

Project Title/Subject: Arts for Community Development
Project Type: Multi-Regional Project
NPA: Cultural Vistas
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Why San Diego? San Diego is one of the biggest cities in the United States, also known for its diverse population, thriving arts community and cultural heritage. There are more than 90 museums and galleries within San Diego county, which offer unique experiences. The city is now promoting and encouraging support for the region's art and cultural assets, and blending arts and culture seamlessly into the community's daily life. San Diego has its Native American roots and Spanish Missionary heritage which make the city different from others. At the border between the U.S. and Mexico, San Diego embodies the essence of American art while also delving into the intricate social and cultural tapestry of a border metropolis.

Art & Cultural Centers

Media Arts San Diego

<https://mediaartscenter.org/about-us/>

Media Arts San Diego (MACSD) provides new media tools and channels to create equitable and engaged communities where underserved voices are heard. Since 1999, MACSD has grown from a festival to a mid-size organization with diverse programs and services. Their programs, events, and film festivals are diverse and inclusionary; they are designed with participants and community collaboration in mind. Showcases for LGBTQ films and filmmakers, Jewish-Latino filmmakers, women filmmakers, and others address film artists and audiences who are often disenfranchised. MACSD has its own Digital Gym, featuring a movie theater, storefront community technology center, and presents the San Diego Latino Film Festival.

Meeting Focus: Discuss the MACSD programs and services between members and community with their three categories of 'Watch', 'Learn', or 'Create.'

Vanguard Culture

<https://vanguardculture.com/>

Vanguard Culture is an inclusive 501(c)3 nonprofit dedicated to advancing San Diego's Creative Industries. They provide award-winning arts journalism, cutting edge events, and professional development that create arts jobs, bring diverse communities together and inspire collaboration among the visual, performing, and culinary arts. They have many cultural events, professional development services (mixers and networking), as well as arts coverage.

Meeting Focus: Explore the ins and outs of a multi-dimensional arts and culture nonprofit that seeks to develop the artists and professional creatives within the community.

Bread & Salt

<https://www.breadandsaltsandiego.com/>

Bread & Salt is a 45,000 square-foot gallery and experimental center for the arts with strong community ties. Located 15 miles north of the U.S./Mexico border in San Diego, CA, Bread & Salt hosts original works by local and international artists, eclectic events, and a curated assemblage of artisans, educational entities, and non-profit tenants - alongside a robust residency program and publishing house. It is comprised of multiple gallery, studio, and event spaces, and serves as a cultural hub and gathering place for the region's creative community.

Meeting Focus: Discuss how Bread & Salt gallery includes artists and artwork that is reflective of the San Diego community and provides a space that otherwise would be unavailable for local artists and community members.

Disco Riot

<https://discoriot.org/>

DISCO RIOT exists to elevate a collaborative art culture in San Diego and beyond — because the world needs more movement-based art. They connect dancers and artists who want to move themselves and audiences in ways that push boundaries to make high impact art that promotes community, justice, and movement as a form of radical expression. DISCO RIOT produces and supports innovative dance programming, connects artists across media and form to grow and intensify our community, and provide an educational space that reflects contemporary and progressive professional realities.

Meeting Focus: Discover how dance is being used on a radical level of expression and how they use this to impact and assist their community in and out of the art realm.

Academic Institutions

San Diego School of Creative and Performing Arts

<https://scpa.sandiegounified.org/>

Focused on providing comprehensive arts education to students in the San Diego area, the San Diego School of Creative and Performing Arts offers specialized curriculum that integrates academics with intensive training in various artistic disciplines. The school places a strong emphasis on fostering artistic excellence, creativity, and personal growth, providing students with a well-rounded education that encompasses both artistic and academic development. Both its commitment to artistic excellence and academic rigor makes the San Diego School of Creative and Performing Arts a distinguished institution in San Diego's arts education landscape.

