



LAMusArt
Los Angeles Music and Art School



2025

ANNUAL REPORT

A Message from Our Board of Directors

Cynthia Pearson - Board President



On behalf of the Board of Directors, I am delighted to welcome our new Executive Director, Daniel A. Almanza, to LAMusArt.

Following thorough search process, Daniel was selected for his exceptional leadership, strategic insight, and deep commitment to our mission and our community. Daniel's experience, thoughtfulness, and collaborative spirit make him the perfect person to guide our organization into its next chapter.

With Daniel leading the way, we will build upon our solid foundations, strengthen partnerships, and advance the impact of our programs in meaningful and measurable ways. Please join me in welcoming Daniel as Executive Director. We are excited about the energy, experience, and leadership he brings, and we look forward to the progress we will achieve together in the year ahead.

Daniel joins LAMusArt at an exciting time. As you can see from this report, our past year has been filled with joy and creativity. Thank you to our community for a wonderful 2025!

Daniel A. Almanza - Executive Director

Daniel A. Almanza is an impact-focused leader who delivers results through strategic support. With nearly 20 years of experience in arts-focused educational leadership and nonprofit management as a director, advisor, and fully credentialed teacher, he leverages his expertise in grantmaking, portfolio management, and department leadership to guide district, school, and nonprofit leaders. Daniel has built award-winning arts programs serving thousands of students, led statewide grantmaking, and even developed an innovative AI tool that safeguarded millions in state education funding. A native Angeleno from East Los Angeles who never forgets where he comes from, his career is dedicated to advancing academic and economic mobility opportunities for culturally rich communities. Daniel approaches his work with a combination of head and heart, using business acumen and community insight to drive measurable impact across California's education and arts sectors. He earned a Master of Science in Business and a Bachelor's in Music Education from the University of Southern California (USC) and is a Riordan Leadership Institute Fellow.





LAMusArt
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At a Glance

Camp MusArt: Willy Wonka Jr. Cast



In fiscal year 2025, LAMusArt continued to provide access to high-quality arts education across East Los Angeles.

22,765

Lessons Provided

4,086

Tuition-Free
Lessons Provided

276

Scholarships Awarded

620

Unduplicated
Students Served

1,637

Audience Members
Engaged

35

Community Events and
Performances Held

37

Total Programs Offered

10%

Increase in Tuition-Free
Lessons Provided

81

Years in Operation!

MISSION, VISION & VALUES

MISSION

The Los Angeles Music and Art School (LAMusArt) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit arts organization whose mission is to offer the community of East Los Angeles, primarily its K-12 population, with equitable and affordable access to multidisciplinary arts education programs.

VISION & VALUES

We believe affordable and equitable arts education strengthens students and communities by expanding one's world outlook, sharpening one's creative skills, and contributing to one's social, behavioral, and academic development. We aim to diversify the creative landscape of LA by providing equitable opportunities for our youth community to experience success and safety through the arts.



Camp MusArt: Willy Wonka Jr. Cast

HISTORY & WHO WE SERVE

LAMusArt was founded by educator and philanthropist, Pearle Irene Odell in 1945. Odell envisioned a creative resource for the youngsters of East LA that addressed the need for affordable arts education in the area. The organization began as a pay-what-you-can music school, providing lessons in various instruments out of two Victorian homes in Boyle Heights. In the 1960s, LAMusArt broke ground on the facility we call home today, and has since expanded to offer music, art, dance, and drama instruction to hundreds of students annually.

Today, LAMusArt is committed to providing accessible creative education to underrepresented communities in East Los Angeles and beyond.



STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS AND ACCESS INDICATORS

98%

Students of Color

75%

Low-Moderate Income Households

63%

Hear of us through word of mouth or walking in

Honoring 80 years of LAMusArt



Art I Class

In celebration of its 80th year, LAMusArt launched **The Art of Impact**, a campaign to highlight and strengthen programs, expand access, and celebrate the power of art to transform lives.

