

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR SOLIS

March 4, 2025

Proclaiming March as Arts Education Month and Empowering Future Creative Leaders Through the Launch of the Bloomberg Arts Internship Program

Arts Education Month is recognized in March to highlight the crucial role that arts education plays in the development of young people and in enriching the broader community. Arts education, including disciplines such as visual arts, music, theater, dance, and digital arts, is essential for nurturing creativity, critical thinking, and collaboration in students. Research has shown that students engaged in arts education tend to have higher academic performance, improved graduation rates, and better social-emotional development. These skills are crucial in preparing students for success in both education and their future careers.

Arts education fosters cultural understanding and empathy while helping students develop the confidence needed to thrive in a rapidly changing world. The arts are also an economic driver in Los Angeles County, contributing significantly to its cultural and creative industries.

In recognition of these benefits and the need for more opportunities for young people, Los Angeles County will build upon the success of the Los Angeles County Arts Internship Program, which has successfully provided college students with hands-on experience, professional mentorship, and career exploration in the arts, by launching a

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- Solis _____
- Mitchell _____
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new arts internship program for high school students. This new program will be developed in partnership with Bloomberg Philanthropies, whose support will ensure the creation of transformative opportunities for youth across the county.

The Los Angeles County Bloomberg Arts Internship program will offer rising high school seniors the chance to engage with professionals in arts and cultural organizations, receive mentorship, explore creative industries, and develop essential skills for successful careers in the arts. This program will help young people from all backgrounds gain hands-on experience in paid internships, providing them with valuable work-based learning opportunities in the arts.

This program aligns with the goals outlined in the Los Angeles County Cultural Policy, which emphasizes the importance of fostering an equitable and inclusive arts ecosystem, strengthening the creative economy, and ensuring that all communities have access to cultural resources that reflect their unique identities. The Cultural Policy encourages investment in programs that engage young people in arts education and career development, and this new internship program supports those objectives by prioritizing youth engagement, career pathways in the arts, and broadening access to arts opportunities across Los Angeles County.

The Los Angeles County Bloomberg Arts Internship program will prioritize equitable access to ensure representation from all communities in Los Angeles County and will collaborate with local arts organizations, schools, and businesses to provide

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internships that nurture the next generation of creative professionals. By expanding opportunities for young people in the arts, this program aims to build pathways for future careers in the creative sector, while enhancing the cultural fabric of Los Angeles County.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors:

1. Proclaim March 2025 as Arts Education Month.
2. Direct the Department of Arts and Culture to support and amplify the celebration of Arts Education Month in March by engaging in activities and communications that raise awareness about the importance of arts education and highlight its impact on youth development. These efforts should be in partnership with the Los Angeles County Office of Education, the Department of Youth Development, the Department of Parks and Recreation, and local arts organizations.
3. Direct the Department of Arts and Culture to lead the implementation of the Los Angeles County Bloomberg Arts Internship program, in partnership with Bloomberg Philanthropies, including entering into funding agreements with Bloomberg Philanthropies to plan and implement the program, and to work with local partners to expand opportunities for youth across the county, in alignment with the principles of the Cultural Policy.