Meeting Focus: Examine the role of the arts in education, and how arts education can lead to the development of responsibility and community engagement among youth.

California State University San Marcos (CSUSM) School of Arts

<https://www.csusm.edu/sofa/index.html>

The School of Arts at California State University San Marcos fosters a vibrant arts community on campus and the surrounding area. Hosting numerous exhibitions, performances, and events that showcase the

talents of students, faculty, and visiting artists. The faculty consists of experienced artists and scholars who provide mentorship and guidance to students, helping them develop their skills and artistic voice. CSUSM School of Arts pushes for community engagement and outreach to contribute to the cultural enrichment and development of the region.

Meeting Focus: Identify innovative approaches and initiatives that will further elevate an arts program, promote interdisciplinary collaboration, and forge stronger ties with the community.

California Institute of the Arts

<https://calarts.edu/>

California Institute of the Arts, or CalArts, has a unique and innovative approach to arts education, emphasizing interdisciplinary collaboration and experimentation. The institution places a strong emphasis on artistic freedom and self-expression that encourages students to explore their creative potential and push boundaries. Another notable aspect of CalArts is the integration of different art forms and disciplines. The institution encourages students to explore cross-disciplinary collaborations and experimentation, fostering an environment that nurtures artistic innovation and exploration.

Meeting Focus: Illustrate how the arts shape contemporary values and self-development, and the relationship between freedom of speech and artistic freedom that pushes conventional boundaries.

Incubators and Coalitions

San Diego Regional Arts and Culture Coalition

<https://www.sandiegoracc.org/>

The San Diego Regional Arts and Culture Coalition serves as a collective voice for the arts community that strives to raise awareness about the value and impact of arts and culture in the region. It advocates for increased public and private investment in the arts, arts education, and cultural programs. Additionally, the San Diego Regional Arts and Culture Coalition organizes events, workshops, and forums that promote networking, professional development, and knowledge-sharing within the arts community.

Meeting Focus: Gain an understanding of how the Coalition promotes strength through the arts and organizes a community to facilitate knowledge-sharing and collective problem-solving.

The Studio Door

<https://thestudiodoor.com/>

The Studio Door is an arts incubator and gallery space located in the North Park neighborhood of San Diego. It serves as a creative hub for artists, providing them with affordable studio spaces, exhibition opportunities, and a supportive community. The studio operates as a gallery that showcases the work for local and regional artists. It provides networking opportunities, community events, and collaborations that encourage artists to connect, exchange ideas, and support one another. The Studio Door plays a vital role in the San Diego art scene by providing artists with affordable spaces and exhibition opportunities.

Meeting Focus: Understand the importance of community when it comes to art exploration, as well as the diffusion of ideas in a community of people with different art mediums and ways of thinking.

Space 4 Art:

<https://www.sdspace4art.org/>

Space 4 Art is a multidisciplinary arts organization located in downtown San Diego that serves as an art incubator while providing live/work spaces for artists. The organization offers affordable spaces where artists can reside and create. These studios offer a private and focused environment where artists can further develop their artistic practices and engage in experimentation and exploration. Through its initiatives in educational programs and outreach, Space 4 Art strives to bridge the gap between artists and public while also promoting dialogue and understanding of the arts.

Meeting Focus: Looking at the role that art has in personal expression and the constitutionally guaranteed right of freedom of speech as artists seek to break conventional molds and experiment with their work.

A Ship in the Woods

<https://www.shipinthewoods.com/>

A Ship in the Woods is an experimental art space located in Escondido. It is known for its unique approach to showcasing and fostering interdisciplinary and boundary-pushing art forms. The organization encourages artists to experiment, collaborate, and engage in diverse disciplines. The space also organizes public events and workshops that invite audiences to experience and interact with art on display to develop meaningful connections and discussions. A Ship in the Woods is an innovative art space that pushes the boundaries of traditional artistic practices.

