

ANNUAL REPORT 2012-2013



THE LOS ANGELES MUSIC AND ART SCHOOL

STARS FOR THE ARTS 2013



This year the annual Stars for the Arts Benefit Concert took place at the prestigious Eli and Edythe Broad Stage in Santa Monica on Saturday, September 7, 2013. The program featured an exciting lineup of performances by the Los Angeles Philanthropic Committee for the Arts (LAPCA) Youth Orchestra, the LAMusArt Choral Ensemble, the KIPP LA Raíces Academy Music Outreach Partnership Program, student Azucena Ortega, and starred baritone Marcelo Guzzo accompanied by pianist Jeremy Frank and bandoneonista Mariano Dugatkin. Emmy award-winning CBS2/KCAL9 co-anchors Sharon Tay and Rick Garcia emceed the evening's event.

Below: Mr. and Mrs. Rick Garcia, Isela Sotelo, Sharon Tay; Frank Sanchez, George Ramirez, Jane and Lou Castruccio.



A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



It is with great excitement and enthusiasm that I welcome you to LAMusArt's 2012–2013 Annual Report. Our legacy continues to grow. Sixty-eight years later, and over 100,000 students served, we've only just begun, and together with your continued support, our future looks bright.

All of us at LAMusArt take great pride in belonging to an arts organization that is invested in the long-term success of its students. As the only multi-arts organization serving greater East Los Angeles, our presence is vital to the well-being and future success of our community's youth.

Our success in engaging youth and families in our music, visual arts, dance, theatre, and ensemble programs, is due in part to our welcoming and nurturing space that helps to create a feeling of belonging where students can make new friends, and where supportive teaching artists provide inspiring learning opportunities to guide students in the exploration of their unique talents. Furthermore, LAMusArt engages our community through exhibitions and performances that enhance the students' skills and captivate thousands of people each year.

All this is made possible by our generous supporters, stakeholders, the leadership of our Board of Directors, staff and our dedicated parents. As you will see in our report, more than ever we are fully committed to providing youth with a gateway to higher education and personal success through education in the arts.

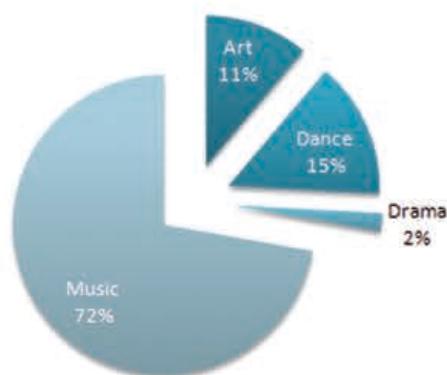
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Isela Sotelo". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Isela Sotelo
Executive Director



WHO WE ARE

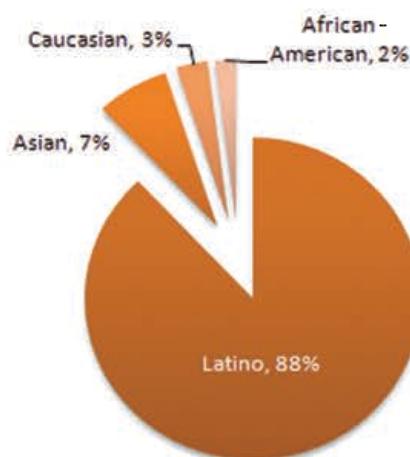
The Los Angeles Music and Art School (LAMusArt) was founded in 1945 by Ms. Pearle Irene Odell, a visionary arts educator who devoted her life to opening doors for the underserved children of East Los Angeles through exposure and training in the arts. Over seven decades, LAMusArt has provided 100,000 children and youth with quality cross-disciplinary arts education, creating many generations of alumni whose life paths have been undeniably impacted by LAMusArt's investment in their creative, social and academic success during their critical formative years. In a community that has one of the highest populations of children under ten, over half of whom reach adulthood with no form of higher education, LAMusArt plays an increasingly vital role in improving high school graduation rates and combating juvenile delinquency. Our school is a haven that offers hope in the face of these challenges by providing youth with a safe, healthy, supportive emotional environment and trained instructors who serve as mentors, teaching content relative to children's needs while providing the stability so often absent in the lives of inner-city youth.



