



**Date:** September 6, 2005  
**To:** Mayor Beverly O'Neill and Councilmembers  
**From:** Councilmember Bonnie Lowenthal, First District *BL*  
**Subject:** Transitional Art Program at the Bethune School

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**Background:**

The Long Beach Museum of Art Foundation Board is here today to present information on a project that was conceived and executed using the combined resources of the Museum and the Junior League of Long Beach.

The Bethune Transitional Center for Homeless Students is operated by the Long Beach Unified School District, as a satellite campus of Elizabeth Hudson Elementary School. The Center is a temporary stop for displaced children living in shelters, hotels and motels. Students are expected to reenter the LBUSD within 30 days of arriving at Bethune.

Bethune Transitional Center has been recognized as one of the most academically successful homeless education programs in the country. This success has been made possible by the commitment of the Museum's educational staff that developed a funding proposal for the Transitional Art Program (TAP). The program will send two Museum Educators to Bethune each week to engage the students in age-appropriate standards-based art lessons beginning in August 2005.

The Bethune Center provides exceptional services to those who would otherwise have very little access to this great opportunity. Aside from the educational component of the Center, the program also provides health assessment and support, health screenings, and social development activities.

**Recommendation:**

To receive and file a presentation from Former President Emeritus of the Long Beach Museum of Art, Tamara Achauer, regarding The Transitional Art Program at the Bethune Transitional Center for Homeless Students.