



SPOTLIGHT

A MESSAGE FROM TACFA'S PRESIDENT: TONY WONG

Hello and happy second half 2023,

I would like to bring up the subject of "Literary Arts". I never really thought too much about this topic and I'll bet many of you have not either.



Perhaps it's because so much attention is given by art groups, TACFA included, to performing arts and visual arts. Yet traditionally and by most definition, Literary Arts is the third prominent area that makes up the "arts".

Literary Arts' most visible and best known output are books. Perhaps books are not as active as a movie or a song or dances. Perhaps our fast-paced culture has conditioned us to consume visual and performing arts because they take up less time.

Whatever the cause for our blindspot to Literary Arts, Literary Arts is here and it's not less important and it's not going away.

Books, magazines, and articles are pervasive in our daily lives. Many people interact with Literary Arts hourly; it's just not being staged or presented as a special occasion like visual arts pieces or performing arts shows.

As I'm writing this President's Message, ironically Hollywood is in the midst of a significant writer's union strike. It brings to the forefront how important Literary Arts is as a necessary ingredient to other art forms (eg. scripts for movies, lyrics/poems for songs).

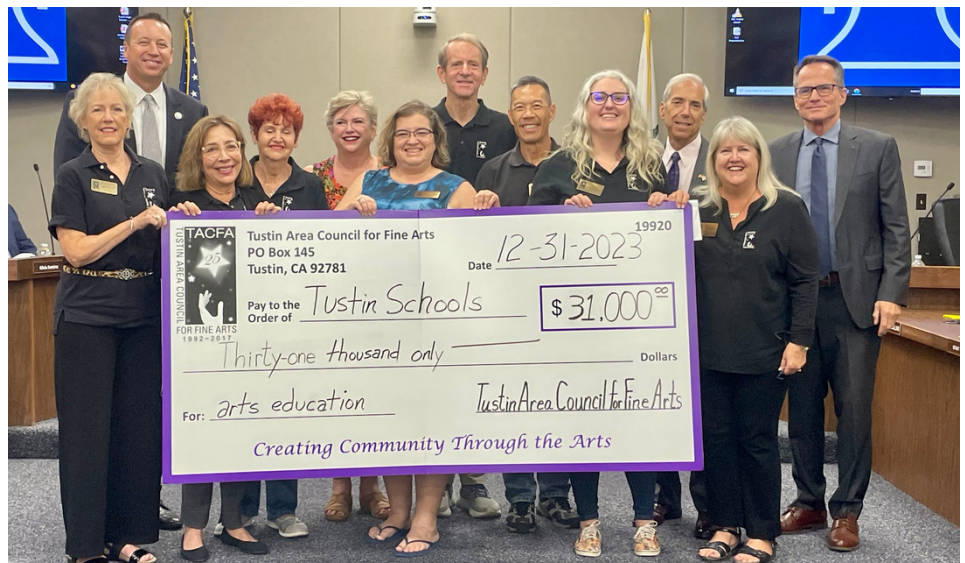
TACFA will be giving consideration to support some sort of Literary Arts program. That may include starting with increasing kid's reading abilities, possibly a book festival, and possibly several authors/writers' events.

Stay tuned for updates on this exciting addition.

Humbly,
Tony Wong (President, TACFA)

TACFA SUPPORTS TUSTIN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

TACFA and the Tustin Unified School District have partnered for over the past 25 years to bring quality art and music education to district students. The check presentation shown to the right reflects TACFA's funding of these programs for the 2022-2023 school year. The following art and music programs brought the arts to over 7,000 district students: Kids' Concerts for fourth graders, Art Instruction in Schools (grades K-5), Student Art Invitational (Middle and High School students), and Barbara Benson Memorial College Scholarships. All of these programs would not be possible without the generous gifts given by our TACFA donors.



CINDERELLA TURNED INTO A PRINCESS

Celebrating the Magic of Broadway In The Park: A Summer to Remember

As the final curtain descends on another magnificent summer season of Broadway In The Park, we wish to pause and extend our deepest gratitude to our extraordinary community. Cinderella, our enchanting production, came to life under the starry sky, and the magic was made possible because of the unwavering dedication of our cherished friends and supporters.

The success of this production was not just a result of the talented actors and actresses who graced the stage, but also the dedication of countless individuals and organizations who joined hands to make it all happen. It is with profound gratitude that we recognize the invaluable contributions of our generous donors, business sponsors, and the hundreds of volunteers who selflessly devoted their time and energy.

Behind every magical moment on stage were the diligent efforts of remarkable local students and groups who worked tirelessly behind the scenes. We want to shine a spotlight on some of these outstanding individuals who played pivotal roles in bringing Cinderella to life:

Jennifer Fawver, a senior from Beckman High School, and **Jade Mora**, a junior from Tustin High School, worked in tandem backstage as production assistants, ensuring that every detail of the performance ran seamlessly.

Hailing from Beckman High, **Jim Kollias**, Director of Instrumental Music, Shawn Seo, student, and Brandon Chen, alumnus played in the live orchestra. **Mia Chen**, Beckman student and TACFA Intern took charge of our social media campaign, keeping the community engaged and informed about our enchanting journey.

