



Creative Strategists Initiative

Considerations for selecting County departments for placement

In June 2017 the LA County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved a [motion](#) to fund the placement of artists, arts administrators or other creative workers who are representative of diverse constituencies in paid positions as creative strategists in County departments to develop innovative solutions to social challenges. **An artist as Creative Strategist is someone who can bring artistic methods to help County departments achieve clearly articulated goals.**

These Creative Strategists will be placed as Artists in Residence (AIR) for a minimum period of up to 12 months, and should be integrated into a specific project or initiative. The Arts Commission will work with your department to finalize design of the project or initiative and help define the role the Creative Strategist will play. The Arts Commission will manage selection of all Creative Strategists, with significant input from the departments where they are placed.

County departments interested in hosting a Creative Strategist should consider in advance how they will provide all of the following:

- Staff or consultant to serve as liaison and supervisor
- Dedicated office space and equipment
- A plan to sustain the outcomes and/or processes that result from the AIR

If your department is interested in having a Creative Strategist to support your work, please send a letter of interest by Friday, August 25 to Leticia Buckley, Acting Executive Director, LA County Arts Commission, lbuckley@arts.lacounty.gov. The letter should be no longer than two pages and be signed by the director of your department. Please include in your letter responses to as many of the following questions as possible:

1. What project or initiative will the strategist work on, and what is the final goal of that project or initiative?
2. If this project falls within a specific division of your department, which division is it?
3. Which of the following categories does this project or initiative best fall into?
 - a. Administration
 - b. Customer service
 - c. Program design
 - d. Policymaking
 - e. Communications
 - f. Strategic planning
 - g. Other (please explain)
4. What role would the Creative Strategist play in supporting that project or initiative?
5. What skills, knowledge or expertise should the selected Creative Strategist have?
6. What resources can you commit to the work of the Creative Strategist? For example this may include a work station, special artist materials, staffing support, funding or other resources you expect the Creative Strategist to need.