WHAT WE DO

LAMusArt offers sequential, multidisciplinary, quality individual and group arts training during non-school hours to all students, regardless of age, ethnicity or artistic aptitude. As the only multi-discipline arts school in East Los Angeles, we are constantly improving and reinventing our programming to seamlessly fuse both instruction and performance opportunities across all disciplines. Students are instructed by a staff of teachers who are truly invested in the lives and futures of their students while bringing their own spark of enthusiasm and creativity to the classroom. Students are also given ample opportunity throughout the year to shine onstage as they gain self-confidence, poise and experience during LAMusArt's diverse and multifaceted recitals, concerts or programs.

Our tuition is set at affordable levels to facilitate access for students of all socioeconomic groups to partake in the invaluable arts exposure and exploration that we offer. Fees represent a 40% discount in the form of financial assistance that is provided to every student who attends LAMusArt. In addition to providing discounted tuition rates to all students, LAMusArt provides financial assistance based on need and merit to an average of 38 students each month. In fiscal year 2012–2013 we awarded a total of \$15,000 in need and merit-based financial assistance.



WHO WE SERVE

LAMusArt is dedicated to the underserved but vibrant community of greater East Los Angeles, impacting approximately 605 students each month. Approximately 95% of our students reside in the city and county of Los Angeles, predominantly in the communities of East Los Angeles, Boyle Heights, Downtown and South Los Angeles neighborhoods, including the adjacent communities of Montebello, Monterey Park and Whittier. 70% of our students come from low/moderate income homes, and our student population reflects the people we serve: 88% Latino, 7% Asian, 3% Caucasian and 2% African-American.

Approximately two-thirds of our children qualify for free/reduced lunch in school and 22% come from households receiving some sort of government assistance, with the average household income being \$34,000. Our students face these and other challenges, including gang-related violence and high dropout rates. By providing invaluable and life-affirming arts education and activities, we offer children a world beyond what their outside communities have to offer.

"As you begin to realize that every different type of music, everybody's individual music, has its own rhythm, life, language and heritage, you realize how life changes, and you learn how to be more open and adaptive to what is around us." —Yo-Yo Ma

MUSIC

In LAMusArt's music program, students have the opportunity to grow in musicianship through sequential, individualized training as they are matched with one of 20 highly skilled teaching artists who are graduates of local and nationally acclaimed universities and music conservatories. Instruction is offered in piano, guitar, percussion, strings, brass, woodwinds and voice and is open to students of all experience and skill levels. Weekly lessons are designed to build the skills, sense of discipline and appreciation for music that studies show will benefit students for the rest of their lives. Recitals and school-wide programs, such as Stars for the Arts and Concierto de Primavera, offer our young people opportunities to share their progress and achievements with family and friends. In 2012–2013, the Music Program served an average of 305 students per month and provided 935 individual lessons monthly. Furthermore, tuition-free participation in our Orchestra Program, Choral Program and String Outreach Partnership Program has served 102 students.



Students also participate in the Music Masters Test (formerly known as LAMusArt Annual Musicianship Exam) and have the chance to enter our annual Jack Gard Music Competition and Awards Recital for the chance to receive music scholarships. In order to go beyond private lessons, we offer tuition-free programs that enhance and supplement students' musical experiences through ensemble work. The LAPCA Youth Orchestra and the LAMusArt Youth Choral Ensemble involve over 80 young musicians and vocalists per year, and offer an opportunity for younger students to learn from more experienced students, while developing the collaboration skills and teamwork that LAMusArt strives to foster in all students.

