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PRISON
arts
COLLECTIVE

Art is transformation on a personal level. It has given me freedom, opened my eyes, expanded my way of thinking, and given me a way to be myself, especially here in prison.

— Lyle, participant, California Institution for Men (CIM)



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Depo
and

The Community-based Art (CBA) program is integrated into the Visual Studies Major in the Department of Art at CSUSB. The Prison Arts Collective grows out of CBA and serves a need for immersive arts and higher education partnerships in correctional institutions.

The Prison Arts Collective (PAC) is funded by Arts-in-Corrections, an initiative of the California Arts Council and the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR), with additional funding from CDCR Innovative Programming grants, internal grants from CSUSB, and recently received a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WuR92U9CaDU&feature=youtu.be>

Context for American Prisons

- **The United States has the world's largest prison population.**
- Today, roughly 2.2 million people are behind bars in the United States, an increase of 1.9 million since 1972.
- Today, the US is 5% of the World population and has 25% of world prisoners.
- African Americans now constitute nearly 1 million of the total 2.3 million incarcerated population.
- African Americans are incarcerated at nearly six times the rate of whites.
- Together, African American and Hispanics comprised 58% of all prisoners in 2008, even though African Americans and Hispanics make up approximately one quarter of the US population
- **Sources:**
The Southern Poverty Law Center
The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

California State University, San Bernardino

California State University, San Bernardino is the primary institution of higher learning in the region.

It is a public university in a drastically economically disadvantaged community.

70% of our students are the first in their families to graduate from college.

CSUSB has a diverse student body: 40% Hispanic, 28% White, 11% African American, 7.2% Asian/Pacific Islander, 3.8% International, .06% Native American, 9.4% Other.

The median age of students is 21 years old. A majority of CSUSB students maintain jobs and or families while in school



Philosophy & Vision



- In the Community-based Art (CBA) initiative at California State University, San Bernardino, **students, alumni, faculty, and volunteers** come together to facilitate art classes and programs in the local community sites that otherwise would not have access to art.
- Our classes, projects, and programs are based on a philosophy of **collaboration, interdependence, and mutual learning**.
- The Prison Arts Collective grows out of this work and responds to a need for **immersive arts education** in **correctional institutions**. It evolves because of the many individuals, inside and outside these systems, that believe in the mission and offer support and input.
- This combination of **institutional, community, and individual support** is vital to the continued evolution of the PAC.

- Our unique approach to Arts-in-Corrections engages participants, teaching artists, and institutions in a **collaborative planning** process and offers opportunities for **apprenticeships and training** for university students as well as the incarcerated population.
- All of our **integrated arts classes** include art history, art making, and reflection and engage a diversity of disciplines and approaches to art.
- We are dedicated to **academic activism** and **community engagement**, and integrate principles of **restorative justice** in our multidisciplinary rehabilitative arts programming.



Art promotes 'out of the box' thinking while challenging our opinions and perspectives. It is a reflection of our innermost being, a moment of truth for what really matters.

— Participant, California Institution for Men (CIM)

Our Pedagogical Model

- Our curriculum is co-created by students and faculty and volunteer focused on facilitating the development of **personal agency** and to empower participants with **self-expression** and **communication** skills. We integrate technical skills alongside creative and expressive practices, including collaboration and co-creation.
- The classroom environment is important to our program. We collaborate with participants to create a **calm, focused, positive, and supportive learning environment** for all.





- Our classes are based on the needs and interests of participants and the expertise of our teaching teams. We have developed core classes and we also continually **revise, adapt, and enrich our program content.**
- We want our participants to know that they are part of a larger story of art and history. To achieve this, we bring guest artists, writers, and scholars to share their work and all of our classes include: **a) historical and/or cultural content, b) creative practice, and c) reflection.**



Programs



Ongoing:

- Weekly Arts Programming
- Teacher Training & Arts Facilitator Training
- Service Learning & Internships
- Exhibitions & Panel Series
- Publications & Research
- Guest Artist & Scholar Program

