

ART

In 'Photo-synthesis' artist imitates artist

Samantha Diaz
Managing Editor

It's often said that life imitates art, and vice versa. In Cory Bilicko and Tony Barrera's new exhibit "Photo-synthesis," it's artist who imitates artist.

Bilicko and Barrera are vastly different from one another, but you wouldn't know that by walking through their gallery. Bilicko, energetic and outgoing, has curated and participated in over a dozen exhibits, museums and galleries during his 13 years of paint and collage work.

Barrera, a quiet and thoughtful Long Beach native, has been expressing his thoughts on love, depression and life through photography since he was a child. He describes his work as "moody and emotional" and photos from throughout a lifetime of shooting, as well as newly made images, are on display in his first exhibit.

"I was so inspired by his photos and loved his photos so much that I wanted to reinterpret them," Bilicko said. "I wanted to use them as muses or inspiration pieces, so that's where the idea came from. And then I thought, well, if I reinterpret his, he should reinterpret mine."

There are 26 pieces of art intricately placed on the walls at the Ephemeral gallery, all of the pieces cleverly playing off one another. Bilicko and Barrera began the creative process shortly before the pandemic and spent around three years creating and recreating



Tony Barrera (right) and Cory Bilicko (left) stand near some of their work that inspired the other to interpret it in their preferred medium for their series "Photo-Synthesis" at the Ephemeral Gallery in Downtown Long Beach on Dec. 6, 2022.

pieces for the show.

It was Bilicko who approached Barrera with the idea of working together. He had experimented with the idea of imitation once

before, in an exhibit at Greenly Art Space in Signal Hill. The exhibit featured 30 artists and children recreating vintage postcards, and the concept of where artists draw

inspiration from continued to intrigue him.

Bilicko searched for the perfect artist to explore this idea with, and after a year of searching, he found

Barrera's work and immediately pitched the show.

"I was instantly really excited," Barrera said. "I knew I always

see PHOTO-SYNTHESIS page 11

CITY COUNCIL

Long Beach will reevaluate its process for approving permanent parklets

Samantha Diaz
Managing Editor

Long Beach City Council voted unanimously to reevaluate the process for restaurants and eateries to apply for a permanent parklet, potentially removing the requirement for community group approval.

The city currently has 40 temporary parklets remaining from the 125 that went up in 2020 due to COVID-19 restrictions. Twenty-one of the businesses that applied for

permanent parklets were approved to keep them up during the application process while the remaining businesses must remove the structures by Dec. 31.

"We never intended to have veto power given to an organization," said Eric Lopez, director of Public Works.

As it stands, the 21 restaurants in Long Beach applying to keep their parklets must obtain approval from

see PARKLETS page 3



Parklets replaced the street parking on 4th Street outside of the Social List on Sept. 14, 2021. The Social List also has a permanent parklet.

COMMUNITY

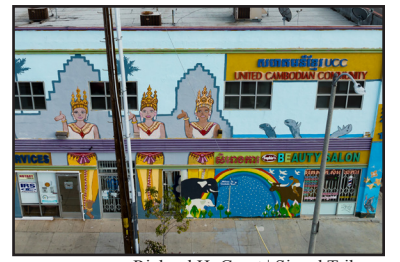
Long Beach to host community forum for Cambodian American Cultural Center

Staff Report
Signal Tribune

On Wednesday, Dec. 14, a community forum will be held to discuss the Cambodian American Cultural Center (CACC) from 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The forum will take place inside the Homeland Cultural Center at Douglas MacArthur Park, located at 1321 Anaheim St.

The City of Long Beach and sixth

see CACC FORUM page 3



An aerial view of the mural at the United Cambodian Community building in Long Beach on Jan. 10, 2022.

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COMMUNITY

Long Beach offering free recreational activities for kids and teens during winter break



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

Parents sit on benches while children play in the renovated play area at Colorado Lagoon Park on March 29, 2022.

Staff Report

Signal Tribune

The Long Beach Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine (PRM) will be offering supervised youth and teen recreation programs during the upcoming winter school break.

The Winter Fun Days Program will offer youth ages 5 through 12 years old the chance to participate in free games, crafts and sports as well as take part in field trips and holiday celebrations.

During these programs, kids can come and go at their own discretion and PRM staff will be on-site to lead various activities.

The program will operate from Dec. 27 through Dec. 30 and Jan. 3 through Jan. 6 from noon to 5 p.m. at several parks throughout the city.

The full list of locations for Winter Fun Days is as follows:

- Admiral Kidd Park, 2125 Santa Fe Ave.
- Bixby Park, 130 Cherry Ave.
- Cesar E. Chavez Park, 401 Gold-

en Ave.

- College Estates Park, 808 Stevely Ave.
- Coolidge Park, 353 E. Neece St.
- Drake Park, 951 Maine Ave.
- El Dorado Park West, 2800 Studebaker Rd.
- * Heartwell Park, 5801 E. Parkcrest (Wardlow Park youth programs will be offered here due to ongoing construction.)
- Houghton Park, 6201 Myrtle Ave.
- MacArthur Park, 1321 Anaheim St.
- McBride Park, 1550 Martin Luther King, Jr. Ave.
- Martin Luther King Jr. Park, 1950 Lemon Ave.
- Orizaba Park, 1435 Orizaba Ave.
- Pan American Park, 5157 Centuria St.
- Ramona Park, 3301 E. 65th St.
- Scherer Park, 4600 Long Beach Blvd.
- Seaside Park, 14th Street at Chestnut Avenue
- Silverado Park, 1545 W. 31st St.
- Somerset Park, 1500 E. Carson St.

- Stearns Champions Park, 4520 E. 23rd St.
 - Veterans Park, 101 E. 28th St.
 - Whaley Park, 5620 Atherton St.
- Teens can participate in recreational activities at the following Teen Center locations:
- Admiral Kidd Park, 2125 Santa Fe Ave.
 - Cesar E. Chavez Park, 401 Golden Ave.
 - Houghton Park, 6201 Myrtle Ave.
 - Freeman Community Center, 1205 Freeman Ave.
 - McBride Park, 1550 Martin Luther King, Jr. Ave.
 - Silverado Park, 1545 W. 31st St.
- Onsite registration is required for all kids and teens who plan to participate.
- Additional information regarding the Winter Fun Days Program and Teen Programs being hosted throughout the city is available on the programs' respective websites. For more information about specific activities being held during the programs, residents can call the park location of their choice.

CITY COUNCIL

Long Beach looking to become first autism-certified city in Southern California



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

A picture of the LONG BEACH sign located in the Long Beach Civic Center, in Downtown Long Beach.

Samantha Diaz

Managing Editor

The next step on Long Beach's mission for inclusivity for all will benefit community members with autism and other developmental disorders.

Long Beach may soon become the first autism-certified city in Southern California, after council members unanimously directed City staff to report back on the feasibility of obtaining the credential.

"Our commitment to openness and accessibility to all is wide-ranging," said councilmember Suzie Price, who co-authored the item with councilmember Stacy Mungo.

In order to become autism-certified, Long Beach will work with the International Board of Credentialing and Continuing Education Standards (IBCCES) to train City staff to comfortably and "positively" interact with individuals with autism.

At least 80% of public-facing staff must complete autism and sensory disorder sensitivity and awareness training.