LAPCA YOUTH ORCHESTRA

Completing its fifth successful year, the LAPCA Youth Orchestra, sponsored by the Los Angeles Philanthropic Committee for the Arts, is growing and developing in exciting ways. Under the direction of Dr. Gideon Rubin, the orchestra has grown to an all-time high of 45 students ranging in ages 12–21, and with increased recruitment efforts slated for 2014, the goal is to grow the orchestra membership to 55 students. Dr. Rubin and his team of sectional coaches facilitate a creative and inspiring community where students are introduced to a rich variety of orchestral repertoire and arrangements tailored to increase the students' playing skills and knowledge of a variety of musical genres. Peer interaction and friendship, have also been key in developing the orchestra's culture of mutual respect and in the creation of a collaborative music making environment.

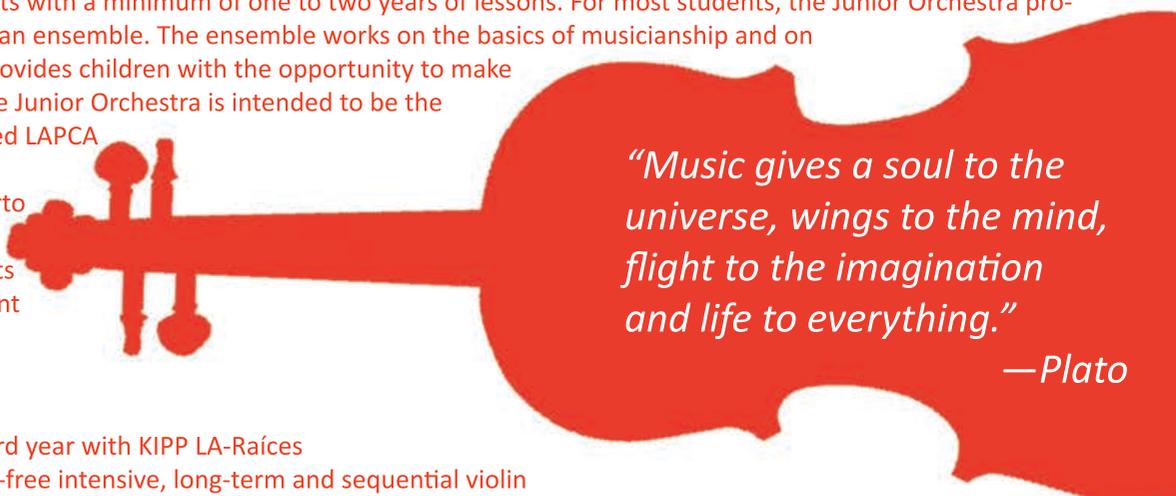
The LAPCA Youth Orchestra performs at a variety of concerts throughout the year, including our Concierto de Primavera held at the East Los Angeles College Performing Arts Center, and at our Stars for the Arts Benefit Concert which is held every year at the Edythe and Eli Broad Stage in Santa Monica. LAMusArt is honored to have a growing orchestra program that is thriving and providing countless hours of music enjoyment to our students, families and to our community.

LAPCA JUNIOR ORCHESTRA

Last year, due to the overwhelming interest of our younger students wanting to play in an ensemble, LAMusArt created the LAPCA Junior Orchestra for beginning string students 8–12 years of age. The Junior Orchestra is an introductory ensemble that consists primarily of beginning violin and cello students with a minimum of one to two years of lessons. For most students, the Junior Orchestra provided their first opportunity to play in an ensemble. The ensemble works on the basics of musicianship and on beginning orchestra repertoire, and provides children with the opportunity to make music with their friends and peers. The Junior Orchestra is intended to be the feeder orchestra for the more advanced LAPCA Youth Orchestra. This past year, the Junior Orchestra performed at Concierto de Primavera, LAMusArt's spring concert, as well as the Stars for the Arts Benefit Concert alongside other student artists from LAMusArt.

