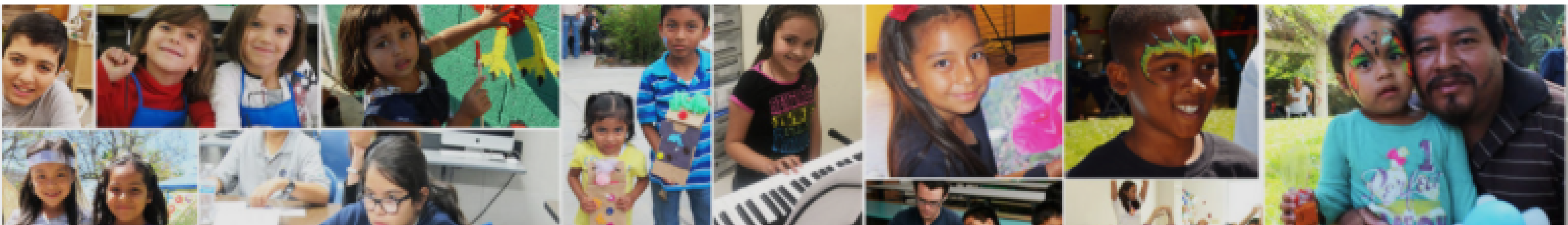




Create Now

1611 S. Hope Street, Suite E
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Quick Facts

- Over 30,000 youth in Los Angeles become a part of the foster system every month. Half of all youth who age out of foster care end up homeless or incarcerated.
- California has the highest child poverty rate in America with over 1.6 million children affected. The largest cluster of this is found in Los Angeles County, where 27.8% of children are considered impoverished. This affects 80% of LAUSD public schools.
- There are more than 17,000 LAUSD students experiencing homelessness. This means they are at an increased rate for anxiety, depression and withdrawal compared to their peers. In addition, they have an estimated graduation rate of less than 25%

Why Our Work Matters

Create Now's mission is to empower at-risk and high-risk youth and young adults from ages 3 to 24 (Transition Age Youth) through a variety of arts programs in multi-disciplines that help them to heal and thrive. We help assist youth out of poverty and into jobs and careers.

Program Highlights



Community Art Projects (CAP): Our CAP initiative helps to cap violence in underserved communities. These events can take several forms, depending on funding options. *Create a Mural* can be set up at recreation centers, parks, schools and shopping malls. Our *Power of the Arts Festivals* enable families with kids of all ages to enjoy an open mic talent show where every participant wins a prize, with live art, drum circles, free food and drinks, superheroes and princesses, face painting, balloon art, a toddler station, free backpacks with school supplies and more!



Culinary Arts: Students learn about nutrition, buying produce, safety tips, cooking techniques, chopping skills, soups, stocks, sauces and presentation. They engage in fun activities, like creating dishes from a “Mystery Basket” in a competition, and putting together a Thanksgiving dinner feast. Students take tests to get their food handler licenses. This program focuses on 18-24 year-olds who have emancipated from DCFS. It introduces these young adults to the hospitality industry and the many jobs available to help them achieve their dreams.

Program Highlights



Cultural Journeys: At-risk and high-risk youth get to visit Walt Disney Concert Hall, the Hollywood Bowl, Cirque du Soleil, LACMA, the Grammy Museum and many more fantastic venues! For most, it's their first-time attending a live performance. For youth with PTSD, these experiences can be transformational. Some of the young people Create Now serves are hesitant to venture out, but after participating in our *Cultural Journeys*, they're excited to try it again! Afterwards, they send us thank you cards and letters for our ticket donors, which also shows children how to express their gratitude.



Digital Media: Students learn Photography, which enables them to explore their world through the lens of a camera. They're given tools that allow them to use their creativity to personalize their visions. Youth are hungry to learn Film and Video Production, Animation, Special FX and Graphic Design. Editing takes place at the professional bay located at our facility in DTLA. Our *Digital Media Lab* includes a 360° full-dome theater where students create short videos and artwork, which are then projected in the cutting-edge Vortex immersive dome located near DTLA. Students also learn about VR/AR and other advanced technologies.

Program Highlights



Fashion: Kids are given a variety of pre-owned clothing, new fabrics and fabulous decorations. They use their imaginations to design wild outfits based on a theme or whatever style they want. Students work as a team with our professional designers to assist with casting models and preparing for a Fashion Show for their families, friends and others in the community. Students also learn about the fashion industry, including the importance of branding. Jewelry is very popular with our youth. They design gorgeous necklaces, rings and bracelets with high-quality beads – for themselves and to give as gifts for their loved ones.



Music: Students learn Guitar and Keyboards. Classes take place at the shelters, group homes and schools in our network. Youth get to record their songs at our studio. Our *Create Audio* workshop teaches youth how to turn their original music into demos, plus ways to break into the industry. *Create Audio* especially targets 18-24 year-olds who have emancipated from DCFS. We teach them basic and advanced techniques to help develop their songs. Industry pros visit to give students career guidance. Our early education classes engage Pre-K to 4th graders in “steady beat,” which accelerates reading and language fluency.

Program Highlights



Performance: Many kids want to learn acting, comedy, dance, theater/improv, singing and magic. They discover their gifts and build skills as they make new friends. As with all of Create Now's programs, negative behaviors like bullying are alleviated, especially with *Create a Show* where students come together as a team to put on a performance for their families, teachers and peers using their newly-developed abilities. Create Now's guitar and keyboard students are also invited to participate. These youth can perform for the public at our annual *Power of the Arts Festival*.



Visual Arts: Kids create collages, draw, paint and make 3D sculpture. Through *Create a Mural*, students work together to design and paint wall art that can be permanently displayed or placed on a portable platform. *Create a City or Playground* is a STEAM class where students bring recyclable materials from home like boxes and plastic bottles that are used to build ideal environments. Youth learn how to collaborate while discovering how the arts intersect with the difficulties society faces. This program exposes young people to career options in urban planning, alternative energy and sustainable water systems.

Create Now in the Media



Parade

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