



NUDC

National Utilities Diversity Council

BRAINSTORM AT THE BEACH



CALIFORNIA

Places to Visit in Los Angeles with Diversity in Mind

May 25, 2023



PLACES TO VISIT

Places to Visit in Los Angeles with Diversity in Mind

1. 1871 Chinese Massacre Sites
2. Biddy Mason Monument and The Bradbury Building
3. Bruce's Beach
4. Bruce Lee statue
5. California African American Museum
6. Casa 0101
7. Celebration Theatre
8. Cheech Museum
9. Chinese American Museum
10. Deaf West Theatre
11. Debbie Allen Dance Academy
12. East West Players
13. El Pueblo de Los Angeles Avila Adobe
14. Fringe Benefits
15. Gay Men's Chorus
16. Great Wall of Los Angeles
17. Holocaust Museum
18. Huntington Library and Gardens Chinese Garden and Japanese Garden, Kehinde Wiley, *Portrait of a Young Gentleman*
19. Isamu Noguchi Sculpture Garden
20. Italian American Museum
21. Japanese American Culture and Community Center
22. Japanese American National Museum
23. The Jazz Bakery
24. Kaos Network
25. Korean Bell of Friendship
26. Korean Cultural Center
27. LAMusArt
28. La Plaza de Cultura y Artes
29. Latino Theater Company
30. Leimert Park Village
31. Lula Washington Contemporary Dance Foundation
32. Museum of African American Art
33. Museum of Latin American Art
34. Museum of Tolerance
35. Native Voices at the Autry Museum of the American West
36. Skirball Cultural Center
37. Social and Community Arts Center
38. Tamayo Restaurant and Gallery
39. USC Pacific Asia Museum
40. Watts Towers Arts Center
41. The World Stage



1871 Chinese Massacre Sites

On October 24, 1871, a mob of hundreds murdered at least 18 Los Angeles residents—or about 10 percent of the city’s Chinese community. The memorial to this racially motivated mass killing will be erected near the site of the massacre and the Chinese American Museum on the 400 block of North Los Angeles Street.

The massacre has not been widely remembered, with the only public memorial currently a bronze plaque in the sidewalk outside the Chinese American Museum. In recent years, efforts to bring the story out of the shadows have grown. It all started back in late 2021, on the 150th anniversary of the massacre. As Josie wrote, Michael Woo, L.A.’s first Asian American council member and Jason Chu, and activist and rapper, [teamed up with others](#) to push for more education about Asian-American history in L.A., and for a memorial. In 2021, on the 150th anniversary of the tragedy, Mayor Eric Garcetti issued an official apology for the horrific event, calling for the city to build a memorial in his annual State of the City address.

419 North Los Angeles Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012

<https://news.artnet.com/art-world/los-angeles-1871-chinese-massacre-memorial-finalists-2244212>

Biddy Mason Monument and The Bradbury Building

Bridget “Biddy” Mason was born into slavery in 1818. Not much is known of her early life, but by the time she was a young adult she was enslaved in the household of Robert Smith. In 1847, she traveled, mostly on foot, from Mississippi to Utah with the Smith household. The household lived in Salt Lake City for two years, then resettled in San Bernardino, California in 1851. California was admitted to the Union in 1850 as a free, nonslave state, which meant Smith was holding Mason illegally. Mason fought for her freedom in court, with the trial ruling confirming her freedom in 1856.

As a free woman, Mason settled in Los Angeles with her children and found work as a nurse and midwife. In 1866, she purchased a nearly one-acre site between present-day Broadway (then Fort Street) and Spring Street, between 3rd and 4th Streets. On this, the present location of the park, she built her homestead. Throughout the years, this pioneering Black woman purchased more property, and as the value of her holdings escalated, she eventually became a relatively wealthy woman and an untiring philanthropist.

The Bradbury Building is the oldest commercial building remaining in the central city and one of Los Angeles’ unique treasures. You may have seen it in films from *Blade Runner* to *Double Indemnity*.

