Arts Orange County’s COVID-19 Response and Relief Funding Results

175 Artists received financial assistance

$2,727,246 Total relief funds to OC arts community

138 Arts organizations and arts businesses in 27 cities received grants

**Relief Fund Activities**

- **Research**
  - Collected data on use of CARES Act and private arts relief funds in other communities
  - Conducted survey of COVID-19 impact upon OC arts community.
  - Released results April, 2020

- **Advocacy**
  - Conducted meetings and other communications with County and cities elected officials

- **Fundraising**
  - Established OC Arts and Culture Resilience Fund with Charitable Ventures and OC Community Foundation

**Funds Advocated for and Granted by Arts Orange County**

- $500,000 County of Orange District 3 COVID-19 Arts Relief Fund (CARES Act)
- $500,000 City of Santa Ana CARES Arts Relief Fund (CARES Act)
- $179,500 OC Arts and Culture Resilience Fund (raised from private sources)
- $15,787 California Arts Council/National Endowment for the Arts (CARES Act)

Notes: Data is as of December 3, 2020. Reflects funds awarded and committed. Some programs have not yet completed their grant-making. OC Arts and Culture Resilience Fund, County District 3 Arts Relief Fund and City of Santa Ana Arts CARES Arts Relief Fund managed by Arts Orange County in collaboration with Orange County Community Foundation and Charitable Ventures. California Arts Council/National Endowment for the Arts Fund managed by Arts Orange County.
$1,531,959
Funds Advocated for by Arts Orange County and Granted Directly by Others

$922,000
City of Santa Ana CARES (CARES Act) (Museums and Arts Businesses)

$10,900
CalHumanities / National Endowment for the Humanities (CARES Act)

$10,000
County of Orange District 1 Small Business Grants (CARES Act)

$130,000
County of Orange District 5 Small Business Grants (CARES Act)

$250,000
National Endowment for the Arts COVID-19 Relief (CARES Act)

$94,059
County of Orange District 2 Nonprofit Grants (CARES Act)

$110,000
County of Orange District 4 Small Business Grants (CARES Act)

$5,000
City of Anaheim / Anaheim Community Foundation (CARES Act)

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Advocacy
To persuade California & Orange County health officials to accept safe reopening plans of OC arts venues

Support for arts community
Converted online countywide arts calendar to feature virtual programs and safe reopenings

Advocacy
To stave off cuts to arts education budgets in OC public school districts

Support for arts community
Conducted more than 50 online briefings, trainings and roundtables for OC arts leaders

Programmatic pivot
Converted VOICES: Veterans Storytelling Project, Día del Niño Festival and Poetry Out Loud programs to virtual

MEDIA COVERAGE

“Orange County’s Art Scene Losses From Coronavirus Estimated at $16 Million” (Results of Arts Orange County Survey)
— Orange County Register, April 22, 2020

“ArtsOC Creates OC Arts and Culture Resilience Fund to Aid Artists and Arts Organizations Impacted by COVID-19”
— Irvine Weekly, July 6, 2020

“OC Arts and Culture Resilience Fund Helps Local Artists Keep Creating” — Spectrum News, August 27, 2020

“Arts Orange County Working to Get Public and Private Money Into Local Artists’ Hands” — Voice of OC, August 28, 2020

“Arts Get Boost With $2.7M in Aid” — Orange County Register, November 21, 2020
Private Funding
We wish to express our deepest gratitude to the following contributors who supported this fund. 100% of these funds were awarded in assistance to individual artists and grants to arts organizations.

$20,000+
Larry and Helen Hoag Foundation
Valerie and Hans Imhof
Orange County Community Foundation — Arts Endowment Fund
Orange County Community Foundation — Richard and Elizabeth Steele Endowment
Orange County Community Foundation — Tod and Linda White

$10,000+
Faubel Public Affairs
Orange County Community Foundation — Michael and Etta Cannon Fund
Orange County Community Foundation — Keith Swayne
Charlie and Ling Zhang

$5,000+
Phil and Mary Lyons
Orange County Community Foundation — Crevier Family Foundation Fund
Orange County Community Foundation — Miracle Fund

$2,500+
The William Gillespie Foundation
Orange County Community Foundation — Doreen D. Marshall Fund for Youth

$1,000+
Ellen Breitman
Margaret Gates
Sue K. Hori
Sheila and Jim Peterson
Richard and Alison Stein
Vina Williams

$250+
John Forsyte
Mark and Jan Hilbert
Todd Hanson
Giulio Ongaro
Rick Smetanka
Paula Tomei
Dr. Stephen Barker
Cynthia Corley
Sara Guerero
Scott Fitzpatrick
Gary Good
Kara Jacobs Harvey
Marion Jack
Brian Ross
Tim Shaw
Alan Terricciano
Christopher Trela
Nancy Warzer-Brady
James White
Dennis Cole
Cindy Davis
Kathy Kahn
Tammy Noreyko
Todd Smith
Debora Wondercheck

