FOR RELEASE

LA Unified Concert to Benefit Arts Education

The LA Unified Arts Education Branch Seeks to Make Unprecedented Arts Impact

Los Angeles, CA (January 29, 2018) - On April 12, 2018, the Los Angeles Unified School District (LA Unified) will host a Benefit Concert at The Music Center's **Dorothy Chandler Pavilion** in Downtown Los Angeles. The Benefit Concert, presented in association with The Music Center, will feature A-List Performers who are committed to giving back to the next generation of artists. LA Unified student artists from selected schools will perform alongside celebrity guests. In addition, notable LA Unified alumni will join the festivities as hosts to advocate for arts education. The full roster of performers and hosts for the Benefit Concert will be announced when tickets go on sale mid-February.

Los Angeles is one of the most vibrant, artistic and creative centers in the world. LA Unified's Arts Education Branch (AEB) is committed to ensure that every school in the district provides arts classes, arts instruction, and arts experiences for every student in the district. "The LA Unified Arts Education Branch is seeking to utilize all of the arts ecosystem through its far-reaching programming," said Senior Executive Director of the Arts, Rory Pullens. "We are looking to raise awareness of the importance of arts education for students, how the arts provide them with the necessary skills for successful futures. The Benefit Concert will celebrate the value of the arts and the huge positive impact it has on students and our economy." Through this Benefit Concert, the Arts Education Branch will raise additional funding to expand its arts efforts and forge closer partnerships with companies and individuals committed to the arts, arts education, and future generations of artists.

The AEB is committed to preparing its students for the 21st Century. From the career pathway workshops with the entertainment studios who are a part of its Creative Industry Coalition, to the student Film Festivals held at the Academy of Motion Pictures of Arts and Sciences annually, to the Creativity Summit designed to ignite creative civic action through the arts, to its Emmy award nominated Spotlight Arts! show on KLCS, to the army of arts partners in its vibrant Art Cultural Network, to creative Arts Integration and STEAM professional developments, the Arts Education Branch seeks to provide arts exposure to 100% of its students. The AEB is proud to be presenting the Benefit Concert at The Music Center given the arts organization's pioneering role in arts education and leadership in expanding and diversifying its arts programming. "We have a longstanding relationship serving and supporting LA Unified, so hosting this concert in a Music Center venue is natural extension of that support," said Rachel Moore, president and CEO, The Music Center.

LA Unified is proud of its successes, and those to come. Its students and alumni are routinely chosen to perform in local, national, and international venues. Alumni are Oscar, Grammy, Tony and Emmy-award winners, but more importantly, contributing artists to the cultural landscape that makes a difference in the world. The Benefit Concert evening at The Music Center will add to that legacy.

About the Los Angeles Unified School District (LA Unified):

Second largest in the nation, the Los Angeles Unified School District (LA Unified) enrolls nearly 650,000 students in kindergarten through 12th grade, at over 900 schools that offer a variety of specialized and comprehensive educational programs. The boundaries spread over 720 square miles in six local districts that include the metropolitan city of Los Angeles as well as all or parts of 31 smaller municipalities and several unincorporated sections of Southern California. www.lausd.net

About LA Unified Arts Education Branch:

Part of the Los Angeles Unified School District and its rigorous Division of Instruction, the Arts Education Branch partners with local and national arts, entertainment and philanthropic communities to collaboratively support the growth of a robust arts culture. Nearly 650,000 K-12 students receive a comprehensive and challenging visual and performing arts curriculum. The Arts Education Branch sponsors school, family, and community arts-related programs and staff professional development for cutting-edge arts education design and implementation. It believes that all LA Unified students, from every culture and socioeconomic level, deserve quality arts learning in dance, music, theatre, visual and media arts as part of the core curriculum.

For more information, please visit:

Website: arts.lausd.net

Facebook:

"Like" LAUSD Arts Education Branch on Facebook at: <u>https://www.facebook.com/lausdartseducationbranch/</u>

Twitter:

Join the conversation! Hashtag #ArtsEducation #LAUSDArts Follow **@RoryPullens** and **@LAUSDArts** on Twitter.

Instagram:

Follow us at instagram.com/lausd_arts/ or @lausd_arts

CONTACT:

Media Contact for interviews, photos, et, al: Edna Sims, ESP Public Relations, esppr@icloud.com or (310) 770-8117

Dr. Steven McCarthy, Director, Arts Education Branch, <u>steven.mccarthy@lausd.net</u> or (213) 241- 8222