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Introduction
My research uses 4 neighborhood case studies to examine Arts & Culture District strategies used to promote revitalization, creative placemaking, and cultural preservation in historic neighborhoods that are at risk of cultural displacement. I examine:

- The role of various stakeholders shaping neighborhood change
- Neighborhood cultural assets and expressions at risk of erasure
- Arts & Cultural District Typology
- Emerging practices of cultural placekeeping within the community development field.

Methods
1. Literature Review - Urban neighborhood change trends, arts and gentrification, Creative Placemaking, spatial justice  
2. Case Study Analysis - gentrification indicators, neighborhood change timelines, stakeholder mapping  
3. 6 Interviews - 1 neighborhood resident, 1 arts organization representative, 1 Cultural District leader, 1 Community Development Corporation leader, 1 professional planner, 1 developer  
4. Field scan - scan of emerging strategies, policies, programs, and evaluation tools for cultural placekeeping.

Findings
Developer-led Arts & Cultural Districts tend to enclose portions of the neighborhood, creating exclusive spaces that white-wash, commodify, or erase the culture of the longtime community. This increases threats of gentrification and cultural displacement.

Communities are shifting the narrative of historic preservation — it’s not just about the buildings, it’s about the people — and developing innovative ways to celebrate and preserve neighborhood cultural heritage.

Creative placemaking strategies can help neighborhood residents to reclaim and revalue neighborhood identity, celebrate culture, transform public spaces, and vision for the future, without contributing to cultural displacement.

Arts & Culture Districts that build anti-displacement protections and community-benefit policies

Strategy Highlight
- Mission Economic Development Agency and Cultural Placekeeping Strategies: embedding arts & cultural infrastructure in all development projects, guaranteed non-displacement capital to small businesses; and wrapping the neighborhood’s resources around community

Policy Highlights
- La Alma-Lincoln Park Landmark Designation Criteria: celebrates and protects the vernacular architecture, murals, and distinctive features that reflect the history of the Chicano movement

Program Highlight
- Calls 24 Latino Cultural District: neighborhood-based nonprofit working to preserve, enhance, and advocate for Latino cultural continuity, vitality, and community.

District Typology

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<th>District Typology</th>
<th>Call's 24 Latino Cultural District</th>
<th>Mission District, SF</th>
<th>Arts District on Santa Fe, La Alma-Lincoln, Denver</th>
<th>La Alma-Lincoln Mission Cultural District, Denver</th>
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Le Alma-Lincoln Park Mission Cultural District