

IMPACT



REPORT

2021 - 2024

ARTS &
CLIMATE
COLLECTIVE



USC University of
Southern California

CONTENTS

3 INTRODUCTION

4 GOALS

6 FIRST 3 YEARS

7 AWARDEES

9 PROJECTS

13 PROGRAMMING

20 ORGANIZATIONAL
STRUCTURE

21 OUR TEAM

23 FUNDING

24 CONCLUSION

25 PRESS COVERAGE



INTERESTED IN DONATING?
SCAN THE QR CODE FOR MORE INFO:

OR VISIT OUR DONATION LINK:
[HTTPS://TR.EE/UAGZFETTO3](https://tr.ee/UAGZFETTO3)



INTRODUCTION

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The USC Arts & Climate Collective (ACC) empowers students to use arts and storytelling as mediums to address diverse issues within sustainability, including environmental justice, climate change, health and wellness, and more. By providing funding and guidance, uplifting creative work, and building community within and beyond the USC campus, the ACC drives shared commitment around sustainability and develops essential mindsets and skills that prepare students for long-term success in their creative, professional, and advocacy endeavors.

Since its launch as a pilot in Spring 2021, the ACC has developed into a robust organization with an annual award program and an ever-evolving slate of programming and community-building functions for awardees and the extended USC community. The program's primary goals are empowering creativity, building community, and inspiring action around diverse issues within sustainability.

In just three years, the ACC has distributed \$103,950 in awards to over 77 student artist-activists and their projects. These students range from first year through doctoral students and have come from 18 of USC's 23 schools. Their projects include mediums ranging from film to music composition to interactive games to installations, and this report features a number of exceptional student projects that embody the diversity of award recipients and their initiatives. The ACC has put on a number of events which have now become annual staples in the USC community,

including a student film festival and an Earth Month Festival and Resource Fair, each bringing in hundreds of attendees. In addition, the ACC hosts panel discussions, art-makings, project showcases, and more.

The ACC is a collaboration among the [Presidential Working Group on Sustainability](#) (from which the ACC originated), the USC Office of Sustainability, the [USC Annenberg Innovation Lab](#), [USC Arts In Action](#), and the [USC Fisher Museum of Art](#). The ACC receives modest institutional funding and supplements it with philanthropy, internal grants, and research funds to support its awards and programming. Its organizing team is composed of students, staff, and faculty from across campus, with an emphasis on interdisciplinary collaboration.

This report comprises a review of the ACC's work from 2021 - 2024, including the impact it has achieved and the communities it has reached. With additional financial support the ACC can increase its capacity to develop and uplift a growing community of sustainability-focused artists and storytellers.



GOALS

MISSION STATEMENT

The ACC empowers students to use arts and storytelling as mediums to address issues of environmental justice, climate change, and sustainability. By providing funding and guidance, uplifting creative work, and building community within and beyond the USC campus, the ACC drives shared commitment around sustainability, and develops essential mindsets and skills that prepare students for long-term success in their creative, professional, and advocacy endeavors. Our primary goals are empowering creativity, building community, and inspiring action.

GOAL #1

EMPOWERING CREATIVITY

The ACC empowers student creativity through its annual award program in which it supports students with funding to develop their own art, media, and culture projects to address the issues in sustainability that are most important to them. The ACC further supports awardees in their creative endeavors by providing mentorship, resources, and a community of creative thinkers and doers. Unlike most classroom assignments and work deliverables, ACC awards are opportunities for students to design and execute their own creative visions in a free and low-consequence environment, focusing on the journey more than the final product to nurture exploration and creativity. The ACC aims to motivate and equip participants with the confidence to imagine, develop, and realize their goals.

Reaching beyond its awardees, the ACC strives to engage all participants in an artistic or creative element at each of its events. Art-making has countless – and increasingly well-documented – positive psychological and physiological benefits. The ACC seeks to remind participants that we are all artists, and there is power in creativity.



