



**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS  
FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
LOS ANGELES COUNTY YOUTH COMMISSION**  
KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION  
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 374-A  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012  
<https://youthcommission.lacounty.gov>



**Thursday, August 28, 2025**

**6:30 PM**

Video for the entire meeting. (25-5156)

**Attachments:** [Video](#)

**I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

1. Call to Order, Roll Call and Land Acknowledgment. (25-4076)

**Chair Joshua Elizondo called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. County Staff conducted Roll Call. Commissioner Clarissa Peña read the County's Land Acknowledgement.**

**Present:** Co-Chair Joshua Elizondo, Commissioner Miguel (Josh) Boykin, Commissioner Cristopher Espino, Commissioner Christian Gudiel, Commissioner Amanda Hernandez, Commissioner Mercedes Jackson, Commissioner Martine Jones, Commissioner Clarissa Peña, Commissioner Joseph Roa and Commissioner Florencia Flo Valenzuela

**Absent:** Commissioner Sherrie Bradford, Commissioner Jessica Castillo, Commissioner La'Toya Cooper, Commissioner David De Leon and Commissioner Evelyn Karina Rodriguez

2. Awareness Videos.

"TA(Y)LK to Me Podcast Highlight Reel," made in partnership with the LA County Office of Child Protection (OCP) and Trauma Informed LA, YouTube.

"No Such Thing - Child Sex Trafficking in Los Angeles County", by Don Knabe, YouTube. (25-4077)

**The Awareness Videos: "TA(Y)LK to Me Podcast Highlight Reel," made in partnership with the LA County Office of Child Protection (OCP) and Trauma Informed LA, YouTube; and "No Such Thing Child Sex Trafficking in**

---

**Angeles County”, by Don Knabe, YouTube, were shown.**

**Attachments:**    [VIDEO - OCP](#)  
                              [VIDEO - DON KNABE](#)

3.      Approval of minutes from the regular meeting of July 31, 2025.    (25-4078)

**On motion of Commissioner Martine Jones, seconded by Commissioner Amanda Hernandez, and duly carried, the minutes from the meeting of July 31, 2025, were approved by the following vote:**

**Ayes:**    8 -    Co-Chair Joshua Elizondo, Commissioner Miguel (Josh) Boykin, Commissioner Christian Gudiel, Commissioner Amanda Hernandez, Commissioner Mercedes Jackson, Commissioner Martine Jones, Commissioner Clarissa Peña and Commissioner Joseph Roa

**Abstentions:**    2 -    Commissioner Cristopher Espino and Commissioner Florencia Flo Valenzuela

**Absent:**    5 -    Commissioner Sherrie Bradford, Commissioner Jessica Castillo, Commissioner La'Toya Cooper, Commissioner David De Leon and Commissioner Evelyn Karina Rodriguez

**Attachments:**    [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

4.      Discussion and Vote on the Nomination Slate and Election of Co-Chair to fill current vacancy.    (25-4526)

**Election Chair Christian Gudiel introduced the slate of nominees for the Co-Chair position for the 2025 Term vacated by Commissioner Brittianna Robinson as follows: Commissioner Sherrie Bradford, Commissioner Amanda Hernandez and Commissioner Clarissa Peña. There being no additional nominations, Election Chair Gudiel closed the nominations and invited the nominees to make remarks on their qualifications. Commissioners Hernandez and Peña made statements in support of their election.**

**On motion of Co-Chair Joshua Elizondo, seconded by Commissioner Amanda Hernandez, and duly carried, the Nomination Slate for the current vacancy was approved by the following vote:**

- Ayes:** 8 - Co-Chair Joshua Elizondo, Commissioner Miguel (Josh) Boykin, Commissioner Christian Gudiel, Commissioner Amanda Hernandez, Commissioner Martine Jones, Commissioner Clarissa Peña, Commissioner Joseph Roa and Commissioner Florencia Flo Valenzuela
- Noes:** 1 - Commissioner Cristopher Espino
- Absent:** 6 - Commissioner Sherrie Bradford, Commissioner Jessica Castillo, Commissioner La'Toya Cooper, Commissioner David De Leon, Commissioner Mercedes Jackson and Commissioner Evelyn Karina Rodriguez