At the heart of this campaign is a permanent mosaic installation in our building's lobby. This Community Mosaic has been conceived and designed by a local artist-in-residence and stands as a representation of the unity within our community. This dynamic, diverse, and deeply interconnected mosaic has brought together donors from many spaces, including foundations, alumni, staff, and parents of students.

With the generosity of our supporters, one panel of the installation has already been filled. We look forward to expanding this campaign into the new year and showcasing this testament to how together we form a vibrant, unified whole.

To leave your mark on our collective legacy, please visit www.LAMusArt.org/80years or contact 80years@LAMusArt.org.



As a companion to the Community Mosaic, LAMusArt will install **The Dream Keeper**, a sculptural vessel co-designed by students and artists. No donation is required for anyone who walks through our doors to contribute reflections, creative expressions, and hopes for themselves.

Throughout this upcoming year, community members are invited to drop messages inside the installation to build a shared narrative that reflects the diversity and spirit of East LA.



LAMusArt String Ensemble: Winter Concert

OUR PROGRAMS



Camp MusArt Dance Class

MUSIC

The Music department consists of one-on-one private lessons in over 8 different instruments and vocal styles; the Tuition-Free Music Ensembles program, and our seasonal 10-week-long Audio Engineering program.



ART

The Visual Art program offers group classes focusing on creative exploration through drawing, painting, and sculpture. Each week, eleven art classes, divided into three age groups, meet for an hour and a half.



DANCE

The Dance program hosts weekly group classes in various styles, such as ballet and hip hop, starting at age 4. Each class performs a set at our annual Dance Showcase.



DRAMA

The Drama program features our weekly group acting classes and Camp MusArt, our summer arts program. There are four weekly group classes divided into two different age groups with both programs culminate in productions.



HIGHLIGHTS

Reflecting on our continued focus on access, artistic excellence, and community connection.

CELEBRATION

Our 80th Birthday Bash commemorated a golden milestone for our organization. Community members were invited to performances by our Tuition-Free Ensembles in a courtyard celebration, which also featured churros, games, raffles, and other activities!



PARTNERSHIP

LAMusArt partnered with the Eastern Los Angeles Regional Center in an effort to provide more students with access to equitable arts education.



EXPANDED ACCESS

Our Tuition-Free Choir Ensemble expanded into two classes: Youth Choir and Advanced Choir.



www.LAMUSART

**EXPANDED
PERFORMANCE
OPPORTUNITIES**

Our Choir Ensembles hosted their second full audience annual Halloween Concert, which featured members in costume performing spooky music!



**PROFESSIONAL
COLLABORATIONS**

Members of the LAMusArt Choir had the opportunity to participate in a special project with East LA band Ozomatli!



**CREATIVE
COMMUNITY**

Our annual Teaching Artist Showcase took place in November!

**PROFESSIONAL
COLLABORATIONS**

Our Advanced Choir shined during their performance alongside The Esquires Big Band at our annual Stars for the Arts gala.



Consistent monthly workshops allowed for unique class experiences to take place at our facility, such as Danza Azteca, yoga, and an audition workshop.



LAMusArt Youth Choir: Summer Concert

OUR SUPPORTERS

\$50,000+

- Four Friends Foundation
- Louis and Jane Castruccio
- Perenchio Foundation
- Snap Foundation
- The Colburn Foundation
- The Rose Hills Foundation

\$25,000-\$49,000

- BCM Foundation
- LA County Department of Arts & Culture
- The Ahmanson Foundation
- The Durfee Foundation
- The Jo Mitchell Foundation
- The Ralph M. Parsons Foundation
- The Shay Family Foundation

\$10,000-\$24,999

- Adams-Mastrovich Family Foundation
- California Arts Council
- California Community Foundation
- Eastside Arts Initiative
- Find Your Light Foundation
- National Endowment For The Arts
- US Bank
- William C. Bannerman Foundation

\$5,000-\$9,999

- Jerry and Lois Gomez
- KXLA TV
- Nancy E. Barton Foundation
- Pasadena Showcase House For The Arts

