan for Arts Education by September 30, 2020

GENERAL INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

Los Angeles County Arts Education Collective

The LA County Arts Education Collective is dedicated to making the arts core in public education. Established in 2002 by the LA County Board of Supervisors, the Arts Ed Collective is a partnership between the LA County Department of Arts and Culture and the LA County Office of Education.

Working to ensure that all young people receive quality arts instruction, the Arts Ed Collective is comprised of educators, arts organizations, teaching artists, grantmakers, advocates, and other stakeholders, as well as 72 of the 81 LA County school districts and five charter school networks. Through activities that expand arts teaching and learning, and build political and public will, the Arts Ed Collective aligns efforts across the region around the shared goal of providing equitable arts education for LA County's 1.5 million public school students. www.lacountyartsedcollective.org

Los Angeles County Department of Arts and Culture

The mission of the Los Angeles County Department of Arts and Culture (Arts and Culture) is to advance arts, culture, and creativity throughout LA County. Arts and Culture fulfills this mission by providing services and support in areas including grants, professional development, and technical assistance for nonprofit organizations; commissioning civic artworks and managing the County's civic art collection; implementing countywide arts education initiatives; conducting research and evaluation; building career pathways to the region's creative economy; offering free community programs; and innovating cross sector creative strategies that address civic issues. This work is framed by the County's Cultural Equity and Inclusion Initiative, and a longstanding commitment to fostering access to the arts. lacountyarts.org

Arts Education Funders Council

The Council is a coalition of arts education funders who share knowledge, develop strategy, and provide fiscal oversight of shared investments in arts education in Los Angeles County. As a regional collaborative of public and private funders active since 2004, the Funders Council brings members together to have a collective impact on student learning in and through the arts.

Community Arts Educators Directory

The Directory offers centralized access to quality, K-12 arts education programs that meet the California State Visual and Performing Arts Standards. The directory enables educators to strategically search for professional development and student programs by arts discipline, subject area, grade level, program type, and cultural origin. www.lacountyartsedcollective.org/models-resources/community-arts-educators