

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS HOLLY J. MITCHELL
AND JANICE HAHN

June 8, 2021

Delegating Authority to Extend Spirit Awakening Foundation’s Contract for Arts Instruction Services

Over the past two years, the Department of Arts and Culture (Arts and Culture) has collaborated with the Los Angeles County (County) Probation Department (Probation) and Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC) to implement new models for embedding the arts in juvenile day reporting centers and continuation schools within the County. This collaboration aims to connect in-school academic learning with out-of-school experiences that allow youth to gain insights and skills in the arts. These projects require youth to work individually and in teams to create original works of art; discover new avenues for self-expression; build self-sufficiency and collaboration skills; and recognize potential pathways to viable careers in the arts.

Building upon this successful collaboration, the Arts and Culture and the JJCC has worked with the Spirit Awakening Foundation (SAF), an arts-based nonprofit organization dedicated to helping underserved youth and children in the juvenile justice system, to deliver arts instruction to high school-aged youth. Implementation focuses on juvenile justice reform and aligns with project-based learning, as determined by administrators or instructional leaders at each site.

Under an agreement with SAF, highly qualified teaching artists provide instruction in visual arts, creative writing, and theatre for youth at three continuation schools over the

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summer. In addition, students receive weekly mentoring, and participate in field trips to arts and cultural venues. Locations include New Earth Youth Build in Culver City; Whittier High School in Whittier; and Frontier Continuation School in Whittier.

In order to avoid a lapse in services for the summer, the Board of Supervisors must delegate authority to the Director of Arts and Culture to extend SAF's contract by three months to provide project-based arts instruction at three continuation schools, until a competitive solicitation for the new school year can be completed.

WE THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

Authorize the Director of the Department of Arts and Culture to execute an amendment to Agreement No. AE-20 4218 with Spirit Awakening Foundation to extend the term for three months through September 30, 2021, increase the contract cost by \$84,120 for a maximum contract cost not to exceed \$797,820, and update the statement of work as needed to continue providing project-based arts instruction. The amendment must be approved by County Counsel as to form.

(CAS/KS)