“I LOVED THE ACC FOR ITS FREEDOM FOR CREATIVITY AND THE WELCOMING COMMUNITY IT PRIORITIZES. IT’S A REFRESHING BREAK FROM OTHER ARTS INITIATIVES FOR ITS ACCEPTANCE AND FREEDOM, AND DIFFERENT FROM CLIMATE INITIATIVES IN THAT IT ACTUALLY HAS ACTION OTHER THAN JUST SPREADING AWARENESS OR HAVING MORE CONVERSATIONS WITHIN A BUBBLE.”

OLIVIA LEE ‘23

GOAL #2

BUILDING COMMUNITY

Many students and faculty have emphasized the ACC's uniqueness in the way that it facilitates connection across academic disciplines and art forms, providing an opportunity to merge interests and passions which are often siloed.

To achieve this, the ACC hosts programming for both targeted small groups as well as the entire campus and public. Frequent in-person activities are geared towards relationship building among members of annual student cohorts, aiming to develop personal and professional networks while supporting belonging. In order to reach across and beyond the university, the ACC has developed unique events that are open to all and have grown to attract audiences of 400+ students, staff, faculty, and community members.

"ACC HELPED ME TO FIND A COMMUNITY AROUND MY TWO SEEMINGLY DISPARATE PASSIONS OF MUSIC AND THE ENVIRONMENT! I HAD ALWAYS THOUGHT ABOUT COMBINING MY TWO LOVES, BUT ACC GAVE ME THE PUSH AND PROVIDED THE SUPPORT TO REALIZE MY DREAM!"

CAM AUDRAS '21

GOAL #3

INSPIRING ACTION

Recognizing the imperative of making real progress on climate issues, ACC programming is also designed to encourage action. Events foster shared learning about environmental issues, arts, and activism through panels of experts and leaders, engaging activities and discussions, and interactions with community members to foster inspiration, ideation, and action. Resource fairs involving community partners enable attendees to connect interest and passion with avenues for progress. Taken collectively, the ACC is helping to build a social movement around environmental justice and sustainability at USC that leverages cultural strategies as catalysts for change and creates a nurturing community of practice that supports student confidence and capacity for action.



OVERVIEW

THE FIRST THREE YEARS



ACC Panelists Engage in Conversation at the 2022 Earth Week Celebration

In the years since the first cohort, the ACC team has grown the number of awards, students served, activities offered, and opportunities for involvement – even as the quality of work has improved. What was once a modest pilot program has developed into a premier source of community for USC’s environmentally-driven creatives and the distributor of over one hundred thousand dollars in direct funding for student art projects.

"WORKING WITH THE ACC, I'VE SEEN STUDENTS **EMPOWERED AND EQUIPPED TO PURSUE ACTIVISM THROUGH THEIR ART**. IT'S RARE TO SEE A COMMUNITY OF CREATIVES GIVEN WIDE VARIETIES IN MEDIUMS, CULTURES AND STUDIES. I'M CONTINUALLY INSPIRED AND MOTIVATED BY THE TALENTED FOLKS IN OUR COLLECTIVE."

AU CHUNG

OVERVIEW

AWARDEES

ACC awardees have hailed from diverse programs in 18 of USC's 23 schools, and our cohorts have included all levels of undergraduate, master's, and doctoral students. They receive \$1350, in addition to programming, community, and opportunities to share and amplify their work.

Meet our awardees through our cohort videos:

SPRING 2021 COHORT



<https://vimeo.com/539847985>

FALL 2021 COHORT



<https://youtu.be/nlVw8cpq0U?si=bE-GBBmjhDusBFVF>

FALL 2023 COHORT



<https://youtu.be/6-FKhopp-Js?si=NbXmezDvz4aU0V3b>

"I TRULY FEEL THAT ORGANIZATIONS LIKE THIS ARE CRUCIAL ON CAMPUS AND FOR STUDENTS IN GENERAL. WE NEED MORE WAYS TO INCORPORATE THE TALENTS OF ARTISTS INTO GLOBAL ISSUES LIKE THIS, AND IT'S THROUGH THE SUPPORT OF ORGANIZATIONS LIKE THE ACC THAT OUR VOICES CAN START TO BE HEARD."

