



HOBBIES/INTERESTS:

- Swimming,
- Rollerblading
- Sun bathing
- Hiking
- Fashion
- Ceramics
- Body movement

ART FORMS

- Fashion design
- Ceramics
- Video art
- Performance art

LUIS ANGEL ZEPEDA

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

I never had [any] intention of going into arts education, it just happened naturally. While in college, I worked as a High School Art Mentor and really enjoyed helping young artists realize their potential. It was encouraging for me to show up and be the art teacher and role model I wish I had as a kid. As an artist, I practice the arts with every breath I take. I see my life and the world around me as Art.

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

In high school I was a finalist in visual arts for The National Young Arts Foundation and also won a Gold Medal for my portfolio for the Scholastic Arts & Writing Awards. Winning both of these prestigious awards gave me the confidence and reassurance I needed to pursue the arts professionally as a career.

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

You are amazing and there is no one like you. Believe in yourself because you are destined for greatness!! You are more talented than you realize.

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

[Lack of] funding and belief [that] the arts [is] a powerful tool to change cultures, communities and help with other areas of education.