Public-facing staff and management include healthcare, government, hospitality, education, tourism, corporate, small businesses and public safety workers. City staff will work with IBCCES to determine the number of individual businesses required to participate in order to receive certification, as

it is unique to each city.

Councilmember Al Austin commended Price and Mungo for bringing the item forward, and said he is ready to "carry the torch" on assuring Long Beach becomes autism-certified after his colleagues complete their council terms later this month.

"I don't think a lot of folks realize the challenges these families face," Austin said. "It's a community that deserves our attention, and we need to do all we can to extend dignity to those with developmental challenges."

Cities that have received the certification include Mesa, Arizona; Indianapolis, Indiana; and Visalia, California.

Fifth district resident and worker with Play Long Beach, John Schultz thanked the council for exploring the certification and asked them to show their commitment by helping create an all-accessible playground in El Dorado Park West.

"There are community groups ready, willing and able to support our city to be the first [in Southern California] to be autism-certified," Schultz said.

Play Long Beach hosts an annual event Autism Night Out, where families who have children with autism are invited to a restaurant buffet where staff and fellow patrons create a "safe and judgment-free zone." The third annual night will be on Dec. 19 at Boat-house on the Bay.

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COMMUNITY

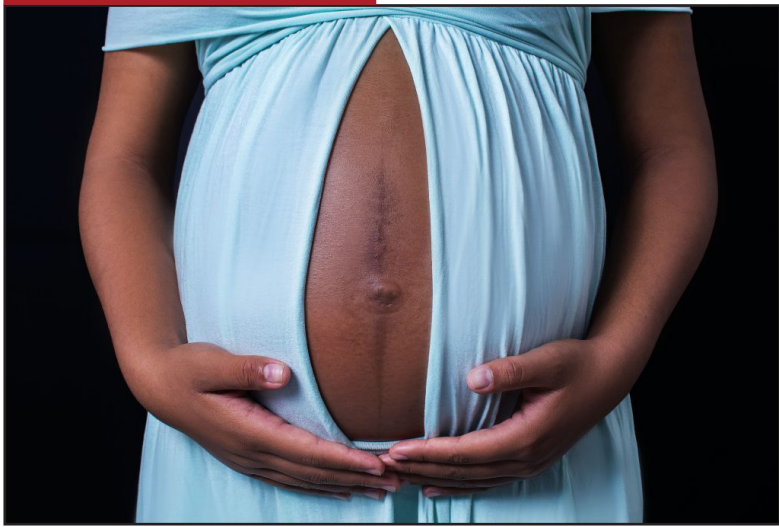


Image Courtesy A&C Photos & Pexels

A stock photo of a pregnant Black woman holding her belly.

Birthworkers of Color Collective fundraising for first permanent storefront

Kristen Farrah Naeem
Staff Writer

After five years of training doulas in Long Beach, the Birthworkers of Color Collective is asking the community to help fund its first brick-and-mortar location in the city.

“We really saw that in Long Beach there were not a lot of spaces that are for pregnant people, for people trying to become pregnant, for their families or postpartum and so we really want to fill that gap,” said Stevie Merino, co-founder of the Birthworkers of Color Collective.

The collective currently rents out various spaces to train doulas, see clients and host community events. It has set a fundraising goal of \$100,000 to pay for rent, upkeep and other fees related to opening a storefront.

As of Wednesday, Dec. 7 the online fundraiser has collected \$765.

“We realized that we need to have a space like this as part of our natural evolution,” Merino said.

The Birthworkers of Color Collective helps pregnant people connect with doulas from their culture, who can provide traditional forms of care and overall support before, during and after birth. Over 200 doulas are part of the collective.

“This is a very intimate time in someone’s life and having people who understand cultural or religious or spiritual [...] context can be really, really, helpful and beneficial,” Merino said. “Because when you’re in the midst of this, you don’t want to be explaining who you are [...] to someone so that they can understand you, or understand certain traditions or practices or ways that you’re doing things or seeing things.”

Doulas play an important role in improving birth outcomes. Accord-

ing to multiple studies, expectant parents assisted by doulas are less likely to give birth to an underweight or preterm baby, and less likely to experience complications during birth.

Merino explained that in the modern age, many communities of color have become disconnected from their customs surrounding pregnancy. Knowledgeable doulas from their own communities can help expectant families reclaim and reconnect to these traditions.

In order to make their services affordable for as many people as possible, the Birthworkers of Color Collective charges clients on a sliding scale.

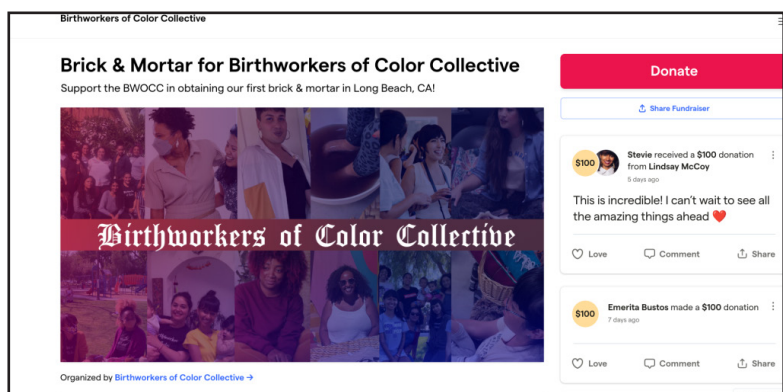
“These are traditional practices. Cultures have always had someone who supported them during this process,” Merino said. “It’s very important that we reclaim this medicine and that we reclaim this practice and that it’s accessible to so many of us.”

Besides connecting people to doulas, the Birthworkers of Color Collective also trains doulas of color and offers a variety of educational opportunities. Its newest virtual training series will begin in March 2023, and is open to doulas from around the world.

In the past, the collective has held classes on how to guide clients through abortions, organized a mentorship program and created other educational opportunities for doulas of color.

“There’s diverse groups of people of color who are providing these services. It isn’t something that’s just for affluent populations,” Merino said.

To make a donation towards the Birthworkers of Color Collective’s first storefront, visit <https://givebuttr.com/BWOCCBM>.



Screenshot Courtesy | Givebuttr

A screenshot of the Birthworkers of Color Collective’s online fundraising page.

CRIME

Woman, children robbed at gunpoint in Long Beach home invasion



Kat Wilcox | Pexels

Crime scene tape.

City News Service

Southern California Local News

A woman and her three children were held up at gunpoint in their Long Beach apartment, authorities said Monday.

The robbery occurred just after 11 p.m. Sunday in the 2000 block of Beverly Plaza, according to Long Beach police Lt. Jose Flores. One

man entered the residence with a gun.

“The suspect held the adult victim at gunpoint while two additional male adult suspects ransacked the residence,” Flores said, adding the suspects left the apartment with property.

The victims did not suffer physical injury in the ordeal, which remained under investigation, he said.

CACC FORUM continued from page 1

district Councilwoman Suely Saro, in partnership with City Fabrick, Lord Cultural Resources and United Cambodian Community will be hosting the CACC Community Forum. Members of the surrounding community are invited to attend the forum to join community discussions and receive ongoing updates about the future of the CACC.

The recommendation for a Cambodian American Cultural Center was originally brought to city council by Councilwoman Saro in September 2021.

