

*Congratulations, Linda!! from Marge Cleveland*

## BRODY ARTS FUND GIVES \$100,000 IN MINORITY AID

By ZAN DUBIN

The Brody Arts Fund, the first endowment created to help emerging and minority arts organizations and individual artists in Southern California, has just awarded \$100,000 in its first round of grants.

Small to mid-size groups ranging from the East West Players, receiving \$5,000, to the Teatro de los Puppets, awarded \$1,000, will benefit from the money given the fund last spring by the Expansion Arts Program of the National Endowment for the Arts. (The endowment defines expansion arts as "minority, inner-city, rural and tribal (Native American) arts.")

The Brody fund received the largest of seven seed grants from the endowment through its Community Foundations Initiative after the late Sidney F. Brody, a Los Angeles businessman and arts patron, proposed in 1982 that funding structures for new arts groups and artists be established within the community foundations of major American cities. The fund operates within the California Community Foundation, a nonprofit umbrella organization for about 190 small foundations.

In all, 34 arts organizations, including dance, music, theater and visual arts groups, were awarded a total of \$72,500 in three categories, and 12 visual artists received a total of \$27,500.

After receiving 433 requests for about \$500,000, "We learned that there is vastly more activity in the minority arts community than any-

one guessed," said Jack Shakely, the California Community Foundation's executive director.

Shakely said grantees were chosen by the Brody advisory board, made up of community, artist and arts agency representatives, and other arts experts not on the board. Grants were based less on need than on "artistic excellence, community involvement" and, with the arts groups, "administrative strength."

City Hearts Performing Arts, a program that provides free dance and creative movement classes to children living on Skid Row, received \$500 from the fund.

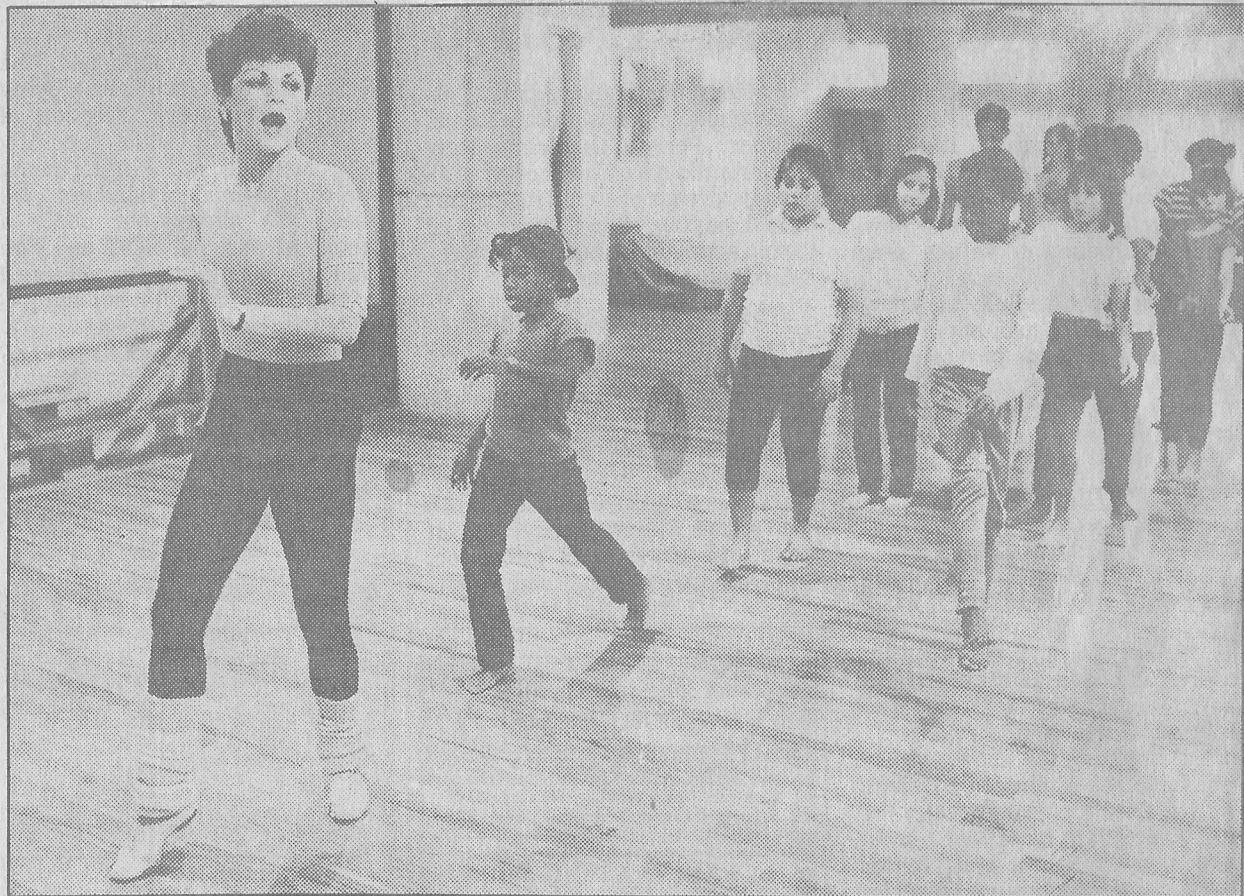
Shari Basch-Wexler, City Heart's director, said her 10-month-old program serves a multi-ethnic group of about 100 children a week.