STRING OUTREACH PROGRAM

The String Outreach Program, in its third year with KIPP LA-Raíces Academy, provides 49 weeks of tuition-free intensive, long-term and sequential violin and cello instruction for 48 third, fourth and fifth grade students. Students in the program receive instruction during in-school hours at Raíces Academy and at LAMusArt on Saturday mornings. Six of these students have been in the program for three consecutive years. Instruments are provided on loan to every student to facilitate participation and at-home practice. In addition, the students perform in LAMusArt concerts and recitals for the joy of their family and friends. We are extremely honored to be partnering with KIPP LA Schools and to have the support of KIPP LA Schools Executive Director Marcia Aaron, who states, "Our students are thriving in the program and many of our first students are continuing on as they enter middle school. Through the program, our students have developed greater responsibility, poise, and confidence. We hope to continue our partnership for many years to come."



"Music gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination and life to everything."

—Plato

VISUAL ART

*"To create one's world in any of the arts takes courage."
—Georgia O'Keeffe*

LAMusArt's Visual Arts department offers students small group classes beginning at age five and continuing through adulthood. The small class sizes ensure individualized instruction during which teachers gauge student development and adjust curriculum according to each student's individual progress. Students also grow personally from the opportunity to learn from peers and their techniques. All classes place emphasis on creative exploration, expression and development. Our instructors' expertise in their field allows them to provide students with a challenging and progressive curriculum that ensures that all students succeed in their artistic development. Each year, students display their work at Art Night, an event that engages students, parents, staff and a guest speaker in discussions and appreciation of both student art and art in the greater community.



P.A.I.N.T.

In its second year, P.A.I.N.T. (Promoting and Inspiring New Talent) is dedicated to fostering the development of our next generation of visual artists beyond core classroom instruction. With P.A.I.N.T., we offer young artists the opportunity to articulate their vision and represent themselves as artists through public speaking master classes and guided reflection on their inspirations. We reach out to the community for support and display opportunities in order to demonstrate our confidence in our young artists' work. We believe that by displaying and encouraging the purchase of these aspiring artists' work, we are instilling in them the value of art and the self-confidence to represent themselves as artists. Nothing can compare to the knowledge that their voices are being heard and that their self-expression through art is meaningful to the larger community.

*"I paint my own reality.
The only thing I know is that I paint
because I need to, and I paint
whatever passes through my head
without any other consideration."*

—Frida Kahlo

DANCE

LAMusArt is fortunate to have highly professional and dedicated teachers who invest in the personal development of over 86 young dancers per year. Students can begin exploring movement at age four with our Pre-Ballet class, develop and fine-tune ballet skills in our multi-level, comprehensive ballet program, and explore other forms of dance by enrolling in hip-hop and jazz classes. Each year, private recitals and fully produced shows give dancers the invaluable chance to showcase talent, skills and progress while developing self-confidence. Whether onstage or in the studio, dance offers an opportunity for young people to develop a healthy body image and active lifestyle through movement and discipline.

Classes culminate in a public dance performance which serves as a training for their future artistic careers as they learn skills in performance etiquette, showmanship and stage presence. During our Dance Potpourri, each class has the opportunity to share their work with their families and peers. This year, over 525 family members and friends supported the youngsters as they celebrated their talent and accomplishments at the Holiday Celebration presented at the East Los Angeles College Performing Arts Center.



*“There is a vitality, a life force,
an energy, a quickening that is
translated through you into
action, and because there is only
one of you in all time, this
expression is unique. And if you
block it, it will never exist
through any other medium and
will be lost.”
—Martha Graham*





DRAMA

LAMusArt features a fast-growing Drama Department with weekly workshops that expose children as young as age 7 to the art of acting. Young people learn basic dramatic skills such as creating characters, reading and memorizing lines and stage direction. Students are exposed to advanced skills that challenge their development as actors, such as the art of improvisation and scene and character analysis. Audition techniques and some set design elements are part of the course as well and prepare students to enter the world of the theatre as well-rounded potential actors and individuals with increased self-confidence. Dramatic arts instill empathy in students as they explore characters through scene exercises and gain both interpersonal and intrapersonal skills. This year, students worked on presenting *Snow White* to friends and family. In this production, students collaborated as young artists by using skills learned during drama classes to present their craft before a live audience. Students had the opportunity to transform into fantastical characters and learn what a live performance entails. They also integrated technical aspects of theatre such as costumes, sound and lighting into their performance and became familiar with technical language and theatre etiquette.