\$1,000-\$4,999

- Carmella S Franco
- Carolyn A. Castruccio
- Citizens Bank
- Cynthia Pearson
- Daisy Salas
- Dolores Diaz Carrey
- Donna and Michael Okane
- Edward Pearson
- Ervin Cohen & Jessup LLP
- Friars Charitable Foundation
- Jasmine Ako
- Linda Chou
- Lucas, Horsfall, Murphy & Pindroh, LLP
- Manuel Prieto
- Mattel
- Michelle Voetberg
- NBCUniversal
- Pedro Melo-Perez
- Sandra Renteria Garcia
- Tatania Minguet
- The Mockingbird Foundation

\$500-\$999

- Ariel Improta
- Crepes and Grapes Cafe LLC
- Danielle Chaikin
- David Werbelow and Jeannie Flint
- Eric Barela
- Frank Tinajero
- Isela Sotelo
- Jane McPherson
- John Okita
- Raising Cane's
- William Minguet

\$150-\$499

- Agatha Ladd
- Andrew Kim
- Anna Gumpert
- Charities Aid Foundation America
- Connor Flanagan
- David Russell
- Goldhirsh Foundation
- Grace Carmona
- Jesus Reyes
- Judith and Richard Graham
- Kathy Marshall
- King Taco
- PayPal Giving Fund
- Pledgeling Foundation
- Reny Sultan
- Tahnee Freda
- The Weingart Foundation
- Virginia Thornton
- William Chandler



Support LAMusArt!

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Statement of Financial Position for the year-end July 31, 2025

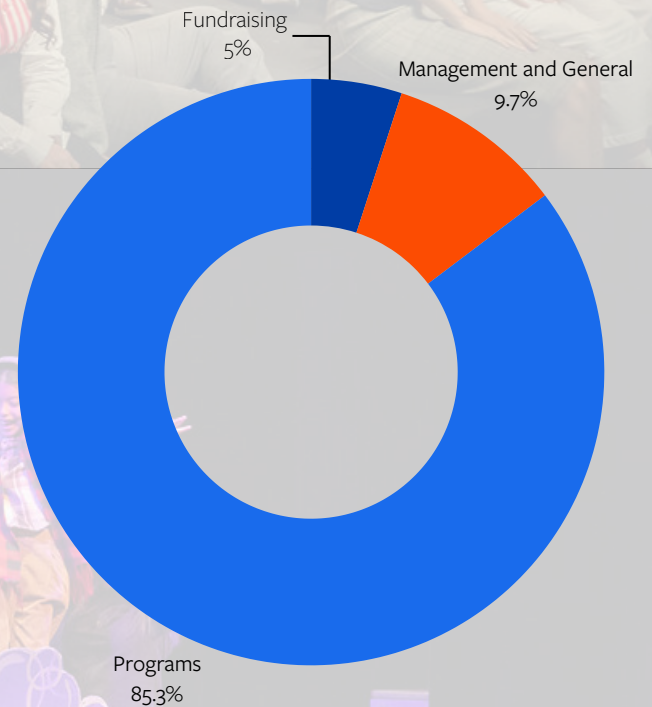
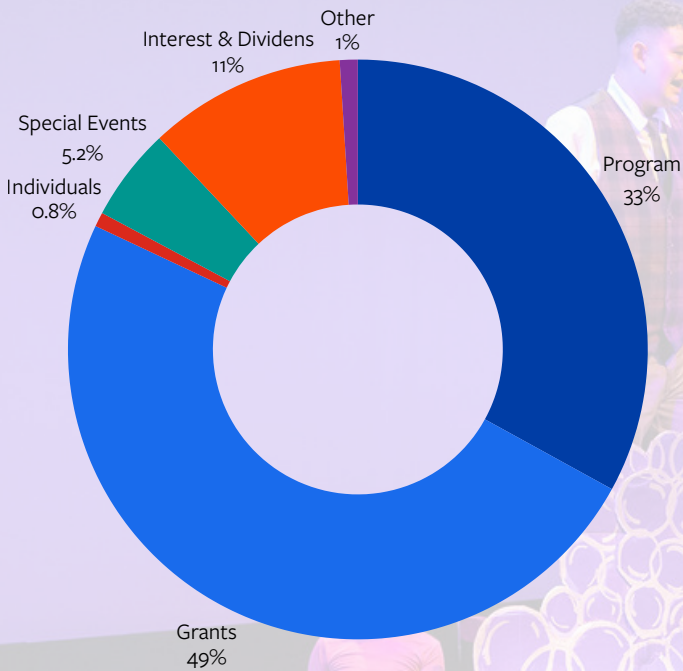
Audited by John R. Fries, PC