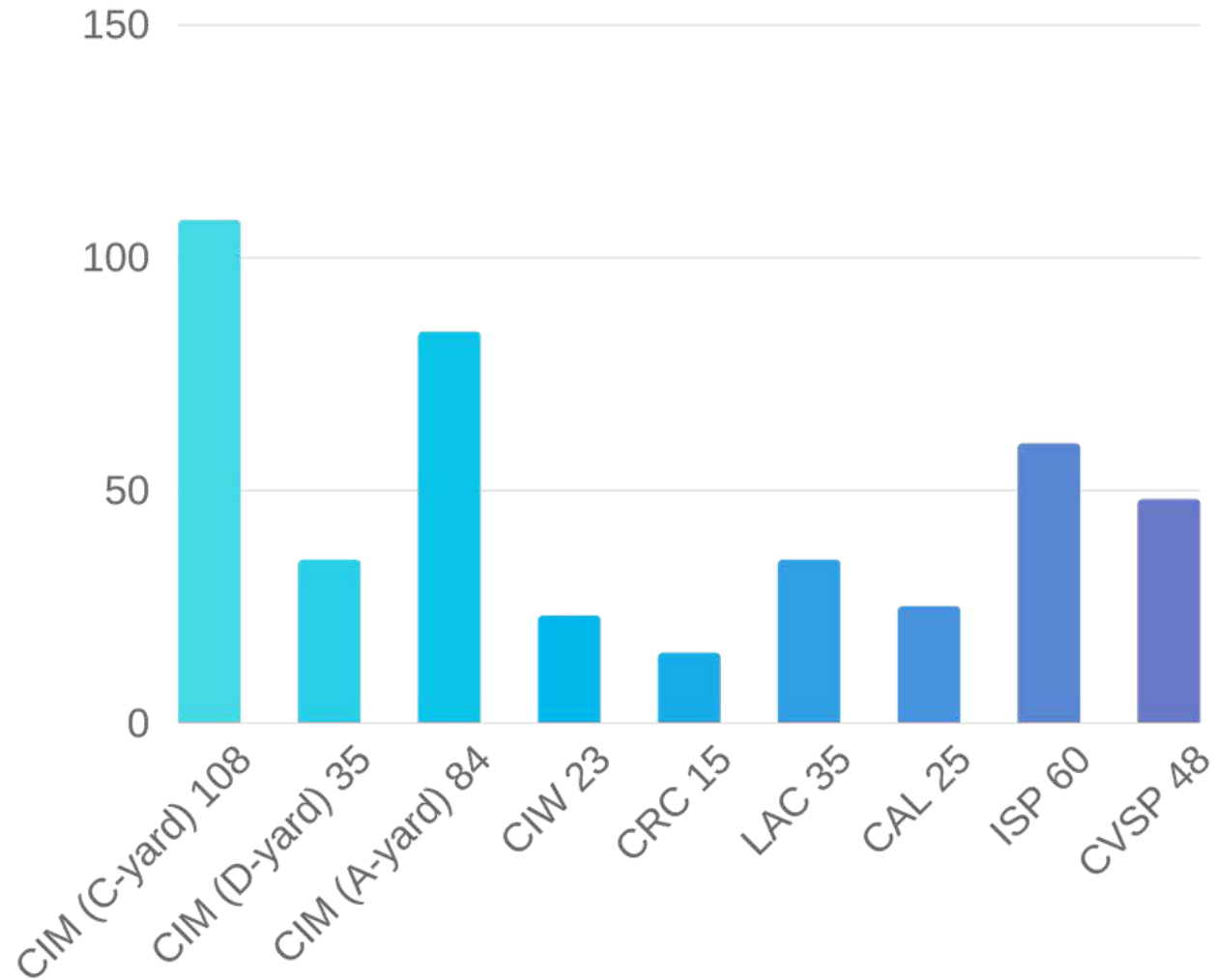
In Development:

