



Public Artists in Development

Dyson & Womack is excited to announce with the LA County Department of Arts and Culture a new program, PAiD: Public Artists in Development. This multi-year initiative is funded by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and aims to increase diversity, equity, and inclusion in the field of public art while supporting the sustainability of the LA County creative economy with artists' needs in mind.

The PAiD program has been thoughtfully designed to tackle critical barriers to entry in the field of public art and address the wider career challenges faced by artists. The program's strategies are intended to address historical and structural barriers, especially those faced by underrepresented and diverse artists, including artists of color, artists with disabilities, Indigenous artists, LGBTQIA artists, self-taught artists, artists of non-traditional mediums, and emerging artists.

The \$1.75 million grant funds the implementation of multiple PAiD program components. These components include the establishment of the Artist Council, a program of free professional development workshops, and a year-long Public Art Apprenticeship.

Dyson & Womack were selected by Arts & Culture as public art consultants to manage the Artist Council including the development of a series of policy discussions and the implementation of the temporary public art commissions. In addition, Dyson & Womack will develop and deliver the program of free professional development workshops for artists across Los Angeles County.

The PAiD program will begin with the launch of an open call for the Artist Council in October 2023. The Artist Council is an eight-member group of artists selected to create temporary public art projects in dialogue with current public art policies and processes.

More information on the open call can be found at www.dysonwomack.com/PAiD.

The PAiD program will leverage the decades-long experience, expertise, and networks shared by local arts organizations across LA County. Dyson & Womack will lead this effort, convening leaders from organizations including Betty Avila, formerly Executive Director of Self Help Graphics; Karen Mack, Executive Director of LA Commons; Eric Kim, Co-founder of Human Resources Los Angeles; Jocelyn Ayala, former Outreach Director of The da Center for the Arts; and Emily Hopkins, Executive Director of Side Street Projects, to provide critical feedback and support in shaping areas of the PAiD program.

Over the coming months, we will be sharing program opportunities, updates, and announcements. We invite you to stay connected with us and share this exciting announcement for LA County artists!

To learn more about the PAiD program, **visit the Arts and Culture's PAiD webpage.**