61st Annual L.A. County Holiday Celebration

Hosted by
Suzanna Guzmán & Brian White
December 24, 3:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.

Dedicated to L.A. County's Frontline & Essential Workers
ABOUT THE CELEBRATION

As Los Angeles’ largest multicultural holiday celebration, the 61st Annual L.A. County Holiday Celebration is presented by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors. An example of the county’s commitment to equity and inclusion, this joyous performance provides Angelenos of all ages an opportunity to come together on December 24 to experience and honor the dynamic, rich cultures of Los Angeles. During the free show, many diverse L.A.-based artists—including community-based and professional choirs, music ensembles and dance companies—showcase their talent, artistry and traditions on location throughout L.A. County including at Jerry Moss Plaza at The Music Center. The three-hour production features instrumental music, song and dance performances.

The 61st Annual L.A. County Holiday Celebration is dedicated to the first responders and essential workers of L.A. County. The County of Los Angeles and The Music Center celebrate and thank these real heroes for putting themselves on the front lines in 2020 and helping make this holiday season possible.

HISTORY

The L.A. County Holiday Celebration was founded in 1959 by the late Kenneth Hahn, who served as supervisor of the Second District of Los Angeles County from 1952-1992. An advocate for the arts, Supervisor Hahn developed the idea of a free daylong concert along the lines of a neighborhood talent show. When pioneering arts leader Dorothy Buffum Chandler asked Supervisor Hahn to support her plan to build an arts complex in Downtown Los Angeles, Hahn agreed, as long as the performing arts center would open its doors to the public for free every Christmas Eve. While The Music Center was under construction, the holiday show was held at the Los Angeles Sports Arena, and, in ensuing years, in the supervisors’ hearing room. Once The Music Center’s Dorothy Chandler Pavilion opened in 1964, the show was held in the new 3,100 seat auditorium, where it has continued to the delight of audiences of all ages for six decades. This year, because of COVID-19 restrictions and precautions, the 61st Annual Holiday Celebration transformed into a prerecorded celebration of the holidays, shot in locations around the county, but remains a tribute to the talent and diversity of the artists and cultures that comprise L.A.

Over the years, the supervisors from all five county districts have supported the event. Today, the Board of Supervisors includes the Honorable Hilda L. Solis, First District, Chair; the Honorable Holly J. Mitchell Second District; the Honorable Sheila Kuehl, Third District; the Honorable Janice Hahn, Fourth District; and the Honorable Kathryn Barger, Fifth District.

The show was produced for many years by the Los Angeles County Arts Commission, now known as the Los Angeles County Department of Arts and Culture. There are 15 arts commissioners named by the Board of Supervisors. They include: Tim Dang, Helen Hernandez and Norma Provencio Pichardo (First District); Pamela Bright-Moon, Eric Hanks and Hope Warschaw (Second District); Madeline Di Nonno, Constance Jolcuvar and Rosalind Wyman (Third District); Darnella Davidson, Eric R. Eisenberg and Liz Schindler Johnson (Fourth District); and Alis Clausen Odenthal, Bettina Korek and Liane Weintraub (Fifth District).

While more than 6,000 people traditionally attend the Holiday Celebration at The Music Center in person, the show reaches all over Los Angeles County and beyond with a live broadcast on PBS SoCal. It repeats on PBS SoCal 1 on December 24 and 25, on PBS SoCal 2 on December 25 and on KCET on December 25. Holiday revelers can also stream on pbssocal.org, kcet.org and holidaycelebration.org.

The 60th Annual L.A. County Holiday Celebration was named the winner of a 2020 Los Angeles Emmy® Award for Live Special Events - Programming. The same Emmy-winning team, led by the program’s 25-year producer and director Kenneth Shapiro, developed this year’s program, which is a production of The Music Center and PBS SoCal in association with CDK Productions.
L.A. COUNTY ARTISTS SHINE A LIGHT ON THE HOLIDAYS

APPLICATION PROCESS

The performers for the Holiday Celebration are selected via an annual public application process, which opens in April and concludes in August. Interested performing groups complete an application and provide video with their applications. This year, selections were made during an extensive review process by The Music Center. Reviewers endeavored to select participants who reflect the diversity of Los Angeles. Visit holidaycelebration.org to learn more and apply.

