



## Introduction

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2005-06 marked the California Arts Council's thirtieth year of service, a significant milestone and turning point.

A major accomplishment of the year was the development, completion and adoption of a Strategic Plan to guide us in setting future goals and programs. In the face of difficult state budgets, the Council decided to focus on three major points: Advocating more effectively for all the Arts; planning an Awareness Campaign to increase the visibility of the Arts; and Awarding grants statewide, with at least 50% of them awarded to arts in education.

The agency has a long-standing commitment to arts education and to the inclusion of Arts as a priority in California's K-12 curriculum. The Council recognizes that without arts education in schools some Californians may never be exposed to the Arts and their intrinsic and practical value.

I greatly respect the intensity of the Council's work, led by facilitator Cecilia Lynch, in mapping out our three- to five-year blueprint. We acknowledge and thank The Teichert Co., The William

and Flora Hewlett Foundation, and the Western States Arts Federation for underwriting the planning effort.

Reinforcing our commitment to local efforts, the CAC awarded 239 grants, totaling \$995,419. Arts organizations showed signs that they were not just “staying alive,” but were growing again. And with increased funding from the Arts License Plate expected for 2006-07, the future looks brighter.

A most promising pilot initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts called Poetry Out Loud was successfully implemented in Sacramento County. This memorization and recitation contest was won by Ken Huffman from Elk Grove High School, who represented California at the national contest in Washington, D.C. Poetry Out Loud will be expanded throughout California’s high schools in the future.

Thank you, Chair Marcy Friedman and dedicated Council members, as well as staff and the Arts field, for your constant support of the Arts in California.

Here’s to the next three decades!



Muriel Johnson, Director



Pictures: (above) CAC Vice Chair Michael Alexander, Assembly Speaker Fabian Nuñez, Dawn Smith, J.U.I.C.E., CAC Director Muriel Johnson (pg.3) California Art Day Celebration on the Capitol Steps 2005, Amber Shay Baker, Art Day Poster Contest Winner with Councilmember Annette Bening.  
(pg.4) Ken Huffman, 2006 POL Winner  
California Poet Laureate Al Young with musician Dan Robbins

# Programs

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## **Youth Education in the Arts (YEA!) Program**

The YEA! Program was designed to continue the CAC’s priority of engaging young people through sequential, hands-on arts activities at schools and community sites. The program emphasized support for activities that engaged culturally diverse children and youth with limited access to arts participation; i.e. inner city, rural communities, youth with disabilities, and low-income. The Council awarded 198 grants totaling \$520,000.

## **Statewide Service Networks (SSN) Program**

The SSN Program provided support for discipline-based arts service organizations and statewide arts networks to strengthen networking and communications within their representative constituencies. The Council awarded 15 grants to ethnic, cultural, and discipline-specific statewide arts service providers totaling \$214,000.

## **Creating Public Value through the Arts (CPV) Pilot Program**



The CPV program provided support for arts organizations in rural or underserved areas to implement projects making a positive contribution to their communities. The Council awarded 12 grants totaling \$120,000.

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“If more politicians knew poetry, and more poets knew politics, I am convinced the world would be a little better place in which to live.”

John F. Kennedy, Address at Harvard University, 1956

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# Initiatives

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## **California Music Project (CMP)**

The Council continued its support of the California Music Project. The CMP's goal is to bring greater public attention to the need to restore music education in public schools, and to effect music education policies in California. CMP was established in 2005 with seed funding from the CAC.

## **California Poetry Out Loud (POL)**

The Council partnered with the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), California Poets in the Schools, and local arts agencies and educational institutions to conduct poetry recitation contests in Sacramento County high schools. Ken Huffman from Elk Grove High School was selected to represent California at the National finals in Washington, DC.



## **Technical Assistance**

The CAC supports leadership opportunities and activities that bring the Arts to the broadest constituency. Technical assistance funds enabled the CAC to provide scholarships and travel assistance for attendees to the 2006 annual conference of the California Alliance for Arts Education (CAAE); continue the agency's partnership with the National Arts and Disabilities Center (UCLA) to support an arts and accessibility grant program; and begin planning for California's participation in American Masterpieces (an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts).

## **Poet Laureate**

Underscoring the importance of poetry and the literary arts, Governor Schwarzenegger appointed Al Young as California Poet Laureate in May 2005. The Council in partnership with the Living History Center Trust, the Center for the Book, Angel City Press and the Before Columbus Foundation supported the development and publication of Coastal Nights and Inland Afternoons—Al Young's first book of poetry since being named California's Poet Laureate.

Visit our website at [www.cac.ca.gov](http://www.cac.ca.gov) for information on the California Arts Council's programs and initiatives.



# Finances

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The agency's 2005-06 budget topped \$3.0 million for a third consecutive year. Funding included \$1.1 million from the State's General Fund, \$948,000 in proceeds from the sale of the Arts License Plate, and \$961,000 in Federal funding received through the National Endowment for the Arts.

In addition to the budget provided annually through the Legislative process, the Arts Council maintained the following Special Deposit funds in 2005-06.

**My California**—Funds were received from the sale of *My California: Journeys by Great Writers*, published by Angel City Press. Through this private effort, proceeds from sales of the book benefit the Arts Council and school writing programs statewide. At year-end, receipts totaled \$64,265.

**Miscellaneous Donations**—The CAC received unrestricted donations from individuals and other entities in support of the Arts Council. Annual donations totaled \$19,495, which included \$18,000 from foundations to support the Council's strategic planning efforts.

While the agency's 2005-06 budget was not impacted, Governor Schwarzenegger's January 10, 2006 release of his 2006-07 Budget projects an additional \$1.825 million for the Council. The additional monies are a result of fee increases from the issuance and renewal of Arts License Plates.

# California Arts Council

*Celebrating 30 Years of Excellence in the Arts*

– A State Agency –  
Arnold Schwarzenegger, Governor

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Council Members ~ Marcy Friedman (Chair), Michael Alexander (Vice-Chair), Annette Bening, Eunice David, Phyllis Epstein, Malissa Feruzzi Shriver, Steven Fogel (term expired 1/06), Barbara George, Jerrold Hiura (term expired 1/06), Chong-Moon Lee (appointed 5/06), Michael Rubel, Fred Sands (appointed 5/06).

Staff ~ Muriel Johnson (Director), Marilyn Nielsen (Deputy Director), Kathy Alley, Lucero Arellano, Mary Beth Barber, Tom Bergmann, Wayne Cook, Janet Cran, Richard Diaz, Theresa D'Onofrio, Scott Heckes, Lorenzo Hines, Kristin Margolis, Patricia Milich, Lucy Mochizuki, Pam Nowling, Shirley Pang, Josie S. Talamantez, Ray Tatar, Terry Walter.

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