“All the best performers bring to their role something more, something different than what the author put on paper. That's what makes theatre live. That's why it persists.”

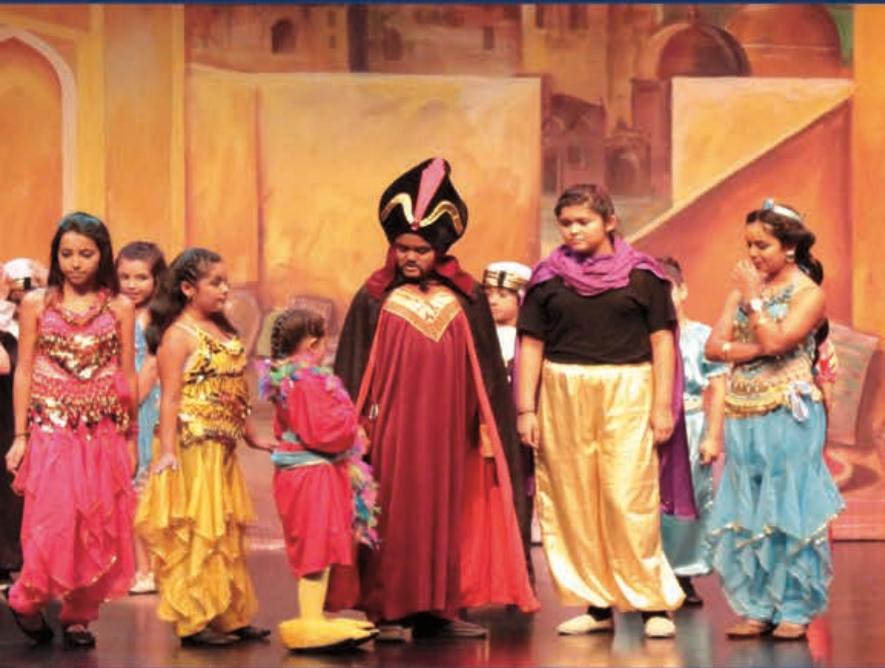
—Stephen Sondheim



2013 CAMP MUSART

Our summer intensive, Camp MusArt, offers students a safe, inspiring and unique immersive experience into the world of musical theatre through music, art, dance and drama. Students ages 7–14 explore their creativity over five weeks as they work together with their instructors to produce a musical. Many have never been onstage before, nor integrated multiple arts disciplines into one performance. They are challenged to move beyond their comfort zones and constantly amaze their instructors with their talent, bravery and willingness to learn. This year, students had the unique opportunity of performing at the East Los Angeles Community College Performing Arts Center as they presented Disney's *Aladdin Jr.* Here, students developed a fully realized sense of the professionalism and self-confidence required to put on a show. When not in classes or rehearsal, Camp MusArt students participate in special activities such as field trips and theme days, during which they exercise their originality and inventiveness creating and wearing costumes to camp. The personal growth this program facilitates in the students is remarkable and notable; their self-confidence and assurance in their skills bloom along with artistic skills as each child finds his or her passion.

Each year, the Los Angeles County Arts Commission generously provides funding to employ an instructional intern who aids the camp instructors in teaching and production. The Camp MusArt program benefits from these experienced and educated young arts professionals who have infused our organization with new ideas and creativity and have been thrilled to provide opportunities for them as members of our teaching and administrative teams.



Above Clockwise: Myles Pittman as Jafar interacts with the ensemble of *Aladdin Jr.*, Misol Botello as Aladdin poses with Lynn Selkin as Genie and Jalitza Solorzano as the Magic Carpet in the crowd favorite number *Prince Ali*. Students perform *A Whole New World* by holding famous world landmarks. Below: Ensemble performs the dazzling song *Friend Like Me*.