Visual Imagery Pathway student from Foothill High School, senior **Riley Brambel**, documented the magic by capturing video clips and edits of musical numbers during dress rehearsal for TACFA's Broadway in the Park archives.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the Tustin High Boys Soccer Team for their invaluable assistance with stage set up and breakdown, as well as members of the National Charity League Mother/Daughter volunteers, the Boys Community Service League, and the Assistance League of Tustin Assisteens, who jumped in to help many times throughout the performance week.

These remarkable students and charitable groups exemplify the spirit of our community and a bright future ahead. They devoted a portion of their summer to ensuring Broadway in the Park was an unforgettable experience for all, and their hard work, passion, and dedication are truly commendable.

As we reflect on the success of this summer season, our hearts are filled with gratitude for the unwavering support of our community and the exceptional efforts of our local students and organizations. Together, we created magic on stage, and we eagerly look forward to bringing many more enchanting performances in the future.

Once again, thank you for being a part of our Broadway in the Park family. Your support ignites our passion, and your presence illuminates our stage.



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*Donations made from October through December 2022

Thank you to the Tustin Community Foundation for the generous grant to TACFA!

With heartfelt thanks and blessings to all our donors for making it possible to continue our mission.

Creating Community Through the Arts!

We would love to have you join our list of Donors, scan this link to donate today.



TACFA'S NEW LITERARY ARTS PROGRAM

TACFA is excited to announce its pursuit to launch of a new Literacy Arts Program in January 2024.

Literary Arts is one of the three pillars of Arts; Performing Arts and Visual Arts being the other two pillars.

As you're reading this article, TACFA is working out the details of the new program with Sam Robertson, who is the Program Chair and a TACFA Board candidate.

TACFA is excited about the new program because it has the **most immediate and tangible impact on children**; reading is **THE** most impactful academic (and life) skill for children.

The new Literary Arts program for 2024 include the following:

> Two -- Open Short Story contest

> One -- Student Short Story contest

> Literary events that will highlight and support local writers and create community conversation -- events that will feature nationally recognized authors and poets (a January Poet Laureate event is being scheduled at this very moment).

The new program will be chaired by Sam Robertson, owner of Arvida Bookstore in Old Town Tustin. Samantha will bring an impressive connection to the literary arts world to the Tustin area that includes local, state, and national literary arts organizations, published authors, literary influencers, signing events, and educational opportunities for kids.



2024 BARBARA BENSON SCHOLARSHIP TIMELINE

***January 2024** TACFA will award \$1500 scholarships to graduating seniors, residing in TUSD boundaries, who will major or minor in a Visual or Performing Art at a four-year college, university, or professional training institute beginning in fall 2024. Scholarships of \$250 are available for qualifying seniors planning to attend a community college and enroll in fine arts courses

***Mid-March 2024** Each applicant shall submit an online application, a letter of recommendation, and online portfolio or video that showcases the candidate's expertise in chosen field. Applicants will provide a link to an online portfolio or video in the online application. Students must maintain a 3.0 GPA to qualify.

***April/May 2024** TACFA will review all applications, online portfolios, and videos turned in by the due date and select finalists. In-person or Zoom interviews will be held for finalists. Scholarship Committee will notify all candidates of their application status. Scholarship winners and their families will be celebrated in early May.

Please look for application information on our website <https://www.tacfa.org/art-education-scholarships/> beginning in January 2024

TACFA SUPPORTS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ART PROGRAMS

FIBO Kids Art Academy and Meet the Masters are both age-appropriate units of sequential study in visual arts designed to complement other curricular areas. These programs and their curriculum meet the California Standards for Visual Arts.

TACFA funds eight elementary schools, nearly 4,000 TUSD students, for lessons that highlight famed artists through either FIBO or Meet the Masters. Each program is comprised of two parts: an Art History Assembly presenting the famous artist through high-tech, interactive videos and activities, followed by a separate age-appropriate hands on art lesson where students complete an art project inspired by some of the artist's best known pieces.

TACFA is excited to support these art programs for TUSD students. By reaching nearly 4,000 students, TACFA meets its goal to "Bring Art to the HeART of Tustin."

We would like to "THANK" TUSTIN COMMUNITY FOUNDATION for awarding TACFA a grant for this fine art program.



WE ARE THANKFUL...

It's that time of the year when the TACFA Board pauses to THANK our loyal donors and our new donors for helping us reach our fundraising goals. Your generosity supports our fine art programs that develop, showcase, and promote the arts in our community.

In addition to the student programs highlighted above, together WE have successfully completed our 21st Broadway in the Park. It takes a village to pull this off, and we appreciate all of YOU - **Sponsors, Advertisers, Opportunity Donors, Vendors, Production Company, Volunteers and Attendees.**

You all have contributed in making this annual production a gift to our Greater Tustin community. Thanksgiving season is upon us, and we feel blessed you have been there for our nonprofit. Your donations have indeed enriched our community.

Giving Tuesday is November 28th!

Please help us with our year-end goals:

- Funding for our 2024 fine art programs - send a donation today
- Inspiring NEW Donors to support our mission - add you name to our donor list
- Helping to promote local nonprofits that align their mission to TACFA's and the Arts



Join us for upcoming TACFA sponsored events:

Tustin Art League Member Show - November 7th, Tustin Sr. Center

Nutcracker Ballet- December 2 and 3, Downey Theater

*More Info Provided Monthly in Our Email Blasts

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