"We'll use the money for surviving. Just surviving," said Basch-Wexler. "It will also help us get other grants. The first one is always the hardest to get. And for us and others, this is a stamp of approval which says, 'Hey you other (funding) people, Brody did it, now you must follow'" in supporting the emerging arts community.

In the next three years, the Brody fund will award another \$300,000 that it will receive from the endowment's Expansion Arts Program. The money must be matched 2 to 1 by private gifts being solicited by the California Community Foundation to create a permanent endowment.

### **BRODY ARTS FUND RECIPIENTS**

**Grant Program** (for organizations with annual operating budgets of no more than



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*Director Shari Basch-Wexler will use the grant to City Hearts Performing Arts for "just surviving."*

\$100,000, providing \$1,000 to \$5,000 for operational support, special projects and equipment):

A Writers Circle, \$1,000; Avaz/Anthony Shay's International Dance Theatre, \$2,000; Black Accent on L.A., \$2,000; Carson Community Symphony Assn., \$2,500; Carson Players Inc., \$2,000; City Hearts Performing Arts, \$500; Co-Real Artists, \$1,000; Desert Opera Theatre, \$1,000; El Centro del Pueblo, \$500; Floricanto Dance Theatre, \$2,000; Great Leap, \$1,000; Happy Time Pipers, \$1,000; Hollywood Arts Council, \$1,000; INCA/Peruvian Music and Dance Ensemble, \$1,000; Jazz Heritage Foundation, \$2,000; L.A. Contemporary Dance Theatre, \$2,000; Lafay-

ette Players West, \$2,500; Native American Theatre Ensemble, \$2,500; North Wind Quintet, \$2,000; Nyna Shannon Anderson Ensemble, \$1,000; Pipeline Inc., \$1,000; Puzzles and Solutions, \$1,000; Stages, \$1,000; Teatro de los Puppets, \$1,000; Valley Youth Orchestras Assn., \$2,500; Visual Communications, \$2,000; Young Saints Scholarship Foundation, \$1,000.

**Recognition Award Program** (for organizations with annual operating budgets of \$100,000 to \$500,000, awards of \$5,000 each given in recognition of significant artistic achievement and for community service).

Bilingual Foundation of the Arts; East West Players; Los Angeles Contemporary

Exhibitions Inc.; Museum of African American Art; Self-Help Graphics & Art Inc.; Social and Public Arts Resource Center.

**Fellowship Program** (for individual artists, providing \$2,500 to assist with career development).

Mari Border; J. Alfredo Calderon; Yreina D. Cervantez; Vernell De Silva; Roberto Delgado; Hirokazu Kosaka; Patrick Nagatani and Andree Tracey (collaborative artists, together awarded \$2,500); Linda Nishio; Therman Statom; Linda Vallejo; Sharon Kagan.

**Special Service Award** of \$2,500 to Inner City Cultural and Community Center