EFFECTIVELY USING OUR RESOURCES

As a non-profit organization dedicated to providing arts education for an underserved population, we continue to be a pillar of arts education in our community and have used the resources available to us creatively and efficiently. The organization's operating budget for fiscal year 2012–2013 (August 1, 2012 through July 31, 2013) was \$725,000. We employed seven administrative team members and 28 instructors who teach at reduced rates in an effort to provide the underserved students of East Los Angeles with access to quality arts instruction. LAMusArt received its annual funding from a balanced variety of sources which enables us to keep our tuition fees at affordable levels to allow students from all socioeconomic levels to participate in our activities. We are proud that 85 cents of every dollar raised went directly to the essential and enriching programming that is at the core of LAMusArt's mission.

Fundraising remains a vital part of LAMusArt's yearly financial plan and students and parents work alongside teachers and staff to ensure the success of the school's efforts. Annual fundraisers, such as Stars for the Arts Benefit Concert at the Broad Stage in Santa Monica and a new addition to the year, Concierto de Primavera, create professional performance opportunities for students while cultivating donors from the community. Last year, our Stars for the Arts and Concierto de Primavera events helped to raise \$80,315 in net proceeds.

From left to right: Analisa Gutierrez, Presidential Scholarship winner; Bryan Deras, California Polytechnic graduate; Coreen Ruiz, La Salle University student.



CREATIVE PATHS, CREATIVE FUTURES

The skills learned at LAMusArt provide a foundation that prepares youngsters for success in college, careers, and jobs in the 21st century workforce by developing creativity, communication, collaboration, and critical thinking skills. In essence, LAMusArt is working with youth to provide them with a Creative Path to a Creative Future.

LAMusArt staff interviewed a group of talented former LAMusArt students who are now emerging artists and arts professionals. They shared their personal success stories and described how they found their paths and are well on their way to successful creative futures. Each of the students started classes at LAMusArt at about age of 8 and continued studying with LAMusArt for an average of 10 years.

We're so proud of them and are honored to share their accomplishments with you!

Analisa Guterrez

First inspirational art experience: I have been performing since I can remember. When I was five years old I saw *Beauty and the Beast* the Musical and saw all forms of art put together, and was amazed. This was the first time I had seen a musical and was intrigued at how the music, the acting, and the dancing all came together. This is what sparked my interest in musicals. My experience with Camp MusArt was what really got me excited about performing, which eventually led me to my current career path.

Classes attended while at LAMusArt: I took piano lessons, dance and attended Camp MusArt for three years.

Art Genre: Musical Theatre

Years as a student at LAMusArt: Four years

College/University: New York University – New Studio on Broadway: Music Theatre and Acting at the Tisch School

Where she is now: I just started my degree in musical theatre at New York University. My last year in high school, I was a part of the YoungArts Program, and won the **Presidential Scholarship**.

Gustavo Herrera

First inspirational art experience: I developed a passion for the arts starting at a very young age; there was something about art that just spoke to me. I started taking music lessons at LAMusArt at the age of 11. Drums were followed by guitar lessons. I had a wonderful instructor who listened to my “musical talent.” Although music did not end up being my medium, I do believe some defining characteristics and performance art were developed during my time at LAMusArt.

Classes attended while at LAMusArt: Drums and guitar

Art Genre: Art History

Years as a student at LAMusArt: 3

College/University: University of California, Santa Barbara – double major in Business Economics and Art History; American Jewish University – Master of Business Arts

Where he is now: After a working for the Los Angeles County Museum of Art as a Exhibition and Budget Administrator, I worked for the Maestro Foundation, a classical and performance arts organization where I worked for nearly two years. Ultimately, it was luck, fate, and a call from a former colleague at LACMA that led me to LA Plaza de Cultura y Artes (LA Plaza). LA Plaza is a new museum in Los Angeles dedicated to sharing the history of Los Angeles from the perspective of Mexicans and Mexican Americans. We are a proud member of the LA County network of cultural arts centers, a Smithsonian Affiliate, and a partner of LAMusArt.

Brianna Rancour

First musical experience: I began composing at a young age when my mother bought me a keyboard when I was five. I composed my first song, “War in England” and my mom decided to sign me up at LAMusArt.