This forum follows the Community Visioning and Feasibility Plan Kickoff event held this past September. During the kickoff event,

around 400 community members participated in a survey to gather information of interest pertaining to the CACC.

At the CACC Community Forum, the results from the survey as well as cultural center updates will be presented, and attendees will give their input regarding the purpose, activities and location of the CACC through small group discussions. Additionally, dinner and Khmer interpretation will be provided at the event.

Additional information surrounding the CACC visioning process can be found on the CACC webpage.

PARKLETS continued from page 1

community groups in order to proceed, meaning these groups have the power to deny a business’s application.

“I am one of those who believe that parklets have made our dining spaces even better. They helped save a lot of our businesses during the pandemic,” said Mayor Robert Garcia. “My concern on the process as it stands today is that we’ve been approached by numerous groups who are considered community groups who shouldn’t be, and other groups that want to be considered and are not.”

According to the city council, there are gardening groups in the city that are considered during the process, yet certain business associations such as the Naples Island Business Association are not permitted to voice their opinion.

Councilmember Suzie Price brought the item forward and pointed out multiple times that “the item is not meant to eliminate community input” as it will still remain “a critical factor to be considered.”

She said the current ordinance does not outline which groups in the city can give their input for certain locations, stating that sometimes restaurants have to get approval from three different groups. There is also no direction for how the groups must make their decisions; whether it’s a board decision, a president decision or a majority vote.

“What’s happening is permanent parklet applications can’t move forward and neighborhood groups are asking, ‘How are we supposed to be taking the vote,’” Price said.

Director of Development Services Christopher Koontz pointed out that businesses applying for an outdoor patio must follow a similar process where they “consult” neighborhood groups, though they don’t have to get approval from specific groups based on their location.

Multiple businesses within Belmont Shore took to the podium to speak about the “standstill” they find themselves in. Belmont Shore restaurants also have to go through the coastal permitting process that the City conducts on behalf of the Coastal Commission.

Panama Joe’s owner Fabius Rizk said that businesses in Belmont Shore have worked with neighborhood groups to make parklets smaller and have removed most of the structures.

“I cannot tell you how much parklets have helped our business during the roughly one year we were able to utilize it,” said Kristen Rodriguez of Colossus Bakery. “For context all this took was one parking space.”

Rodriguez spoke through tears that she has heard from residents in Belmont Shore that they plan to veto any parklets that apply in the area.

“I think it’s our lack of clarity in the process that has resulted in this standstill,” Price said. “We cannot have a good policy if we have a blanket policy. I think we need to look at it on a case-by-case basis. We have good actors and bad actors.”

Price asked City staff to return in a week with an updated ordinance, but City Manager Tom Modica said that the quick turnaround means “there’s a small chance we get it right.” Staff will return with updates on Jan. 17, after Price’s term as council member is over.

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CRIME

Inglewood man held in connection with year-old daughter's death



Kat Wilcox | Pexels

Crime scene tape.

City News Service

Southern California Local News

A young Inglewood father was behind bars Tuesday, Dec. 6 in connection with the death of his year-old daughter, whose body was found in the Los Angeles River in Long Beach.

Jayveyon Burley, 22, was being held in lieu of \$215,000 bail, according to county jail records, following his arrest Monday by Inglewood police.

According to ABC7, which first reported the arrest, the suspect went to Long Beach on Sunday to pick up his two children, but he

only had one child with him when he returned home. A subsequent search led to the discovery of the infant in shallow water in the Los Angeles River near the Ocean Boulevard bridge.

Family members identified the child as Leilani Dream Burley.

Police said the suspect lives with his grandmother in the 300 block of North Market Street in Inglewood, and she contacted police late Sunday night out of concern for her missing granddaughter. The suspect was arrested and booked on suspicion of murder and child endangerment after the child's body was found.

The mother of Burley's children, Lynisha Hull, told ABC7 Tuesday that the suspect normally picks up the children on Sunday nights and brings them back on Wednesday. She said Burley was "angry" when he picked up the children on Sunday, but "he was normal."

"He didn't look like he was panicked at the time at all," she told the station.

"My daughter was murdered by her father," Hull said. "He threw her off the bridge."

Inglewood police asked anyone with information to contact investigators at 310-412-5246.

CRIME

Police ID man killed by hit-and-run vehicle in Long Beach

City News Service

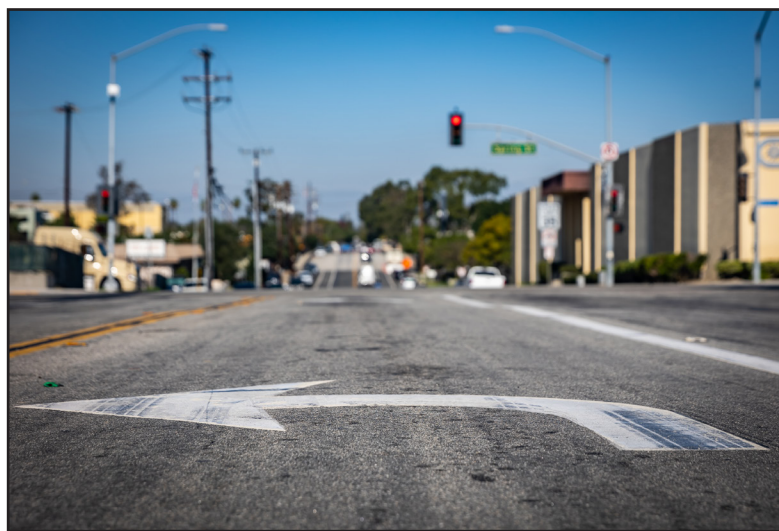
Southern California Local News

Authorities Monday identified a man who was struck and killed by a hit-and-run vehicle in Long Beach.

The vehicle was eastbound on Second Street about 1 a.m. Sunday when it hit the man, who was crossing outside a marked crosswalk near Marina Drive, according to the Long Beach Police Department.

Hiram Argust Jr., 44, of Long Beach died at the scene, the Los Angeles County coroner's office reported.

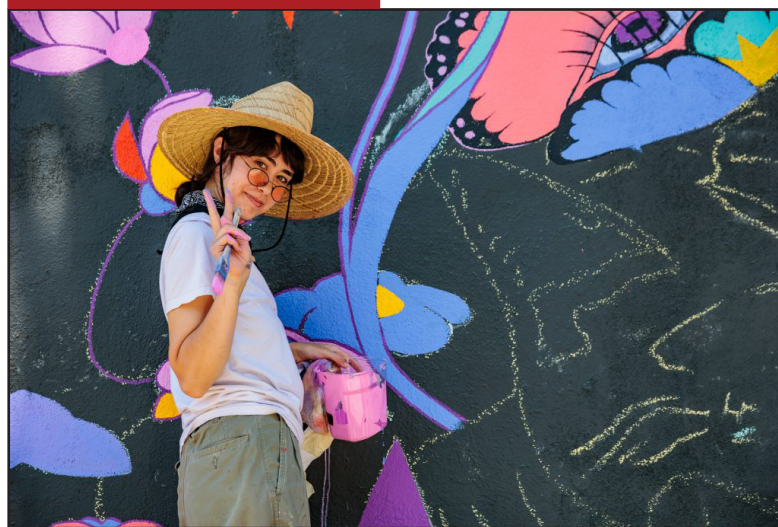
The vehicle left the scene prior to officers' arrival, and no description was available. Anyone with information on the case was urged to call police at 562-570-7355 or Crime Stoppers at 800-222-TIPS.