THE 61ST ANNUAL L.A. COUNTY HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

A Los Angeles holiday tradition presented in conjunction with The Music Center since 1959, the 61st Annual L.A. County Holiday Celebration takes on a vibrant new format for 2020. Filmed on location at both The Music Center’s Dorothy Chandler Pavilion and Jerry Moss Plaza and at sites around Los Angeles County, the beloved three-hour showcase of 22 L.A.-based performing groups features choirs, music ensembles and dance companies representing the many cultures of Los Angeles.
Photos: Notable provided by performer; Pacifico Dance Company, Ricardo Lemvo & Makina Loca by Will Yang; Palmdale High School Chamber Singers and Sunday Night Singers provided by performer; Rangoli Dance Company by Cody Kopp; Sean Oliu and The Coastline Cowboys provided by performer; Sound of China Guzheng Ensemble provided by performer; Southern California Brass Consortium by Karen Case; The Opera Company & Orchestra at LACHSA by Edwin Drood; The Yuko Mabuchi Trio provided by performer; Tres Souls provided by performer; Versa-Style Dance Company by George Simian
SUZANNA GUZMÁN

Suzanna Guzmán, mezzo-soprano, is a native of East Los Angeles and one of LA Opera’s original associate artists. She has appeared as a principal soloist with orchestras and opera houses around the world including the Metropolitan Opera, Washington National Opera, Dallas Opera, Opera de Genève and San Diego Opera, to name a few. In 2019, Guzmán appeared in Ragnar Kjartansson’s epic work Bliss, the 12-hour Mozart marathon, as Madame de la Halterre with Opera Del Wests acclaimed Cendrillon, and continues to hold the record for most female principal roles sung by an artist with LA Opera: over 400 performances. An advocate of arts education, Guzmán regularly performs her one-woman show, Don’t Be Afraid; It’s Just Opera! across the United States and is widely recognized for her mentorship to California students. Her acknowledgements include the 2012 Hispanic Scholarship Foundation’s Mentor of the Year Award, the 2012 Spirit of California Award from the State of California’s Latino Legislative Caucus, the 2013 Mexican American Foundation Award for Woman of the Year and the 2015 Lifetime Achievement Award from the Nederlander Organization for her work in the arts and the community. Guzmán serves on the USC Thornton School of Music Board of Councilors, on UCLA’s Design for Sharing board, and received her honorary PhD in Music from Occidental College. She acted as host for the Emmy-nominated 59th and 60th Annual L.A. County Holiday Celebration as well as for the KCET television show Open Call, a showcase for Los Angeles’ vibrant arts community. During her tenure as director of community engagement for the L.A. County High School for the Arts, Guzmán helped develop programs that served over 13,000 K-12 students annually, bringing them to their first symphony, ballet and musical theatre performance.

BRIAN WHITE

Brian White, back for his fourth year as co-host of the L.A. County Holiday Celebration, is an accomplished television, film actor and producer, most known for his roles on Showtime’s Ray Donovan, NBC’s Taken, NBC’s Chicago Fire and ABC’s Scandal as Kerry Washington’s love interest. White starred in and produced the feature films Howard High, Only for One Night, and 36 Hour Layover. After college, White was signed to the New England Patriots; however, his career was cut short due to injury. He then began a lucrative modeling career and co-founded a professional dance and theatre company, Phunk Phenomenon Urban Dance Theater Company, which uses the art of dance as a catalyst for youth outreach. “Phunk” has visited over 200 schools and has collaborated with MTV, the NBA, the WNBA and more; the company has performed with Britney Spears, TLC, Run DMC and Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. While developing “Phunk,” White seized an opportunity to work on the television show Moesha in Los Angeles. This opportunity kick-started his acting career and allowed him to steadily grow in the entertainment industry.