GWENAN WALKER '21

OVERVIEW

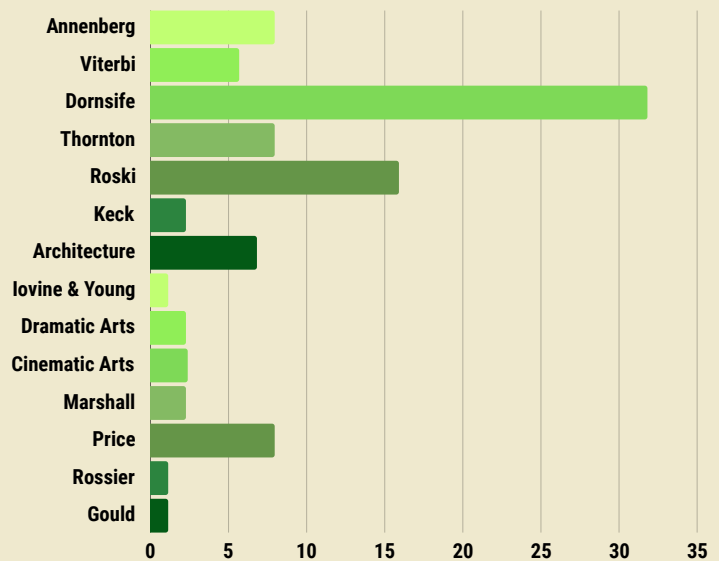
The ACC's first four cohorts of awardees from 2021 to 2023 included 68 students.

Looking ahead, the ACC aspires both to continue to increase the ambition of our programs and opportunities and to promote them even more broadly. Expanding outreach with more targeted informational sessions and tailored recruitment campaigns holds the potential to elevate fresh perspectives and emerging creatives – especially from underrepresented communities and disciplines that are often more disconnected from the arts. Meaningfully including and serving these groups will also necessarily inform ACC's approach to awards and programming overall.

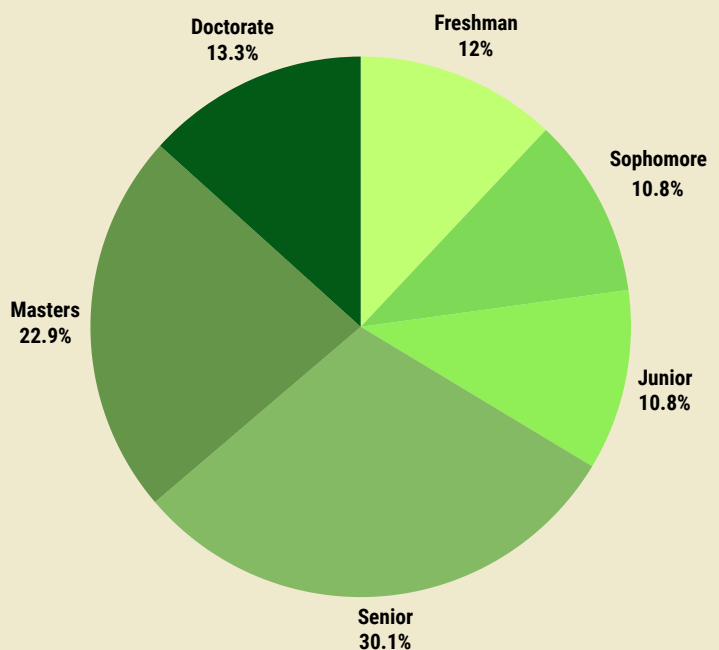


AWARDEES

USC SCHOOL REPRESENTATION (2021-2023)



CLASS STANDING (AT TIME OF AWARD, 2021-2023)





Project concept art from 2021 cohort awardee Gwenan Walker

The ACC supports student projects that reflect a unique blend of creativity with social and environmental advocacy. Each year's applicant pool showcases innovative, interdisciplinary responses to climate justice issues. From film and digital media to fine arts and emerging fields such as gaming, the mediums employed by awardees reflect the importance of nuanced and intersectional approaches to wider calls for sustainability.