Orange County Arts Organizations that Received Relief Funding
AHRI Center, Garden Grove
Active Learning Believe & Inspire, Santa Ana
All the Arts for All the Kids, Fullerton
American Pacific Ballet Company, Santa Ana
Anaheim Ballet, Anaheim
Anifte, Inc., Irvine
Arts & Learning Conservatory, Costa Mesa
Attic Community Theatre (JD Theatricals), Santa Ana
Backhausdance, Orange
Bowers Museum, Santa Ana
Breath of Fire Latina Theatre Ensemble, Santa Ana
Broadway on Tour Children’s Theatre, Santa Ana
Cabrito Playhouse, San Clemente
Camino Real Playhouse, San Juan Capistrano
Campsite Media House, Irvine
Casa Romantica Cultural Center & Gardens, San Clemente
Chamber Music OC, Irvine
Chance Theater, Anaheim
Chemers Gallery, Inc., Tustin
Child Creativity Lab, Santa Ana
Choral Arts Initiative, Irvine
Chrisstie Vocal Studio, Tustin
Creative Identity, Anaheim
Community Leaders Praise Arts Orange County

“In these uncertain times, some arts organizations stay in place, while others move ahead and demonstrate their importance. Arts Orange County has truly risen to the challenges presented by COVID-19, by equipping local organizations with funding and educational resources.”
— Jerry Mandel, Ph.D., President, Irvine Barclay Theatre

“Arts Orange County plays a crucial role as OC’s nonprofit arts council, acting as the center of gravity for our local arts community. During the pandemic, Arts Orange County has served as a powerful champion and advocate for local artists and nonprofit arts organizations hit hardest by the pandemic, garnering resources from both the public sector and private philanthropy to provide lifelines of support when they are needed most. The Orange County Community Foundation is proud and honored to support the critical mission of Arts OC.”
— Shelley Hoss, President & CEO, Orange County Community Foundation

Above: Photo courtesy of Orange County Museum of Art (photo by Lauren Hillary).
Left: Dia del Niño, Arts Orange County.

“I am so appreciative of Arts Orange County which played a big role in securing relief funds during the COVID-19 for our arts community. The dedication and endless effort truly touches me. They are the champion!”
— Charles Zhang, Arts Patron

“a key player in the future of the arts”
“The Orange County arts ecosystem could not survive without it”
“the cornerstone of the county’s arts community”

Creative Kids Playhouse, Mission Viejo
Dana Point Symphony, Dana Point
Dance Discovery Foundation, Laguna Niguel
Dance Precisions, Anaheim
Dance Star Academy of Performing Arts, Yorba Linda
Discovery Cube, Santa Ana
EKTA Center, Irvine
El Centro Cultural de Mexico, Santa Ana
Festival Ballet Theatre, Fountain Valley
Festival of Arts and Pageant of the Masters, Laguna Beach
Focus Dance Center, Irvine
Friends of La Habra Children’s Museum, La Habra
Fullerton Museum Center Association, Fullerton
Galaxy Arts Center, Tustin
Golden Sunshine Academy, Irvine
Green Arts & Crafts, LLC, Irvine
Heritage Future, Orange
Heritage Museum of Orange County, Santa Ana
Hidden Truths Project, Newport Beach
Hirsch School of Dance Arts, Anaheim
Hope Center for the Arts, Irvine
Irvine Academies of Music LLC, Irvine
Irvine Barclay Theatre, Irvine
KidSingers, Anaheim
Kontrapunktus/A Neo-Baroque Orchestra, Seal Beach
LOCA (Laguna Outreach for Community Arts), Laguna Beach
Laguna Art Museum, Laguna Beach
Laguna Beach Live!, Laguna Beach
Laguna Dance Festival, Laguna Beach
Laguna Playhouse
Laguna Plein Air Painters Association, Laguna Beach
Le Cheng Inc., Irvine
continued
“Two years ago, Orange County Business Council highlighted this county’s competitive advantage in ‘The Art of Business and the Business of Art’ as its annual theme in recognition of the outsized role that creativity plays in the innovation economy on which this community depends. And as OCBC does for the business community, Arts Orange County serves as the leading voice for the arts community. Arts Orange County’s vigorous advocacy during the challenges posed by the COVID-19 crisis ensures that arts-related businesses, nonprofit arts organizations and artists are accorded equal consideration in the allocation of relief funds. Arts Orange County has shown that its impact far exceeds the sum of its parts, delivering great value and substance as Orange County’s nonprofit local arts agency.”
— Lucy Dunn, President & CEO, Orange County Business Council

“Arts Orange County is a steadfast ally for arts organizations and local artists here in Orange County. That support results in increased partnerships with school districts and expanded access to the arts for students and families. Arts Orange County collaborates with the Orange County Department of Education to raise awareness of the need for the arts in our schools. We are grateful to Arts Orange County for its leadership and partnership and look forward to expanding our work together.”
— Dr. Al Mijares, Orange County Superintendent of Schools

