



**Contact:**

Raquel Olvera  
Inner-City Arts Communications Associate  
213.627.9621 x134  
raquel@inner-cityarts.org

**PRESS RELEASE:  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Inner-City Arts Honors Co-Founder & Artistic Director Bob Bates and Celebrates 30 Years with Sunday Brunch and Creative Experiences on Award-Winning Campus**

*Los Angeles, Calif.* — On Sunday, November 3, 2019, Inner-City Arts — Los Angeles' leading provider of quality arts education for underserved children — will celebrate its 30th anniversary with a Sunday brunch and a day of creative experiences on its award-winning campus in Downtown Los Angeles. Hosted by **Glorya Kaufman**, Inner-City Arts' Imagine Awards will honor Co-Founder and Artistic Director **Bob Bates** with the Lifetime Achievement Award.

Continuing its tradition of hosting the most interactive non-gala gala in Los Angeles, Inner-City Arts will host gourmet brunch favorites, signature cocktails, interactive art making, original artwork for auction, and more.

"For the first time since its inception, the Imagine Awards will take place on the Inner-City Arts campus," said Bob Smiland, President and CEO of Inner-City Arts. "Every year, we make a point to bring the feeling of our campus — the joy and love and fun we experience every day — to the Imagine Awards, but this year, we are excited to celebrate our 30 year history and honor the extraordinary vision of Bob Bates on our creative home with so many friends and supporters."

**Glorya Kaufman** will host the morning's festivities. In 2009, long-time supporter and avid dancer, Glorya Kaufman awarded Inner-City Arts a \$1 million gift to establish the Glorya Kaufman Dance Academy at Inner-City Arts. Glorya Kaufman's gift has since allowed over 16,000 children annually to freely participate in dance classes at Inner-City Arts, and has introduced scores of students to dance and movement as a communicative medium. Her passion and dedication to Inner-City Arts' mission has enabled countless students to grow and thrive through art.

"I've witnessed Inner-City Arts grow and flourish for over 10 years now," said Glorya Kaufman. "Despite a tremendous amount of change, the spirit of the organization has remained the same — Inner-City Arts believes in the transformative power of creativity. And so do I. That is why, year after year, I am continually proud to support Inner-City Arts' mission to provide equal access to high quality arts education to the kids and teens of this city."

Inner-City Arts will recognize Co-Founder and Artistic Director **Bob Bates** with the Lifetime Achievement Award. When budget cuts eliminated arts instruction from Los Angeles public schools in the late 1970s, Bob Bates was inspired by a vision to "get an art space for kids." Through Bob Bates' groundbreaking visionary spirit and boundless compassion, Inner-City Arts transformed from a small studio space on Olympic Boulevard to a 1-acre campus.

To honor Bob Bates' incredible vision, the Imagine Awards will unveil 30 Visions, an art exhibit highlighting work inspired by Inner-City Arts. 30 Visions will bring together the artistic visions of current students, alumni, supporters, staff members, co-founders, and more that represent Inner-City Arts' 30-year history and reflect the ripple of creativity the Inner-City Arts community is creating in Los Angeles and beyond.

All proceeds from the Imagine Awards will support Inner-City Arts' dynamic services which utilize art and creativity to engage students in learning.

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3 | 11:30AM**

**INNER-CITY ARTS CAMPUS**

720 Kohler St. Los Angeles, CA 90021

Tickets to the event start at \$500 and sponsorship packages are also available. For tickets and more information: [www.inner-cityarts.org/30years](http://www.inner-cityarts.org/30years)

#### **ABOUT INNER-CITY ARTS**

Founded in 1989, Inner-City Arts is a learning oasis in the heart of Downtown Los Angeles. Under the guidance of professional teaching artists, Inner-City Arts' students are immersed in a safe and supportive environment where they may engage in a variety of visual and performing art forms in a studio setting. Services include core classes during the instructional day for grade K-8 students, after school and weekend workshops for teens and creativity based professional development training for educators. Children who attend Inner-City Arts develop skills that are highly valued in the 21st century workforce such as collaboration, creativity and critical thinking.

[WWW.INNER-CITYARS.ORG](http://WWW.INNER-CITYARS.ORG)

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