Meeting Focus: Learn how A Ship in the Woods creates a cross-disciplinary community amongst the arts, and how freedom of expression plays a role in the risk and messages that artists push to convey in unconventional forms.

Business Sector Resources

The Old Globe

<https://www.theoldglobe.org/>

Modeled after Shakespeare's Old Globe in London, the Old Globe Theatre was built in 1935 for the presentation of abridged versions of Shakespeare's plays. The Old Globe has been home to some of the most acclaimed national artists, designers, directors, and playwrights in the theater industry. More than 20 productions produced at The Old Globe have gone on to play Broadway and Off Broadway, garnering 13 Tony Awards and numerous nominations. With a current operating budget of approximately \$30 million, the Globe is one of San Diego's largest arts institutions, its leading arts employer, and among the nation's top-ranked regional theaters. More than 250,000 people annually attend Globe productions and participate in the theater's arts engagement programs and outreach services.

Meeting Focus: Explore American theater and how to expand the reach of audiences, deepen community connections, and elevate artistic offerings.

La Jolla Playhouse

<https://lajollaplayhouse.org/>

<https://lajollaplayhouse.org/without-walls/>

La Jolla Playhouse advances theater as an art form, telling stories that inspire empathy and create a dialogue toward a more just future. With their intrepid spirit and eclectic, artist-driven approach they continue to cultivate a local, national and global following with an insatiable appetite for audacious work.

La Jolla Playhouse provides unfettered creative opportunities for a community of artists of all backgrounds and abilities. They are committed to being a permanent safe harbor for unsafe and surprising work, offering a glimpse of the new and the next in American theater.

Meeting Focus: Learn about La Jolla Playhouse's groundbreaking and signature style, Without Walls, which takes performance outside the constraints of traditional theater to promote social cohesion and an increased appreciation of community.

San Diego Symphony Orchestra

<https://www.sandiegosymphony.org/>

The San Diego Symphony, through unquestionable commitment to the highest levels of artistic achievement, seeks to elevate human potential by providing a shared sense of pride and belonging to something bigger than any of us can achieve alone. They offer audiences the wonder of live music and transformative learning experiences that develop an understanding and passion for the arts. They serve and shape the culture of the region, by being for all and with all, the musical heart of San Diego.

Meeting Focus: Understand how the American genre is conveyed through music in a live music setting that reflects both accountability and belonging to the artists and the audience.

Government Resources

City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture

<https://www.sandiego.gov/arts-culture>

https://www.sandiego.gov/sites/default/files/2022-08-25_creative_corp_news_release.pdf

The commission's primary mission is to be able to enhance the quality of life for San Diego residents by fostering a vibrant and diverse arts and culture community. It plays a crucial role in allocating grants to artists, art organizations, and community groups through competitive funding programs. In addition to funding, the commission facilitates partnerships and collaborations among artists, art organizations, and community stakeholders. It also organizes events, workshops, and networking opportunities to foster connections and professional development within the arts community.

Meeting Focus: Learn about how the Commission for Arts and Culture is supported by the California Arts Council, and the work they are doing through the California Creative Corps fund to increase awareness of local issues.

Far South/Border North

<https://www.sandiego.gov/far-south-border-north>

Far South/Border North is a regional collaborative supporting artists and cultural practitioners in communities in San Diego and Imperial counties. To support the social, environmental, and civic engagement of California's most disproportionately impacted communities, the California Arts Council developed California Creative Corps, which in turn led to the creation of Far South/Border North. The project provides grant funding and development opportunities for artists and cultural practitioners from various mediums, whose work addresses one or more of the program's goals. Some of these goals include climate mitigation, emergency preparedness, civic engagement, social justice, and community engagement.

Meeting focus: Explore how this 2-year investment opportunity is supporting artists throughout San Diego to promote social change and civic engagement.

