



L.A.C.E.R. Afterschool Programs
Literacy, Arts, Culture, Education, and Recreation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PRESS RELEASE

YOUNG VISUAL ARTISTS TALENT SHOWCASED AT ORCHARD GABLES

Los Angeles, CA - (June 1, 2022) – The Artwork of students from the L.A.C.E.R. Afterschool Visual Art Program will be on display for an in-person art show. The students have created art pieces in various mediums, including pencil, charcoal, pen and ink, acrylic, watercolor, graphic art, photography, sculptures, and mixed media.

The show will open at the culturally historic home, Orchard Gables, on June 4 from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM and will run through August 31. There is no admission fee, but reservations are required. For more information, go to www.LACERafterschool.org/Events.

More than 360 student artists have participated in the free art classes. The students are from King, Bancroft, Le Conte, and Irving Middle Schools and Hollywood, Fairfax, North Hollywood, and Marshall High Schools. They all attend the L.A.C.E.R. Afterschool Programs at their respective schools and participate in the arts classes funded by a generous arts grant from the Wilbur May Foundation.

Partnerships like The Wilbur May Foundation, a long-time supporter, help L.A.C.E.R. make the arts an integral part of the after-school experience for thousands of students in Los Angeles. The Wilbur May Foundation support provides a minimum of 10,000 additional hours of arts instruction and performance time over five years across eight L.A.C.E.R. schools, providing an arts experience for more than 7,000 middle and high school youth.

About Wilbur D. May and The Wilbur May Foundation

Wilbur D. May was born in 1898 in Denver, Colorado. He was the third son of David May, founder of the May Company department stores. A successful businessman, world traveler, and avid sportsman, he was also deeply concerned for the well-being of children. Wilbur May was a principal supporter of the Reno Y.W.C.A., the Northern Nevada Children's Home, and countless other worthy causes.

The Wilbur May Foundation, comprised of family relatives, continues to enhance Wilbur's vision and the tradition of giving back to the community. The foundation supports a wide range of projects in California and the United States, providing opportunity, equity, and support to those who need it the most.

About L.A.C.E.R. Afterschool Programs

The award-winning L.A.C.E.R. Afterschool Programs, located in eight Los Angeles public schools, offers thousands of youth free programming in three key areas; academic tutoring, health and fitness, and visual and performing arts. The organization was founded in 1995 and is a Los Angeles-based 501(c)(3). L.A.C.E.R. (Literacy, Arts, Culture, Education, and Recreation) provides a safe environment for young people to expand their learning with opportunities otherwise unavailable at their school or community. Find more information about L.A.C.E.R. at www.LACERafterschool.org.

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About Orchard Gables, 1277 N. Wilcox, Los Angeles 90038

The Orchard Gables house was built in 1904 on property once owned by Sen. Cornelius Cole, one of the founding settlers in Hollywood. Cole represented California in the House of Representatives (1863 to 1865) in the U.S. Senate (1867-1873) and was involved in bringing the transcontinental railroad to California. Cole was also an attorney and once represented Henry Hancock, a wealthy landowner of the time who is the namesake for Hancock Park, who deeded him 500 acres in what is now Hollywood.

Cole later subdivided his property in the 1880s and deeded the parcel where Orchard Gables is located to Paul A. Homan in 1897. Homan contracted with Abbot Kinney, the architect who created the Los Angeles district of Venice, to design the Orchard Gables residence, completed in 1904 on a parcel of land that once featured acres of citrus groves.

Over the years, the structure was threatened by private development who wanted to demolish the property, but the Community Redevelopment Corporation of the City of Los Angeles (CRA-LA) and Hollywood Heritage stepped in, and Orchard Gables was designated as a historic cultural monument in 2006. The private developer then sold the house and a small portion of surrounding property to the CRA-LA, which transferred the two-story building to the Hollywood Community Housing Corporation (HCHC), a non-profit organization specializing in preserving old structures. Since its restoration, Orchard Gables has been the home of The LACER Afterschool Programs.

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(323) 957-6481 www.L.A.C.E.R.afterschool.org