THE YUKO MABUCHI TRIO

Bass: Dale Atkins
Drums: Bobby Breton
Piano: Yuko Mabuchi

LITTLE DRUMMER BOY
By Katherine Davis

CHRISTMAS TIME IS HERE
By L. Mendelson & V. Guaraldi

FELIZ NAVIDAD
By Jose Feliciano

GAY MEN’S CHORUS
OF LOS ANGELES

Music Director: Ernest H. Harrison
Pianist: Dr. Cassie Nikels-Gonzalez
**Phantumchinda**, Steve Pieters, Ben Robbins, Brian Roskam, Jonathan Rubio, Billy Rugh, Edward Salm, Braden Joyce Schleimer, Bob Sieber, Todd Stites, Kirk C. Tellier, Jason Thomas, David Werthe

**MA’OZ TZUR**
Traditional, arr. Ruth Rubin

**JOY TO THE WORLD**
By William Holford, arr. Lowell Mason

**HOLIDAY MEDLEY**
Welsh Traditional, arr. Edward Jones

**Segment Production:**
Sound Engineer: Lucio Maramba
Video Editing: Lightship Studios
Executive Director & Producer: Lou Spisto

**VERSA-STYLE DANCE COMPANY**
Members: Jackie Lopez, Leigh Foaad, Brandon Juezan, Harry Weston, Ernesto Galarza, Cynthia Hernandez, Alli Gray, Anthony Berry, Gbari Gilliam, Jessi Pontillas, Ceanne Augustine

**ROOTED RHYTHMS**
Choreographed by Jackie Lopez & Leigh Foaad
Music: La Salsa La Traigo Yo/Jump On It
By Deigo Gale, Mario Rincon/NYOP

**Segment Production:**
Video: Jaimar Viray
Photography: George Simian
Video Editing Consultant: David Ho
Recording / Mixing: Daniel Ho
Producer, Video editor, Videographer, Artistic Director, Zendeko: Hiroko Seki
Additional Videographer: Andrew Chung
Lydia Miyashiro-Ho
Artist Manager, Videographer:
Segment Production:
Choreography, Pahu: Keali’i Kauai
iulani Kimura, Brian Kimura, Vivian Seki
Zendeko Taiko:
Cello: Danna Xue, Dani Joy Herreid
Shime, Odaiko, Okedo: Yusuke Tajima

**COLORS IN HARMONY**
By Daniel Ho

**SEGMENT PRODUCTION:**
Artist Manager, Videographer:
Lydia Miyashiro-Ho
Additional Videographer: Andrew Chung
Artistic Director, Zendeko: Hiroko Seki
Translation: Danna Xue, Hiroko Seki
Producer, Video editor, Videographer, Recording / Mixing: Daniel Ho
Video Editing Consultant: David Ho

**SOUND OF CHINA GUZHENG ENSEMBLE**
Director: Cynthia Hsiang
Cynthia Hsiang, Carol Chang, Cookie Zhao, Luffy Ling, Jody Ying, Wendy Zhou, Kathy Lei, JenYen Sleigh Bells: Michelle Kuo

**A MERRY LITTLE CHRISTMAS MEDLEY**
HAVE YOURSELF A MERRY LITTLE CHRISTMAS
By Hugh Martin and Ralph Blane
FRAGRANCE AT NIGHT
By Jinguang Li
SLEIGH RIDE
By Leroy Anderson

4:00 p.m.
**AMERICAN YOUTH SYMPHONY**
Music Director & Co-Composer: Carlos Iczaray
Executive Director: Tara Aesquivel
Director of Orchestra Operations: Isabel Thioux
Cello, Piano: Alex Mansour

Violin: Hannah Chou
Bass: Sam Miller
Flute, Piccolo: Sierra Schmelzter
Clarinet: Sergio Coelho
Harp: Alyssa Katabaha

**CANDLELIGHT**
Composed and orchestrated by Alex Mansour in collaboration with Carlos Iczaray

**SEGMENT PRODUCTION:**
Audio Engineer: Francesco Perlangeli
Post Production Company: Paxeros
Post-Production Supervisor: Sean Drummond
Video Editor: Dawson Taylor

**KAYAMANAN NG LAHI PHILIPPINE DANCE COMPANY**
Director: Ave Jacinto
Director: Joel Jacinto
Director / Choreographer: Barbara Ele
Associate Director: Tinette Sumiller
Associate Director: Robert Almanzor
Associate Director: Jed David