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

The left-turn arrow street marking on Walnut Avenue that turns onto Spring Street in Signal Hill on Nov. 24, 2021.

COMUNIDAD



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

La artista Megan Boterenbrood (@Mara.Bubblegum on Instagram) posa para un retrato mientras trabaja en su mural en progreso en el Pine Animal Hospital en Long Beach el 30 de agosto de 2022. Los murales son parte de Long Beach Walls, anteriormente POW! WOW! evento de arte público.

Long Beach invita a los artistas a contribuir al Memorial de COVID-19

Staff Report

Signal Tribune

El Concejo de las Artes de Long Beach está buscando artistas locales con experiencia para crear arte para su Memorial de COVID-19, destinado a honrar las vidas perdidas y afectadas durante la pandemia.

La Ciudad recientemente creó la Comité Asesor del Conmemorativo de COVID-19, compuesto de profesionales del arte, personal local de atención médica, representantes de organizaciones comunitarias y personal de la Ciudad, a quienes se les confía el desarrollo de objetivos, la selección de una ubicación y la recomendación de obras de arte.

Las estipulaciones para la obra de arte seleccionada son que debe ser culturalmente sensible, creado para un sitio específico e integrada en Rainbow Harbor Lighthouse o Civic Center Plaza.

Los artistas pueden enviar sus propuestas desde ahora hasta el martes 6 de diciembre en Long Beach Buys, el portal de proveedores de solicitudes de calificación de la ciudad. Se alienta a los artistas o grupos de artistas interesados en enviar una declaración de calificaciones que incluye su experiencia, una idea conceptual, el diseño y los costos preliminares del trabajo.

A partir de ahí, un panel de selección compuesto por miembros del Comité Asesor del Conmemorativo

de COVID-19 y personal de la Ciudad seleccionarán a tres finalistas a quienes se les otorgará un pago de \$2,500 por su trabajo. El panel recomendará al los artistas y las obras de arte mejores clasificadas.

El panel de selección presentará sus recomendaciones ante el Concejo Municipal de Long Beach el martes 13 de diciembre para su aprobación y para entrar en acuerdos con los artistas. Después de que se finalice un acuerdo, se creará y compartirá un cronograma para completar el memorial.

El plan para un comité asesor comunitario y conmemorativo de COVID-19 fue presentado por primera vez al concejo municipal por alcalde Robert García en mayo de 2021 y fue aprobado con unanimidad.

"Nuestro memorial de COVID-19 servirá para siempre como un símbolo de fortaleza y sanación para nuestra comunidad", dijo García en un comunicado de la Ciudad. "Como alguien que perdió seres queridos debido a COVID, estoy agradecido de que siempre habrá un lugar en Long Beach para recordarlos y honrarlos. Agradezco al Comité Asesor del Conmemorativo de COVID-19 por su apoyo para llevar a buen término este sincero proyecto".

Para obtener más detalles sobre el Memorial de COVID-19 y cómo enviar una propuesta, visite LongBeachBuys.com.

Signal Tribune

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EVENT

Fa-la-la, Long Beach



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

A drone photo reveals many of the half million lights on display at the Long Beach Terrace Theater during the 8th annual Tree Lighting Ceremony on Dec. 5, 2022.



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

Fireworks erupt from the top of the Long Beach Terrace Theater after the lights are turned on for the Christmas tree during the 8th annual Tree Lighting Ceremony on Dec. 5, 2022.



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

A woman poses for a photo in front of a row of Christmas ornament-shaped light displays at the Long Beach Terrace Theater plaza during the 8th annual Tree Lighting Ceremony on Dec. 5, 2022.

Richard H. Grant
Photo Editor

Faux snow and merry tunes fell on the hundreds of residents who gathered for the 8th annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony at the Long Beach Terrace Theater on Dec. 5.

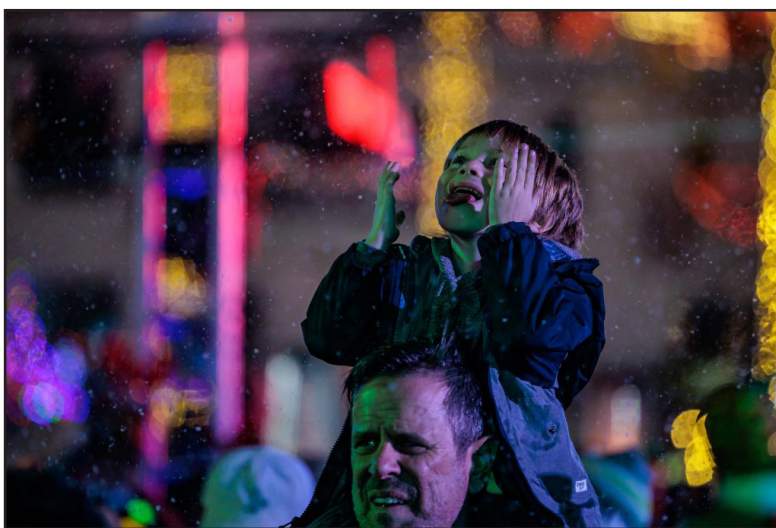
The highlight of the event was the new 67-foot tall Christmas tree, 17 feet taller than previous years, that was illuminated by Mayor Robert Garcia. Garcia started the annual tradition during his tenure and will be passing the tradition along to Mayor-elect Rex Richardson while he heads to Congress to represent Long Beach.

"This will be my very last time lighting this tree as mayor; I'm going to miss it immensely," Garcia said before lighting the tree. "But I look forward to coming back, hopefully in another capacity as a congressman."

Before lighting the tree, Garcia brought out all of the Long Beach Councilmembers, including the newly-elected members.

Attendees enjoyed performances from the Southern California Brass Consortium, acapella group SoCal VoCal and a ballet performance inspired by "The Nutcracker."

The lighting of the tree added to the over 500,000 lights on display throughout the theater plaza with different Christmas-themed light displays. The Long Beach Visitors Bureau is holding a contest this year for the best photo of the light displays on Instagram with a \$500 prize.



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

A young boy sitting on his father's shoulders sticks out his tongue to catch faux snow falling at the Long Beach Terrace Theater during the 8th annual Tree Lighting Ceremony on Dec. 5, 2022.



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

Ballet dancers perform movements from The Nutcracker at the Long Beach Terrace Theater plaza during the 8th annual Tree Lighting Ceremony on Dec. 5, 2022.



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

Mayor Robert Garcia moves the lever that illuminates the Christmas tree during the 8th annual Tree Lighting Ceremony on Dec. 5, 2022. Garcia started the tree lighting ceremony when he became mayor; but this is his last ceremony as he heads off to represent Long Beach in Congress.



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

Ballet dancers perform movements from The Nutcracker at the Long Beach Terrace Theater plaza during the 8th annual Tree Lighting Ceremony on Dec. 5, 2022.



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

Jets of water colored with lights burst up from the pool filled with lit-up trees in the Long Beach Terrace Theater plaza during the 8th annual Tree Lighting Ceremony on Dec. 5, 2022.