- * BA Program
- * Regional Chapters

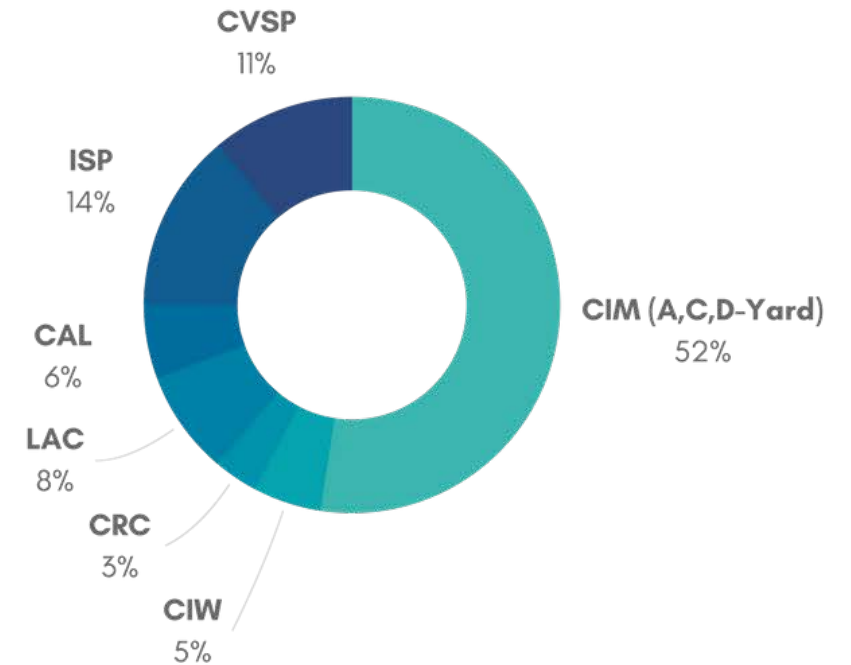
PAC Weekly Arts Programming

- We facilitate up to **34** 3-hour classes weekly in four local prisons and a comprehensive Facilitator Trainings in three distant prisons.
- We serve approximately **1500** incarcerated participants in four local prisons and three distant prisons, six men's facilities and one women's.
- We employ **12** part-time staff (all are alumni) and **8** student interns (current CSUSB students).
- Our first Advisory Council, created in spring 2017, meets bi-monthly and includes volunteer members serving for one year to support growth.
- We began meeting with a multidisciplinary faculty team to plan our first BA program that will integrate credit-bearing classes in the future.

34 WEEKLY CLASSES OFFERED THIS FALL



TOTAL PARTICIPANTS IN OUR FALL SESSION=388



Sample Schedule (Spring 2018)

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
CRC 8:30-11:30 am, 12:30-3:30 pm <u>Courses</u> Printmaking Patterns Around the World Paper Sculpture Collage/Mixed Media	CIM A-Yard 9:00-12:00, 12:30-3:30 pm <u>Courses</u> Photo Collage & Appreciation Beginning Watercolor Calligraphy Open Studio Creative Writing Paper Sculpture CIM D-Yard 9:00-12:00, 12:30-3:30 <u>Courses</u> Beginning Printmaking Patterns Around the World Beginning Drawing Foundations in Art	CIW 12:00-3:00 <u>Courses</u> Art and Mindfulness Storytelling Through Art CIM C-Yard 9:00-12:00, 12:30-3:30 <u>Courses</u> Collaborative Open Studio (in English and Spanish) Creative Writing Characters & Collage Guitar and Music Theory- taught by participants Creative Brain Training Watercolor Arts Facilitator Training	LAC B-Yard 9:00-12:00 <u>Courses</u> Painting and Creative Writing Performing Poetry LAC C-Yard 9:00-12:00 <u>Courses</u> Yoga & Art Painting and printmaking LAC A-Yard 12:30-3:30 <u>Courses</u> pending

Teacher Training & Arts Facilitator Training

- As the only university based-Arts-in-Corrections program, the PAC offers training and mentorship for the next generation, both to students and incarcerated participants.
- We are leading Arts Facilitator Training at four prisons from summer 2017 – fall 2018
- These programs are designed for incarcerated participants with skills in the arts (drawing, painting, poetry, music), whether self-taught or educated in schools. We offer comprehensive teacher education, foundational vocabulary in the arts, and a teacher apprenticeship.
- The goal is for those that graduate from the training to implement arts classes and foster a creative community inside the institutions.
- The benefits to participants are that they gain new skills and confidence as teachers. In addition, by mentoring others in the arts program on the inside, they foster community and grow as leaders.

