

ARTS

IN CALIFORNIA PARKS®

California Jobs First

Sustainable Recreation & Tourism Cohort

March 6, 2026

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH





PROGRAM OVERVIEW

What is Arts in California Parks?

Arts in California Parks (AiCP) is an initiative from California State Parks, in partnership with California Arts Council and Parks California. Together, we're connecting talented artists, wise culture bearers, California Native American tribes, and our diverse communities by creating art that celebrates our past, reflects our present, and dreams up our future.



PROGRAM GOALS

- **Welcome:** to engage diverse populations in parks with culturally sensitive projects.
- **Empower:** to offer mentorship and job opportunities for creative career paths.
- **Heal:** to utilize arts and parks for community well-being.
- **Connect:** to craft emotional connections between parks and communities.
- **Inspire:** to evoke curiosity, awe, and creativity, and celebrate California's diverse heritage and culture.



Visitors participate in a community painting at a Cinco de Mayo event at Columbia State Historic Park. Photo by California State Parks.



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Arts in State Parks

Supports projects located within State Park boundaries.

- **Funded Pilot Projects:** 15 projects delivered **43 events/programs**, engaged **180 artists** and **7 organizations** based in California from 2023 to 2025. Projects included literary events, Artist in Residence programs, music performances, cultural events, murals, exhibits and installations
- **Aligned Projects:** 6 new projects onboarded and delivered a total of **11 events/programs** and engaged **28 artists** and **5 organizations** so far! Projects included theater productions and cultural dance events



Grants Program

Activates local parks through community-centered art and cultural experiences that foster creativity, connection and a deeper relationship to California's natural and cultural landscapes.

- **Round 1:** 31 grant recipients across California in 2024.
- **Round 2:** 30 grant recipients across California in 2025.
- **Round 3:** Launching Spring 2026.

Resources for both public & parks staff





ARTIST DIRECTORY

What is it?

- A tool available for State Park staff (and the public) to **search for artists and organizations** across California.
- **California-based artists, organizations, and tribal governments** that have an interest in creating public art in local/State Parks in California can join!
- 560 artists, 92 organizations, 1 tribal government

The screenshot shows the 'ARTS IN CALIFORNIA PARKS' website's artist directory. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'ARTS A...', 'Home', 'Search', 'Join', 'FAQ', and 'More'. Below the navigation bar, a search box contains the text 'Search by key word (e.g. painting, murals, photography, music, dance, poetry, filming, ceramics, metal, lighting, etc.)' and a search button. To the right of the search box, a grid of artist profiles is displayed. Each profile includes a small image, the name of the artist, and the word 'INDIVIDUAL' above the name. The profiles shown include: Adriana Lopez-Ospina, Adriana McBride, A. Laura Brody, Adrienne De Guevara, Alaina Murphy, Adrienne Kinsella, Alejandra J. Lopez, Alexander Hanson, Alexis St. John, Alkaaby Fine Art, Allie Sullberg, Alexis St. John, Ally Kraus, Alyssa DeGeorge, Allison Spreadborough, Alyssa Lichtenstein, Amah Cynthia Dongo, Amanda Krauss, Amber Rankin, Ami Lynn, Aminah, Amy Jo Diaz, Amy Rose Hammond, and Amy Bauer. Below the grid, there is a pagination bar with numbers 1 through 18. At the bottom of the page, there is a button that says 'Download CSV file of search/filter results'.