**This item was tabled for the tabulation of ballots. Later in the meeting, the item was recalled after Agenda Item No. 12. Election Chair, Christian Gudiel, reported that Commissioner Clarissa Peña secured the majority of ballots. The ballots are to be retained as a public record.**

**Member of the public, Eliana Peña, addressed the Youth Commission.**

**On motion of Commissioner Amanda Hernandez, seconded by Commissioner Mercedes Jackson, and duly carried, Commissioner Clarissa Peña was elected as the Co-Chair for the remainder of the 2025 Term, by the following vote:**

- Ayes:** 10 - Co-Chair Joshua Elizondo, Commissioner Miguel (Josh) Boykin, Commissioner Cristopher Espino, Commissioner Christian Gudiel, Commissioner Amanda Hernandez, Commissioner Mercedes Jackson, Commissioner Martine Jones, Commissioner Clarissa Peña, Commissioner Joseph Roa and Commissioner Florencia Flo Valenzuela
- Absent:** 5 - Commissioner Sherrie Bradford, Commissioner Jessica Castillo, Commissioner La'Toya Cooper, Commissioner David De Leon and Commissioner Evelyn Karina Rodriguez

## **II. PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION**

5. Presentation and Roundtable discussion on the Creative Wellbeing Program, Creative Career Pathways for Youth (CCPY), Arts Internship Program, and the Trauma Prevention Initiative (TPI) of the Department of Arts and Culture (DAC).
- Kim Glann, Senior Manager, Cross Sector Initiatives, DAC
  - Shari Holly, Bloomberg Arts Internship Program Specialist, DAC
  - Meia Johnson, Program Manager, Creative Career Pathways for Youth, DAC
  - Megan Kirkpatrick, Assistant Division Director, Arts Education and Youth Development, DAC
  - Elisabeth Nails, Program Specialist, Arts Education and Youth Development, DAC
  - Larry Ulrich, Assistant Division Director, Youth Development, DAC (25-4079)

**Panelists from the Department of Arts and Culture, Kim Glann, Senior Manager, Cross Sector Initiatives, Megan Kirkpatrick, Assistant Division Director, Arts Education, Larry Ulrich, Assistant Division Director, Youth Development and Elisabeth Nails, Program Specialist, Arts Education, provided self-introductions, and shared a presentation on the Department of Arts and Culture, that highlighted their mission, vision, and various programs and services.**

**The Panelists responded to questions posed by Commissioners as follows:**

- **The Arts Internship Program is available to enrolled graduate students.**
- **The Creative Wellbeing group meets quarterly and often invites youth to share their perspective and knowledge. Discussion ensued, and Commissioner Cristopher Espino offered his experience regarding Creative Wellbeing Initiative.**
- **Regarding having programs opened to Transition Aged Youth (TAY), the Media Career Pathways is opened to youth ages 17 to 24.**
- **Programming information is conducted through specific partner sites, such as schools and County probation institutions, relying on site partners' networks to disseminate resource information.**

- 
- The Creative Wellbeing Program's youth attendance for years 2024-2025 is over 12,000, with 970 sessions. It has an evaluation component, and funding sources require pre-and-post surveys, and focus groups are conducted.
  - Creative Career Pathways maintains a strong relationship with the State Department of Education and collaborates with other state resources outside the County of Los Angeles.
  - It was suggested to convene a focus group regarding youth who are not engaged in the County welfare or justice system.
  - The Department of Probation's "Global Plan" is affecting community-based organizations. On August 15, 2025, there was a hearing to place Los Padrinos in Receivership, pending official documents. The facility will depopulate by 100 youth, starting with girls moving to Camp Kilpatrick in September, the rest will go to Barry J. Nidorf.
  - Regarding collaboration with schools, local and professional sports teams, there were some events conducted in coordination with the Department of Parks and Recreation, and there is talk of coordinating with others such as the World Cup Soccer next year.
  - Organizations offer industry related certifications to assist with employment and address the ability to develop life skills that lead to self-sufficiency.