*I loved this class. It really opened my point of view on art.
I see that this class has taught me to teach others. I see it this way:
What good is it if I know some area of knowledge and I can't share it or
teach it to someone?*

— Participant, Arts Facilitator Training, Ironwood State Prison

Service Learning & Internships

Both on campus and in the community, students examine the ways that social, cultural, and economic forces impact access to and understandings of art. Students actively participate in changing the current paradigm by teaching art at sites with little access to it. The design of this program varies depending on the needs and population at each site as well as on student interest and course requirements. We develop programs according to what is needed and what makes sense for each location and class.



Exhibitions & Panel Series



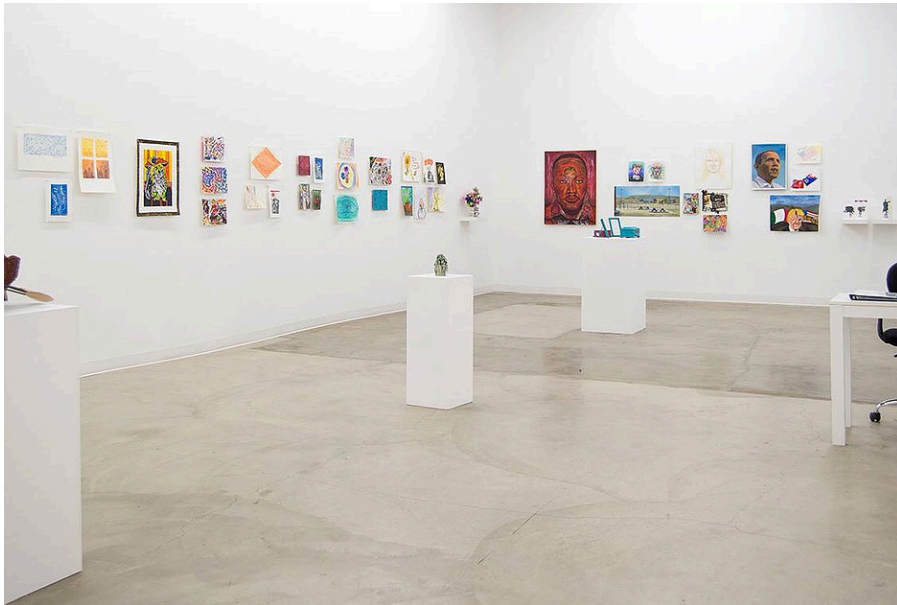
Beyond the Blue
CB1 Gallery, Los Angeles in July 2017.



Art as Healing panel
Freedom Festival, Los Angeles Valley College, September 2017.

Through the Wall

The first public exhibition, “Through the Wall,” of the PAC was hosted by CB1-G Gallery in Los Angeles and included paintings, drawings, and handmade objects created by participants in our programs at three California state prisons. This exhibition was well attended by a wide variety of viewers including curators, gallerists, artists, students, formerly incarcerated individuals, and the families of individuals that are currently incarcerated. We were honored to have the exhibition recommended by Carolina Miranda of the [Los Angeles Times](#) and by Matthew Stromberg of [Hyperallergic](#).



Beyond the Blue

The second Prison Arts Collective Exhibition, “Beyond the Blue,” opened at CB1 Gallery in Los Angeles in June 2017 and has since traveled to Marks Art Center at College of the Desert. In the upcoming years it will be on view in September 2019 at the Museum of Art and History in Lancaster, as well as Los Angeles Valley College in February 2020.



Install photo at CB1 Gallery, Los Angeles



Install photo at Marks Art Center, College of the Desert

Art makes you stop and think. It allows you to look at things through another's eyes, to appreciate beauty, appreciate talent, and recognize someone's vision.