Non-profit Resources

Vanguard Culture

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Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego

<https://mcasd.org/>

The Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego is a prominent art institution dedicated to collecting, preserving, and exhibiting contemporary art. The museum focuses on art from the 1950s to the present, showcasing works by renowned national and international artists as well as emerging talents. In addition to its exhibitions, the museum offers a range of educational programs for all ages, including lectures, artists talks, workshops, and guided tours. The museum is also partnered with local schools, organizations, and community groups to provide access to the arts and promote arts education.

Meeting Focus: Learn about the Museum's many programs and offerings targeting youth engagement in the arts, encouraging them to see the Museum as an extension of the classroom, and an empowered means to connect with their creative side.

Balboa Park Cultural Partnership

<https://bpcp.org/>

The Balboa Park Cultural Partnership is a collaborative organization consisting of over 30 cultural institutions located in Balboa Park, San Diego. The partnership serves as a platform for collaboration and coordination among its member institutions, which includes museums, performing art venues, gardens, and other cultural organizations. Additionally, the organization also works closely with the City of San Diego and other stakeholders to advocate for the arts and culture in the park.

Meeting Focus: Discuss the relationship between the arts and cultural tourism by raising awareness of San Diego's cultural offerings and how to meet accessibility and convenience needs for maximum engagement.

Youth Resources

David's Harp Foundation

www.davidsharpfoundation.org

David's Harp Foundation aims to inspire, educate and empower at-risk and homeless youth to achieve academic success through music education, sound engineering and multimedia production. Programs include Multimedia Production where instructors teach students to fuse audio, video, still image and animation into a dynamic. The Foundation also hosts a Shelter Nights program in partnership with San

Diego Youth Services' Emergency Youth Shelter. After checking into the shelter for the night, Youth Shelter teens work with instructors in their studio to write, record and produce original music and poetry, motivating teens to stay off the streets and hone their musical interests.

Meeting Focus: Participants will learn about the Foundation's various activities that empower the homeless youth population of San Diego.

ARTS 4 Justice

[ARTS 4 Justice — A Reason To Survive \(ARTS\)](#)

The ARTS 4 Justice initiative connects system-involved young people with creative arts programming and community-based projects in an effort to confront and respond the root causes of systemic violence and injustice in communities across south San Diego. Youth participants put Creative Youth Development (CYD) practices into action through their stories, ideas, dreams, and visions for a better future that find creative expression in murals, photography, comics, zines, and other works.

Meeting Focus: Define "Creative Youth Development" practices for participants and encourage systems-level thinking on issues affecting todays youth.

TranscenDANCE Youth Arts Project

[transcenDANCE Youth Arts Project \(tdarts.org\)](#)

At transcenDANCE, their mission is to guide young people in under-resourced San Diego County communities to transcend barriers, expand their ambitions, and create positive change for themselves, their families, and communities, through dance and performance.

Meeting Focus: Examine TranscenDANCE's work using art to support youth and communities.

AjA Project

<http://ajaproject.org/>

The AjA Project is a compassionate space for young people, activists, visual artists and educators to engage critically with issues that affect our community and realize our collective liberation through participatory storytelling and documentary arts. They aim to provide access to innovative, culturally fluent, high-quality arts programming to youth in the most diverse and historically underserved communities of San Diego, giving youth the sills to use arts as a vehicle for self-sufficiency. AjA project believes that arts are a strong, proven mechanism to ignite community engagement and social action, and that the key to unlocking positive community change is through investment in youth. AjA has repeatedly inspired social action through their many programs, events and exhibitions, including a newly developed on-demand virtual resource in response to the ongoing pandemic.

Meeting Focus: Explore the value of community based engagement to share the narratives of a community, and explore how AjA's work has enabled thousands of youth to become agents of change within their community.

Please note a meeting with the AjA project will require an honorarium.

Cultural Activities

San Diego Zoo

www.sandiegozoo.org

Price: \$62 for one Adult Ticket

The 100-acre (40-hectare) Zoo is home to over 3,700 rare and endangered animals representing more than 650 species and subspecies, and a prominent botanical collection with more than 700,000 exotic plants. Accessibility: The zoo is located just north of downtown San Diego in Balboa Park (a 5-10-minute drive from downtown).