**YAKAN, DUGSO, KADAL TAHO, THALAK, SOHON**
Choreography by Barbara Ele
Music: Traditional

**NOTEABLE**
Members: Jacob Gonzalez, Ryan Wisniewski, Emilio Pichardo, Ethan Miley

**ROCKIN’ AROUND THE CHRISTMAS TREE**
By Johnny Marks

**WHITE CHRISTMAS**
By Irving Berlin

**JINGLE BELLS / SLEIGH RIDE**
By James Lord Pierpont / Leroy Anderson

**INFINITE FLOW DANCE**
Director & Choreographer: Marisa Hamamoto
Choreography: Forrest Walsh & Shaheem Sanchez
Members: Marisa Hamamoto, Stephanie Zellhoefer, Adelphi Cerame Jr., Marc Lafleur, Mia Schaikewitz, Forrest Walsh, Natalie Trevenon, Shaheem Sanchez, Tony Nunez, Lionel Taplin, Amy Lawrence, Dmitry Kim, Victoria Rafael, Anastasiya Vinikovska, Oxana Kashkina, Adam Fritz, Caroline Blaie, Scarlett Kate Ferguson, Henry Ferguson, Kai Daye Brown, Caley Versfelt, Nicolas Nobilt, Eliza Nobilt, Molly Bannos, Bella Rogers

**DEAR SANTA**
Choreography by Marisa Hamamoto & Infinite Flow Dance
Music: Silent Night, Ice Cream Rap & Gratitude Hip Hop
By Joey Noble & Jay Manuel Thomas

Segment Production:
Artistic Director: Marisa Hamamoto
Choreography: Company
Video Editors: Marisa Hamamoto, Laila Gray

LORENZO JOHNSON & PRAIZUM
Founder, Director & Lead: Lorenzo Johnson
Keyboard: Brandon Forte
Bass/Guitar/Drums: Orlando Thompson
Organ: Jeremy Jeffers
Singers: Melanie Hill, Lorenzo Johnson, Jr., Keicon Cherry, Franchesca White, Loraine Johnson, Xavier Smith, Loretta Johnson-Smith, Jeremy Glover, Tameka Glover, Marion Williams, Ivan Hicks, Daniel Jackson, Jr., Lisa Carter, Tatayna Coleman, Markeisha Jackson, Alessandria Howard

ONLY BELIEVE
Jason Wright & The Masters Touch 2018
Arr. By Kim Burrell
Segment Production:
Video Editor: Keicon Cherry
Audio Mixing: Lorenzo Johnson, JR

PALMDALE HIGH SCHOOL CHAMBER SINGERS & SUNDAY NIGHT SINGERS
Artistic Director: Mike McCullough
Author / Lyricist: Debora Craig-Claar
Composer / Arranger: Mark Hayes
Trumpet/Soloist: Tyler Heckathorn
Saxophone: Lance Azusada
Bass: Thomas Ramirez
Drums: Julissa Ramirez
Percussion: Carlos Martinez
Clarinet: Anthony Ray
Singers: Aldi Garcia, Anita Pereida, Ashley Martinez, Brittany Garcia, Jai Wilson, Nina Romero, Roxanna Oldham, Traniya Herndon, Aaron Fairbanks, Javier Quick, Steven Calzada, Taylor Montes, Annika Linde, Hilary McCullough, Kathleen Guerrero, Kristy Pacheco, Victoria Sifuentes, Jeannie Maupin, Skyy Cruz, Gabriel Castaneda, Jordan Garrison, Jose Meza, Santiago Cortes

BIG BAND CAROL MEDLEY
Arr. by Mark Hayes
Segment Production:
Producer: Hashtag, You’re It
DP / Editor: Nicole Alexander
VFX: Luka Stemberger
Recording Engineer: Dajuan Cowan

JESSICA FICHOT
Guitar: Adrien Prévost
Guzheng: Annie Zhou
Drums: Brian Carmody
Vocals, Accordion: Jessica Fichot

Upright Bass: Jonathan Ahrens
Clarinet, Tenor Sax: Sylvain Carton

恭喜恭喜 / GONG XI À PARIS
By 陳歌辛 / Jessica Fichot
LE SECRET
By Jessica Fichot

JUNG IM LEE KOREAN DANCE ACADEMY
Director & Choreographer: Jung Im Lee
Members: Karen Park, Linette Yoon, Yeowon Cho, Audrey Thornal, Gina Boa Moon, Suji Hong, Hannah Yoo
JANGGU DANCE
By Jung Im Lee