333 S Spring St, Los Angeles, CA 90013

<https://www.laconservancy.org/locations/biddy-mason-memorial-park>





Bruce's Beach

Bruce's Beach was an African American owned beach resort in Manhattan Beach in Los Angeles County. The property, which was located at 26th Street and Highland Avenue, was owned and operated by Charles and Willa Bruce for the benefit of the Black community – one of only two beaches in Southern California open to African Americans. After it opened in 1912, it became a successful and popular visitor destination for African Americans. However, in 1924 the city of Manhattan Beach council used eminent domain to purchase the property at well below market rates on the grounds that the area was to be redeveloped as a public park.

The property, acquired from the Bruce family and other owners, remained undeveloped for decades. Part of the site was eventually turned into a park in the 1960s and renamed Bruce's Beach in 2007. A lifeguard facility and parking lot were constructed on the beach parcels. In 2021, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to approve returning the county land to the heirs of Charles and Willa Bruce. The complex process of transferring the parcels to their great-grandsons was completed in 2022. However, it was announced in January 2023 that the Bruce family decided to sell the beach back to the county for \$20 million. Bruce's Beach now will permanently be a public beach, recognizing the role of the Bruce family in California history.

2600 Highland Ave, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

<https://ceo.lacounty.gov/ardi/bruces-beach/>

Bruce Lee Statue

After years of effort, led by businessman and magician Pedro Chan, the first public statue of actor and martial arts hero, Bruce Lee, was sited in the Central Plaza of Los Angeles Chinatown.

Sun Mun Way, Los Angeles, CA 90012

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Statue_of_Bruce_Lee_\(Los_Angeles\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Statue_of_Bruce_Lee_(Los_Angeles))



California African American Museum

Founded in 1977, the California African American Museum has a long and rich history. The first African American museum of art, history, and culture fully supported by a state, CAAM was the direct result of a sustained, multiyear campaign of activism undertaken by visionary founders and community members. Its creation was an early and tangible recognition by the State of California of the critically important role African Americans have played in the American West's cultural, economic, and political development.

600 State Drive, Exposition Park, Los Angeles, CA 90037

<https://caamuseum.org/>



CASA 0101

CASA 0101 was founded by Josefina Lopez, author of *Real Women Have Curves*, in 2000 to fulfill her vision of bringing art and live theater programs to the community she grew up in, Boyle Heights. CASA 0101 operated for 11 years at its original location – a converted former bridal shop – and in September of 2011, moved to its new home: a fully-equipped 99-seat theater featuring an art gallery and a dedicated classroom. This space is only 1 block away from its original location. Mainstage productions and art exhibits featuring Angelino artists are presented year-round at CASA 0101 Theater. From its humble beginnings operating out of a converted store front, CASA 0101 has established itself as a leading arts venue for Los Angeles' East Side, presenting theatrical productions, film festivals, and other special events year round. CASA 0101 also offers year-round, free arts education classes for youth, and low-cost classes for adults.

2102 E. 1st St., Los Angeles, CA 90033

<https://casa0101.org/>

Celebration Theatre

Throughout its history, Celebration has been committed to connecting with other theatre artists, institutions, and the LGBTQIA+ community at large. By giving voice to a diverse experience and staging work from a wide range of artists, Celebration connects audiences to others' experiences and fosters a sense of community in Los Angeles, one of the country's largest multi-cultural urban environments.

1125 N McCadden Pl, Los Angeles, CA 90038

<https://celebrationtheatre.org/>



Cheech Museum



It all started with bringing the exhibition, [*Papel Chicano Dos: Works on Paper from the Collection of Cheech Marin to the Riverside Art Museum*](#), to the Riverside Art Museum, a non-profit, non-governmental art institution, in 2017.

This exhibition, supported by Altura Credit Union and the City of Riverside, presented 65 artworks by 24 established and early-career artists whose work demonstrates a myriad of techniques from watercolor and aquatint to pastel and mixed media. This led to a unique proposition from the City of Riverside: a public-private partnership between RAM, the City of Riverside, and comedian Cheech Marin—one of the world's foremost collectors of Chicano art—to create The Cheech Marin Center for Chicano Art & Culture of the Riverside Art Museum in a soon-to-be-vacant City building in the heart of downtown.

