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April 6, 2020

The Honorable Eric Garcetti  
Mayor, City of Los Angeles  
200 N. Spring Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Mayor Garcetti,

**Arts for LA, and a broad coalition of nonprofit arts and culture organizations, strongly supports Councilmember Ryu’s motion to convert his office’s discretionary funds from the Arts Development Fee into an artist relief fund, and fully supports Council Offices that will follow suit.**

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact the global economy, Arts for LA is specifically focused on ensuring artists and arts organizations have the resources they need to survive the crisis. We’ve seen it before-- during periods of economic downturn, the arts is the first to be cut from government budgets, and we are working to ensure the long-term resilience of the arts and culture sector. One-in-six of all jobs in Los Angeles are in the creative sector, and the chronic undercapitalization of the sector’s infrastructure means that artists and arts organizations operate in extreme precariousness. All too often, survival can depend on a single paycheck or donation and COVID-19 has compounded this dire reality by bringing the industry to a complete standstill. Creative sector workers have been faced with unemployment for weeks longer than the general population; the postponement or cancellation of festivals and public gatherings had ripple effects well-beyond the scheduled performers, extending to local artists and businesses catering to festival-goers. **Councilmember Ryu’s motion will allow artists and performers an opportunity to provide a tangible community benefit that the COVID-19 pandemic effectively decimated. The proposed fund will assist artists and nonprofit arts organizations based in Los Angeles Council District Four in creating artwork and performances available to the public. It also leaves open the opportunity for all other Council Offices to follow suit.**

At this very moment, creative industry workers, many of whom rely on “survival jobs” in service or teaching, are fighting to keep food on their tables, while small arts organizations are doing their best to keep their doors open. Emergency funding is needed for artists and arts and cultural organizations to continue promoting, celebrating, and sharing LA’s cultural richness. Furthermore, we need to ensure equity in the recovery, by guaranteeing that organizations led by or serving people of color, or historically under-resourced communities, have resources they need to continue serving LA.

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Arts for LA supports a fully resourced Department of Cultural Affairs; as our partners in promoting the arts and culture as a way to meaningfully engage LA's residents and visitors, we rely on their expertise, relationships, and policy acumen to make important decisions on behalf of our community. We look forward to continuing this productive partnership.

Sincerely,

Arts for LA

11:11 A Creative Collective	CONTRA-TIEMPO Urban Latin
826LA	Dance Theater
AIGA Los Angeles	Corita Art Center
Alternative Field	Cornerstone Theater Company
American Museum of Ceramic Art	Cre8tiv Endeavors LLC
Ammunition Theatre Co.	Cusick Consulting
Angel City Chorale	Dance Camera West
Angels Gate Cultural Center	Dance Resource Center
Antaeus Theatre Company	Donna Sternberg & Dancers
Armory Center for the Arts	DSTL Arts
Association of California Symphony	East West Players
Orchestras	Education Through Music-Los
Ballet Folklorico del Pacifico	Angeles
bardoLA	Eileen Cooley Lighting Design
Benita Bike's DanceArt	Enrichment Works
Beyond Baroque Literary / Arts	Ensemble Studio Theatre/LA
Center	Everyday Arts, Inc.
Black Hole	Florincanto Dance Theater
Blue 13 Dance Company	Fountain Theatre
Brockus Project Dance Company /	Fulcrum Arts
LA Dance Festival	Gateway Performance Series
Cadence Arts Network, Inc.	Geffen Playhouse
Cadenza Artists	Grand Performances
CalArts	Grand Vision Foundation
Carlton Dance	IAMA theatre company
Center Theatre Group	Impro Theatre
City Garage	Infinite Flow - An Inclusive Dance
City of Pasadena Arts & Culture	Company
Commission	Institute of Contemporary Art, Los
Clairobseur Dance	Angeles
Company of Angels	Invertigo Dance Theatre
Conga Kids	Iris Company
	Kairos Dance Co

Kaya Press  
Keith Glassman Dance &  
Performance  
Kenneth Walker Dance Project  
Keshet Chaim Dancers  
LA Commons  
LA County High School for the Arts  
Foundation  
LA Opera  
LA Roller Girls Entertainment  
LA STAGE Alliance  
LA Writers Center  
LACMA  
Launch LA  
Launch Productions, Inc. (Launch  
LA)  
LogcINK  
lollieworks  
Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra  
Los Angeles Choreographers &  
Dancers  
Los Angeles Master Chorale  
Lula Washington Dance Theatre  
Luminario Ballet of Los Angeles  
Malibu Arts Foundation  
McDonald Selznick  
Mojácar Flamenco  
Mycotoo, Inc  
NAVEL  
New Musicals, Inc  
NewFilmmakers Los Angeles  
(NFMLA)  
NOW Art LA  
Odyssey Thestre Foundation  
olive47  
Open Fist Theater Company  
Outta Da Box Dance Kompany  
Oxy Arts, Occidental College  
P.S. ARTS  
Pacific Resident Theatre  
Participant Media  
Pasadena Conservatory of Music  
Performing Arts Facilities Planning  
Peter Smith Impressions

Pony Box Dance Theatre  
Project X Foundation for Art and  
Criticism  
PRT  
Psychopomp Dance Theater  
Public Matters  
Rangoli Foundation  
Rangoli Foundation for Art &  
Culture  
Re:borN Dance Interactive  
Remainders Creative Reuse  
Rock the Boat Collective  
Rogue Artists Ensemble  
Rosanna Gamson/World Wide  
SAG-AFTRA  
Screamfest Horror Film Festival  
Self Help Graphics & Art  
Show Box L.A. / we live in space  
Sierra Madre Playhouse  
Skylight Theatre Company  
Soul Force Project  
Sozo Artists  
Spirit Awakening Foundation  
St. Elmo Village  
Stonewall Democratic Club  
The Actors' Gang  
The Broad Stage  
The Costume House  
The Directors Workshop  
The Fountain Theatre  
The Gabriella Foundation home of  
Everybody Dance!  
The Industry  
The LA Follies  
The Leela Institute  
The New American Theatre / Circus  
Theatricals Foundation  
The Open Fist Theatre Company  
The Unusual Suspects Theatre  
Company  
The Victory Theatre Center  
Theatre 40  
Theophilus Films  
Tim Phillips Studio, LLC

TIOH Arts & Culture  
Torrance Cultural Arts Foundation  
University of California, Riverside  
Vena Vena Handcrafted  
Venice Art Crawl  
Vince Horiuchi

Visual Communications Media  
Viver Brasil Dance Company  
VS. Theatre Company  
What's the Story? Los Angeles  
Whitefire Theatre  
Young Storytellers

CC: Danielle Brazell, General Manager, City of Los Angeles Department of  
Cultural Affairs