Spirit of Christmas on Daisy Avenue 2022

To give you an idea of what the Christmas Tree Lane is all about, it will take dozens of volunteers from WANA, the Office of Long Beach City Prosecutor Doug Haubert, Long Beach Conservation Corps, and our Daisy Lane neighbors to set up the displays on the median between Pacific Coast Highway and Hill Street. They got started in the early morning hours of November 30 and continued their labors through December 9. With enthusiasm and holiday spirit, volunteers:

- Loaded and transported all the displays and character figurines from garages and City warehouse
- Positioned large displays on the Lane with rented forklifts
- Spiffed up the displays and checked the electrical system
- Placed up to 125 energy-efficient flood lights to highlight the displays
- Pounded in approximately 350 fence stakes
- Positioned and secured 75 wooden character figurines
- Unrolled and installed about 1/2 mile of wire fencing to protect each of 31 major display bays
- Tied more than 150 red bows to the fencing
- Produced and passed out hundreds of flyers and newsletters to area residents
- Serve as judges for the Home Decorating Contest on Daisy Avenue



All of the volunteer efforts ensure that the splendor of Christmas Tree Lane – Whigley's very own Winter Wonderland is ready for visitors come Parade night. Special shout-out for the long-time commitment to Christmas Tree Lane embodied by the Whigley Area Neighborhood Alliance Board of Directors (Pat Arnold, Joan Greenwood, Maria Novell, Nancy Risch, Timothy Risch, & Jim Trout and 7th District Councilman Roberto Uranga and his staff.

68th Annual Daisy Parade



Saturday, December 10th, 2022
5:00pm
Daisy Avenue between
Pacific Coast Highway & Hill Street

For more information, check out the Parade website at

<https://www.longbeach.gov/district7/community/projects/visiting-christmas-tree-lane/>

Celebration on the Green at West 20th Street & Daisy Avenue in Long Beach 90806

Sunday, December 11, 2022
7 - 9 p.m.

Donaldo's A Very Merry Rock 'n Blues
Christmas Show

Kids, Bring Your Parents, Dancing Shoes &
Something to Sit On!

Dance Contest Prizes!



Free to all! Bring something to sit on and bundle up. It's cold outside!
Program cancelled in the event of rain

For updates, send an e-mail to wrigleyalliance@gmail.com & like Santa, we'll put you on our list!



A Holiday Tradition

The Port of Long Beach is proud to once again join the community for the Daisy Avenue Christmas Tree Lane Parade. We wish you all the happiest of holidays!



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AROUND TOWN

A WEEKLY LIST OF THINGS TO DO IN LONG BEACH AND SIGNAL HILL



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

A sign in front of a house along the parade route during the Daisy Lane Christmas Parade on Dec. 11, 2021.

Holiday festivities are in full swing, and Long Beach and Signal Hill residents have plenty of opportunities to get into the spirit. Two holiday parades will be taking place on either end of the city on Saturday, with the Daisy Lane Parade in the Wrigley Neighborhood and the Boat Parade in the Naples neighborhood.

Prepare for gift exchanges by hand making cards at a workshop at Flux Art Space, help yourself to free gift wrapping supplies at the Signal Hill Public Library or find locally made gifts at a holiday market along Coronado Ave.

Those more fortunate this year can help themselves remember the true meaning of the holidays on Saturday by donating toys or cash to struggling children during an event by the Local Hearts Foundation, or donating food and cash for their homeless neighbors during a holiday concert at a local church.

09 FRIDAY

RESTORATION FRIDAYS

3 p.m. to 4 p.m. Volunteers are needed to help care for native plants and pull weeds at Willow Springs Park (2745 Orange Ave.). Volunteers are encouraged to bring a reusable water bottle, comfortable shoes and sunscreen. Free.

ASIAN FILM SERIES

3 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. The public is invited to the Billie Jean King Main Library (200 W. Broadway) for a screening of the 2013 Indian romance film "The Lunchbox," which explores the relationship between a widower and a neglected wife. Free.

10 SATURDAY

THE KWANZAA EXPERIENCE

11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The public is invited to the Michelle Obama Neighborhood Library (5870 Atlantic

Ave.) to learn about and celebrate Kwanzaa. The event will include a drum circle, holiday crafts and more. Free.

CARD MAKING WORKSHOP

Noon to 4 p.m. Local artist Guerra will teach a card-making workshop at Flux Art Space (410 Termino Ave.). Participants will learn how to make greeting cards using relief printmaking. Free.

WINTER FAMILY FESTIVAL

Noon to 4 p.m. The public is invited to Rancho Los Alamitos (6400 E Bixby Hill Rd.) to learn about the traditions of the Indigenous people of this land while enjoying carriage rides, a petting zoo and more. General admission is \$18 for adults, \$15 for children over 3 years old, and free for children 2 years old and younger.

TOY DRIVE

1 p.m. to 5 p.m. The Local Hearts Foundation and other organizations ask members of the public to donate \$10 in cash or a \$10 toy for children in need during the holidays at Hudson Park (2335 Webster Ave.).

COMMUNITY GIFT WRAPPING WORKSTATION

2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Residents are invited to the Signal Hill Library (1800 E Hill St.) to use complimentary gift wrapping supplies in a quiet place. Free.

DAISY LANE PARADE

5 p.m. The Wrigley Area Neighborhood Alliance invites the public to watch a holiday parade travel along Daisy Avenue from Pacific Coast Highway to Hill St. Free.

NAPLES ISLAND BOAT PARADE

6 p.m. Boats decorated with Christmas lights will travel down the canals of the Naples neighborhood, starting from the Long Beach Yacht Club (6201 Appian Way). The theme of this year's parade is

"Sleighs on the Bay." Free.

11 SUNDAY

CORONADO AVENUE HOLIDAY MARKET

11 a.m. to 4 p.m. A variety of independent businesses will be selling their products along Coronado Avenue from Anaheim Street to 14th St. The Rok Academy will be playing live music. Free parking will be available at Compound Long Beach's parking structure (1326 Obispo Ave.). Free to attend.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Justin Rudd and the Community Action Team invites the public to a holiday concert at Bay Shore Church (5100 E The Toledo). This is a donation-based event. Those who attend are asked to bring peanut butter, breakfast cereal, boxes of macaroni and cheese and packs of men's socks to donate. To reserve a seat for the concert, visit Eventbrite.

12 MONDAY

SPANISH STORYTIME

12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Parents and caregivers are invited to bring children of all ages to the Signal Hill Library (1800 E Hill St.) to listen to stories told in Spanish. Free.

3D PRINTING FOR KIDS

4 p.m. to 5 p.m. Children 5 years and older are invited to learn the basics of 3D printing during this workshop at the Signal Hill Library (1800 E Hill St.). Only 10 spaces are available. To register a child, call (562) 989-7323. Free.

13 TUESDAY

HEALTH PERMIT WORKSHOP

10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Long Beach Health Department invites mobile

food vendors, such as food truck operators and street food vendors, to learn how to obtain a Long Beach Health Permit and discuss the upcoming changes to the California Retail Food Code at Admiral Kidd Park (2125 Santa Fe Ave.). Spanish, Khmer and Tagalog interpretation will be available on site. Free.

RUMMIKUB GAME NIGHT

4 p.m. to 6 p.m. The public is invited to learn how to play Rummikub, a combination of mahjong and rummy, at the Billie Jean King Main Library (200 W. Broadway). Free.

