

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR HILDA L. SOLIS

June 3, 2025

Proclaiming Los Angeles County Arts and Health Week 2025

The arts enrich lives in countless ways, and every person in Los Angeles County should have the opportunity to experience them. In a region as expansive and diverse as Los Angeles County, it is essential that we ensure access to the arts reaches all communities, regardless of geography, background, or economic circumstances.

Arts education and programming benefit people of all ages. They foster creativity and critical thinking in young people, and promote connection, expression, and well-being for older adults. Across disciplines, research continues to show the powerful impact of the arts on mental, physical, and community health. From reducing social isolation to enhancing cognitive function, the arts serve as a vital tool for healing. They also create spaces for shared experience, where individuals can connect across differences, reflect on their lives, and celebrate cultural identity through music, storytelling, performance, and visual art.

In recognition of the growing role of the arts in advancing health and wellness, LA Opera is hosting a convening focused on integrating creative practice into care and community health efforts. Guided by world-renowned soprano and arts and health advocate Renée Fleming, the event is presented in partnership with Los Angeles

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County Chair Pro Tem and Supervisor for the First District Hilda L. Solis, the Los Angeles County Department of Arts and Culture, and in collaboration with Healing Arts—an initiative of the Jameel Arts & Health Lab and the World Health Organization.

LA Opera's mission is rooted in public service, producing exceptional opera that reflects and honors the creativity, diversity, and pioneering spirit of Los Angeles. Through education, performance, and community engagement, the company works to ensure everyone has the opportunity to experience the emotional and cultural richness of opera. LA Opera is a proud grantee of the Los Angeles County Department of Arts and Culture's Organizational Grant Program.

The Los Angeles County Department of Arts and Culture advances arts, culture, and creativity across the County by supporting nonprofit organizations, investing in public art, expanding arts education, conducting research, building creative career pathways, and providing free public programming. This work is guided by the County's Cultural Equity and Inclusion Initiative and grounded in a commitment to equity and access for all residents.

By partnering with County departments such as Mental Health, Public Health, Health Services, and Aging and Disabilities, the Department of Arts and Culture helps integrate the arts into essential aspects of civic life—including education, justice reform, health, infrastructure, and aging. These efforts contribute to building stronger, healthier, and more inclusive communities throughout Los Angeles County.

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Healing Arts is a global campaign developed by the Jameel Arts & Health Lab in partnership with the World Health Organization. It promotes awareness of the role of the arts in improving health outcomes through exhibitions, performances, public installations, media partnerships, and city-wide activations. Past projects include the Healing Arts Symposium at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Iraq Pavilion at the Venice Architecture Biennale, the Healing Arts Auction Series with Christie's, and the WHO75 Healing Arts Concert in Geneva.

Bringing this work to a local stage, Los Angeles County Arts and Health Week will highlight the powerful connection between the arts and well-being through a series of public events, performances, and discussions. This collaboration between LA Opera, Chair Pro Tem and Supervisor Hilda L. Solis, the Los Angeles County Department of Arts and Culture, Renée Fleming, the WHO Healing Arts initiative, and the Jameel Arts & Health Lab will culminate in an Arts and Health Summit at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion on Friday, June 13, 2025. The summit will feature presentations and panels with artists, healthcare professionals, County leaders, and community partners. The week will conclude with a special performance by Renée Fleming at LA Opera on Saturday, June 14, 2025.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors:

1. Proclaim the week of June 9, 2025, as "Arts and Health Week" in Los

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Angeles County, to highlight the importance of the arts in promoting health and well-being, and to recognize the leadership of LA Opera, the Department of Arts and Culture, and the County's Health Departments in advancing this work.

2. Commend and extend sincere appreciation to LA Opera for its visionary leadership in advancing the integration of the arts into health and wellness initiatives, and for its continued dedication to enriching the lives of Los Angeles County residents through inclusive, innovative, and impactful programming.
3. Encourage all County Departments to share Arts and Health Week information and resources, and to support outreach efforts through social media and other communications in partnership with the Department of Arts and Culture.
4. Waive parking fees, excluding the cost of liability insurance, in the estimated amount of \$7,000 for approximately 350 vehicles for individuals attending the Arts and Health Week Summit on Friday, June 13, 2025, at Lot 14 of The Music Center.

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