

Program Elements

artworxLA was founded in 1992 as The HeArt Project to help fill the void in arts education among L.A. inner city youth. Since our first art-making workshop in a Skid Row community center, **artworxLA** has steadily grown to now play a key role in the alternative high school system—paving creative career pathways for a severely underserved population with the capacity to meet the highest expectations.

artworxLA respectfully requests support for its arts-based dropout prevention program at a pivotal time in our history, as we seek to sustain remarkable growth and impact. **artworxLA** has been offering its multidisciplinary arts education programs at Angelus Plaza High School since its inception, 27 years ago, and has always maintained a positive partnership with LAUSD's schools, principals, classroom teachers and administrators.

artworxLA will successfully implement its Level 1 workshops at 13 alternative high school sites during the 2019-2020 academic year, as part of a four-step "ladder" of arts education. The District's support will enable **artworxLA** to champion L.A. youth who discover their own potential and move forward to achieve new identities—high school graduate, artist, employee, filmmaker, advocate and entrepreneur, among endless possibilities.

Reaching across L.A. County, **artworxLA** benefits over 1,000 students (ages 14-18) annually who are enrolled in continuation high schools because of failing grades, behavioral issues, a history of incarceration, or expulsion. Using art as a key engager, **artworxLA** enriches the curriculum at under-resourced schools in eight districts. **artworxLA** answers the need for creative learning for students who are significantly behind in academic credits and have disproportionately high truancy rates. All of the schools are at least 90% Latino or African-American (except one). A member of the Arts for Incarcerated Youth Network, three juvenile camps/halls and two-day reporting centers participate in workshops. Most students are low-income and dealing with family struggles, poverty, mental health issues and learning disabilities, substance abuse, and pregnancy/parenting.

LAUSD OVER-ARCHING GOALS

Graduation College and Career Readiness

At the core of all the quantitative data we collect, the correlation is apparent: the longer our students stay in the program, the more likely they are to graduate. Our Level 1 workshops provide a way for students to fulfill state standards and requirements as well as a path for them to continue to move up the "ladder" of **artworxLA**'s Advanced Programs (Levels 2-4) where they will continue to engage in arts residencies, paid internships and additional alumni support.

artworxLA was recommended by the Weingart Foundation for the nationwide Listen for Good initiative and awarded a multi-year grant to explore additional methods for asking for student feedback. Through a new survey system, conducted at the end of the workshop season at public presentation sites, we are gaining greater insight into the real-time effect of **artworxLA**. In the Winter 2017 session, 92% of Level

1 student stated that they improved time management skills and 83% feel better speaking in front of a group. The most telling statistic is that 92% “feel better prepared for life after high school graduation;” not only do they plan to earn their diploma, but they are making plans for the future based on the inspiration of creative learning experiences.

The lasting impact of our efforts is evident in the stories of our students. Last Spring (2018), three **artworxLA** teens spent a day with a professional filmmaker, sharing their life, neighborhood, creative process and the role of **artworxLA** in their new outlook. Their remarkable stories are presented in the third installment of our *Little Docs* short film series, which premiered at the **artworxLA** Gala in May 2018. Each video piece is viewable online on our website at artworxla.org or via YouTube:

Jonathan: A film by Ze'ev Waismann—<https://youtu.be/XMiNF47uKy0>

Dominique: A film by Carlos Felipe—https://youtu.be/ChijanVx_iY

Alfredo: A film by Alex Kurtzman—<https://youtu.be/mUWiJuo9Sj4>

Attendance

Students are more engaged in school, as they anticipate going to the workshops, finishing their projects and showing them at their public presentation while visiting a cultural partner site. In a previous survey created in partnership with the USC School of Social Work, 87% of students claimed that participation in **artworxLA** helped them stay in school. Indeed, students have told us that with art in the curriculum, they are more motivated to attend class.

Parent Community and Student Engagement

Multi-disciplinary arts workshops provide a safe space in which students can develop self-confidence, artistic talents and a collaborative capacity—all essential to getting back on track academically. Will Rogers Continuation High School classroom teacher Armando Campos said of his experience, “*The workshop kept students engaged and eager to come to school and work. The artist spoke with enthusiasm and sparked students’ imagination. Participation was high. Students were able to see the fruits of their labor and praise they received from their peers.*” In the aforementioned survey created in partnership with the USC School of Social Work, 74% of students indicated that **artworxLA** changed their attitude towards learning.

Parents are very involved in the academic year, and they are informed of all the projects, cultural partners and invited to attend their child’s public presentation when possible. Because Level 1 public presentations often take place on weekdays during school hours, parents do often find it difficult to attend every single public presentation in the academic year. However, public presentations for Advanced Programs take place on weekends, and there we garner more parent involvement.

School Safety and Positive School Climate

artworxLA maintains a 3:20 ratio of teachers to students in all its school sites to further foster student engagement and address many of the challenges that arise. Public Presentations bring together about one third of the schools that each explored the same theme throughout the 11 weeks. The shared journey and its culmination promotes a sense of community among students.

