AFRICAN-AMERICAN quilt making    JAPANESE bonsai    WESTERN saddle making

KARUK dip net fishing    CHINESE qin music    COWBOY poetry    HMONG wedding

and funeral ritual singing    INDIAN carnatic music    HUNGARIAN six-hole fipple

flute music    MEXICAN mariachi music    LAOTIAN dance    MECHOOPDA MAIDU dance

regalia    HAWAIIAN kahiko hula and chant    MONO basketry    PILIPINO rondalla

ensembles    PORTUGUESE fado singing    SOUTH INDIAN bharata natyam dance

MEXICAN corridos    VIETNAMESE cai luong opera    CHINESE qin music    PERSIAN
tar music    NORTH INDIAN kathak dance    MAGUINDANAO kulintang music    OHLONE

basketry    MEXICAN cartonería    KOREAN seal carving    WESTERN boot making

HMONG qeej music    OKINAWAN dance    CAMBODIAN pin peat music    ARMENIAN

MARASH embroidery    MEXICAN son huasteco music    CAHUILLA bird singing

PERSIAN santour music    TIBETAN folk dance    AFRO-CUBAN batá drumming

HMONG reverse appliqué embroidery    LAO weaving    MEXICAN son jarocho

music    SCOTTISH HIGHLAND bagpipe music    PILIPINO eskrima martial arts

PUERTO RICAN bomba music and dance    CHINESE kunqu opera    ARMENIAN

oud music    KARUK basketry    CHINESE dizi flute music    YUROK dugout canoe-making

BRAZILIAN capoeira    POMO baby cradle making    ARAB derbakeh

percussion music    MEXICAN día de los muertos altars    HUNGARIAN folk
dance    CUBAN LUCUMÍ music    SENEGALESE music and dance    DANZA AZTECA

regalia    ROMANI music and dance    GHANAIAN drumming    MEXICAN ballet

folklórico    AFRICAN-AMERICAN gospel music    KUMEYAYAAY sacred songs    JAPANESE

shamisen music    TRINIDADIAN carnival costumes, music and dance
Alliance for California Traditional Arts
Support Our State’s Thriving Cultural Communities

Californians come together everyday to create culture—in their neighborhoods, parks, churches and temples—to play taiko drums, dance son jarocho on the tarima, sing a gospel hymn, share a family recipe, or tell rich stories about their cultural heritage.

The Alliance for California Traditional Arts (ACTA) supports the work of California traditional artists spanning hundreds of art forms, from cowboy poetry and African American quilting to Hmong qeej music and queer voguing dance competitions.

Over our 20 year history, the Alliance for California Traditional Arts has
- invested $5.2 million into the folk and traditional arts field
- awarded grants to 590 traditional arts organizations
- supported 314 master artists and their apprentices
- conducted over 1,075 case studies of tradition bearers
- worked in 50 of California’s 58 counties
- served 17 state prisons with our Arts in Corrections traditional arts workshops

Cover Image: Yenedit Valencia dances to the Jarabe Mixteco  This page: top, Brian Wong, Japanese koto; above left, West African djembe drum with Abdullatif Bell Tounkara; above right, Dancers of Che’lu: Chamorro Hands in Education Links Unity
Engaging with California

Sounds of California
An on-going series of concerts, performances, public song collections and archiving held throughout the state, Sounds of California offers an auditory journey of how our musical cultures mirror the movements shaping California today.

Traditional Arts Roundtable Series
Our Roundtable Series strengthens intercultural traditional arts networks and broad public participation by offering free programs to gather and learn from each other in discussions and art-sharing forums.

Apprenticeship Program
The Apprenticeship Program encourages the continuity of California’s traditional arts and cultures by contracting master artists to offer intensive, one-on-one training to qualified apprentices.

Living Cultures Grants Program
The Living Cultures Grants Program sustains California-based nonprofits with grants of $5,000 to support community-driven traditional arts projects, programs and development.

