

Arts Leadership Initiative

During grant year 2001/2002, the Commission launched the Arts Leadership Initiative (ALI) for OGP II grantees. ALI builds upon the sustainability/capacity-building focus of OGP II to provide an in-depth training and development model that centers on the leader of the organization.

Participants in ALI have access to a variety of learning opportunities to assist them in developing their skills and understanding their roles as leaders in their organization: participation in the Executive Learning Group; quarterly convening/workshop opportunities; scholarships to the Center for Nonprofit Management; organizational development grants for study and consultancies.

The Executive Learning Group brings 10-12 leaders together to participate in an intensive six-session, monthly all-day leadership development program focusing on peer coaching and problem solving, which uses the model designed by the Fieldstone Foundation. These leaders may also participate in the workshops provided to all OGP II grantees, as well as tap into the scholarship program that OGP II grantees are invited to use. At the end of their participation in the Executive Learning Group, participants are awarded an organizational development grant that can be used for further study and consultancies.

2001/2002 ALI participants:

Gail Christian, Executive Director, PEN Center USA West
Luisa Cariaga, Managing Director, Deaf West Theatre Company
caryn morse desai, Executive Director, International City Theatre
Oscar Grant, Executive Director, Performing Tree
Jon Lapointe, Co-Executive Director, Side Street Projects
Laura Schmieder, Executive Director, Young Artists International
Erwin Washington, Executive Director, Lula Washington Contemporary Dance Foundation
Carol Wells, Executive Director, Center for the Study of Political Graphics
Jan Williamson, Co-Director, 18th Street Arts Complex
Brian Wyatt, Executive Director, Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles

2002/2003 ALI Participants:

Tomas Benitez, Executive Director, Self Help Graphics & Art, Inc.
Pierson Blaetz, Co-Artistic Director, Greenway Arts Alliance
Cynthia Campoy Brophy, Executive Director, The HeArt Project
Michael Eagan, Artistic Director, Musica Angelica
Meryl Friedman, Executive Director, Virginia Avenue Project
Jan Karlin, Executive Director, Southwest Chamber Music
Jennifer Kuida, Managing Director, Great Leap, Inc.
Lynn Warshafsky, Executive Director, Venice Arts

Janet Wells, Executive Director, Los Angeles Children's Chorus
Jonathan Zeichner, Co-Founder & Co-Director, Inside Out Community Arts

2003/2004 ALI Participants:

Aracelly Alvarez, Managing Director, Bilingual Foundation of the Arts
Sheila Bergman, Executive Director, P.S. Arts
Tim Dang, Producing Artistic Director, East West Players
Nancy Fox, Chief Operating Officer, Museum of Latin American Art
Stephen Gutwillig, Executive Director, Outfest
Cynthia Harnisch, Executive Director, Inner-City Arts
Elsa Longhauser, Executive Director, Santa Monica Museum of Art
Stephen McCurry, Executive Director, Pasadena Conservatory of Music
Larry Stotz, General Manager, Deaf West Theatre
Irene Tsatsos, Executive Director, Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions
Shay Wafer, Managing Director, Cornerstone Theater Company

Evaluation of Program

The Arts Commission was awarded a grant from the NEA for \$70,000 to assist in developing and implementing the Arts Leadership Initiative. The Commission will be engaged in a three-year evaluation of the program to determine its effectiveness and impact upon both the leaders and the organizations they represent. The report will be available in late fall 2004.