Harbor Cruise

www.sdhe.com

Price: \$30 for one Adult Ticket for a one-hour narrated tour (south bay or north bay routes); \$35 for a full bay two-hour narrated tour which covers it all: ships of the Maritime Museum, Harbor and Shelter Islands, North Island Naval Air Station, the Submarine Base, as well as the Coronado Bridge, and more. The full bay tour is about 25 miles in length. Accessibility: The tour begins and ends at the same location downtown along Broadway Pier.

Old Town Trolley Tour

www.trolleytours.com/san-diego

www.oldtownsandiegoguide.com

Price: \$44 for a 1-Day Adult Ticket (discounted when purchased on-line)

For 30 years, Old Town Trolley Tours has been providing sightseeing tours, highlighting the best San Diego attractions. The Tours are designed so that you can hop on and off the trolley and explore on your own at any time throughout the day. Hours of operation are generally 8:50am – 5:00pm, with later hours in the Spring and Summer. The fleet of orange and green trolleys travel frequently throughout San Diego and over the iconic San Diego-Coronado Bridge to Coronado on a continuous 25-mile loop visiting 10 neighborhoods with 10 destination stops.

USS Midway Museum

www.midway.org

Price: \$26 for one Adult General Admission Ticket (\$1 discount when purchased on-line).

Imagine experiencing life at sea aboard one of America's longest-serving aircraft carriers. Visitors to the USS Midway Museum enter a floating city at sea and walk in the footsteps of 225,000 Midway sailors who served our country and upheld the American ideals of strength, freedom and peace. Guests can spend the day exploring more than 60 exhibits with a collection of 30 restored aircraft. The self-guided audio tour, narrated by Midway sailors, brings the carrier's history to life. Operating Hours: 10am – 5pm (Last admission at 4pm). Accessibility: The museum is located downtown alongside Navy Pier.

Balboa Park

www.balboapark.org

Home to 17 major museums and cultural institutions, renowned performing arts venues, beautiful gardens and the San Diego Zoo, Balboa Park has an ever-changing calendar of museum exhibitions, plays, musicals, concerts, and classes—all in the beautiful and timeless setting of this must-see San Diego attraction. Accessibility: Balboa Park is conveniently located just north of downtown San Diego (a 5-10-minute drive from downtown).

Coronado

<http://coronadovisitorcenter.com>

<https://www.sandiego.org/explore/things-to-do/beaches-bays/coronado.aspx>

A drive across the 200-foot tall Coronado Bridge treats you to one of the best views in all of San Diego, as you descend upon the charming and picturesque oceanfront community of Coronado. Consistently voted among America's finest beaches by The Travel Channel, Coronado's beaches glisten year around due to the mineral Mica in the sand, while gentle waves caress the shoreline. Coronado Central Beach runs along Ocean Boulevard with a backdrop of fine homes and mansions and the Hotel del Coronado at the southern end. Accessibility: Coronado is a popular stop on the Old Town Trolley Tour and can be accessed from Downtown using the Coronado Ferry or a water taxi. Coronado is a 15-20-minute drive from downtown.

SeaWorld San Diego

www.seaworldparks.com/en/seaworld-sandiego

Price: \$99.99 for one Adult Ticket (discounted when purchased on-line)

Accessibility: A 15-20-minute drive from downtown San Diego.

Come celebrate the wonders of the sea at SeaWorld San Diego. Experience the Orca Encounter, Dolphin Days, and Sea Lions Live shows and thrilling rides like Electric Eel, Manta, and Journey To Atlantis. Feed and touch dolphins and get up-close to beluga whales, polar bears, sharks and penguins. Enjoy fascinating aquariums and exotic birds from around the world. Hours vary by season.