

Communication from Public

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Date Submitted: 05/18/2025 07:36 AM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: The proposed cuts in the City of Los Angeles' proposed 2025-2026 budget threaten Barnsdall Art Park and LA's only UNESCO World Heritage site: Hollyhock House, Frank Lloyd Wright's architectural masterpiece. Seven essential staff positions at Barnsdall are at risk under the proposed budget, including three of Hollyhock House's four full-time positions. These cuts mean that the house would have to suspend public tours. Gifted to the City of Los Angeles in 1927, Barnsdall Art Park has been part of the fabric of East Hollywood and Los Feliz, as well as a destination for art-loving Angelenos and tourists for nearly a century. Hollyhock House welcomes many thousands of Angelenos and tourists every year and is a source of pride and revenue for the City. The City worked for over fifteen years to get UNESCO status for Hollyhock House, and now these cuts will adversely affect the preservation, protection and public access to this site, potentially jeopardizing its UNESCO designation. Programming at the Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery and Barnsdall Gallery Theatre would also be greatly reduced, and the low-cost fine art classes at Barnsdall Arts Center and Barnsdall Junior Arts Center, provided to thousands of local children and adults annually for over 50 years, will be significantly diminished. As a CD 13 resident who has lived just a few blocks away from Barnsdall for 4 years, this park means the world to me. I've enjoyed many sunsets and picnics on the grassy hill, toured the Hollyhock House countless times and brought friends and family to awe in amazement of the home, and taken life changing art classes at Barnsdall Art Center. This park has been a place of solace and peace during challenging times in my life. I've been able to rely on the park to bring me comfort, creativity, and inspiration. This space is invaluable to the local community and to people that visit from all over the world. Access to public parks and affordable arts programming like Barnsdall's is not a luxury—it's a lifeline for countless residents seeking inspiration, healing, and connection. This is the time to protect our most valuable cultural treasures, not shut them down. I urge you to vote against these proposed cuts to ensure the legacy of Barnsdall Art Park continues. A Los Angeles without Barnsdall as we know it is not the Los Angeles we know and love.