Classes attended while at LAMusArt: Piano, vocal, tap and music composition lessons. Student of Camp MusArt from ages 7 to 11.

Art Genre: Music and Music Composition

Years as a student at LAMusArt: 10+ years

Instrument: Voice; specialization in Jazz Singing

Current College/University: Azusa Pacific University

Where she is now: During the remainder of my high school years, I majored in vocal music at the Los Angeles County High School of the Arts (LACHSA) in vocal music with a focus in jazz and composition. Every year, my jazz group and I performed at the Monterey Jazz Festival. My senior year, I was the music director of my jazz group. Now, I am in my first year at Azusa Pacific University.

Bryan Deras

First inspirational art experience: Being involved in the arts at such a young really helped me to discover what I was passionate about. Even though I was involved with music, it was my art classes at LAMusArt that made me realize that I had a passion for art and led to me pursue a career in design.

Classes attended while at LAMusArt: Guitar lessons, flute lessons and art classes.

Art Genre: Art and Design

College/University: California State Polytechnic University, Pomona; I majored in Graphic Design and minored in Art History

Where he is now: I’m doing freelance work and I’m also working with Very Nice, a business consulting firm.

Bryan de Leon

First inspirational art experience: I started so young, I can’t remember my first musical experience, but I do have to say that being in *High School Musical* with Camp MusArt was by far my favorite experience.

Classes attended while at LAMusArt: Drum lessons and guitar lessons. I also was a part of Camp MusArt for seven summers.

Art Genre: Guitar, vocals, drums, composition.

Where he is now: I am now performing with my indie rock band, Kitten. We have toured with Paramore, all over Los Angeles, including The Roxy, the Gibson Amphitheater, the Troubadour and the Wiltern. This past year we have gone on a country-wide tour, including to the Fillmore in San Francisco and the Chicago Theater. We are going to continue touring with the band CarliXCX, all over the U.S. and Canada.



A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT



What a wonderfully fulfilling and rewarding experience to witness our youth flourish, which is the result of many years of hard work and commitment. As Board President of the Los Angeles Music and Art School, I often receive the accolades and recognition of many members of the community and corporate representatives, but the many accomplishments and successes described in this year's Annual Report have truly been a team effort. I proudly salute the commitment demonstrated by all of my fellow board members; the leadership of all the LAMusArt administration and teaching staff; and our loyal parents. The parents of our students are faithful to their children's dreams, respond to their wishes and encourage their aspirations at LAMusArt through creative paths that lead to creative and successful futures. Everyone involved with LAMusArt has provided a valuable gift to our students through arts education—a gift that will be cherished and appreciated for many years to come, which benefits students and families and positively impacts society and communities alike.

We now have many standout students and alumni who have benefitted from LAMusArt's artistic and culturally enriching educational experience. Our goal is to continue to invest in this constantly evolving and growing group of students and emerging artists. It is truly an honor to serve as Board President, and I respectfully and enthusiastically invite you to consider being part of this important team effort. We welcome your participation and much needed financial support and thank you in advance for investing in our mission of providing a high standard of arts education to our youth in the community we serve.

Dr. Efraín Garza Fuentes
LAMusArt Board President
Director, Corporate Diversity
The Walt Disney Company



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

From left to right: John Odell (Treasurer), Jane Castruccio (Secretary), Rossina Gallegos, Isela Sotelo (Executive Director), Nancy Sanchez, Audre Slater, David Barry (President Emeritus), John Echeveste, Anna Park, Sandra Hahn and Leticia Lozano.

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We would like to thank the individuals and organizations below for their contributions between August 1, 2012 – July 31, 2013. Your consistent generosity and unwavering support is the heartbeat of our organization. Thank you, for investing in our students and in the community we serve.