— Participant, California Institution for Men (CIM)



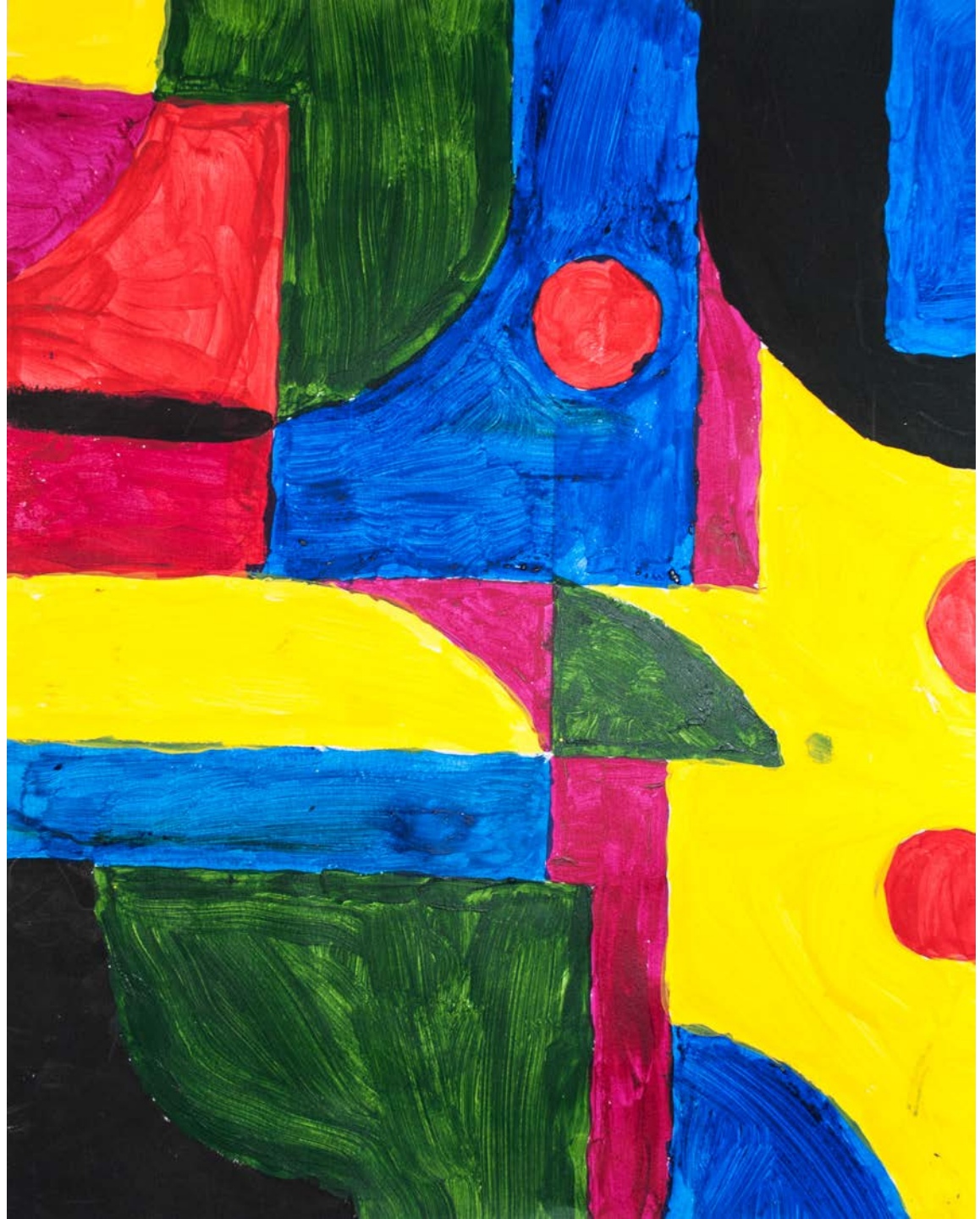














SEE
THE
LIGHT

Enjoy The

POWER TO CREATE

it's simple.

