

PRESS RELEASE



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Fernando Pullum Community Arts Center Awarded California Arts Council General Operating Support Grant

State funds support performing arts instruction

South Los Angeles, CA – The California Arts Council has announced a grant award of \$50,000 to Fernando Pullum Community Arts Center (“Pullum Center”) as part of its *General Operating Support Grant* program during its 2023 grant cycle.

The grant will provide general operating support for two years to support performing arts instruction for more than 1,200 students, ages 5 – 20, who reside within a five-mile radius of 43rd Street and Crenshaw Boulevard in South Los Angeles.

Executive Director Fernando Pullum said, “We are proud to be one of 850 organizations in California to receive a California Arts Council grant that will allow us to support our operations.”

Pullum Center was featured as part of a [larger announcement](#) from the California Arts Council, with more than 850 grant awards totaling more than \$32.75 million in projected funding projected investments for operational and project support to nonprofit organizations and units of government throughout the state of California.

The nearly \$33 million in awards for the 2023 grant cycle sets a new record for the state arts agency’s investment in California’s arts and culture workforce via permanent state and federal allocations for local assistance funds, upwards of \$2.8 million more [than its last record-setting year in 2020](#).

“In this last year, the California Arts Council has been working diligently to listen to our field, to be responsive to the moment, and to do our best to make our investments strategic and equitable,” said California Arts Council Executive Director Jonathan Moscone. “I am proud that we are able to disperse more than 850 grants throughout the state so that the arts can continue to have a deep and positive impact on the vast and diverse communities of California.”

Organizations were awarded grants across six different program areas designed to benefit the whole of California's arts and culture ecosystem, with focused considerations for first-time applicants, small and mid-size arts and organizations, folk and traditional art forms, county local arts agencies and arts service organizations, and opportunities with deep investment for both general operating and project-based support.

Read the [full announcement](#) by the California Arts Council for more details and to view a complete listing of all 2023 CAC grantees by county, alphabetically by organization, and by program.

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About Fernando Pullum Community Arts Center:

The Fernando Pullum Community Arts Center is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to provide quality performing arts instruction to underserved youth and help them build self-esteem, develop civic responsibility, and achieve academic success. The program empowers young people to create a new vision of who they are and what they have become. The Pullum Center is a member of the [Berklee City Music Network®](#) (BCMN), a network of over 40 community organizations in the United States, Canada, and Latin America that collectively benefit over 46,000 students each year. BCMN enables youth from underserved communities to develop musically, academically, socially, and emotionally, primarily through the study of contemporary music. For more information, visit [PullumCenter.org](#).

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The California Arts Council is a state agency with a mission of strengthening arts, culture, and creative expression as the tools to cultivate a better California for all. It supports local arts infrastructure and programming statewide through grants, initiatives, and services. The California Arts Council envisions a California where all people flourish with universal access to and participation in the arts.

Members of the California Arts Council include: Consuelo Montoya, Chair; Vicki Estrada, Vice Chair; Gerald Clarke; Caleb Duarte; Ellen Gavin; Leah Goodwin; Alex Israel; Phil Mercado; Roxanne Messina Captor; Nicola Miner; and Olivia Raynor. Learn more at www.arts.ca.gov.

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