Whole Child Wellness Services

artworxLA leverages the resources of a diverse network of artists and creative professionals, school districts, cultural centers, creative industry leaders, and colleges/universities to implement its arts-based dropout prevention program. **artworxLA** has long relationships in L.A.'s public school system, which enables us to place creative learning at the center of the curriculum for underserved students who are struggling to stay in school. Our 27-year history with LAUSD reached a new level in 2018, with the opening of the new Design + Media Arts Academy (at Central High School – John Adams branch) – expanding our impact at a school in a marginalized neighborhood where we have delivered our weekly classroom workshops for over 15 years. We have partnered with LACOE since 2001 to provide arts education in alternative high schools (including opening the Hollywood and Media Arts Academy), and in 2016, reached into the charter school system by initiating a new Arts Academy with L.A. Education Corps.

Our approach to trauma-informed practices has deepened to meet today's concerns. Overseeing our work, our Creative Pathways Manager and our Creative Youth Development Coordinator have their Masters in Social Work and have received additional training that specifically addresses: Restorative Practices (improving and repairing relationships), Motivational Interviewing (client-centered counseling to elicit behavior change), Moral Reconciliation Therapy (treating substance abuse, domestic violence, etc.), Innovating for Impact (program and case management) and Seeking Safety (present-focused counseling to attain calm). We continue to seek opportunities for professional development and grow partnerships with organizations in the wellness community to strengthen the wrap-around services we offer our students.

artworxLA's positive growth and development is evidenced in the roster of cultural partners and the quality of teaching artists. Our students have presented their work at nearly every prominent cultural institution in L.A., including The Getty Center and Museum, LACMA, the Natural History Museum, UCLA, The Autry National Center, L.A. Opera, Huntington Library, and Skirball Cultural Center. Our partnerships with cultural organizations are mutually beneficial, allowing **artworxLA** to expose students to major museums like MOCA and the Natural History Museum, which have significant institutional resources. While they curate the high-quality, socially relevant exhibitions that our students interpret, **artworxLA** brings a traditionally hard-to-reach audience into their galleries. Advanced Programs give students an intensive experience in college/university settings and participate in community projects. Industry partners are helping to connect students to creative careers, and we are cultivating relationships for programming with L.A. businesses like Ableton and Hybrid Apparel. In addition, these practitioners represent the range of job opportunities in L.A. at our annual Creative Careers Day, with 2018 panelists from Trailer Park (advertising), Gensler (design), Kids of Immigrants (clothing line), Array Alliance (non-profit film collective), and a visual artist/curator.

Final workshop presentations reflect the quality of work produced by **artworxLA** students.

Price Schedule

Start Date: 2019-2020 school year

Detail

Activity	Hourly Rate	Total Hours	Subtotal
Arts Workshops & Public Presentations	\$162.50	0	\$0.00
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Workshop Coordinator - Teaching Artist - Guest Speakers: Creative industry professionals who visit classroom at least once every 11 weeks, approximately 3 visits per year per school/classroom. - Education Programs Manager, Artistic Director and Advanced Programs Manager - Managing implementation and program outcomes. 			
Public Presentations	\$162.50	0	\$0.00
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Field Trip to Cultural Partner Site where students showcase their finished Arts projects. <p>Example; Poetry writing/dance/or theatre performance, visual arts pieces, sculptures, music, film & video movies.</p>			
Total Amount Due	\$0.00		

Start Date: 2019-2020 school year

Detail

Activity	Hourly Rate	Total Hours	Subtotal
Arts Workshops & Public Presentations	\$162.50	69	\$11,212.50
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Workshop Coordinator - Teaching Artist - Guest Speakers: Creative industry professionals who visit classroom at least once every 11 weeks, approximately 3 visits per year per school/classroom. - Education Programs Manager, Artistic Director and Advanced Programs Manager - Managing implementation and program outcomes. 			
Public Presentations include;			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Field Trip to Cultural Partner Site where students showcase their finished Arts projects. 			
Example; Poetry writing/dance/or theatre performance, visual arts pieces, sculptures, music, film & video movies.			
Total Amount Due			\$11,212.50

* Above is the price proposal sample for 3 seasons, Fall, Winter and Spring 2019-2020 schoolyear for one classroom, once a week, two hours per Workshop.

Start Date:

2019-2020 school year

Detail

Activity	Hourly Rate	Total Hours	Subtotal
Arts Workshops & Public Presentations	\$162.50	498	\$80,925.00
- Workshop Coordinator			
- Teaching Artist			
- Guest Speakers: Creative industry professionals who visit classroom at least once every 11 weeks, approximately 3 visits per year per school/classroom.			
- Education Programs Manager, Artistic Director and Advanced Programs Manager - Managing implementation and program outcomes.			
Public Presentations include;			
- Field Trip to Cultural Partner Site where students showcase their finished Arts projects.			
Example; Poetry writing/dance/or theatre performance, visual arts pieces, sculptures, music, film & video movies.			
Total Amount Due		\$80,925.00	

* Above is the price proposal sample for 3 seasons, Fall, Winter and Spring 2019-2020 schoolyear for two classrooms at John Adams High School (Design and Media Arts Academy) four days a week, two hours per Workshop.