3581 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside, CA, 92501

<https://riversideartmuseum.org/visit/the-cheech-marin-center-for-chicano-art-culture/>

Chinese American Museum

Symbolically housed in the oldest and last surviving structure of Los Angeles' original Chinatown, the 7,200 square foot Chinese American Museum (CAM) embodies a cultural and physical link to the past, as well as a promising point of entry for the city's multicultural future. Opened on December 18, 2003 after 20 years of dedicated community and civic leadership and support, CAM's presence at El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument—a 44-acre public park honored as Los Angeles' "birthplace" and the site of its original Chinatown—reflects the vibrant development of an immigrant history that began over 150 years ago when the first major Chinese settlement was documented in Los Angeles. In addition to its role in the community as an active-learning institution, CAM is also proud to serve as a visual symbol of new and emerging traditions.

425 N. Los Angeles Street Los Angeles, CA 90012
<https://camla.org/>



Deaf West Theatre

Committed to innovation, collaboration, training, and activism, Deaf West is the artistic bridge between the Deaf and hearing worlds. Founded in Los Angeles in 1991, Deaf West engages artists and audiences in unparalleled theater and media experiences inspired by Deaf culture and the expressive power of sign language, weaving ASL with spoken English to create a seamless ballet of movement and voice. Deaf West and its productions on Broadway have received 5 Tony Awards for their outstanding accomplishments.

5112 Lankershim Blvd Los Angeles CA 91601
<https://www.deafwest.org/>

Debbie Allen Dance Academy

With a focus on disenfranchised Black and Latino communities, the world class faculty and staff members of the Debbie Allen Dance Academy use dance, theater, and performance to enrich, inspire and transform the lives of their students.

1850 S Manhattan Pl, Los Angeles, CA 90019
<https://www.debbiealldanceacademy.com/mission>

East West Players

Established in 1965, East West Players has since premiered more than 228 plays and musicals, along with over 1,000 diverse readings and workshops for actors, writers, and directors. EWP was founded by nine Asian American artists (Mako, Rae Creevey, Beulah Quo, Soon-Tek Oh, James Hong, Pat Li, June Kim, Guy Lee, and Yet Lock) seeking to create roles beyond the stereotypical parts they were offered in mainstream Hollywood. Founded in 1965, East West Players is committed to raising the visibility of the Asian American experience by presenting inventive world-class theatrical productions, developing artists of color, and providing impactful youth education programs.

120 Judge John Aiso St, Los Angeles, CA 90012

<https://eastwestplayers.org/>



El Pueblo de Los Angeles Avila Adobe

The Avila Adobe was constructed in 1818 by a prominent ranchero, Francisco José Avila, a native of Sinaloa, who was alcalde, or mayor of Los Angeles in 1810. Following Francisco Avila's death in 1832, his second wife, Encarnación Avila continued to live in the house with her two daughters. Today, the Avila Adobe is open to the public as a museum and is furnished as it might have appeared in the late 1840s. It attracts over 300,000 visitors annually and is a wonderfully tranquil space in the heart of the big city.

845 N Alameda Street Los Angeles, CA 90012

<https://discoverolverastreet.com/venue/avila-adobe/>

Fringe Benefits

Fringe Benefits is a groundbreaking educational theatre company whose workshops and productions have earned the commendations of educators, parents, and community leaders. Fringe Benefits offers tools for constructive dialogue and action on issues of tolerance and diversity. We are dedicated to using theatre to build bridges within and among diverse communities and to promoting social justice. We help schools and communities understand the damage caused by intolerance and discrimination and to address these issues through the creative process.

8939 S Sepulveda Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90045

<https://cootieshots.org/>



Gay Men's Chorus

To create musical experiences that strengthen our role as a leader among lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender (LGBTQ) and performing arts organizations, enrich our member-artists, support LGBT youth, challenge homophobia, and expose new communities to our message of equality.

