

From: Cory Allen <cory.allen@presidiohq.com>

Sent: Tuesday, April 9, 2024 2:17 PM

To: Council District 1 <District1@longbeach.gov>; Council District 2 <District2@longbeach.gov>; Council District 3 <District3@longbeach.gov>; Council District 4 <District4@longbeach.gov>; Council District 5 <District5@longbeach.gov>; Council District 6 <District6@longbeach.gov>; Council District 7 <District7@longbeach.gov>; Council District 8 <District8@longbeach.gov>; Council District 9 <District9@longbeach.gov>; Mayor <Mayor@longbeach.gov>; City Manager <CityManager@longbeach.gov>; CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>

Cc: Griselda Suarez <griselda.suarez@artslb.org>

Subject: Item 32: Letter of Support - Arts, Culture, and Creativity Month

-EXTERNAL-

Good Afternoon,

On behalf of the Arts Council for Long Beach and our community partners, please accept this letter of support for Agenda Item 32: Recommendation to adopt a **proclamation recognizing April as Arts, Culture, and Creativity Month in the City of Long Beach.**

Best,
Cory Allen



April 9, 2024

Subject: Coalition Letter in Support of Agenda Item 32 Recognizing April as Arts, Culture, and Creativity Month

Dear Mayor and City Council Members,

We, the undersigned organizations, come together as a coalition of community leaders, arts organizations, and non-profits to express our enthusiastic support for Agenda Item 32 to officially recognize April as Arts, Culture, and Creativity Month in the City of Long Beach. This initiative mirrors the recognition by the California State Legislature since 2019 and aims to underscore the invaluable contributions that arts and culture bring to our community, as well as their significant economic impact.

The arts and culture sector is a cornerstone of economic development and community vitality, serving not only as a source of beauty and inspiration but also as a powerful engine for economic growth and employment. In Los Angeles County alone, the creative economy was responsible for generating over \$27 billion in tax revenue and supporting nearly 1,000,000 jobs in 2022. Furthermore, the investment return of every dollar spent in the Arts and Culture sector is profoundly impactful, with an estimated return of \$8, showcasing the sector's immense contribution to the economic fabric of our state and community.

By proclaiming April as Arts, Culture, and Creativity Month, the City of Long Beach will not only align with the state's recognition but also take a significant step towards elevating public awareness about the arts' economic value. This recognition is an opportunity to celebrate the diversity, creativity, and resilience of our arts community, emphasizing the role of artists, culture bearers, and creative workers as essential contributors to our society.

Moreover, this item reaffirms the City of Long Beach's commitment to fostering an environment where the arts and culture can thrive, encouraging public investment and support for the arts at both the statewide and local levels. It sends a strong message of solidarity with the arts community, recognizing their role as critical second responders in our state's economic and social ecosystems.

We believe that the official recognition of April as Arts, Culture, and Creativity Month will not only enhance the visibility of the arts and culture sector but also encourage deeper engagement and support from the public and private sectors, thereby ensuring a thriving future for arts and culture in Long Beach.

We urge the City Council to adopt this item and join us in celebrating the arts and culture's vital role in enriching our community and driving economic growth. Together, we can continue to foster a vibrant, creative, and inclusive city for all.

Thank you for considering this important agenda item.

Sincerely,

Griselda Suarez
Executive Director
Arts Council for Long Beach

Stan DeWitt
Executive Director
Long Beach Youth Chorus

Jeanne Kyle
Treasurer
Long Beach Public Media

Jocelyn Pryor
VP of Marketing
AMPED

Chatiera Ray
Executive Creative Director
The CRayProject LLC

Romeo O. Garcia
Co-Founder
Kubo Organizing Project

Michelle Byerly
Executive Director
The Nonprofit Partnership

Kelly Ruggirello
President
Long Beach Symphony

Jessica Quintana
Executive Director
Centro CHA Inc

Trinh Mai
Fine Art Professional

Hilda Gaytan
Puente Latino Association
Executive Director

Marc N Davidson
Secretary, **Arts Council for Long Beach**
President, **OLLI, Governance Council**