

# News Release

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## California Arts Council

### For Immediate Release

September 1, 2011

Website: [www.cac.ca.gov](http://www.cac.ca.gov)

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## **Inland Pacific Ballet receives an “Artists in Schools” Grant from the California Arts Council**

*Funds are provided for organizations dedicated to arts education in schools*

SACRAMENTO—The California Arts Council announces that Inland Pacific Ballet has received an “Artists in Schools” grant for the 2011-2012 school and fiscal year. The “Artists in Schools” program from the state’s arts agency is designed to support professional teaching artists in residency activities in classrooms and after school programs.

Inland Pacific Ballet in Montclair will establish an after-school dance artist-in-residence program at Edison Elementary School in which students will learn ballet and hip-hop in two 14-week sessions. Students will present a school assembly as well as have the opportunity to see professional company performances. The organization received \$8,400 in funding. There are 135 arts organizations that received “Artists in Schools” grants to help bring music, theater, dance, visual arts and related arts to children statewide during the 2011-2012 school year.

"The arts are crucial to a student's educational development and especially enhance the essential life and career skills of creativity and imagination," said Craig Watson, Director of the California Arts Council. "Our agency supports standards-based arts education through the Artists in Schools program so professional teaching artists can enhance the imagination and creativity of our state's school-age children."

Music, theater, dance, and the visual arts are at the core of these standards-based teaching artists residencies that will engage students from different socio-economic backgrounds in positive artistic expression. Examples of residencies vary from robust music programs to public-art projects that involve students and members of the community to theater training and public performances.

The organizations receiving funding are in two categories: teaching-artists residency activity, or planning grants. There are 129 organizations which will receive funding to bring

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professional teaching artists to in-school and after-school settings, and six organizations will receive planning grants designed to assist the arts organization and school partner to plan a course of action and strategies to incorporate arts into the classroom and community. The total amount allocated for the 2011-12 Artists in Schools program is \$1,099,995.

For more information about Inland Pacific Ballet, please visit [www.ipballet.org](http://www.ipballet.org).

Reporters interested in the “Artists in Schools” program may contact Mary Beth Barber, Information Officer, at (916) 322-6588. Arts organizations or school administrators interested in information about the “Artists in Schools” program may contact Wayne Cook, Arts Education Administrator and Coordinator, at [wcook@cac.ca.gov](mailto:wcook@cac.ca.gov), or (916) 322-6344.