Arts in Corrections
ACTA offers traditional artist residencies in a third of California’s prisons, facilitating workshops for inmates that are based in musical forms like Afro-Colombian percussion, Mexican folk guitar, storytelling, and visual artforms like Native American beadwork, Chicano murals, and altar building.

Participatory Cultural Asset Mapping
ACTA’s cultural asset-mapping is used in neighborhoods to identify and mobilize a community’s cultural resources, creating a shared vision of cultural vitality. Community members recognize their cultural assets in the people, groups, places, and events that reflect the expressions they value as resources essential to what makes a neighborhood a healthy and unique place to live.

Top to bottom: Xochi Flores and Cesar Castro, Mexican son jarocho music; Malathi Iyengar, South Indian bharata natyam dance; Valerie Edwards and Shewaya Peck, Yamani Maidu basketry; Emily Mann, Suzy Thompson, Maxine Gerber of Berkeley Old Time Music Convention; Son jarocho workshop at Pleasant Valley State Prison; Florencia Pierre, Haitian culture-bearer
ACTA Celebrates 20 Years

In 2017, the Alliance for California Traditional Arts marks twenty years of serving California’s folk and traditional artists. In 1997, many of the traditional artists in our state were scattered and isolated, especially those living in the more rural parts of California. Today, we are witnessing artists supported by ACTA transmitting not only artistic skills, but also leadership, into second and third generations of younger tradition-bearers. ACTA has built a reputation on trust, and our role has been to directly support our artists, and to learn from their communities.

California is a pacesetter for how migration shapes our lives, and in 2017, we stand at a critical moment as the public and country debate the nature of citizenship, culture, and community. ACTA understands that our cultural expressions—our rituals and festivals, our feasts and songs—transform the neighborhoods we live in and makes us who we are. Help sustain these living cultural expressions by supporting ACTA.

Take Action TODAY

The Alliance for California Traditional Arts believes traditional arts can inspire innovative thought, and that passionate investment has the potential to build cultural bridges and ignite artistic, social, and civic change. You can be part of that change.

Support ACTA today! In supporting ACTA, you are helping to sustain the traditional art forms that give us collective meaning and purpose in a political and social climate where the arts and immigrant voices are fighting to be heard!

Log onto our website to donate here: actaonline.org/support

Send a check to our offices here: Alliance for California Traditional Arts 744 P Street, Suite 307, Fresno, CA 93721

Your generous contribution to ACTA is tax-deductible and helps sustain California’s cultural art forms.

Left to right: Indian samosa lesson at Oakland Asian Cultural Center; Storyteller Michael McCarty; Mexican folkórico by Grupo Folklorico Juan Colorado
Donation Form

Here’s what your donations to ACTA could help support:

• archival digitization of a major collection to facilitate public access
• a Living Cultures Grant in a community of traditional arts practice
• an Apprenticeship for one year
• documenting the practice and skill of a master artist for the public
• facilitating a Sounds of California community recording session
• a culminating event at an Arts in Corrections traditional arts residency
• an artist sharing at our Traditional Arts Roundtable Series

Every gift is a commitment to an artist. Your contribution doesn’t just support ACTA, it expands our vision and makes us more responsive. It also means the world to us!

Name(s) ________________________________________________________________
Street Address __________________________________________________________
City State Zip __________________________________________________________
Email _________________________________________________________________
Phone _________________________________________________________________

☐ I would like to make a monthly contribution of $________ for ________ months.
☐ I would like to make a one time donation of $________.
☐ Enclosed is a check for $_______ payable to ACTA.
☐ I would like to contribute $_______ by credit card:
  ☐ Visa ☐ MC ☐ Amex ☐ Discover

Card # __________________________________________________________________
Exp Date ___________ CVV # __________________

Facing page: Karuk youth at coming of age ceremony
Questions? Contact Patricia Wakida, Development and Donor Engagement Manager at pwakida@actaonline.org or Amy Kitchener, Executive Director at akitch@actaonline.org

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