8981 Sunset Blvd Suite 600, Los Angeles, CA 90069

<https://www.gmcla.org/>

Great Wall of Los Angeles

The Great Wall of Los Angeles is one of Los Angeles' true cultural landmarks and one of the country's most respected and largest monuments to inter-racial harmony. SPARC's first public art project and its true signature piece, the Great Wall is a landmark pictorial representation of the history of ethnic peoples of California from prehistoric times to the 1950's, conceived by SPARC'S artistic director and founder Judy Baca. Begun in 1974 and completed over five summers, the Great Wall employed over 400 youth and their families from diverse social and economic backgrounds working with artists, oral historians, ethnologists, scholars, and hundreds of community members. Its half-mile length (2,754 ft) in the Tujunga Flood Control Channel of the San Fernando Valley with accompanying park and bike trail hosts thousands of visitors every year, providing a vibrant and lasting tribute to the working people of California who have truly shaped its history.



12900 Oxnard St, North Hollywood, CA 91606

<https://sparcinla.org/programs/the-great-wall-mural-los-angeles/>

Holocaust Museum

Holocaust Museum LA is the first survivor-founded and oldest Holocaust museum in the United States. Its genesis dates to the 1960s, when a group of survivors met and discovered that each of them had a photograph, document, or personal item from before the war. They decided that these artifacts needed a permanent home where they could be displayed safely and in perpetuity. They also wanted a place to memorialize their loved ones who perished and help to educate the public so that no one would ever forget.

Founded in 1961, Holocaust Museum LA is the only cultural institution in Los Angeles with a sole focus on the horrific impact and the enormity of the Holocaust that is free for students. Through customized tours, artifact-rich exhibitions, creative educational programs, and intergenerational conversations with survivors, the Museum teaches students and visitors to think critically about the lessons of the Holocaust and its social relevance today.

100 The Grove Dr, Los Angeles, CA 90036

<https://www.holocaustmuseumla.org/>

Huntington Library and Gardens Chinese Garden and Japanese Garden, Kehinde Wiley *Portrait of a Young Gentleman*

Liu Fang Yuan 流芳園, or the Garden of Flowing Fragrance, is one of the finest classical-style Chinese gardens outside of China. Filled with Chinese plants and framed by exquisite architecture, the landscape is enriched with references to literature and art. Visitors can find both physical relaxation and mental stimulation when exploring the dramatic 15-acre garden.

Kehinde Wiley's "A Portrait of a Young Gentleman" glows. The sitter wears a tie-dye shirt and Vans sneakers, and he was likely scouted and street cast near the artist's studio in Dakar, the coastal capital of Senegal. This beachy, cool young gentleman echoes his counterpart: Thomas Gainsborough's "The Blue Boy" (21.1), painted some 250 years earlier, in The Huntington's collection. The paintings are exactly the same size and are set into identical frames—one gilt and the other painted black. Wiley's model, with his hand on his hip and a hat in hand, borrows Blue Boy's stance. Wiley makes us see that self-fashioning, pomp, and posturing are qualities not only of eighteenth-century English society, but also of contemporary street fashion and global Black culture. While Gainsborough's figure stands in a landscape setting, Wiley's model is ensconced in a field of psychedelic flowers, which both surround and obscure him. The floral background is based on a William Morris wallpaper pattern, similar to those in The Huntington's collections.

1151 Oxford Rd, San Marino, CA 91108

<https://huntington.org/>



Isamu Noguchi Sculpture Garden

Commissioned by the Segerstrom family in 1979 and completed in 1982, Isamu Noguchi's California Scenario is recognized as one of the country's preeminent sculpture gardens and the most vital publicly accessible outdoor sculpture oasis in Southern California. One of the artist's most important public sculpture gardens, its design symbolizes various geographical characteristics of California, incorporating indigenous plants and materials.

