



60 Years of Crafting a Brighter Cultural Landscape in Los Angeles County

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Edith R. Wyle (1918-1999)

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2025 BENEFIT & ART AUCTION

Saturday, May 10, 2025

Edith R. Wyle (1918-1999) HONOREE, Legacy Award

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County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street Room 383 Los Angeles, CA 90012

To the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors:

On behalf of Craft Contemporary, I am writing to express our strong support for the Natural History Museums of Los Angeles County's modernization of La Brea Tar Pits.

Craft Contemporary has been located directly across from the Tar Pits on Wilshire Boulevard since 1965. We had the privilege of witnessing the opening of the museum, then known as The George C. Page Museum of La Brea Discoveries. Over the decades, we have enjoyed a meaningful relationship with our Museum Row neighbor.

Our proximity to the La Brea Tar Pits offers visitors a unique opportunity to experience the rich historical tapestry of Los Angeles, bridging its prehistoric past with its vibrant contemporary art scene. It is always inspiring to see visitors explore the Tar Pits and then cross Wilshire to engage with Craft Contemporary's galleries—a testament to the importance of the Tar Pits in shaping the cultural and historical identity of Los Angeles. For nearly sixty years, we have admired the Natural History Museums' stewardship of this globally significant site and look forward to continuing this partnership.

Collaboration between Craft Contemporary and the La Brea Tar Pits has always been vital. Our shared success enriches the lives of visitors from Los Angeles and beyond while strengthening Miracle Mile as the city's cultural hub. The reimagining of the Tar Pits grounds and museum will bring mutual benefits to all institutions on Museum Row—including Craft Contemporary—by attracting more visitors, fostering new collaborations, and elevating the cultural prominence of this area.

Our collaborations date back to 1976 with the International Festival of Masks and have continued through today, most recently with the Pacific Standard Time ART + Science Family Festival. These partnerships demonstrate the value

of interconnected institutions working toward shared educational and cultural goals.

The modernization of the La Brea Tar Pits will deliver numerous benefits for Los Angeles County and its residents. Expanded exhibition spaces, new outdoor and indoor classrooms, enhanced public amenities, and revitalized and protected green spaces will create richer opportunities for people to engage with science, our planet's history, and each other.

We commend the plan for increasing accessibility to this unique destination and deepening the public's connection to Los Angeles's history. These efforts align closely with Craft Contemporary's mission to educate, captivate, provoke, and empower.

We urge you to support this vital and transformative plan.

In partnership,

Rody N. Lopez

Executive Director

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