

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR HILDA L. SOLIS

June 6, 2023

Proclaiming Arts and Health Week in the County of Los Angeles

The benefits of the arts are many, and everyone deserves to have equal access to them. In a County as ethnically and culturally diverse and as geographically sprawling as Los Angeles, it is our responsibility to ensure that all the benefits of, and opportunities provided by, the arts are available and accessible to all residents, no matter who they are or where they live.

From arts education for young people to arts programming for senior citizens, the arts have been proven to make individual lives better and strengthen communities. They improve health and well-being, and they improve cognitive skills. There is growing research and proven connections demonstrating that arts can make a positive impact on health across mental health, physical health, and public health, for all communities. Even more, the arts can bring people together across demographic, economic, and social lines. They are places where people can both see and express themselves, their communities, and their cultures in public performances, cultural activities, and exhibitions. Everyone should experience the healing power of the arts.

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SOLIS _____

MITCHELL _____

HORVATH _____

BARGER _____

HAHN _____

Recognizing the extraordinary need for more programs and initiatives that incorporate arts into health and wellness practice, the LA Opera is convening a day for sharing ideas through discussion and experience, advised by renowned soprano and arts and health advocate Renée Fleming, partnering with the Department of Arts and Culture (Arts and Culture) and in collaboration with Healing Arts, an initiative of the Jameel Arts & Health Lab and the World Health Organization.

Through the powerful art form of opera, LA Opera's mission is to serve the public by producing world-class opera that preserves, promotes, and advances the art form while embodying the diversity, pioneering spirit, and artistic sensibility unique to Los Angeles. The company envisions a community in which all members have the opportunity to collectively engage with and enjoy the rich aesthetic, emotional, intellectual, and cultural experience of opera. The LA Opera is a grantee of Arts and Culture's Organizational Grant Program.

The mission of Arts and Culture is to advance arts, culture, and creativity throughout Los Angeles County. Arts and Culture provides leadership, services, and support in areas including grants and technical assistance for nonprofit organizations, countywide arts education initiatives, commissioning and care for civic art collections, research, and evaluation, access to creative pathways, professional development, free community programs, and cross-sector creative strategies that address civic issues. All of this work is framed by our longstanding commitment to fostering access to the arts, and the County's Cultural Equity and Inclusion Initiative.

Moreover, Arts and Culture continues to deliver on its role of providing funding, resources, and support for our arts and cultural sector, while also finding new

opportunities to catalyze cross-sector collaboration with artists, arts organizations, philanthropy, and County partners.

These efforts expand ways for the County to support arts and culture as integral to equity and healthy communities across aspects of civic life, from education, youth development, justice reform and prevention, health, infrastructure, aging, and more. Through this work, Arts and Culture, alongside and in collaboration with County departments including Mental Health, Public Health, Health Services, Aging and Disabilities, and other partners, have begun to yield an important body of work at the intersection of arts and health in Los Angeles County that we can build upon.

Healing Arts is a global outreach campaign by the Jameel Arts & Health Lab in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO). As a call to action for improved health and well-being through the arts, the campaign incorporates exhibitions, dialogues, public art interventions, media partnerships, and city-wide activations, often in partnership with the United Nations, government agencies, high-profile cultural venues, and universities. Past events include a Healing Arts Symposium at the Metropolitan Museum of Art (2021), the first Iraq Pavilion at the Venice Architecture Biennale (2021), the Healing Arts Auction Series with Christie's (2020-present), and this year's historic WHO 75th Anniversary Healing Arts Concert in Geneva.

Los Angeles County Arts and Health Week's goal is to promote a deeper understanding of the essential connection between arts, health, and well-being, and to encourage greater practice in this area. A collaboration between the LA Opera, Arts and Culture, Renée Fleming, and WHO Healing Arts, the week will bring awareness to the benefits of arts as part of health, culminating with an Arts and Health Summit convening

of arts and health organizations with presentations and panel discussions that will feature Renée Fleming, Arts and Culture, County leaders, and community arts and health partners at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion on Friday, June 9, 2023. The week will conclude with a special performance by Renée Fleming at the LA Opera on Saturday, June 10, 2023.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors:

1. Proclaim the week of June 5, 2023, as Arts and Health Week in the County of Los Angeles.
2. Encourage County Departments to share information about Arts and Health Week with their staff and constituents on their social media accounts throughout the week in partnership with Arts and Culture.
3. Waive parking fees in the amount of \$6,000 for approximately 300 vehicles for individuals attending the Arts and Health Week Summit on June 9, 2023, to park at The Music Center, Lot 14 garage, excluding the cost of liability insurance.

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