611 Anton Boulevard
Costa Mesa, CA 92626

<https://www.southcoastplaza.com/stories/2016/12/noguchi-garden/>



Italian American Museum

The Italian American Museum of Los Angeles, or IAMLA, is located in the historic Italian Hall, which was constructed in 1908 to serve as a gathering place for the Italian community. Today, the Italian Hall is the oldest remaining structure from Los Angeles' Italian enclave, and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The IAMLA opened in 2016, and is jointly operated by the Historic Italian Hall Foundation and the City of Los Angeles.

644 North Main Street Los Angeles, CA 90012

<https://www.iamla.org/>

Japanese American Culture and Community Center

The Japanese American Cultural & Community Center weaves Japanese and Japanese American arts and culture into the fabric of our communities.

JACCC remains firmly rooted in Little Tokyo, providing a vital place to build connections between people and cultures, locally and internationally. Through inclusive programs and authentic experiences, we continue our traditions and nurture the next generation of innovative artists, culture-bearers, and thinkers.

244 San Pedro St, Los Angeles, CA 90012

<https://jaccc.org/>

Japanese American National Museum

The Japanese American National Museum (JANM) was founded to preserve and share the history of Japanese Americans. Its mission evolved to enhance appreciation for America's ethnic and cultural diversity by documenting the stories of Americans of Japanese ancestry as an integral component of U.S. history. Incorporated in 1985 through the combined efforts of a band of Japanese American World War II veterans and a group of Little Tokyo businessmen, JANM progressed from a small nonprofit to a national organization that raised almost \$60 million to renovate a historic former Buddhist temple building in 1992 and to construct an adjacent modern Pavilion in 1999. An official affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution, JANM was the recipient in 2010 of the National Medal for Museum and Library Services, America's highest honor for museums.

100 North Central Avenue Los Angeles, California 90012

<https://www.janm.org/>



The Jazz Bakery

Conceived and founded in 1992 by jazz vocalist/educator Ruth Price, the Jazz Bakery has achieved international acclaim through her uncompromising vision. As artistic director, Price's vision includes an audience-friendly performance space with theater seating unspoiled by noisy nightclub intrusions. It's a place where the sound is the highest fidelity, the lighting is beautiful, the piano is well-maintained, and every seat is the best in the house.

3233 Helms Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90034

<https://www.jazzbakery.org/>

Kaos Network

KAOS Network is a community art and technology incubation center on the corner of 43rd St. and Leimert Boulevard in the heart of the village. Through KAOS, filmmaker, cultural architect and designer Ben Caldwell encourages intergenerational cultural investment in Leimert Park. KAOS Network offers a way for the artistically talented and art enthusiasts of South Los Angeles to enjoy trans-media and multimedia art disciplines being offered in this vibrant community. KAOS Network creates a warm and open environment where everyone can participate and engage the material outcome of the work being presented. Often, at some basic level, this can be credited to the art and artist being a cultural asset to the community.

3333 West 43rd Place Los Angeles CA

<https://kaosnetworkla.com/>

Korean Bell of Friendship

Resting peacefully on the knoll overlooking the sea gate from which U.S. troops sailed into the Pacific, the bell site affords an unsurpassed view of the Los Angeles harbor, the Catalina Channel and the sea terraces of San Pedro hill. The bell is rung each year on Independence Day (July 4), National Liberation Day of Korea (August 15), September 17, New Year's Eve, and Korean-American Day (January 13). The Bell is also rung 13 times on the 1st Saturday of the month at 11:30 a.m.

Angels Gate Park

3601 S Gaffey Street San Pedro, CA 90731

<https://sanpedro.com/san-pedro-area-points-interest/korean-bell-friendship/>



Korean Cultural Center

Located at 5505 Wilshire Blvd., in the Miracle Mile District, the Korean Cultural Center is the axis of Korean heritage in Los Angeles. The Korean Cultural Center welcomes the general public to experience the rich traditions and history of Korea through specialized programs, sponsored events, and multiple learning resources. Operated by the Korean government's Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism, the Korean Cultural Center is dedicated to providing insights into the rich cultural heritage of Korea. We encourage everyone to visit and learn something new about a nation with a history spanning more than 5,000 years.