Commissioners also offered the following suggestions:

- Partnering with museums to display juvenile justice impacted youth artwork, that will create name recognition and generate proceeds from art sales.
- The inclusion of literature; showcasing youth creativity in all forms; and the implementation of data collection and feedback.
- Collaborate with the Departments of Parks and Recreation and initiate a conversation regarding cuts to funding to programs that help youth.

Mr. Ulrich stressed that their programs are targeted to youth in probation camps and halls and that there is a need for a conversation regarding reentry, TAYs, family services, and the need to conduct collaborative conferences with stakeholders.

Attachments:    [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - PRESENTATION](#)  
                          [CREATIVE CAREER RESOURCES](#)  
                          [LAC ARTSED COLLECTIVE](#)

### **III. REPORTS**

6. Leadership Report. (25-4080)

**Co-Chair Joshua Elizondo reported that there are three new Commissioners, Miguel “Josh” Boykin, David DeLeon, and Joseph Roa, and welcomed them to the Youth Commission.**

7. Commissioner Reports on Activities and Events attended on behalf of the Youth Commission. (25-4081)

**The following activities and events attended on behalf of the Youth Commission were reported:**

- **Commissioner Miguel “Josh” Boykin attended the Department of Youth Development Know Your Rights Presentation, as well as the TAY Table where CalAIM (California Advancing and Innovating Medi Cal) was discussed.**
- **Commissioner Clarissa Peña attended the Bright Futures Forum hosted by Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE), and the National Center for Youth Law (NCYL), regarding youth impacted by the recent wildfires.**
- **Co Chair Joshua Elizondo provided an update on the Education Coordinating Council meeting, and the LGBTQ Ad Hoc Committee meeting.**

### **IV. UPDATES**

8. Update on Board Motions that the Youth Commission is named in. (25-4082)

**Executive Director, Tiara Summers, provided an update on the TAY Table and the Integrated Data Committee meeting held this day attended by Commissioners Miguel “Josh” Boykin, LaToya Cooper, and Evelyn K. Rodriguez. The meeting focused on the standardized definition of TAY. She also spoke on the expansion of the Resource Website Hub and reminded Commissioners of various reports recently submitted to the Youth Commission regarding CalAIM and Department of Youth Development’s (DYD) Know Your Rights update.**

9. Operations Committee update by Committee Chair Joshua Elizondo. (25-4083)

**No update was provided.**

10. Youth Engagement Committee update by Committee Chair Sherrie Bradford. (25-4084)

**In the absence of the Youth Engagement Committee Chair, Commissioner**

---

**Mercedes Jackson reported the following:**

- YEC is looking to creatively incorporate survey data into the Year End Event and requested ideas from Commissioners. She then thanked former Commissioner Brittianna Robinson for her work on bringing CSEC (Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children) to the forefront.
- Currently exploring collaboration with faith-based organizations that can better help serve foster, and justice involved youth. There is a challenge in engaging youth under age 18, and youth outside the system.
- Welcomed Commissioner Amanda Hernandez who recently joined the YEC.

Co-Chair Joshua Elizondo reminded the Commission that the Third Supervisorial District's Listening Session is scheduled for September 19, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and a brief discussion ensued.

**V. MISCELLANEOUS**

11. Opportunity for members of the public to provide comments to the Commission on item(s) not on the agenda, that are of interest and within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission. (25-4085)

**No members of the public addressed the Youth Commission.**

12. Commissioner discussion of matters not posted on the agenda, to be considered, and placed on the agenda at a future meeting of the Commission. (25-4087)

**The following items were requested to be placed on a future agenda:**

- An update by the Department of Arts and Culture regarding expansion of programs.
- An update on the Know Your Rights Motion relating to undocumented youth.

13. Adjournment. (25-4088)

**The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 25, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. On motion of Commissioner Cristopher Espino, seconded by Commissioner Clarissa Peña, there being no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.**