

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 24, 2023

## San Luis Obispo Museum of Art Awarded \$40,000 California Arts Council Creative Youth Development Grant

State funds support the Museum's "Second Saturdays" events with free bilingual art-making kits.

San Luis Obispo, CA – The California Arts Council has announced a grant award of \$40,000 to the San Luis Obispo Museum of Art (SLOMA) as part of its Creative Youth Development program in its final round of funding for 2022. Grant funds will support SLOMA's popular "Second Saturdays" events and pop-ups in SLO County and northern Santa Barbara County.

SLOMA's monthly "Second Saturdays" program takes place every second Saturday from 11 AM to 1 PM. Families are invited to SLOMA's lawn to learn about the visual arts together using unique activity kits, and to create an art project inspired by the Museum's current exhibitions. Each kit contains all the materials and bilingual (English & Spanish) instructions required for an activity that fosters creative abilities of youth through self-discovery, imagination, collaboration, and responsive arts learning. Thanks to the Arts Council's generous support, SLOMA will expand the program to include offsite events in places families gather like parks and farmers' markets. Stay tuned for dates and locations!

"We are so grateful for the California Arts Council's belief in our beloved education programs and simply put, we could not do it without their support," said SLOMA's Executive Director Leann Standish.

The San Luis Obispo Museum of Art was featured as part of a <u>larger announcement</u> from the California Arts Council, with grant awards totaling more than \$2.8 million across 48 grants supporting artists, culture bearers, and cultural workers throughout the state of California.

The final round of funding for the 2022 grant season included three opportunities in support of arts education and creative youth development, grantee technical assistance, and funding to identify a partner administering organization to regrant funds for individual artists fellowships in the Northern California region.

Altogether, the projected sum of grants awarded for 2022's funding cycle is more than \$145 million—by far the biggest annual investment in California Arts Council history.

"Even as we spread the word for our 2023 program offerings, we are thrilled to shine a light and celebrate California's arts workforce with one last funding announcement for 2022," said California Arts Council Director Jonathan Moscone. "We are deeply grateful for Governor Newsom and the Legislature's overwhelming investment in our agency's work to ensure an equitably supported arts sector."

To view listings of all California Arts Council grantees for the final round of 2022, visit this link.

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## About the San Luis Obispo Museum of Art

The San Luis Obispo Museum of Art (SLOMA) is the heart of the California Central Coast visual arts community and a vital link to the cultural life of the region. It is dedicated to showing that Art Matters: We enrich our community by using art as a doorway to deeper insight and connection. Located at 1010 Broad Street, on the west end of Mission Plaza in San Luis Obispo, California, admission to this 501(c)(3) public benefit nonprofit arts organization is free to all. More information can be found at www.sloma.org.

## **About the California Arts Council**

The California Arts Council is a state agency with a mission of strengthening arts, culture, and creative expression as the tools to cultivate a better California for all. It supports local arts infrastructure and programming statewide through grants, initiatives, and services. The California Arts Council envisions a California where all people flourish with universal access to and participation in the arts.

Members of the California Arts Council include: Consuelo Montoya, Chair; Vicki Estrada, Vice Chair; Gerald Clarke; Caleb Duarte; Ellen Gavin; Leah Goodwin; Alex Israel; Phil Mercado; Roxanne Messina Captor; Nicola Miner; and Olivia Raynor. Learn more at www.arts.ca.gov.