



LA COUNTY ARTS REPORT
**CULTURAL EQUITY &
INCLUSION INITIATIVE**



APRIL 2017

Strengthening Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in the Arts
and Culture Sector for All Los Angeles County Residents

VISION, VALUES AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES

In March 2016 the LA County Arts Commission convened the 35-member Advisory Committee who, under the leadership of the three Co-Chairs, approved a process for the CEI as well as a three-part vision statement that reads as follows:

Inclusion and access: Every resident of Los Angeles County shall have opportunities and access to encounter, appreciate, participate in, learn and be informed about the arts and culture.

Equity: Arts and cultural organizations and artists from all disciplines and cultural traditions shall be valued equally and supported equitably.

Diversity: Arts and cultural organizations shall reflect and embrace the diversity of the County in staffing, board leadership, programming, including artists, and audiences/participants.

The work of the CEI Advisory Committee was led by this statement of vision and values and by the following guiding principles:

- **Every individual participates in creative thinking and expression**
- **Every individual has the right to engage in arts and culture that celebrate their highest potential**
- **Our community's diversity is an asset to our arts and cultural environment and our economy**
- **Including communities through the arts and culture achieves our highest potential by promoting mutual respect and understanding**

Guiding Principles:

From the outset, the Advisory Committee was committed to an approach that did not mandate what actions any given organization or institution must take, nor to advocate diminishing any existing resources. The CEI recommendations are focused on providing support for meaningful change as determined by each organization or institution, expanding resources for all, and creating new opportunities to improve diversity, equity, inclusion and access.

Additionally, the Advisory Committee committed to honor the diversity and complexity of LA County's arts ecology by considering all voices: large institutions and small organizations, culturally specific and community based organizations, individual artists and LA County residents.