

**MOTION BY SUPERVISORS MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
AND DON KNABE**

SEPTEMBER 22, 2009

Funding for the Arts Internship Program

The summer 2009 Arts Internship Program (the "Program"), administered by the Los Angeles County Arts Commission, concluded with positive comments and feedback from the participating student interns as well as the hosting organizations. The interns learned and gained employment and life skills in an organized, nurturing, and practical environment which cannot be duplicated in a classroom. The hosting organizations gained the benefits of a high-energy, motivated member of their staff who brought fresh ideas to the creative and administrative aspects of the organization.

In the report to the Board of Supervisors (the "Board") as requested at the June 22, 2009 Board meeting, the Chief Executive Officer (the "CEO") reported that the County of Los Angeles (the "County") should pursue funding from the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Emergency Contingency Fund, work with hosting arts organizations to request that the organizations cover administrative and other costs associated with the Arts Internship Program, and work with local colleges and

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universities to offer college credit instead of payment. These are all excellent recommendations and the CEO should immediately implement these options.

In recent months, the Board and the CEO have been examining all possible forms of funding, not only for the Arts Internship Program, but for other needed programs administered by various County departments. A potential funding source is the Cable TV Franchise Fund, where one of the authorized uses is the annual Holiday Program that is broadcast from the Music Center. Currently, the CEO has allocated \$369,000 of Net County Cost for the Holiday Program. A possible solution to funding the Arts Internship Program could be to allocate this \$369,000 to the Arts Internship Program and transfer the same amount from the Cable TV Franchise Fund to the Arts Commission for the Holiday Program.

THEREFORE, WE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

Direct the CEO to:

- (1) Implement the recommendations as set forth in the written report to the Board dated September 22, 2009;
- (2) Work with the Arts Commission to fund the Arts Internship positions with TANF ECF funding; and
- (3) Utilize the Cable TV Franchise Fund to fully fund the annual Holiday Program and transfer the \$369,000 in Net County Cost previously used to fund the Holiday Celebration to the Arts Internship Program.

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