Compound

2024 Annual Report

Mission

Compound is a creative sanctuary offering a rich blend of culinary experiences, health and wellness programs, and contemporary art. Located in Long Beach's historically under-resourced Zaferia neighborhood, we believe that culture shifts consciousness, and that access to creative space transforms the individual and builds crucial social bonds in our local and regional community.

About & History

Compound was established in 2020 by Megan Tagliaferri as a cultural complex to support creativity, connectivity, and inclusion. In January 2024, Compound reopened our doors to the public with renewed momentum and a clear sense of purpose: to provide a space where art, healing, and culture can intertwine to spark individual and collective transformation, building crucial social bonds within our community.

2024 Reopening

For a period of time surrounding the pandemic, Compound paused our public programming and focused on artistic support and creative capacity building though our residency programs. This allowed us to concentrate our support on refining core programming, while recalibrating our internal operations, developing a sustainable strategy for years to come, and renovating our space to launch Union, our new restaurant. Union grants a platform for emerging culinary talent to share healthy, nourishing food, with ingredients sourced directly from local farms.

2024 Impact

17,000+
Audience members served

70+
Public programs

165+
Creative partners
across disciplines

90%
Programs offered free of charge
or on a sliding ticket scale

Programs

We took the opportunity to refine and expand our core programs—including Exhibitions, Residencies, Art for All/Creative Workshops, Practitioner Talks, Wellness Collective, Food Education, and Community Partnerships—ensuring that these resources foster community belonging and prioritize accessibility.

Exhibitions

Compound's campus includes an Exhibition/Performance Space (6,000 sq ft multi-use warehouse and exhibition space), The Lab (a freestanding 3,000 sq ft customizable space), and Outdoor Spaces (9,000 sq ft sculpture garden). These flexible and unique spaces offer a platform for commissioned artworks, immersive installations, and a variety of public programming connected to our exhibitions. We support and prioritize emerging and underrepresented talent, often working with our local creative community.

Residencies

Compound's unique residency program nurtures creative talent across our three focus areas of culinary experiences, contemporary art, and health and wellness programs. The program creates cross-pollination between a two-year chef-in-residence, a one-year artist as curator-in-residence, and our ongoing wellness collective of practitioners-in-residence.

Wellness Collective

Community wellbeing is a critical part of our public programming. We provide regular workshops such as breathwork, reiki, yoga, and meditation. All classes are offered on a sliding scale to create an accessible entry point to these mental health opportunities.

Practitioner Talks

We host a variety of talks with Compound practitioners across the disciplines of nutrition and wellness, arts and culture, and community engagement. We value authentic engagement between disciplines to facilitate conversation about topics that resonate with nearby residents.

Food Education

In line with Compound's investment in the culinary arts and mission toward social equity, Compound's food justice program provides food distribution, education, and resources to families in need in the Zaferia community. This program is presented in a collaborative partnership with Grow2Zero, Sowing the Seeds of Change, and Food Finders. Compound's food justice program is anticipated to serve 600 food-insecure families living in the Zaferia neighborhood each year.

Community Partnerships

At Compound we believe in the power of partnerships and are active participants in the local community by positioning ourselves as a valuable community resource. We provide complimentary space for local non profit partners and regularly host community gatherings to maintain strong community contacts and remain abreast of local trends and needs.

Press

“An expansive cultural complex exploring the intersection of contemporary art, wellness, and community” *–Art Daily*

“An inclusive place where community members could heal, grow, and feel a sense of belonging” *–LB Post*

“No better restaurant in Long Beach for outdoor dining than this fusion spot at the Compound art center” *–The Infatuation*

“A fantastic concept...a great restaurant engulfed in an art gallery!” *–Tripadvisor*

“Compound’s holiday programming is a month of enriching cultural activities and immersive experiences that include wellness, shopping, creative art, and culinary moments” *–LA Weekly*

Supporters

Adam Scripps Foundation
Arts Council for Long Beach
Capital Group
Columbia Pacific Advisors
F&M Bank Foundation
Irmas Family Foundation
Logan Family Fund
Long Beach Gives
MMDP Foundation
Munzer Foundation
Port of Long Beach
US Bank Foundation
Whole Foods

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