

The Latino Theater Company at The Los Angeles Theatre Center | 514 S. Spring St. Los Angeles, CA 90013

Site Visit: May 21, 2026

Summary

Background

- Located in Downtown LA, and owned by the City of Los Angeles
 - Previously managed by City of LA Cultural Affairs
- Latino Theater Company (LTC) holds 50-year, \$1 per year lease
- LTC does not receive funding from the City of LA
- Mid-size theater performance space
- 84,000 sq ft
- 80,000 attendance/year
- Participation in national and regional initiatives

Programming

- Theater performances and special events
- Imaginistas - Playwrights commissioned to write social justice plays the LATC produces
- 9 week after school skill training hosted three times per year (set building, etc.)
- Educational programs – summer conservatory
- Provide grants to other organizations and artists
- Social prescription pilot program with 500 participants, in collaboration with Alta Med and LA Care
- Designed to hold multiple performances at the same time, and is also used as an incubator and shared co-working space for other organizations

Operations

- 5 Theater spaces ranging from 99 – 500 seats
- Rehearsal spaces
- Dressing rooms, bathroom, showers
- Wardrobe room
- Scene and prop shop
- Office, administrative, conference spaces
- 250 employees including full- and part-time

Funding

- Philanthropic and individual donors
- Government agency funding
- Events do not generate revenue, as programming and performances are to be free for the community

Summary

Governance

- Non-profit organization
- Board of Directors – 5 Board Members, 6 Board of Directors, 6 Board of Governors
- Board member contributions
- Non-profit by-laws
- 5-year Succession plan includes cohort of 17 new and emerging professionals to lead the organization
 - Many of the professionals already work within LTC and are cross-trained in various departments
- Executive Director
- Staff and leadership have strong fundraising skills

Community Serving Elements

- The site is one of the few spaces of its scale to showcase multicultural plays
- The site is a cultural institution that serves the Los Angeles community
- Performances are all LA centered
- Community college impact program provides 2 tickets per performance to students
- LTC productions at community colleges with students who receive a stipend
- \$10 Thursday performances
- Music performances prior to theater productions initiate community building experience
- Audiences are diverse in age, identity, cultural background, etc. which is representative of the mission statement and diverse storytelling

Panel Takeaways

- Programming
 - Consistently aligned with the organization's mission, to inclusively serve diverse communities
 - Supported through generational leadership who has deep roots in the communities being served
 - Career pathways support an emerging and diverse workforce
 - Balances being deeply rooted in community and growing in regional, national impact
- Operations
 - Succession planning includes internal hiring practices and other community-serving policies
 - Staff are cross-trained across departments as a way to cultivate leadership skills
 - Space allows for multiple programs to happen simultaneously, and provides co-working opportunities for other local artists and smaller organizations who might not have their own dedicated space

Site Visit: June 25, 2026

Summary

Background

- Located in Lincoln Park in Lincoln Heights, created in response to grassroots organizing
- Lease from City of LA, in coordination with LA Recreation and Parks Department
 - Plaza de la Raza (Plaza) does not receive funding from the City of LA
- Spaces include Boat House, Music Building, 200-seat Theater, Courtyard, and Onsite Parking
- 21,000 sq ft
- Accommodates events with up to 5,000 attendees

Programming

- Rentals for special events and gatherings
- Four annual, public festivals with vendors
- Free and/or subsidized classes for local children
- Internships and apprenticeships
- Theater performances, artist exhibits
- Grant-writing and fiscal sponsorship support for local artists and independent groups
- 15 artist residencies, with service trading opportunities (e.g. venue space in exchange for programming)

Operations

- Boat House with gallery and exhibit space
- Music Building with dance and music rehearsal space, including modular walls to adjust room size
- Storage space for costumes and instruments
- Theater with performance space, available for rental
- Outdoor courtyard, adaptable to a variety of events
- Onsite parking lot, with an agreement to use overflow parking at neighboring CA DMV
- Staffing through 5 full time and 60 part time employees, including teaching artists, interns, and volunteer parents

Funding

- Facility rentals (~65%)
- Class registration fees (~25%)
- Contributed revenue, grants, fundraising, corporate and individual donations
- State funding for capital improvements
 - Plaza currently undergoing construction maintenance for facility improvements

Summary

Governance

- Non-profit, community-serving cultural center
- 12-person Board with representatives across fields and sectors, primarily focused on fundraising
- Executive Director with decision-making power
- Many Plaza staff and leadership started as students, interns, etc. (generational impact)

Community Serving Elements

- Cultural institution and treasure with deep roots in East Los Angeles, and allies within the community, corporate, and political spaces
- All programming, events, and services must tie back to the mission of creating safe spaces for the surrounding community
- Facility rentals are offered at a sliding scale and discounted rates for local families and partners
- Arts education programming and classes are free for local children
- Emphasis on the community's health, wellbeing, and safety (programming may shift to respond to emerging needs, e.g. COVID-19)
- Provides work and mentorship opportunities for local youth and staff seeking professions and careers in the arts and arts administration

Panel Takeaways

- Programming
 - Artists have a sense of ownership over the classes and exhibits, and are deeply engaged in programming
 - Artists can exchange teaching hours or other services in exchange for space
 - Rental program separate from arts programming, balancing revenue with community-centered fee structure
- Operations
 - Campus had integrated outdoor and indoor spaces, and was expansive enough to host multiple disciplines
 - Onsite parking availability and partnerships with neighboring buildings
 - Flexible storage options built into the space, such as storage behind dance building mirrors
 - Creative staffing structure with different tiers and levels of employment (full-time, part-time, interns, volunteers)
 - Board is strictly responsible for fundraising while Executive Director oversees programming
 - Sustainable maintenance budget to support building improvements, technology upgrades, etc. over time