SUPPORT & REVENUE

Program Fees	\$420,577
Grants	\$628,616
Individuals	\$9,634
Special Events (net)	\$66,884
Interest & Dividends	\$142,930
Other Income	\$13,538
Total Support & Revenue	\$1,282,179

EXPENSES

Program Expenses	\$927,774
Management & General	\$105,529
Fundraising	\$55,405
Total Expenses	\$1,088,308





LAMusArt

Los Angeles Music and Art School

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📞 323-262-7734

✉️ StayInTune@LAMusArt.org

🌐 www.LAMusArt.org

📷 @LAMusArt

TEACHING ARTISTS

ALEC ANDERSON-CARRASCO	Drama
ANNA ANTONIAN	Violin
ARTURO GONZALEZ	Hip Hop
BEN ZURIER	Drums
BRENDAN WHITE	Piano
BRIDGET RISEMBERG	Guitar
DIANA ORTIZ	Visual Art
EMILY NASTELIN	Trumpet
ERIC LINNES-BAGLEY	Piano, Violin & Voice
ISAAC JOHNSON	Piano, Orchestra & Strings
ISAAC LOPEZ	Woodwinds & Jazz Ensemble
JAMES HOBER	Guitar
JOAN FRICKE	Ballet
JONATHAN PEREZ	Guitar & Voice
JUAN GAMEZ	Piano
JULIAN KIM	Piano
LESLIE AUGUSTINE	Ballet
MANA AZIMI	Piano
MATTHEW DE LA TORRE	Woodwinds
MELINA ADRAGNA	Voice, Youth Choir & Advanced Choir
MICHAEL BASAK	Percussion Coach
MICHAEL MENDE	Drums
NADIA APONTE	Piano & Audio Engineering
NIEVES WINSLOW	Visual Art
NICHOLAS MENDEZ	Piano
REED CAMPBELL	Drama
RUBI CASTILLO	Piano, Violin & Mariachi Ensemble
SUZETTE RODRIGUEZ	Visual Art
TARA SANCHEZ	Drama, Early Childhood Music, Piano & Voice
TIANA ALVAREZ	Dance

STAFF

- DANIEL A. ALMANZA – Executive Director
- RENY SULTAN – Business Manager
- ANGIE SANON – Senior Manager of Operations
- MARLENE GRAJEDA – Programs Manager
- MARISA DE LOS SANTOS – Development Manager
- JADE CAGALAWAN - Grant Writer
- LESLIE SWADENER – Communications Coordinator
- LUISANGEL OSORIO – Programs Assistant
- NATALEE PARK – LACDAC Intern
- JUAN DUBON – Custodian
- EVANGELINA CORDERO – Custodian

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- CYNTHIA PEARSON – Chair
- JASMINE AKO – Vice Chair
- JANE CASTRUCCIO – Secretary
- NANCY AMBROSSI – Treasurer
- DAISY SALAS – Member
- MICHELLE VOETBERG – Member
- POOJA NAIR – Member
- TATANIA MINGUET – Member



YOUNG PROFESSIONALS ADVISORY BOARD

- SUVAI GUNASEKARAN
- JOYCE KIM
- SANDRO MARRERO
- KARIS STEPHEN