5505 Wilshire Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90036

<https://www.kccla.org/>



LAMusArt

The Los Angeles Music and Art School (LAMusArt) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit arts organization whose mission is to offer the community of East Los Angeles, primarily its K-12 population, with equitable and affordable access to multidisciplinary arts education programs. The services we provide as a cornerstone of arts education are integral to the community's cultural identity. Since its founding in 1945 by Ms. Pearle Irene Odell, LAMusArt has served over 100,000 students, employed over 200 Teaching Artists, and provided over 2,000,000 lessons.

3630 East Third St. Los Angeles, CA 90063

<https://www.lamusart.org/>

La Plaza de Cultura y Artes

LA Plaza de Cultura y Artes honors the past, inspires the future, and recognizes the enduring cultural influence of Mexicans, Mexican Americans and all Latinas/Latinos in Los Angeles through transformative exhibitions, programming and educational experiences. By exploring the Mexican and Mexican American history of Los Angeles, we present exciting performances, compelling exhibits, and thought-provoking discussions on a year-round basis. LA Plaza's offerings include a wide range of programs in music, dance, films, art, history, culinary arts, topical events, nature, and much more. LA Plaza is about learning, doing, and inspiring. We collaborate with our communities and make our spaces available for public and private events.

501 N Main St, Los Angeles, CA 90012

<https://lapca.org/>



Latino Theater Company

The Latino Theater Company (LTC) operates the Los Angeles Theatre Center (LATC), a Historic Landmark, and five-theater performing arts complex, in the revitalized Historic Core District of Downtown Los Angeles. We believe the theater creates empathy and educates, has the power to provoke dialogue by illuminating the social issues of our times, and can awaken the collective consciousness of a community to act in creating a better tomorrow.

LTC was founded in 1985 with the goal to establish a theater company dedicated to contributing new stories and novel methods of expression for the American theater repertoire and to increase artistic opportunities for underserved communities. As we continue to explore the U.S. Latina/o/x experience in bold and contemporary terms, we program our Fall and Spring Seasons with work by local playwrights that speaks to important issues and highlights new voices within the Latina/o/x, First Nation, Black, Asian American, Jewish American and LGBTQ+ communities. In 2007 LTC reopened the LATC after being awarded a 20-year lease, which has been extended until 2056, from the City of Los Angeles with multicultural programming that reflects the demographics of the city.

514 S. Spring Street Los Angeles, CA 90013

<https://www.latinotheaterco.org/>



Leimert Park Village

Leimert Park is named for its developer, Walter H. Leimert, who began the subdivision business center project in 1928.^[5] The master plan was designed by the [Olmsted Brothers](#) company, which was managed by the sons of [Frederick Law Olmsted](#) (1822–1903), the [landscape designer](#) best known for [Central Park](#) in New York City. The core of Leimert Park is Leimert Park Village, which consists of Leimert Plaza Park, shops on 43rd Street and on Degnan Boulevard,^[3] and the Vision Theater. The village has become the center of both historical and contemporary [African-American art, music, and culture](#) in Los Angeles.

In The Village, Degnan Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90008

<https://leimertparkvillage.org/>

Lula Washington Contemporary Dance Foundation

Lula Washington is Founder and Artistic Director of the Lula Washington Dance Theatre (LWDT). Lula founded the Company in 1980 with her husband Erwin Washington to provide a creative outlet for minority dance artists in the inner city. Today, Lula and her Company are revered across the United States and around the world. The Company has danced in over 150 cities in the United States, as well as abroad in Germany, Spain, Kosovo, Mexico, Canada, China, and Russia.

3773 Crenshaw Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90016

<https://www.lulawashington.org/>

Museum of African American Art



The Museum of African American Art (MAAA) in Los Angeles is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization founded in 1976 by noted artist, art historian, author, and educator Dr. Samella Lewis. Since 1980, the museum has been located on the third floor of the historic Streamline Moderne style building at 4005 Crenshaw Boulevard. The building first opened as a May Company department store in 1947, and it has been operated most recently by Macy's as part of Baldwin Hills Crenshaw Plaza.

