

# STRIVING FOR ZERO EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Striving  
for  
Zero

## INNOVATIVE PARTNERSHIPS

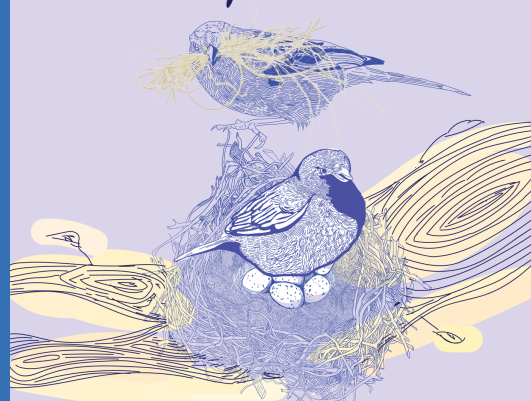
### Partnering through Arts and Culture

#### Los Angeles County

Suicide and suicidal ideation are human experiences. Integrating arts-based healing-centered and culturally relevant strategies enable us to apply a human-centered approach to nurturing protective factors, dismantling stigma and strengthening community connections. The Los Angeles County Department of Arts and Culture is thrilled to partner with the Los Angeles Suicide Prevention Network, LA County Departments of Mental Health, Children and Family Services, Health Services, Public Health, the Office of Child Protection, LA County Office of Education and the Arts for Healing and Justice Network. Together, we uplift silo-breaking suicide prevention efforts, center the voices of people with lived experience, and acknowledge the tremendous role that artists and culture bearers play in nurturing wellbeing. Artists and arts-based strategies promote cultural equity, diversity, inclusion and belonging and build understanding of cultural identity through healing-centered, cultural traditions and spiritual practices. In practice, this looks like:

- Integrating artist-led workshops and keynotes into LASPN's Annual Summit
- Implementing Creative Wellbeing, a collaboratively designed approach that weaves healing-centered arts and mental health promotion to support the wellbeing of system-impacted youth and the adults who support them
- Designing and hosting professional development sessions where artists, culture bearers and educators, mental health and child welfare professionals engage in learning, cross-pollination of knowledge and practices, and community-building
- Including arts activities and performances at mental health promotion events like DMH's *Take Action for Mental Health LA County* and DPH/OVP's *Rise, Reclaim, Restore Youth Mental Health Summits*, and DMH's LGBTQ+ Pride Events

*Suicide prevention is*



*A loving home,  
affordable housing, &  
safe living conditions*

*Suicide prevention is*



*Food security,  
clean water, free healthcare,  
access to mental health &  
social services.*

*Suicide prevention is*

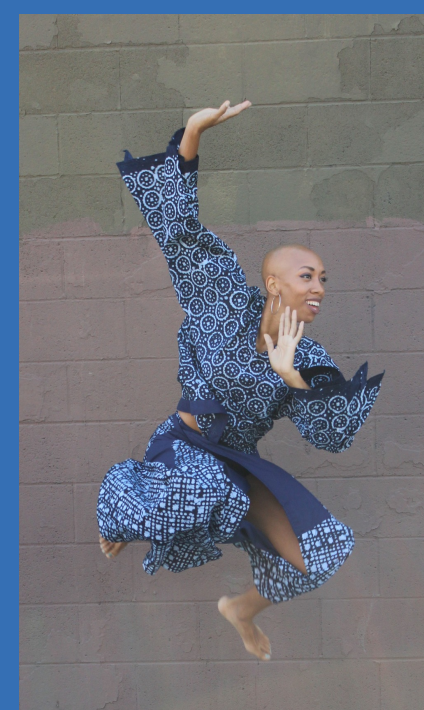
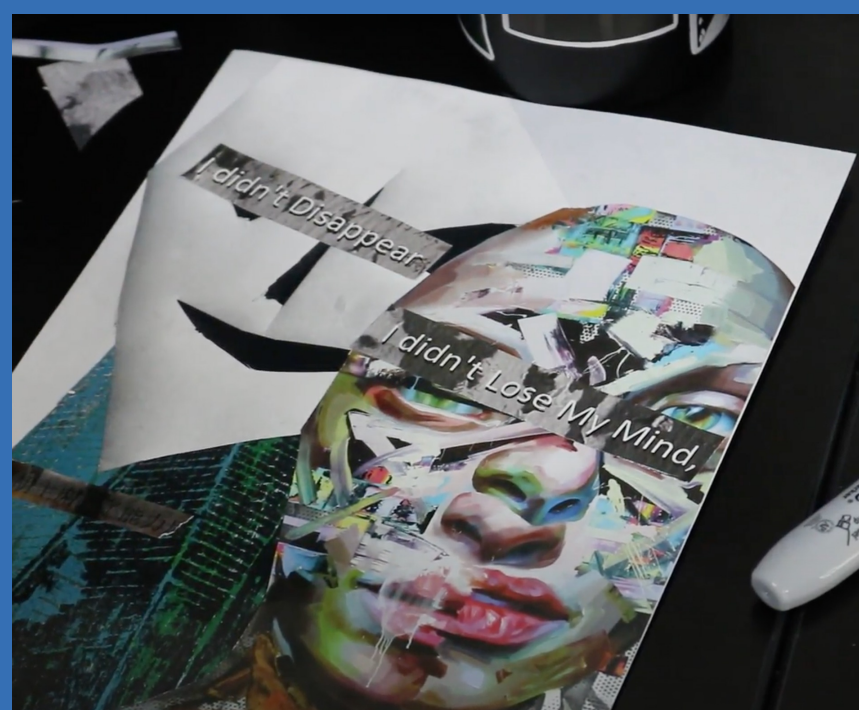


*Community, care,  
support, solidarity, racial,  
social & gender justice.*



#### Image Credits

1. Original artworks by Creative Wellbeing Youth Content Advisor Danielle Galvan Gomez (3 panels)
2. Original artwork by anonymous Creative Wellbeing youth participant
3. Creative Wellbeing LGBTQ+ affirming session at Pasadena High School with Gay Men's Chorus of LA
4. Rhythm Arts Alliance teaching artist Johanna Blunt
5. Original artwork by student at Rose City Continuation High School created for district-wide Creative Wellbeing art exhibition, "No Boundaries"



FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT ELISABETH NAILS: ENAILS@ARTS.LACOUNTY.GOV