5:00 p.m.
CUÑAO
Accordian, Back-up Vocals: Severin Behnhen
Bass: Josel Cruz
Guitar, Vocals: Julio Montero
Violin, Vocals: Gabriel Ramirez-Ortiz
Mandolin, Back-up Vocals: Tom Moose
Cajon, Percussion, Back-up Vocals: Craig Shields

LOS PECES EN EL RÍO
Written by: Unknown
NOCHE BUENA
Written by: Cuñao

SEGMENT PRODUCTION:
Video Editor: Josel Cruz
Audio Mixing: Julio Montero

RICARDO LEMVO & MAKINA LOCA
Bandleader, Vocalist: Ricardo Lemvo
Pianist: Serge Kasimoff
Trumpet, Backup Vocals: Stephen Giraldo
Trumpet, Backup Vocals: Arturo Solar
Bass: José Peña
Drums: Sandie Castañeda
Congas, Backup Vocals: Luis Vasquez
Guitar: Andy Abad
MAMA KIYELELE
By Ricardo Lemvo
NONO FEMINEH
By Ricardo Lemvo

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA BRASS CONSORTIUM
Executive Director: C. Leonard Coduti
Artistic Director: Hector Salazar
Personnel Manager: Drew Ninmer
Conductor: Hector Salazar
Trumpet: Drew Ninmer, Joe Ferruzzo, Ian Holmqvist, Cameron Wilkins, Sarah Bauza, Johnathan Brady
Trombone: Daniel Lawlor, Ramsey Hampton, Taylor Covey, Patrick Lenertz
Euphonium: Michael Rushman, Charles Lilly

Tuba: Kyle Richter, Gabriel Sears
Percussion: Kevin Brown, Jonathan Schlitt, Greg Erskine
Guitar: Will Brahms
Piano: Austin Byrd
Bass: Chelsea Gwizdala
Drumset: Sam Webster
O COME, O COME EMMANUEL
Arr. by Douglas Richard & Hector Salazar
RUDOLPH THE RED-NOSED REINDEER & SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN
Arr. by Jerry Fielding
SILENT NIGHT
Arr. by Drew Ninmer

SEGMENT PRODUCTION:
Video Editor: Mark Ninmer
Audio Editor: Preston Shepard

RANGOLI DANCE COMPANY
Choreography: Malathi Lyengar
Dancers: Shivani Aysola, Vynshnvi Aysola, Hema Iyer, Nina Krishnan, Nishitha Viswanathan, Anshu Voruganti
Sculpture: Suresh Lyengar
MALLARI: AN AUSPICIOUS BEGINNING
By Rajkumar Bharathi

TRES SOULS
Lead Vocals, Maracas: Rocío Libertad Mendoza
Guitar: Roberto Carlos
Requinto: Jesus Martinez
LA LUNA ERES TU
By Jesus Martinez and Rocío Mendoza
MY GIRL
By Smokey Robinson
QUE NADIE SEPA MI SUFRIR
By Jesus Martinez and Rocío Mendoza

THE OPERA COMPANY & ORCHESTRA AT LACHSA
Director: Suzanna Guzmán
Music Director: Chris Hunter
Music Chair: Michael Powers
Conductor: Alan Mautner
Concertmaster: Zola Saadi-Klein
Pianist: Nina Serova
Violin: Zola Saadi-Klein, Sergio Paez, Mya Grove, Cayla Mendoza
Viola: Ricardo Ibarra, Solomon Leonard
Celli: Natalie Avila, Samuel Guevara
Bass: Esteban Lindo
Piano: Nocole Lam
Flute: Kaela Seltzer, Nico Brouwer
Oboe: Nathaniel Chan
Clarinet: Ian Fleck

holidaycelebration.org
Interested in performing in the 62nd Annual L.A. County Holiday Celebration on December 24, 2021, or know a group or artist who might like to perform? Opportunities are available for anyone who lives in Los Angeles County. Applications will be available in April 2021. Visit holidaycelebration.org in the spring for more details.
WE BELIEVE IN ARTS

To learn more, be inspired and support our vision, visit: musiccenter.org

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