



2010 VISIONING RETREAT

January 12th-13th 2010

Elks Tower Ballroom

921 11th Street

Sacramento, CA 95814

Reframing the Role of the Arts in California

GOALS OF THE RETREAT

- Begin a conversation to help us deeply understand and powerfully articulate the role of the arts in the lives of individuals and communities in today's California.
- Identify the key questions and ideas to include in a series of statewide community conversations later this year, clarifying what we need to learn.
- Determine an inclusive process for wide engagement in the inquiry process—and spark the process!

This convening is not so much about finding new language to better describe or market what we do in the arts; this is about launching an unprecedented inquiry into what is needed for the arts to become an indispensable part of life to the diverse people and communities of California.

DAY ONE: TUESDAY, JANUARY 12

10:00-10:30 Registration and Coffee

10:30-11:15 Opening Plenary

Welcome, goals, process.

Framing Presentations, the facts about:

- a) who now lives in CA and future demographic trends
- b) arts participation/attitudes about the arts/the state of the arts in CA
- c) what we mean by "the arts"—who do we usually include/exclude

Whole group warm-up exercise.

11:15-1:30 First Small Group Discussions (including lunch)

12:00 Sacramento Mayor Kevin Johnson addresses attendees of the Visioning Retreat

First Small Group Discussion Topics:

What is the situation we find ourselves in:

- Historically-to-currently, what do we mean by "the arts"; if that understanding were expanded what else could/should be considered as part of the arts?
- If what people do is what they believe, then what do Californians think we in the arts believe, based on what we do?
- What is/are the key problem/s with the situation? Bedrock problems?
- What are we not seeing/hearing? What are the taboo thoughts in the back of your mind that challenge our beliefs?

- What don't we know? What limitations, obstacles, blind spots in our own thinking may be getting in the way of seeing the whole picture?
- What do we need to learn in order to innovate our way toward good solutions, effective change?

1:30-2:00 Gather responses

2:15-3:30 Second small group discussions

What do we need to learn from a statewide inquiry with many CA communities?

- What are the questions we usually don't ask, what are the conversations we usually avoid or truncate?
- What are our core values do we wish to bring to the discussions and the future of the arts in CA?
- What ideas do we want to put forward for people around the state to consider in an ongoing process of listening/inquiry to learn our way into effective change?

3:45-4:20 Gather responses

4:20-5:00 Conclude Day One, prepare for Day Two

5:30-7:00 Reception with Legislative Leaders
The Broiler Steakhouse, 1201 K Street, 15th Floor

7:30 Dinner on your own

DAY TWO: WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13

8:00-8:30 Continental Breakfast

8:30-9:00 Morning Plenary
Reflect on first day. Introduce focus and goals of Day Two

9:00-10:15 Small group discussion

- What is the best way to pursue this inquiry?
- What do we need to be mindful of to do this as well as possible?
- What support do we need?
- What communication do we need?
- What are you personally going to do?

10:30-11:40 Conclusion
Gather ideas for plans, support and communication
State plan for moving forward based on responses.

12:00-1:00 Working Lunch with Keynote Address by Arlene Goldbard

1:00-2:15 Arts Advocacy Day Legislative Briefing

2:30-5:00 Arts Advocacy Day Visits with Legislators

5:00 Travel Home