

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR HOLLY J. MITCHELL

July 12, 2022

Los Angeles County Arts Internship Program – Intern Outing

Established in 2000 by the Los Angeles County (County) Board of Supervisors (Board), the County Arts Internship Program (AIP) supports and strengthens our cultural sector by expanding access to high quality paid opportunities for college students of all backgrounds to gain experience, understanding, and transferable skills relevant to careers in the arts, the creative economy, and engagement in public life. Serving as a companion to the Getty Foundation’s (Getty) Marrow Undergraduate Internship Program, AIP allows students to develop a deeper understanding of the work involved in nonprofit arts administration across disciplines, while learning about the role of the arts in communities and developing skills that can be utilized in their future careers. The AIP program provides grants to nonprofit performing, presenting, film, media, literary, municipal arts, social service, and social justice organizations to hire students to engage in specific projects over the course of a 400-hour internship. The program also facilitates educational and networking opportunities for the interns to gain a broader view of the arts ecosystem outside of the context of day-to-day work within their organizations.

The Board’s investment in AIP began with a commitment to fund approximately 120 positions, on par with the Getty’s program. The program quickly became a mainstay with a ripple effect across the region. Many interns remained in the field and supervised other interns while some became leaders of nonprofit art organizations. Though the program’s structure has remained relatively unchanged over the years, its focus has

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shifted to reflect the changing needs of both organizations and students in the County. Most notably, the County's Cultural Equity and Inclusion Initiative (CEII) highlighted the need to support students of all backgrounds more intentionally to be able to take advantage of internship opportunities. As a result of CEII, AIP staff has strengthened relationships with local community colleges, which has translated into increased numbers of community college students participating each year. In 2022, there are 228 positions at 146 nonprofit arts organizations.

On September 11, 2022, the Department of Arts and Culture will convene a group of interns for a small reception and performance at The Ahmanson Theatre, marking the first in-person meeting of interns in nearly 3 years. The goal of the event is to give students the opportunity to network with each other and department staff, as well to experience a theater performance at Center Theatre Group and introduce them to one of the County's most respected performing arts institutions. These opportunities to bring interns together in-person are one of the highlights of the program and have been sorely missed during the on-going COVID-19 pandemic. The Getty generously supports the educational components of the AIP program through a grant, including the cost of the reception as well as tickets for the performance.

I THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

1. Waive parking fees on September 11, 2022, in the amount of \$2,200 for approximately 110 vehicles for interns and staff to park at The Music Center, Lot 14 garage, excluding the cost of liability insurance.
2. Authorize the Director of the Department of Arts and Culture, or her designee, to sponsor and pay for costs associated with the reception, including food services and lunch refreshments in the amount of \$4,800.

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