Within ACC cohort projects, environmental justice has emerged as a predominant theme. There has also been a collective emphasis on health through both physical and mental lenses, highlighting the intersectionality of environmental issues and human well-being. Areas of focus, preferred media, and other aspects of the projects continue to vary over time, giving us unique windows into the dynamism of student thinking and experience.

To share the scope of the awardees' projects, a few examples are highlighted in this report. They illustrate the diversity of ACC project disciplines and capabilities. For a more comprehensive overview of all our projects, please visit the [ACC website](#).

OVERVIEW



51 MILES

Students Leslie Dinkin, Hannah Flynn, and Nina Weithorn partnered with Camille Shooshani, filmmaker and USC alum, to capture their multi-day, fifty-one mile journey of walking the LA River. The team documented and indexed the Los Angeles River's current conditions with a particular focus on arts, culture, human access, and experience of an ecological industrial landscape through mapping, photography, film, and narrative ethnography.

While the ACC was the first grant this group received, it was far from the last, and the project continues to grow. It has garnered attention from organizations like [KCRW](#), [LAist](#), [Engineering with Nature](#), [USC Arts in Action](#), [Save As: NextGen Heritage Conservation](#), the Landscape Architecture Foundation, and the American Society of Landscape Architecture. The team is currently working on the film and a book, while exploring other rivers.

Learn more about 51 Miles [here](#).

PROJECTS



THE RESILIENCE PROJECT

The Resilience Project united USC composers, musicians, dancers, and storytellers to engage audiences not only on the scope of sustainability challenges but also around tangible solutions. The project broke down the overwhelming climate crisis in a digestible and engaging way through spoken word poetry that informed choreographic interpretations. It was accompanied by a world premiere from student composer Quenton Blache, performed by student musicians Cam Audras and Elise Haukenes.

Watch the "[Resilience Project Trailer](#)" and "[Movement 2: Transportation](#)."

OVERVIEW



FASHION & SUSTAINABILITY

This project by Paola Espinosa focused on the production of sustainable textiles. Paola's research delved into the symbiotic relationship between humans and their environment, viewing the environment as a catalyst for successful change and the re-innovation of design. By examining cultures that have historically integrated themselves with nature through earth-based design, she created an opportunity to compare the industrialized Western lifestyle with these cultures, further exploring a more ecologically responsive way of living. A key part of Paola's research is her ongoing project of developing a biotextile made from food waste for use in clothing.

Read the feature of her work in [USC Today](#).

PROJECTS



DESEO Y DISEÑO

Deseo y Diseño is a video game created by siblings Michael and Sol Lagos. In the video game, players step into the shoes of a native Angeleno and Raspadero (shaved ice vendor) as they explore a radical reimagining of Los Angeles through sustainable architectural redesign and queer imagination. The project balances speculative ideas with practical impacts on the built environment, envisioning a redesign of public institutions alongside a fictional narrative. The exhibition invited viewers to engage with this reimagined L.A., encouraging them to envision their place in the city's future.

Experience Deseo y Diseño [here](#).

OVERVIEW

PROJECTS



ECO ALARM

Eco Alarm is a student-run podcast that shares the stories of environmental change-makers and their success in the USC and greater Los Angeles community. The podcast team was part of the ACC's inaugural cohort and has released 26 episodes to date, seamlessly navigating the challenge of leadership transition over time.

Visit the Eco-Alarm [website](#) and [USC Podcasts page](#) to listen, learn more, and be looped into upcoming content.



DIVEST SC

William Higbie created a short documentary that tells the story of DivestSC, a group of students and faculty at USC who organized a campaign to get USC to divest from fossil fuels. The film chronologically traces the movement from its inception over a decade ago to USC's divestment announcement in mid-February 2021.

Watch the documentary [here](#).