CONTRIBUTORS, \$500–\$999

Dr. Carmella S. Franco,
California Superintendents Association
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Isela Sotelo
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Tiffany Cruz
Torres Family
Wendy Chung
Yung Cheng Fang

FINANCIAL REPORT

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

For the year ended July 31, 2013
Audited by Meadows & Fries, CPA

Assets	
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$591,087.00
Investments	\$492,000.00
Promises to Give, Long Term	\$142,050.00
Prepaid Expenses and Other	\$7,869.00
Depreciation & Equipment	\$1,261,952.00
Less Accumulated Depreciation	

Total Assets **\$2,494,958.00**

Liabilities and Net Assets	
Current Liabilities	\$110,058.00
Unrestricted Net Assets	\$1,345,325.00
Temporarily Restricted Net assets	\$1,039,575.00
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$2,494,958.00

Support & Revenue	
Program Fees	\$359,770.00
Corporations / Foundations	\$151,537.00
Individuals	\$80,325.00
Special Events (Net Direct Expenses)	\$80,315.00
Interest and Other Income	\$4,841.00
Total Support & Revenue	\$676,788.00

Expenses (Includes Depreciation of \$8,944)	
Program Services	\$597,190.00
Management & General	\$60,961.00
Fundraising	\$26,011.00
Total Expenses	\$684,162.00

Net Assets, Beginning of Year	\$2,392,274.00
Change in Net Assets	\$(7,374.00)
Net Assets, End of Year	\$2,384,900.00

*"Music is a moral law. It gives soul to the universe,
wings to the mind, flight to the imagination, and
charm and gaiety to life and to everything."*

—Plato





Analise Hoveyda

Current status: I am enjoying performing in singing competitions and special events like the White Memorial Medical Center Gala, the Cinco de Mayo Festival at La Placita Olvera and the CBS Chips for Kids Toy Drive. My favorite place to perform is at the Shoreline Village in Long Beach.

Classes taken at LAMusArt: I take voice lessons and I'm also a member of the choir. For the past two summers, I have been a part of CampMusArt.

Reason for joining LAMusArt: I was diagnosed with childhood apraxia and went to speech therapy for four years. Part of what helped me overcome my speech disorder was singing. That's when I began taking classes at LAMusArt.

Years attending LAMusArt: Two years!

School: Rio Hondo Elementary School

Age: 9



Samantha Fang

Current status: I just started my first year at Los Angeles County High School of the Arts, and I'm proud to be attending LACHSA's piano department. I am also a member of the California Scholarship Federation and the LAPCA Youth Orchestra.

Classes taken at LAMusArt: Tap, voice, flute, piano, choir and orchestra.

Years attending LAMusArt: I've been attending LAMusArt for six or seven years. I started when I was eight with Dr. Gideon's piano lessons.

School: freshman at Los Angeles County High School of the Arts (LACHSA)

Age: 16



Tiffany Cruz

Current status: I currently play violin in the Plaza de la Raza Youth Mariachi Ensemble. I'm also singing in churches and performing on the hit TV show, El Factor X on El Mundo Fox.

Classes taken at LAMusArt: Violin lessons and singing lessons

Reason for starting at LAMusArt: I started playing music when I was eight years old with a mariachi band. I needed a place to continue to develop my skills and started at LAMusArt by taking violin lessons and singing lessons.

Years attending LAMusArt: Four years.

School: 32nd Street/USC Magnet High School

Age: 12



Rodolfo Cerda

Current status: I hope to continue my passion for music by pursuing a career as a musician. I am still playing a lot and my current influences are Macklemore, Mana, The Dirty Heads and Mac Miller.

Classes taken at LAMusArt: Guitar lessons!

Reason for joining LAMusArt: I really wanted a guitar, and when my parents finally got one, I enrolled right away at LAMusArt.

Memorable performances: I love performing, and LAMusArt definitely opened up doors to great opportunities. I performed at the Stars for the Arts Benefit Concert at the Broad Stage in Santa Monica and in various school recitals. I also competed in LAMusArt's annual Jack Gard Competition.

Years attending LAMusArt: Seven years

School: Arroyo High School

Age: 17

LAMUSArt

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CREATIVE PATHS, CREATIVE FUTURES!