14 WEDNESDAY

SENIOR BINGO

10 a.m. Seniors are invited to play bingo together while enjoying light refreshments at the Signal Hill Library (1800 E Hill St.). Free.

SENSORY STORY TIME

10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Parents and caregivers are invited to bring children to this inclusive storytime at the Bach Neighborhood Library (4055 N. Bellflower Blvd.). Children of all abilities will use their senses to read, create and learn through stories, songs and play. Free.

DIY SNOW GLOBES

4 p.m. to 5 p.m. Teens are invited to the Los Altos Neighborhood Library (5614 Britton Dr.) to make their own snow globes. Free.

15 THURSDAY

TEEN AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

4 p.m. to 5 p.m. Students from the sixth to ninth grade are invited to the Signal Hill Public Library (1800 E Hill St.) to enjoy STEAM crafts, movies, gaming, snacks and more. Free.

ROMANCE COMEDY BOOK CLUB

6 p.m. to 7 p.m. The Signal Hill Public Library (1800 E Hill St.) invites fans of the comedy romance genre to discuss the book "In a Holiday" by Christina Lauren. Free.

IS THAT IT?

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COMMUNITY

Long Beach Tamales Fest celebrates delicious diversity



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

Cotija cheese is sprinkled on top of a poblano pepper and cheese tamale from Lola's Mexican Cuisine during the inaugural Taste of Bixby Knolls event on Oct. 16, 2022.

Samantha Diaz

Managing Editor

The low temperatures and constant drizzling meant one thing for the thousands of people at Long Beach City College Sunday afternoon: perfect tamale weather. The aroma of tacos, taquitos, tamales, posole, mulitas and other Latin-inspired food, as well as countless desserts, filled the cloudy skies as residents waited in long lines to try the city's best local recipes.

Long Beach Living's second annual Tamales Fest brought in roughly 4,000 foodies to enjoy family recipes, live music and dance performances, cultural and handmade merchandise from local businesses, margaritas and micheladas. Residents also enjoyed a visit from Santa Claus, a kid's zone with jumpers, free cornhole and photo opportunities.

"It's family orientated, you got stuff for the kids and great tamales. I tried every little booth here and it's been fabulous," San Pedro resident Mondo Martinez said. "Just looking at all the types of people here...everybody has respect for each other and it's great to see. I love it."

The culmination of the festival was the highly anticipated crowning of the best homemade tamale in Long Beach.

Six women from throughout California, Mexico and Colombia put forth their best-plated performances—tender meat smothered in salsa and wrapped in warm, corn-based dough.

Arcelia Reynoso has been following her family's recipe and selling Tepatitlan-style tamales out of her home for over a decade, although she started helping with the tradition at just 5 years old. A lifetime of practice paid off when Reynoso was awarded first place for Long Beach's best tamale of 2022.



Samantha Diaz | Signal Tribune

Arcelia Reynoso poses with her first place trophy for best homemade tamale in Long Beach at the Long Beach Tamales Fest on Dec. 4, 2022.

"My grandfather was a tamale maker and they used to sell tamales every morning so I would wake up at 5 o'clock every morning to sell tamales with my grandparents," Reynoso said. "My grandmother passed away this year so I wanted to honor her memory and her roots so that was the main reason to join."

Reynoso's winning pork tamale is a family recipe, with origins

in Tepatitlan, Mexico. It's the first time Reynoso has entered a contest for her tamales, and she happily held up the golden trophy as her family erupted in cheers from the audience.

Fans of Reynoso's food greeted her after the ceremony, asking how soon they could place an order.

"It's so great to see the community all here together," Reynoso said. "Tamales bring the family together



Samantha Diaz | Signal Tribune

From left to right, Louise Taliulu, Ronny G. and Mondo Martinez take a break from eating to watch live performances at the Long Beach Tamales Fest on Dec. 6, 2022.



Samantha Diaz | Signal Tribune

Contestants in the tamale-making contest line up to hear the results at the Long Beach Tamales Fest on Dec. 6, 2022.

and that's amazing. We can't forget about that."

Festivities continued after the ceremony, as attendees watched performances from Aztec dancers and all-ages local group JD Dance Co. People filled the dance floor to enjoy tunes from Cumbia group La Sonora Dinamita, the first ever Los Angeles-based LGBTQ mariachi group Mariachi Arcoiris de Los Angeles and Spanish rock group Cello Azul.

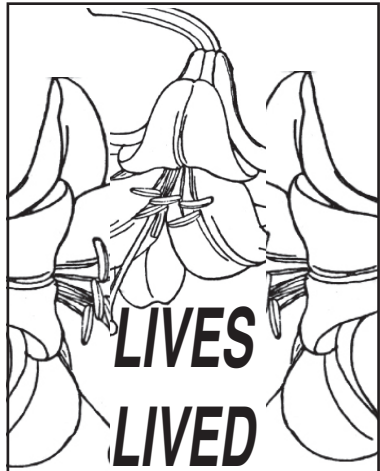
Around 20 food and dessert vendors filled people's bellies with a wide range of cultural dishes. Award-winning tamale pop-ups boasted hour-long waits for tastes of their food, which attendees happily stood in while sipping on micheladas, champurrado and horchata.

Emily Mayoral attended the festival for the second year with her friend. The 22-year-old quickly decided the best part of the day was the variety of dishes to taste.

"Being able to try all the food, it was really good. I also enjoyed that it was bigger than last year. This year it's a lot more inclusive," Mayoral said. "There's a lot of diversity, especially in tamales, so it's cool to see that in one area where you can go from place to place to try all that out."

Mayoral and her friend spent the day trying a handful of tamales before walking through all the retail vendors and purchasing unique handcrafted gifts.

In addition to the food, roughly 20 retail vendors displayed their culturally significant items, snacks and drinks. Tents were filled with handmade jewelry, clothing from Mexico and other Latin countries, Spanish children's books, house plants, clay pots, ceramic dishes and more. Local businesses from throughout Long Beach connected with residents as Spanish music filled the air.



- Hilda Franklin 99
- Ferdinand Plourde Jr. 83
- Rhonda Clark 65
- Carmen Sandoval 81
- Patricia Cohen 81
- Marshall Phillips 93
- Elizabeth Blunt
- Sam Sor 89
- Scott Strong 67
- Robert Bartholomew 85
- Catherine Rodgers 55
- Laura Saumure 69
- David Roy 37
- Margaret Buck 71
- Arlyne Kamsika 79
- Dorothy Camacho Gogue 74
- Jennifer Harrison 76
- Douglas Love 73

The families were assisted by McKenzie Mortuary. For more details on service dates and times, contact (562) 961-9301



Pet of the week: Simba

Simba's name means "lion" in Swahili. Although her lovely brown-tabby markings make you think more of tigers, this 3-year-old's heart is definitely of the lion variety! In personality, Simba's definitely a kitty-cat, as she loves petting and rubbing. But as you can see by her expression, she's brave and ready for whatever comes next. She sincerely hopes it's to be a forever member of your pride! Shelter hours are Wednesday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., at 7700 E. Spring St. at the entrance to El Dorado Park (no parking fee for shelter visitors). You can email PetAdopt@longbeach.gov to speed the process for adopting or fostering Simba. Ask for ID#A678047).