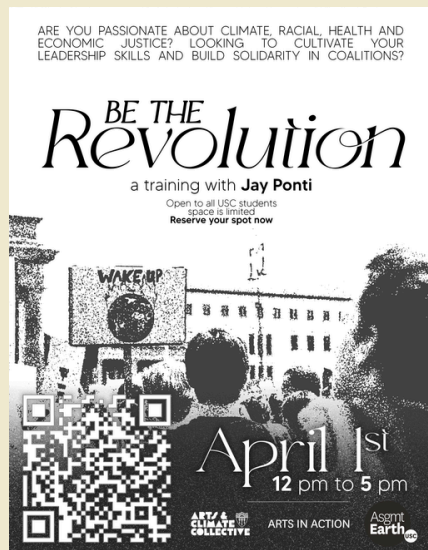
"THE ACC HAS PROVIDED NOT ONLY A POWERFUL SPIRIT THAT HAS INSPIRED MY WORK, IT'S PUT ME INTO THE ORBIT OF WONDERFUL AND TALENTED INDIVIDUALS WITH WHOM I FEEL A SENSE OF COMMUNITY - A GROUP FUNDAMENTALLY BONDED BY A DESIRE TO CHANGE THE WORLD IN WAYS THAT MAKE THE SAVING OF OUR PLANET MORE POSSIBLE."

JAIME LOPEZ '21

OVERVIEW

PROGRAMMING

The ACC hosts a range of events throughout the school year to engage USC and the wider Los Angeles community in exploring sustainability and environmental activism through art. The ACC's recurring annual programming slate features three central events: Regenerate, the Eco Film + Media Arts Festival, and the ACC Earth Month Festival. Together, these events elevate dozens of artist-activists and bring together over 600 students and community members annually.



OVERVIEW: PROGRAMMING

A community-building event to regenerate through art-making, local food, and a speaker series on issues including environmental justice and creativity

Regenerate provides a reinvigorating experience for participants who may feel overwhelmed or burnt out by the challenges of climate change. Attendees are welcomed to the USC Fisher Museum of Art for an evening of discussion and art-making centered on environmental justice and facilitated by local activists and community leaders. Regenerate offers participants renewed energy and the opportunity to create a shared vision for a sustainable future by fostering community, hope, and inspiration.



REGENERATE



2021

Local activists [Nalleli Cobo](#), winner of the Goldman Environmental Prize, and Hugo Garcia from [People Not Pozos](#) joined USC Environmental Health Professor Jill Johnston and Tianna Shaw-Wakeman, climate activist and USC's first Black valedictorian, to highlight critical intersections between environmental justice and public health, a theme that would become a mainstay for future iterations.

Read the Daily Trojan article about Regenerate 2021 [here](#).

OVERVIEW: PROGRAMMING

2022

USC professor and urban pop artist Eric Junker led a Protest Poster art workshop. This immersive workshop was followed by a panel conversation facilitated by China Adams with ACC awardees, aimed at illuminating the intersection of arts and activism and encouraging collaborative efforts toward environmental sustainability on campus.

See the ACC website [here](#) for a photo gallery of the event.

Read the *Annenberg Media* article about Regenerate 2022 [here](#).



REGENERATE



2023

USC professor and artist China Adams guided attendees in a collaborative collage-making session around envisioning a sustainable future. Complementing this, a panel facilitated by Arts in Action student coordinator Seanna Latiff included community leader Johvanna Ordonez from [Legacy LA](#), and USC Professors Henry Jenkins ([The Civic Imagination Project](#)) and Rob McConnell ([USC Center for Children's Environmental Health](#)) provided insights into the ACC's theme for 2023: "How would you reimagine Los Angeles?"

See the [ACC website](#) for a photo gallery.

OVERVIEW: PROGRAMMING

ECO FILM + MEDIA ARTS FEST

A collaboration between the ACC and the USC School of Cinematic Arts' Department of Media Arts and Practice

The Eco Film + Media Arts Festival provides an opportunity for ACC awardees and other student filmmakers to screen their original films in front of a live audience of peers and industry professionals. Significantly, the Eco Film + Media Arts Festival is the first time many of the student filmmakers have debuted their work in front of a large audience.



This event began as the idea of an ACC awardee and has been a student-led endeavor ever since. In 2023, the festival received [the Campus Sustainability Student Leadership Award](#) from the [Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education](#) in recognition of exceptional student leadership in creating a platform for students to showcase their work and engage with a broader audience on pressing environmental issues.

The 21 films featured across the two festivals thus far have documented social movements, elevated stories of communities banding together against environmental threats from pollution to invasive fish, and much more.