The building where the museum is located has been under new ownership since August 2021. The landmark building at the intersection of Crenshaw and Martin Luther King Jr. boulevards is expected to evolve into new uses that will benefit the community.

4005 Crenshaw Boulevard Los Angeles CA 90008

<https://www.maaala.org/>

Museum of Latin American Art

The Museum of Latin American Art expands knowledge and appreciation of modern and contemporary Latin American and Latino art through its Collection, ground-breaking Exhibitions, stimulating Educational Programs, and engaging Cultural Events. The Museum of Latin American Art (MOLAA) was founded in 1996 in Long Beach, California and serves the greater Los Angeles area. MOLAA is the only museum in the United States dedicated to modern and contemporary Latin American and Latino art. Since its inception, MOLAA has doubled its size and added a 15,000 sq. ft. sculpture garden. Its permanent collection now numbers over 1,300 works of art.

628 Alamitos Avenue, Long Beach CA 90802

<https://molaa.org/>





Museum of Tolerance

Recipient of the Global Peace and Tolerance Award from the Friends of the United Nations, the Museum of Tolerance (MOT) is a human rights laboratory and educational center dedicated to challenging visitors to understand the Holocaust in both historic and contemporary contexts and confront all forms of prejudice and discrimination in our world today. In the late 1980's, Simon Wiesenthal Center leadership and representatives from the world's top museums began discussing how to promote tolerance and understanding. Adding to the impetus for such a museum was the troubling discovery that a new generation of young people was beginning to question whether or not the Holocaust ever happened.

The decision was made to create a museum - but not an ordinary museum of artifacts and documents. As Simon Wiesenthal expressed, it must not only remind us of the past, but remind us to act. This Museum should serve to prevent hatred and genocide from occurring to any group now and in the future. The daunting task was to create an experience that would challenge people of all backgrounds to confront their most closely-held assumptions and assume responsibility for change.

9786 West Pico Boulevard, Los Angeles CA 90035

<https://www.museumoftolerance.com/>

Native Voices at the Autry Museum of the American West

Native Voices is devoted to developing and producing new works for the stage by Native American, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian, and First Nations playwrights. Native Voices at the Autry is the country's only Equity theatre company devoted exclusively to developing and producing new works for the stage by Native American, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian, and First Nations playwrights. The company has been hailed by critics as "a virtual Who's Who of American Indian theatre artists," "a hotbed for contemporary Native theatre," "deeply compelling," and "a powerful and eloquent voice."

4700 Western Heritage Way Los Angeles, CA 90027-1462

<https://theautry.org/explore/native-voices>



Siqueiros *Tropicál* Interpretive Center



David Alfaro Siqueiros, who died in 1986, was one of the “Tres Grandes,” Mexico’s Big Three muralists (along with Diego Rivera and José Clemente Orozco) who help establish the Mexican mural movement of the 1930’s that endures to this day in the United States, as well as, Mexico.

Siqueiros’ most important mural in Los Angeles was his second -- “Tropical America.” The powerful political statement was executed along the exterior of the second floor of Olvera Street’s Italian Hall, where the Plaza Art Center was located.

The central visual and symbolic focus of the piece is an Indian peon, representing oppression by U.S. imperialism, is crucified on a double cross-capped by an American eagle. A Mayan pyramid in the background is overrun by vegetation, while an armed Peruvian peasant and a Mexican campesino (farmer) sit on a wall in the upper right corner, ready to defend themselves.

Siqueiros’ allegorical depiction of the struggle against imperialism wasn’t a comfortable topic for the Downtown L.A. business and political establishment. It was also an uncomfortable topic for societal matron Christine Sterling, Olvera Street’s leading promoter, possibly because it did not conform to her image of Olvera Street as a docile and tranquil Mexican village. Unfortunately for the artists, the conservative politics of the era triumphed over artistic expression, and within six months a section of the mural visible from Olvera Street was painted out. Within a year, the work was completely covered. The Getty Conservation and the City of Los Angeles conserved the mural, which reopened in 2012.