(This rescue encouraged by the usual suspects.)

TST6853 Case No. 22LBCP00415
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME
 SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, GOVERNOR GEORGE DEUKMEJIAN COURTHOUSE, 275 Magnolia, Long Beach, CA 90802 PETITION OF: Donald Ray Marks, for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: 1. Petitioners: Donald Ray Marks has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing his name as follows: Present Name: DONALD RAY MARKS Proposed Name: DONALD RAY BYRD 2. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. NOTICE OF HEARING: Date: December 23, 2022; Time: 8:30a.m., Dept. 27. The address of the court is the same as above. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county, THE SIGNAL TRIBUNE, 1860 Obispo Ave., Ste. F, Signal Hill, CA 90755, November 18, 25 & December 2, 9, 2022 ___/ss//___ Mark C. Kim, Judge of the Superior Court Dated: November 8, 2022

TST6851 Case No. 22LBCP00419
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME
 SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, GEORGE DEUKMEJIAN COURTHOUSE, 275 Magnolia, Long Beach, CA 90802 PETITION OF: Shundea Kay Brooks, for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: 1. Petitioners: Shundea Kay Brooks has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing her name as follows: Present Name: Shundea Kay Brooks Proposed Name: Shunda Kay Brooks 2. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. NOTICE OF HEARING: Date: December 23, 2022; Time: 8:30a.m., Dept. 27. The address of the court is the same as above. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county, THE SIGNAL TRIBUNE, 1860 Obispo Ave., Ste. F, Signal Hill, CA 90755, November 18, 25 & December 2, 9, 2022 ___/ss//___ Mark C. Kim, Judge of the Superior Court Dated: November 10, 2022

TST6858 Case No. 22LBCP00433
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME
 SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, SOUTH DISTRICT, 275 Magnolia Ave., Long Beach, CA 90802 PETITION OF: Trisha Lyn Henry, for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: 1. Petitioners: Trisha Henry has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing her name as follows: Present Name: Trisha Lyn Henry Proposed Name: Trisha Lyn Deeter 2. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. NOTICE OF HEARING:Date: January 6, 2023; Time: 8:30a.m., Dept. 27. The address of the court is the same as above. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county, THE SIGNAL TRIBUNE, 1860 Obispo Ave., Ste. F, Signal Hill, CA 90755, November 25 & December 2, 9, 16, 2022___/ss//___Mark C. Kim, Judge of the Superior Court Dated: November 21, 2022

TST6860 Case No. 22LBCP00450
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME
 SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, GOVERNOR GEORGE DEUKMAJIAN COURTHOUSE, 275 Magnolia, Long Beach, CA 90802 PETITION OF: Joe Santa Ana Jr., for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: 1. Petitioners: Joe Santa Ana Jr..has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing his name as follows: Present Name: Joe Santa Ana Jr. Proposed Name: Joe Santana Jr. 2. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. NOTICE OF HEARING: Date: January 13, 2023; Time: 8:30a.m., Dept. 527. The address of the court is the same as above. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be

EYE ON CRIME

CRIMES REPORTED BY THE SIGNAL HILL POLICE

- Wednesday, November 30**
 8:18 a.m., Battery, 3400 block of E. PCH
 11:00 a.m., Identity theft, 2800 block Cherry Ave.
 11:25 a.m., Stolen vehicle – recovered, 2500 block Orange Ave.
- Thursday, December 1**
 12:35 a.m., Intoxicated person on drugs, 2700 block Panorama Dr. (citation issued)
 1:51 p.m., Grand theft, 900 block E. 25th St.
 6:54 p.m., Inflict corporal injury on spouse/cohabitant, 3300 block Falcon Ave. (suspect arrested)
 8:21 p.m., Auto burglary, 3000 block California Ave.
- Friday, December 2**
 9:08 a.m., Person with a knife, 2600 block Cherry Ave.
 9:40 a.m., Grand theft – motor vehicle, 2700 block Cherry Ave.
 1:37 p.m., Identity theft, 2400 block Lewis Ave.
 3:49 p.m., Identity theft, 900 block Las Brisas Way
- Saturday, December 3**
 4:24 p.m., Grand theft, 900 block E. 33rd St.
- Sunday, December 4**
 7:24 a.m., Auto burglary, 1800 block Orizaba Ave.
 5:07 p.m., Grand theft – motor vehicle, 1900 block Molino Ave.
- Monday, December 5**
 3:24 p.m., Identity theft, 1900 block Junipero Ave.
 3:57 p.m., Firearm/deadly weapon/unlawful/prohibited possession/mental disorder prohibited; possessing paraphernalia; carry loaded, concealed firearm, E. Spring St./Cherry Ave. (suspect arrested)
 5:43 p.m., Identity theft, 900 block Las Brisas Way
 8:35 p.m., Battery, E. Burnett St./California Ave.
- Tuesday, December 6**
 9:21 a.m., Intoxicated person, 3200 block Orange Ave.
 9:39 a.m., Identity theft, 3200 block Orange Ave.
 11:21 a.m., Grand theft, 2800 block Walnut Ave.
 3:09 p.m., Grand theft, 2100 block Gundry Ave.

LSPD reporting area is too extensive to report here, but you can go to their website: longbeach.gov/police. Once there, click on Crime Info, then Crime Incident Mapping Application. Click on Launch Crime Incident Mapping Application & type in an address.

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published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county, THE SIGNAL TRIBUNE, 1860 Obispo Ave., Ste. F, Signal Hill, CA 90755, December 9, 16, 23, 30, 2022 ___/ss//___ Michael P. Vicencia, Judge of the Superior Court Dated: December 2, 2022



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ARTE

El telón de Broadway se levanta en Long Beach



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

Una vista aérea del Teatro Terrace de Long Beach después de que se encendiera el árbol de Navidad en la Celebración de iluminación del árbol de Long Beach el 30 de noviembre de 2021.

Samantha Diaz

Managing Editor

La escena de entretenimiento en vivo de Long Beach está recibiendo dos nuevos actos directamente de Broadway, cortesía de The American Theatre Guild.

Esta temporada, los residentes de Long Beach tienen la oportunidad de ver dos producciones populares de Broadway, "STOMP" y "The Simon and Garfunkel Story", en The Terrace Theatre en el centro de la ciudad para presentaciones individuales en enero y marzo. El American Theatre Guild (ATG), un presentador de Broadway sin fines de lucro, está expandiendo su mercado a Long Beach por primera vez, convirtiéndola en la decimosexta ciudad que beneficie de las producciones cuidadosamente seleccionadas.

"Nos da la oportunidad de llevar las artes escénicas y las giras de Broadway a mercados que normalmente no podrían tener un producto de tan alta calidad", dijo Amy Hamm, directora ejecutiva del American Theatre Guild.

ATG es el presentador de Broadway sin fines de lucro más grande del país y ha estado trabajando con ciudades de los Estados Unidos para proveer a las comunidades espectáculos de producción musical de Broadway de alta calidad desde 2017. La organización sin fines de lucro ha trabajado con ciudades como Birmingham, Alabama; Eugene, Oregón; Lubbock, Texas; Riverside, California; Toledo, Ohio y más.