OVERVIEW: PROGRAMMING

ECO FILM + MEDIA ARTS FEST

The Eco Film Festival also hosts eco-storytelling panels, which have featured Shawn Sweeney (Jane Goodall Institute), Marlee Fox (Universal Television), Paula Cizmar (USC School of Dramatic Arts), and Courtnee Zambrano (Apple TV's *Extrapolations*).

To further develop this event, we added two cash prizes for excellence in environmental filmmaking and a networking mixer to the 2024 festival.

The 2025 Eco Film + Media Arts Festival will mark the first time student filmmakers from schools across Los Angeles are invited to submit their work, potentially making it the only intercollegiate environmental film festival in the city.



A few student films that have been screened at the Eco Film + Media Arts Festivals include:

[“Spear, Spatula, Submarine”](#) – Shannon Morrall

[“Down the Road”](#) – Carin Dorghalli

[“Crisis and Campaign”](#) – Jaime Lopez

[“Fastidiosa”](#) – Leng Ming

[“Divest SC”](#) – William Higbie

See full recaps of the Fall 2022 event [here](#) and the Spring 2024 event [here](#).

OVERVIEW: PROGRAMMING

ACC EARTH MONTH FESTIVAL

A student project showcase and celebration of diverse groups working to create a sustainable future

Our largest event, the annual Earth Month Festival, features a resource fair with Los Angeles and USC-based organizations, art activations, and workshops, as well as a student art showcase. This event unites art, activism, and community through a myriad of activities. Performance arts from live bands to interpretive dances draw excited crowds, community-led workshops engage attendees in collaborative art pieces, and the resource fair connects guests to opportunities, programs, and community organizations.



Roughly 400 students, staff, faculty, and community members attend this event each year, which creates ample opportunities for attendees and organizations to learn about the work of others, explore possible collaborations, network, and connect with new opportunities. At the 2024 festival, 13 ACC awardees showcased their projects and 24 community and/or campus groups were featured within the resource fair. Every year, attendees leave inspired by the passionate energy and ideas of their peers who are helping create a more sustainable future.

See recaps from the 2022 event [here](#), the 2023 event [here](#), and the 2024 event [here](#).

OVERVIEW

ADDITIONAL PROGRAMMING

“The ACC hosts a range of focused events in addition to listed programming mainstays, such as our “Be the Revolution” workshop collaboration with Jay Ponti, a conversation with working artist and Public Matters co-founder Reanne Estrada, a co-hosted event with legendary organizer Marshall Ganz, and a Mural Contest in collaboration with the USC Peace Garden.”



BE THE REVOLUTION

The ACC collaborated with Jay Ponti – a grassroots political organizer who participated in Occupy Wall Street, Standing Rock, and Bernie Sanders’ two presidential campaigns – on the “[Be the Revolution](#)” workshop to offer USC community members new skills in changemaking, community organizing, and serving as allies to Native American activists. Attendees learned to prioritize self-care, build movements, and achieve goals for organizations and social movements alike.

MURAL CONTEST

The ACC facilitated a contest in Fall 2023 to spotlight student art within USC’s brand new Sustainability Hub and the [USC Peace Garden](#). The ACC selected five different murals to fund and display in the Hub on a rotating basis, sparking conversations around climate futures and sustainability from student perspectives.

See this [link](#) to hear the USC Peace Garden mural artists discuss their artistic vision and process.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

In 2021, the unlikely trifecta of a USC faculty member, staff member, and student created the ACC and worked together with a variety of great partners to launch the organization's first round of awards. To this day, the ACC has maintained strong involvement of faculty, staff, and students, as well as a collaborative structure in which student workers, staff, and faculty are all equal leaders.

The core ACC leadership team includes a faculty member, three staff members (each from different departments), and three to four student workers. Additionally, students, staff, and faculty from across the university who demonstrate interest in the ACC are welcomed to join the organizing team and participate in any way that fits with their interests. This open-door culture allows the ACC to grow and develop and further build community across campus.