“Arts Orange County continues to play a significant role in galvanizing the community around support, participation and advocacy for the arts and arts education.”
— Paula Tomei, Managing Director, South Coast Repertory

“an indispensable partner”
“a unique and vital resource”
“its impact far exceeds the sum of its parts”
“the center of gravity for our local arts community”
“Arts Orange County has long been an indispensable partner to Segerstrom Center for the Arts. Its leadership in the County has been particularly evident this year, as Arts OC has tirelessly advocated for arts & culture relief funding in the face of profound challenges due to COVID-19. The Center is immensely grateful for Arts OC’s real-time dissemination of vital information, guidance in navigating the varied and complex paths to funding resources, and thoughtful understanding of the unique challenges and needs of our sector. As a community devoted to the arts as a source of hope and humanity, Arts OC is a unifying voice, uplifting and amplifying our collective efforts.”
— Casey Reitz, President, Segerstrom Center for the Arts

“Arts Orange County has developed into the cornerstone of the county’s arts community. As a tool for connections and communication, ArtsOC is uniquely positioned to be both a support and an advocate for the arts, from the county’s largest venues to its smallest artist studio. There simply isn’t anything remotely like it in Orange County.”
— Dr. Stephen Barker, Dean, Claire Trevor School of the Arts, University of California, Irvine

“As a smaller nonprofit that has been promoting the arts in the Orange County community for over 25 years, VAALA has been grateful for the thought partnership and services that Arts OC has given us. Arts OC’s network and support of VAALA has been crucial to our capacity-building and growth efforts over the past few years.”
— Yvonne Tran, Board President, Vietnamese American Arts and Letters Association (VAALA)

“Arts OC is a valuable community asset which advocates to raise awareness of the importance of the sector’s impact in: building a high quality, vibrant and healthy arts community, fueling the creative economy in California, focusing on arts education initiatives and ensuring human services needs are met through arts interventions for the most vulnerable in our region.”
— Dawn Reese, Chief Executive Officer, The Wooden Floor

“Orange County is home to a burgeoning movement of art that serves a diverse community. The value of these artists and organizations is clearly understood and supported by Arts Orange County.”
— Marlene Peña-Marin, Artistic Director, Relámpago del Cielo Grupo Folklorico

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“they are the champion!”
“ensure the arts are front-and-center in the minds of the community”
“a steadfast ally”

Relámpago del Cielo Folkloric Dance Co.,
Santa Ana
RYTMO Reaching Youth Through Music, Anaheim
Santa Ana Business Council, Santa Ana
Sawdust Festival, Laguna Beach
Second Baptist Church, Santa Ana
Segerstrom Center for the Arts, Costa Mesa
South Coast Chinese Cultural Association, Irvine
South Coast Repertory, Costa Mesa
South Coast Symphony, North Tustin
Southern California Children’s Chorus, Irvine
Stage Door Repertory Theatre, Anaheim
STAGEStheatre, Fullerton

Surfing Heritage and Cultural Center,
San Clemente
The All-American Boys Chorus, Santa Ana
The Festival Singers, Rancho Santa Margarita
The Frida Cinema, Santa Ana
The Muckenthaler Center, Fullerton
The Rock, Anaheim
The Silence is Broken, Monarch Beach
The Wayward Artist Theatre Company, Santa Ana
The Wooden Floor, Santa Ana
Thistle Academy of Irish Dance, Orange
Top Hat 8 Repertory, Tustin

Tustin Area Council for Fine Arts, Tustin
Viet Cam Dance, Westminster
Vietnamese American Arts & Letters Assoc., Fountain Valley
Vintage Suits by Mary, Orange
Walk for Art, Anaheim
Well Beings Studio, Santa Ana
WePlay Music, Irvine
Westminster Community Playhouse, Westminster
Wyland Foundation, Rancho Santa Margarita
Yorba Linda Spotlight Theater Company, Yorba Linda
Young Rembrandts DBA of Syen LLC, Tustin
“Arts Orange County uniquely provides a much-needed role as Orange County’s only County-wide arts council.”
— Peter C. Keller, President, Bowers Museum

“Arts OC is a unique and vital resource for our community—every county should have such an organization to advocate for the arts which enhance our daily lives.”
— Craig Wells, President, Board of Trustees, Orange County Museum of Art

“The Orange County arts ecosystem could not survive without the committed support, dedication, and leadership of Arts Orange County.”
— Andrew Brown, President & CEO, Pacific Chorale

“Its major accomplishments include effective advocacy for CARES relief funding at a time when cultural institutions are extremely impacted. We are grateful for their presence and committed to supporting their fantastic work.”
— John Forsyte, President, Pacific Symphony

25 years
Arts
Orange County

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