KEEP DREAMING

It's what I do.

Art and Restorative Justice Panel Series

What's in a Name?

July 22, 2017

CB1 Gallery, Los Angeles

Art as Healing

September 29, 2017

Freedom Festival, Los Angeles City College (LACC)

Art Education: Inside and Out

October 26, 2017

College of the Desert's Marks Art Center, Palm Desert

Student and Alumni Involvement in CBA/PAC

May 10, 2017

Robert and Frances Fullerton Museum of Art, CSUSB

Publications & Research

Faculty/Student publications:

“Through the Wall,” book co-edited by Annie Buckley and Matthew McMilon (then MFA student), 2015

“Art Inside,” a new series by Annie Buckley, on *Los Angeles Review of Books*, since spring 2017

“Collective Evolution Inside and Out” feature article by Annie Buckley, *Art & Education*, December 2015

In Development: Interview series of rehabilitative programs in prisons, *The Huffington Post*

“Voices of Change” article by Bee Wilkie, Christina Quevedo, Heather Roessler, and Matt McMilon (then grad students and one alumna), *Radical Actions*, May 2015

Faculty/Student Research

In Process:

- Existing Data Analysis, Annie Buckley with Dr. Annika Anderson and RAs Clarissa Madrid and Alex Masushige, data analysis of over 600 pre- and post-surveys from incarcerated participants
- Arts Facilitator Training, Annie Buckley with Christina Quevedo, Ashley Woods, Diego Irigoyen, Heather Roessler; teacher training and inmate-led classes with faculty mentorship at three distant prisons
- Three-year study on impact of program on inmates and prisons, Annie Buckley and Dr. Annika Anderson, Sociology and multiple students and alumni facilitators and research assistants

Guest Artist Program

Our guest artist in residence program is one of the ways the Prison Arts Collective is unique. We invite professional artists and experienced scholars to share their work in our weekly programs at state prisons. Bringing in professionals from the art world as guest artists, writers, curators, and scholars to share their valuable knowledge with our participants enhances the Prison Arts Collective curriculum tremendously.

Each guest artist shares art and/or a special topic with a gathering of participants. These events are well attended and popular, giving participants the opportunity to learn from others in the field and gain a first-hand look at a variety of contemporary practices.

Yearlong Program

The first graduation for our inaugural Yearlong Certificate Program in Art and Creative Writing at CIM took place on June 16, 2017.

FACULTY ADVISORS

Annika Anderson, PhD, Assistant Professor of Sociology, CSUSB; Director, Project Rebound

Kelly Campbell, PhD, Associate Professor of Psychology, CSUSB; Radio Host (Let's Talk Relationships)

Jennifer Lynne Musto, Assistant Professor, Women's and Gender Studies, Wellesley College



I love art. It helps me relax and keeps me grounded. I feel more secure when expressing myself artistically.

— Participant, California Institution for Women (CIW)

In Development: BA Program

- In collaboration with colleagues across the campus, we received a grant from the Jack H. Brown College of Business and Public Administration to plan and implement an interdisciplinary BA program inside the prisons.
- The BA will mirror the Visual Studies major on campus and will be a multidisciplinary and integrated approach to curriculum with practical opportunities to reflect, create, and apply learning.
- This is in tandem with a renewed interest from CDCR in BA programs in prisons. We hope for ours to be a pilot in this new state program.

In Development: Chapters

- In fall 2017, we signed a three-year contract with Arts-in-Corrections, an initiative of the California Arts Council and the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to expand our project locally and support CSU Fresno in opening a PAC chapter in the region.
- In addition, we are mentoring students and faculty at CSU Northridge. In winter 2018, CSUN will oversee one year of our program at the California State Prison, Los Angeles County.
- Our Advisory Council supported faculty and leadership gathered research on chapter models and we are currently finalizing documents to implement it at two universities.

For more information:

- Please visit our website at: www.prisonartscollective.com
- Email: Professor Annie Buckley, abuckley@csusb.edu