

# Legislative Overview

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California Arts Council Meeting  
California African American Museum  
September 19, 2017



*Presented by,  
Kristin Margolis  
Director of Legislative Affairs*

# Purpose of Presentation

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- Part I of a 3-part series
  - Explain the responsibilities of the California Arts Council as a state agency in the legislative process
  - Explain the role of council as body in the legislative process
  - Answer any questions
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# The legislative process is governed by the following:

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- The California Constitution;
  - The Assembly, Senate & Joint Rules;
  - Statutes; and
  - Mason's Manual
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# CAC Responsibilities

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- Understand and respect the authority of the Governor and the Legislature
- Understand the arts programming interests of the Governor and Legislature



# Legislative Calendar (Happening Now!)

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The legislature meets in a two-year session with deadlines differing during odd and even years (first and second year). Legislative deadlines are established by Joint Rule 61.

## September Deadlines

- **Sept. 1** Last day for fiscal committees to meet and report bills to the Floor.
  - **Sept. 4** Labor Day.
  - **Sept. 5-15** Floor session only. No committee may meet for any purpose.
  - **Sept. 8** Last day to amend on the Floor.
  - **Sept. 15** Last day for any bill to be passed. Interim Recess begins on adjournment.
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# Important dates occurring during interim recess

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## 2017

- **Sept. 1** Budget Change Proposal due to Department of Finance.
- **Oct. 15** Last day for Governor to sign or veto bills passed by the Legislature on or before Sept. 15 and in the Governor's possession after Sept. 15.
- **Nov. 5** Bill proposals due to Governor's office.
- **December** Tree Lighting

## 2018

- **Jan. 1** Statutes take effect (Art. IV, Sec. 8(c)).
- **Jan. 3** Legislature reconvenes (J.R. 51(a)(4)).
- **Jan. 15** CAC begins application process for Senate/Assembly Chambers access for Poetry Out Loud.

# 2018 Will Be a Critical Year for the California Arts Council

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- Governor Brown's final year in office;
- 2018 is an election year with a number of viable candidates; and
- Communicating with the Governor and Legislators



# Governor Brown's final year in office

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- Started the California Arts Council in the 1970s and has supported the arts in California;
- 9 of you are gubernatorial appointees
  - Do you want to be reappointed if term is expiring?
  - Do you wish to remain on the council with the new administration?



# Governor Brown's final year in office cont.

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The Arts Council's budget grew incrementally from \$1 million to over \$20 million under Governor Brown.

- Increases began with Speaker Perez
- Council's total 2017-18 budget will be approximately \$19.48 million
- \$8 million for Arts in Corrections

What goals do you have for this last year of the Brown administration?

- Programming
  - Partnerships
  - Legislative
  - Budget
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# The Arts Council's role in an Election Year

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- The arts community has the duty to make the arts a vital component of every candidates' platform
- CAC staff and Council participate by educating candidates on the value of public funding for the arts in California:
  - Talk with candidates in your community about CAC's strategic plan and program goals;
  - Encourage your community arts organizations and artists to meet with candidates to discuss the value and impact of CAC funding; and
  - Encourage community leaders to apply for a position as Council member.



# Communicating with Legislators and the Governor's office

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## Key messages:

- Grantees gratitude to legislators;
- Legislators' and Governor's awareness of Arts Council funded programming in districts and statewide;
- Meeting legislative mandates (Jump, Reentry, Cultural Districts, & Poet Laureate)
- California ranks 40th out of 50 states in per-capita funding, based on this fiscal year. The ranking based on this latest 2018 budget hasn't been released yet.

# How do we Communicate with Governor & Legislators?

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- Constant Communication with Governor, President pro Tempore, and Speaker;
  - Points of communication include the Office of Legislative Affairs primarily, but also may include the Appointments Office, External Affairs, Senior & Subject Advisors, the Governor, Pro tempore and Speaker.
- Educating legislators about the value of the arts in California;
  - Legislative hearings and public comment;
  - District visits and capitol meetings;
  - Strategic planning (importance to legislators); and
  - Annual reports and grantee listings.

*NOTE: There are 120 members of the California State Legislature—80 Assembly & 40 Senate. Communicating with and educating all of these members on the value of the arts and the work of the California Arts Council happens year-round.*



# Why should council members talk about the work they do on the Council?

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- Educate authorizing environment;
- Report to those who appointed them;
- Clarify to the 120 members of the legislature, including key committee members, the role the Arts Council plays with various legislative issues before them; and
- Encourage grantees and stakeholders to talk about the work artists and arts organizations do in their district communities.

# Who should the council talk with?

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1. Governor, Speaker and/or President pro Tempore
2. State and Local Representatives
3. Key Committee Members
4. Grantee Constituents
5. District Office Staff
6. Legislative Leadership and Caucuses



# When should these meetings occur?

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- The legislative calendar will show the priority times meetings should occur.
- Fridays and recesses are the best time to meet in legislative district offices.
- Legislative Committee is available to answer questions.



# How to Handle Media Inquiries

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The media often asks questions about our budget or legislation. These questions should always be answered working with the Arts Council's Directors of Legislative Affairs as well as the Public Affairs Director.



# Next Steps

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- Available to answer any questions via phone or email regarding:
  - thank you cards;
  - talking points; or
  - legislative committees and contacts.
- Additional presentations will be made this year after the new session begins in January.



# Thank you!

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Question and Answer





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