

For Immediate Release
April 18, 2023

**UCI LANGSON INSTITUTE AND MUSEUM OF CALIFORNIA ART
AWARDED HEARST FOUNDATIONS GRANT TO EXPAND EDUCATION PROGRAM**

Funds Benefit Local K-12 Schools with Teaching Artists and UCI Student Art Educators

Irvine, CA... UCI Jack and Shanaz Langson Institute and Museum of California Art (Langson IMCA) has been awarded a two-year grant from The Hearst Foundations, Inc. to expand its distinctive art education program within the UCI and greater Orange County communities. The \$150,000 grant supports Langson IMCA's robust outreach to students in grades 3 through 8 in over 50 public schools in the region. The support enables class visits (in-person and online) to Langson IMCA exhibitions, production and distribution of free exhibition-inspired teacher resource guides, and the hiring and training of UCI student art educators to work alongside and be mentored by professional teaching artists as part of campuswide career-readiness efforts.

Classroom teachers and student art educators will also benefit from professional development activities and opportunities to collaborate with professional artists and museum staff. They will practice inquiry-based teaching methodologies that facilitate discussion with youth groups, whether at the Museum, school or online

Kim Kanatani, Langson IMCA Museum Director, said, "We are deeply grateful to The Hearst Foundations—stalwart supporters of arts and education—for this generous grant. We have already begun expanding our current educational offerings to engage more local schoolchildren and UCI students. Integrating California Art into the learning experience exemplifies Langson IMCA's core mission: to serve as a dynamic crossroads to investigate and promote the Golden State's pioneering influence and innovation through art and culture."

From 2020 (when the program was launched) through 2022, Langson IMCA's School Visits program served 4,800 students in grades 3 through 8. The grant focuses attention on deepening partnerships with school districts in communities surrounding UCI, namely Irvine Unified, Newport-Mesa, and Santa Ana Unified. A primary goal is to reach students and teachers with the greatest need and encourage repeat classroom participation during the academic calendar. Open houses and professional development workshops for teachers will also be offered.

Thanks to the grant, Langson IMCA will pilot a new three-pronged version of the program during the upcoming 2023–24 academic year. Select classes will enjoy three sequential learning sessions facilitated by the teaching artists in partnership with the classroom teachers: a virtual introduction to current Langson IMCA exhibitions; an in-school artmaking project inspired by works on view from the permanent collection; and a culminating Museum visit to experience California Art in-person and discuss related topics highlighted in the teacher resource guides.

Sofia Gutierrez, Langson IMCA Associate Director, Education and Community Engagement, said, "Art education is more important than ever given current realities in the educational sector post-pandemic. Being able to bring students, teachers, and artists together creates rewarding and enduring experiences for everyone. We are grateful to The Hearst Foundations for helping us to expand the critical, far-reaching impact of the art of California."

In addition to activities supported by the grant, UCI undergraduate students from a range of university departments serve as gallery guides at Langson IMCA. This career development program includes interacting with faculty, curators, and scholars; engaging with visitors; and assisting with art-making activities in the Langson IMCA Education Studio.

For schools and teachers interested in learning more about how to participate, please contact Yomna Shadoufa at yshadouf@uci.edu.

About Hearst Foundations

The Hearst Foundations are national philanthropic resources for organizations working in the fields of culture, education, health, and social services. In addition, the William Randolph Hearst Foundation operates two programs, the United States Senate Youth Program, and the Journalism Awards Program.

The Hearst Foundations identify and fund outstanding non-profits to ensure that people of all backgrounds in the United States have the opportunity to build healthy, productive, and satisfying lives.

The Hearst Foundation, Inc. was founded by William Randolph Hearst in 1946. In 1949 Hearst established the California Charities Foundations, later renamed the William Randolph Hearst Foundation. Both Foundations are guided by the same charitable mission, which reflects the philanthropic interests of their founder.

About UCI Jack and Shanaz Langson Institute and Museum of California Art

UCI Jack and Shanaz Langson Institute and Museum of California Art (Langson IMCA) is home to two foundational gifts of California Art from The Irvine Museum and Gerald E. Buck estate. In addition, the permanent collection of more than 4,500 works from the late 19th century and early 20th century through present day—continues to grow, augmented by acquisitions and gifts. The university is planning to construct a permanent museum and research institute to serve as a global magnet for the presentation and study of California Art within its social, historical, environmental, and cultural frameworks. Langson IMCA operates an interim museum space at 18881 Von Karman Avenue, Suite 100 in Irvine, CA. It is open to all, and admission is free. For more information, visit imca.uci.edu.

About the University of California, Irvine

Founded in 1965, UCI is the youngest member of the prestigious Association of American Universities. The campus has produced three Nobel laureates and is known for its academic achievement, premier research, innovation, and anteater mascot. Led by Chancellor Howard Gillman, UCI has more than 36,000 students and offers 222 degree programs. It is located in one of the world's safest and most economically vibrant communities and is Orange County's second-largest employer, contributing \$5 billion annually to the local economy. For more on UCI, visit www.uci.edu. Instagram [@uciimca](https://www.instagram.com/uciimca).

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