Site Visit: July 13, 2026

Summary

Background

- Located in San Pedro, created in response to desire for art studio and gathering space
- Sited in historic army barracks in Angels Gate Park, with a lease from City of LA and in coordination with LA Recreation and Parks Department
 - Angels Gate Cultural Center (AGCC) does not receive funding from the City of LA
- Neighbors include federal, LA Unified School District, City park and pool, and 8 nonprofits
- Spaces include Gallery, 50 artist studios across 11 buildings, Native Sacred Space, yard, and Parking
- 3,000 sq ft gallery, 50 studios from 150-1,000 sq ft
- Can accommodate events with up to 3,000 attendees

Operations

- Gallery includes front desk and conference room
- Two primary workshops for ceramics and printmaking, with ability to rent equipment
- Working on increasing ADA accessibility
- Onsite parking options, working on paving
- Staffing through full time employees, studio and teaching artists, and event volunteers

Programming

- Contemporary arts gallery with rotating exhibits featuring local and regional artists
- 50 studio artists who rent space at below-market costs (\$150-\$1,000 per month) and can also teach classes or workshops
- Arts education, both onsite and in-classroom
- Teen mural program
- School field trips
- Rentals and logistics supports for events, such as Sound Pedro and Many Winters Gathering of Elders
- Rentals for onsite filming

Funding

- Artist and community rentals (~60%)
- Filming rentals (contributes to beautification)
- Foundation and philanthropy generated income

Summary

Governance

- Non-profit, community and artist-serving center
- 7-person Board
- Executive Director overseeing operations

Community Serving Elements

- Cultural institution with deep roots in San Pedro's community and local arts advocacy
- Studio artists are provided mentorship and given opportunities for earned income
- Deep collaboration and partnership with Native communities, providing dedicated timeslots and space for their use
- Arts education programming aims to increase arts and culture equity across LAUSD schools
- Provides work experience and exhibit space for local youth and early artists seeking professions in the arts

Panel Takeaways

- Programming
 - Artists studios can be used for local artists to create art that can then be sold elsewhere (artist income-generation)
 - Teaching artists can determine curriculum and set fee structure, with AGCC organizational-guidance
 - Teen mural program provides dedicated youth programming and communicates art can be for everyone
 - Meaningful relationships, partnerships, and event support for local tribes
- Operations
 - Emphasis on artist studio spaces to serve emerging and established artists, support their professional development, and facilitate artist relationship building and collaboration
 - Diverse revenue stream, including arts classes fees, rentals, onsite filming, and fundraising
 - Leasing agreement with the City can be challenging to navigate, especially related to operations and maintenance

Site Visit: July 13, 2026

Summary

Background

- Located in Downtown LA, created in response to desire for a LA Philharmonic home
- 5 resident companies and 7 facility spaces
 - The Music Center (TMC) receives operations and maintenance funding from the County and programmatic funding from nonprofit residencies' fundraising and revenue
 - Ahmanson Theater (2,103 attendees), Dorothy Chandler Pavilion (3,156 attendees), Mark Taper Forum (738 attendees), and Walt Disney Concert Hall (2,254 attendees)
- 22-acre campus, with 12-acre park
- 35,000 sq ft outdoor Jerry Moss Plaza

Programming

- Programmed by TMC Arts, and operated by TMC Operations, TMC Business Services
- Center Theatre Group, Master Chorale, LA Opera, and LA Philharmonic programs performing arts across facilities
- Flexible, public programming at Jerry Moss Plaza and Gloria Molina Grand Park
- Third party vendors and event rentals

Operations

- TMC Operations oversees staffing, maintenance, security, first aid, custodial services, and ushers
- Performing arts buildings can also be rented
- Public, programmable outdoor plaza, with media arts and public amenities
- Onsite parking garage is overseen by the County
- Hundreds of staff to support administration, operations, fundraising, programming, and more.

Funding

- Operations (~\$40M from the County)
- Programming (~\$400-500M through fundraising, ticket sales, and third party vendors)
- County contract dictates what is funded
- Grand Park contract allows for budget to rollover as long as the funding is used for relevant programming.
- Ticketing fees help support building repairs, maintenance, and replacement.

Summary

Governance

- 4 Non-profit residencies with CEOs executing TMC Contract and overseeing all arts programming
- 45-person Board in charge of fundraising, hiring and firing CEO, as well as setting mission and vision
- 7-person Executive Leadership Team representing operations, finance, advancement, people and culture, arts programming, and marketing

Community Serving Elements

- Plaza is completely open to the public, including amenities such as shade, water, seating, and restrooms
- Annual public events in the Plaza and Park

Panel Takeaways

- Programming
 - Banquet spaces, including in-house catering access, are a key revenue generator
 - Performing arts programming can co-exist with rentals programming due to strong centralized communication and scheduling tools
- Operations
 - Spaces and seating options should be flexible, and include dedicated room for storage and administrative offices
 - Indoor and outdoor space integration can help design more creative programming
 - Outdoor plaza is dedicated to public programming and amenities including restaurant, restrooms, seating, lighting
 - Power and utilities infrastructure was planned at the forefront, which streamlines event set-up
 - Specifically name requests when co-creating the County lease agreement, language must be plain, clear, and all-inclusive of needs.
 - Support staff wellbeing through access to restrooms, lactation rooms, rest areas, and affordable meal access