Las conversaciones sobre una asociación entre ATG y Long Beach comenzaron antes de la pandemia de COVID-19, aunque tuvieron que suspenderse mientras se prohibieron las representaciones teatrales en vivo de ATG durante 18 meses. Durante este tiempo, Hamm y el directorio de la empresa refinaron la misión de ATG para las comunidades con las que estaban trabajando.

"Estaba entusiasmada con la idea de poder reunirnos con nuestra propia tabla, lo que queríamos que fuera nuestra empresa, lo que queríamos representar y el impacto que queríamos tener en todo el país", dijo Hamm. "Creo que las artes y las artes escénicas son muy importantes... la oportunidad de entrar al teatro y ser conmovido



Image Courtesy of The American Theatre Guild "STOMP" se presentará en el Long Beach Terrace Theatre en marzo de 2023 como parte de la temporada 2022-23 de The American Theatre Guild.

por la excitación y la emoción".

Además de ofrecer producciones musicales de Broadway a más de una docena de ciudades, ATG trabaja con los jóvenes de comunidades desatendidas a través de su programa Staging the Future. El programa ofrece miles de entradas gratuitas anualmente a los estudiantes, así como oportunidades educativas para aquellos interesados en seguir una carrera en el teatro.

Durante la temporada 2021-22, ATG distribuyó 5000 boletos a estudiantes desatendidos y a miembros de la comunidad. La compañía espera duplicar ese número esta próxima temporada con 10,000 participantes de Staging the Future.

"Estoy muy emocionada de continuar con esta increíble multitud que hemos tenido en nuestro programa de educación y divulgación", dijo Hamm. "El impacto que hemos tenido en todo el país ha sido absolutamente increíble, y estoy increíblemente orgulloso de los esfuerzos que ha hecho nuestro equipo para poder financiar estos boletos y el gran cuidado y consideración que se puso para asegurarse de que invitamos a los estudiantes y personas más merecedoras a nuestros teatros para tener esa experiencia".

Hamm dijo que también se tuvo mucho cuidado en la selección de los espectáculos de esta temporada, que fueron elegidos por sus actuaciones "divertidas y optimistas".

La temporada comenzará con "The Simon and Garfunkel Story", un espectáculo inmersivo al estilo de un concierto que lleva al público a través de la vida del dúo de folk-rock Paul Simon y Art Garfunkel. El espectáculo presenta enormes fotografías proyectadas, filmaciones

originales y una banda en vivo que interpretará éxitos como "Mrs. Robinson", "Cecilia" y "Homeward Bound".

"STOMP" es una compañía de percusionistas de ocho personas. El grupo crea sonidos y melodías infundados a partir de instrumentos no convencionales: cajas de fósforos, postes de madera, escobas, botes de basura, encendedores Zip-po y tapacubos, por nombrar solo algunos de sus instrumentos.

Las entradas para "The Simon and Garfunkel Story" salieron a la venta el 18 de noviembre y tendrán una sola producción el 23 de enero. También comenzó la venta de entradas para el segundo espectáculo de la temporada de ATG, "STOMP".

"Nuestra meta en Long Beach es saber que hay suficiente apoyo e interés en el mercado para que podamos alcanzar nuestras metas", dijo Hamm. "Realmente estamos tratando de tener una idea del mercado y el potencial de estos dos títulos. Entonces sí, absolutamente nuestro objetivo es crecer para tener estas temporadas anuales de Broadway en viaje año tras año".

Hamm también dijo que espera con ansias el crecimiento de ATG una vez más, con Long Beach al frente de la expansión de la empresa. Aplaudió al Centro de Convenciones de la Ciudad y la Ciudad de Long Beach por reconocer el valor de las representaciones artísticas en vivo para la comunidad.

Se pueden comprar boletos para "The Simon and Garfunkel Story" y "STOMP" en el sitio web de ATG. Los boletos individuales para presentaciones comienzan en \$46, y los grupos interesados en recibir boletos a través del programa Staging the Future pueden presentar su interés aquí.

Este artículo fue traducido por Carlos Omar.



Image Courtesy of The American Theatre Guild "The Story of Simon and Garfunkel" se presentará en el Long Beach Terrace Theatre en enero de 2023 como parte de la temporada 2022-23 de The American Theatre Guild.

PHOTO-SYNTHESIS

continued from page 1



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

Cory Bilicko looks toward one of his paintings for the "Photo-Synthesis" series at the Ephemeral Gallery in Downtown Long Beach on Dec. 6, 2022.

wanted to collaborate with an artist but didn't know how and the moment he brought up the idea I was like, 'Oh, wow, this is brilliant.'"

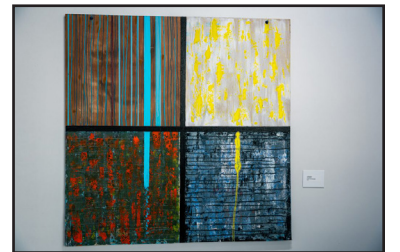
The two artists spent the following couple of years meeting up, sharing each other's work, spending time alone with the pieces and reinterpreting them in their preferred mediums. Barrera's photograph of a woman standing in front of Acres of Books, a now-closed Long Beach bookstore, is transformed by Bilicko into a punk rock-style poster with bright pink and black strokes of paint.

"Conformity," a quadtych of Bilicko's—a four-quadrant painting with vastly different colors and patterns splattered on each square—inspired Barrera to conduct a photoshoot for each quadrant. The bright blue lines of paint become a rain cloud hovering over Barrera's subject; splatters of yellow paint become stars in Barrera's living room.

"Cory would explain to me what was going on in his mind while he was painting them and it was very easy and cool to see that in the work and play off of that," Barrera said. "There were a couple of times where I kind of just tried to do my own thing from it and be conscious of what his [Bilicko's] emotions were during it and kind of try to flip it on its head a little bit."

Barrera chose five paintings to use as muses. He would sit with them, think about the emotions behind them and draw ideas in his notebook, he said. Once the photos were taken, he would hang them on his wall for a few days and often go back and make "endless" changes.

Bilicko was tasked with going through hundreds of photos to find his inspiration. He would choose certain photos, go back and change his mind, think about how they made him feel and Barrera's story behind each one before finally adding his own twist to them.



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

Cory Bilicko's painting, "Conformity," is displayed on a wall near the four photos from Tony Barrera that helped inspire the composition at the Ephemeral Gallery in Downtown Long Beach on Dec. 6, 2022.

"[Barrera] is just very easygoing, communicative, a good listener and just very pleasant to work with," Bilicko said of his artistic counterpart. "During this whole process, especially during the opening reception Friday night, as I was reflecting on the show, I just kept thinking, 'I'm so glad that Tony is the artist that I invited to collaborate with me.'"

The two-year pause during which the artists created and recreated work was a much larger time frame than they were used to.

"It's kind of cathartic actually," Barrera said. "I'm ready to put it behind me and move forward."

While they may be ready to move on from "Photo-synthesis," the two artists already have plans to create another show together. The numerous pieces that were created but didn't make it into their current show will be displayed next month in the same space.

Ephemeral is a new gallery in Downtown Long Beach located at 375 N. Promenade. The space is owned and curated by MADE by Millworks, a gift boutique and art gallery that showcases work from artists who live within 25 miles of the store.

"Photo-synthesis" will be on display through the month of December.

شكرا لكم

Gracias

Thank you

Спасибо

Danke

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ありがとう

감사

Děkuju

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