ACC student workers are encouraged to take strong leadership roles throughout all facets of the organization. Students serve as event leads, manage outreach initiatives, design the website, represent the organization, manage internal and external communications, engage in programming, and are a critical part of determining the goals of the organization as well as the tools used to achieve them.



“AS A STUDENT PRODUCER AT THE ACC, I HAVE BEEN ABLE TO DIRECT AN ENTIRE FILM FESTIVAL WITH A LEVEL OF AUTONOMY, CREATIVITY, AND SUPPORT THAT WOULD BE UNIMAGINABLE AT ANY OTHER INTERNSHIP. MY ACC FAM HAS EMPOWERED ME TO DEVELOP SKILLS IN PUBLICITY, EVENT PLANNING, ORGANIZATIONAL MANAGEMENT, WRITING ACROSS ALL SORTS OF CONTEXTS, AND MUCH MORE – BUT THEY HAVE ALSO OFFERED ME A SENSE OF BELONGING AND SELF-WORTH IN THE WORKPLACE THAT WILL DRIVE MY PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND ENDEAVORS FOREVER.”

MONTY HUGHES

STRUCTURE

OUR TEAM

The following members of our administrative team have been part of ACC's journey any length of time since our beginning in 2021 (in alphabetic order by last name).

**CHINA
ADAMS**
FACULTY

**MONTY
HUGHES**
STUDENT

**NATASHA
NUTKIEWICZ**
STUDENT

**WILLIAM
WARRENER**
STAFF

**AU
CHUNG**
STUDENT

**ERIN
JEBAVY**
STAFF

**CORINNA
SCHROEDER**
FACULTY

**SYDNEE
YU**
STUDENT

**ELLEN
DUX**
STAFF

**BELINDA
LEE**
STUDENT

**ARIAN
TOMAR**
STUDENT

**LUCY
ZEPEDA**
STAFF

**HANNAH
FINDLING**
STAFF

**JENNIFER
LOTT**
FACULTY

**DIANA
SALINAS VARGAS**
STUDENT

**MARIA
GALICIA**
STAFF

**COLIN
MILES MACLAY**
FACULTY

**GWENAN
WALKER**
STUDENT

OUR PARTNERS:

ARTS IN ACTION
a part of USC Visions & Voices

USC Annenberg
Innovation Lab

USC Fisher
Museum of Art

USC Sustainability



STRUCTURE

COLLABORATION

The ACC is committed to working with people and organizations in generative and respectful ways. The ACC learns with and from its partners, always seeking to make the whole greater than the sum of its parts. The ACC has collaborated with a variety of partners across campus, including (alphabetically) [Cnidarian Evolutionary Ecology Lab](#), [Native American Student Assembly](#), [Peaks and Professors](#), [SCA's Division of Media Arts and Practice](#), [Southern California Center for Children's Environmental Health Research Translation](#), [The Civic Imagination Project](#), [The Roski School of Art and Design](#), [USC Dornsife Public Exchange](#), [USC Environmental Justice Research Lab](#), [USC Environmental Student Assembly](#), [USC Fisher Museum of Art](#), [USC Garden Club](#), [USC Office of Inclusion and Diversity](#), [USC Peace Garden](#), [USC Student Committee of the PWG](#), [USC University Relations](#), [USC Visions & Voices](#), [Wrigley Institute](#), and the [Zero Waste Team \(FPM\)](#).

The ACC has also worked with a large list of fabulous community organizations including:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <u>Architecture + Advocacy</u> | • <u>Koreatown Youth & Community Center</u> |
| <u>Azla Vegan</u> | • <u>LA Commons</u> |
| <u>AltaSea at the Port of Los Angeles</u> | • <u>LA Conservation Corps</u> |
| <u>Bloom Boutique</u> | • <u>Legacy LA</u> |
| <u>Climate Resolve</u> | • <u>Lucas Museum of Narrative Art</u> |
| <u>Communities for a Better Environment</u> | • <u>NewFilmmakers Los Angeles</u> |
| <u>Community Services Unlimited</u> | • <u>North East Trees</u> |
| <u>Cultivate LA</u> | • <u>Public Matters</u> |
| <u>Esperanza Community Housing</u> | • <u>Chef Supreme Dow, The Concierge Kitchen</u> |
| <u>EVmo</u> | • <u>Test Plot</u> |
| <u>Food Recovery Network of USC</u> | • <u>TreePeople</u> |
| <u>Friends of the Los Angeles River</u> | • <u>Water Drop L.A.</u> |
| <u>Kai UnEarthed</u> | • <u>Youth Climate Strike Los Angeles</u> |

The ACC expands its list of partners and collaborators each year and is excited to continue working and learning alongside community.



