



LA SALA

A Latinx Artists' Community

Report from **Charla:** A Community Conversation August 7, 2022



Thank you to the Office of Arts and Culture for funding that supports Charla and other events.



Thank you, everyone who attended La Sala's "Charla" in August 2022! Your thoughts and ideas are deeply appreciated. Thank you for trusting us with your experiences and sharing your work with us.

Overarching Themes:

Major themes that emerged from conversation at Charla

- We are not in competition with each other - let's work together to raise everybody up.
- It's time to address representation and access in funding for the Latinx community.



Issues Raised:

- Lack of funding and representation of Latinx in funding – info from one major grantmaker showed Latinx funding fall to 2% during pandemic
- Discrimination and colorism within Latinx community – leadership and representatives of community do not represent full spectrum of BIPOC within the community – creating true equity from within
- Culture shock for those moving here from communities where Latinx/BIPOC are highly represented
 - Experiences of isolation by community members due to anglicized names
 - Stipends and compensation when asked for expertise/labor by organizations
 - Difficult to access resources for those outside the Seattle area
 - Need more application support with grants
 - Need networking opportunities with decision-makers
 - Growth and leadership of the next generation, supporting volunteer-driven orgs

Ideas and Solutions:

Networking events on a more regular basis to:

- increase community
- share resources and learnings
- Host workshops
- Organize and set goals
- Grant support
- Support folks new to the region

Creating equity in funding:

- La Sala is conducting analysis of funding data from 4 major arts orgs over past 3 years to evaluate Latinx representation
- Create list of community demands, such as Latinx representation on panels and better outreach by funding orgs to Latinx communities
- Advocate for fewer barriers to funding, solutions for issues such as location/address, language, etc.

La Sala Actions

- **Networking and Community Building** - La Sala will support and fund regular networking events - **We need volunteers to assist with running these events!** Please email info@lasalanw.org to join the team.
- **Arts Funding Research Project** - La Sala is conducting a series of activities to create data and analysis around Latinx arts funding in WA state.
- **Advocacy to Funders** - La Sala will lead advocacy to funders to create better outreach and access to the Latinx community around grants, including creating info sessions and learning opportunities with representatives from funding agencies.