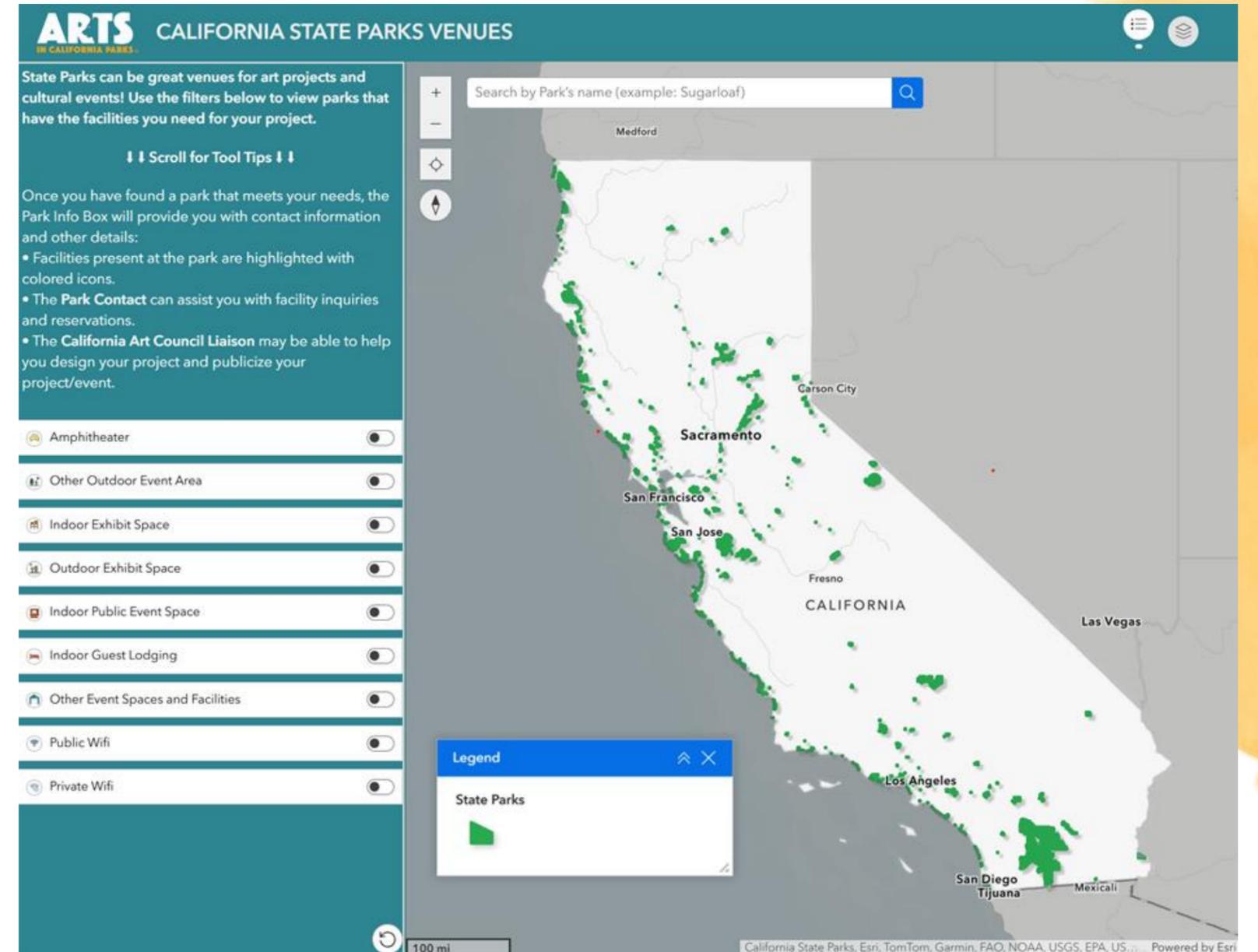


VENUE FINDER

What is it?

A tool that will invite artists, event organizers, and the public to **explore** California State Parks as potential venues for projects and events. The tool will:

- **Build awareness** of California State Parks' capacity to support art
 - Provides information for each park unit, including venue types, capacity,
- **Connect** artists and organizers with the appropriate staff.
 - Provides a link to the park/district page, and an email address for inquiries.



SUMMARY OF RESOURCES

- Live Tools
 - Artist Directory: <https://caparks-artist-directory.glide.page/dl/d0a5f4>
 - Venue Finder: <https://artsincaliforniaparks.org/venue-finder/>
 - Project Map: <https://artsincaliforniaparks.org/projects-map/>
- Websites
 - Arts in California Parks: <https://artsincaliforniaparks.org/>
 - California State Parks: <https://www.parks.ca.gov/>
 - Parks California: <https://parkscalifornia.org/arts/>



Artist Belen Islas paints a mural at the Dia de los Muertos event in Old Town San Diego SHP in 2023.
Photo by California State Parks



2026 GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION

Important dates!

- **Feb. 9:** Letter of Intent Application open
- **Feb. 19 – March 9:** Community and one-on-one office hours
- **Monday, March 9 at 2 p.m. PT** – Community Office Hours: Last-Minute Questions and Open Q&A
- **March 13, 5 p.m. PT:** LOI application deadline

For more information about the AiCP grant application, visit <https://artsincaliforniaparks.org/resource-hub/grants-program-resources-hub/>



Rhythmix Cultural Works
2024-25 Arts in California Parks grantee
Rising Seas

Grants Program Updates

- Program Evaluation from Scansion LLC
 - 2024 key findings & observations
- Grants Program
 - 2025-26 Grantee Cohort
 - 2026-27 Grant Cycle



Thank you!

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