FUNDING

When the ACC launched as a pilot in Spring 2021, it pulled together \$15,000 from a variety of sources across the USC campus to give out its first round of awards, and all faculty, staff, and student work was on a volunteer basis. The ACC has since become more institutionalized, with all student workers paid, and a majority of funding coming from the formal university budget process. The ACC seeks to expand opportunities by forming creative partnerships - for example, in 2023, the Center for Southern California Children's Environmental Health Research Translation and Environmental Justice Lab invested \$15,000 to create the ACC's first-ever themed awards, inviting applicants to imagine a healthy, inclusive, and sustainable Los Angeles.

There is significant potential to expand the scope and impact of the ACC with additional funding, and the organizing team looks forward to discussing ideas with any groups who are interested in collaborating.

Interested in donating to the ACC?
Visit linktr.ee/artsclimatecollective.

"THE ACC ENABLED US TO FORM A MEANINGFUL RELATIONSHIP WITH OUR COMMUNITY PARTNER LAS FOTOS PROJECT. BEING ABLE TO COMPENSATE AND PARTNER WITH YOUNG ARTISTS FROM LFP HAS ENRICHED OUR PROJECT. COMPENSATING ARTISTS IS SO IMPORTANT AND THIS FUNDING ENABLES US TO COMPLETE OUR WORK ETHICALLY."

**CASSANDRA
FLORES-MONTANO '21**



WANT A DIGITAL COPY OF THIS REPORT
OR INTERESTED IN DONATING?
SCAN THE QR CODE FOR MORE INFO:



CONCLUSION



The ACC is thrilled by the growing community of artists, activists, and storytellers; the diversity of project subjects and artistic approaches within its cohorts; and the ever-evolving slate of engaging public-programming that intertwines arts, storytelling, and environmental justice.

Thank you for supporting the ACC as it continues to pursue its goals of empowering creativity, building community, inspiring action, and engaging USC students and the extended community around issues of sustainability, climate change, and environmental justice in new and exciting ways.

PRESS COVERAGE

USC Today (April 2021):

[Arts become a tool for climate action in the hands of USC students](#)

USC Annenberg Media (April 2021):

[Art as climate activism](#)

USC Annenberg Media (October 2021):

['Arts in Action' and 'Art and Climate Collective' help USC students create meaningful art](#)

Daily Trojan (October 2021):

[Artistically confronting the climate crisis](#)

USC Today (November 2021):

[These Students Fight Climate Change With Art](#)

Daily Trojan (January 2022):

[Arts and Climate Collective welcomes new cohort](#)

Daily Trojan (April 2022):

[Earth Week paints Bovard green](#)

Daily Trojan (September 2022):

[USC prepares to kick off Green Week](#)

USC Annenberg Media (October 2022):

[Regenerate event rings in USC Green Week](#)

USC Annenberg Media (April 2023):

[Yes, paper straws are annoying, but you can still do your part to make Earth a greener place](#)

USC Annenberg Media (April 2023):

[Environmental experts imagine a 'Fossil-Free L.A.' at an Earth Month festival](#)

USC Annenberg Media (April 2024):

[Arts & Climate Collective hosts annual festival, encouraging sustainability](#)

ARTS & CLIMATE COLLECTIVE

 ARTSCLIMATECOLLECTIVE.ORG

 ARTSCC@USC.EDU

 @ARTSCLIMATECOLLECTIVE

INTERESTED IN DONATING?
SCAN THE QR CODE FOR MORE INFO:

OR VISIT OUR DONATION LINK:
[HTTPS://TR.EE/UAGZFET03](https://tr.ee/UAGZFET03)