125 Paseo de La Plaza, Los Angeles, CA 90012

<https://www.olvera-street.com/siqueiros-mural>

Skirball Cultural Center

The Skirball Cultural Center is a place of meeting guided by the Jewish tradition of welcoming the stranger and inspired by the American democratic ideals of freedom and equality. We welcome people of all communities and generations to participate in cultural experiences that celebrate discovery and hope, foster human connections, and call upon us to help build a more just society.

Open to the public since 1996, the Skirball is one of the world’s most dynamic Jewish cultural institutions and among the leading cultural venues in Los Angeles.

2701 N. Sepulveda Boulevard, Los Angeles CA 90049

<https://www.skirball.org/>



Social and Public Art Resource Center



SPARC was born in a time of change – the 1970s. It has, since its inception, been a catalyst for social change through the arts and a home for artistic innovation. Being a catalyst has often meant handling the many currents that flow through historical events at the moment they are occurring and working outside of typical art venues in the places where people live and work.

SPARC is a facilitator – finding ways to tell richly textured stories that help community participants and artists achieve a measure of change and transformation. SPARC endeavors to communicate to the larger public – the means of communication may take many forms, from built architectural monuments, to murals or to new technological spaces such as the Internet. As with many organizations that articulate new visions and push the edges of content and aesthetics, SPARC is determined to be sustainable and relevant to the time we are living.

685 Venice Boulevard, Venice CA 90291
<https://sparcinla.org/about-sparc/>

Tamayo Restaurant and Gallery

Tamayo Restaurant is a Los Angeles cultural landmark, celebrating the rich heritage of California's Latino community. Built in 1928, this masterpiece of Spanish-style architecture was acquired by TELACU in the 1980s and carefully restored to its original magnificence. Named for the internationally renowned artist Rufino Tamayo, the restaurant proudly displays a stunning collection of his art. Tamayo Restaurant stands as a symbol of excellence in the renewal and revival of communities. Rufino Tamayo (1899-1991) was a Zapotecan Indian born in the Mexican state of Oaxaca.

5300 East Olympic Boulevard Los Angeles CA 90022
<https://www.la-tamayo.com/>



USC Pacific Asia Museum

An integral part of the University of Southern California, the USC Pacific Asia Museum creates inspiring encounters with the art, history and culture of Pacific Asia to promote intercultural understanding in the service of elevating our shared sense of humanity.

In 1924 Grace Nicholson hired the leading Pasadena architectural firm Marston, Van Pelt and Maybury, to translate her pictures and ideas into a serenely beautiful and impeccably researched building on North Los Robles Avenue, that by some accounts could not be duplicated today at any cost. Her illustrations were incorporated into a design which carefully followed the Imperial Palace Courtyard style, used in the construction of major buildings in Beijing (Peking). Grace Nicholson made sure every detail was correct by having the roof tiles, stone and marble carvings, and bronze and copper work imported directly from China, or faithfully executed by Pasadena area craftsmen, following plans and photographs of authentic Chinese examples.

46 North Los Robles Avenue, Pasadena CA 91102

<https://pacificasiamuseum.usc.edu/>



Watts Towers Arts Center

Sabato Rodia was born in Serino, Italy (AV) in 1879 and arrived in the United States around 1894. He came to Watts in 1921 at age 42 and was commonly known as “Sam”. The Watts Towers of Simon Rodia, his masterpiece and the world’s largest single construction created by one individual, was his obsession for 33 years. He called it “Nuestro Pueblo” or “Our Town”. It is located in the community of Watts in South Central Los Angeles, California.

The Watts Towers structure, consisting of seventeen major sculptures was created by Italian immigrant Sabato “Simon” Rodia out of steel covered with mortar and embellished by the decorative finishings of mosaic tiles, glass, clay, shells and rock. There is no welded inner armature. Rodia wired rebars together then wrapped this joint with wire mesh and hand packed it with mortar and his mosaic surface.

Public guided tours of the Watts Towers are conducted Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Sunday from 12:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.

1727 E 107th St, Los Angeles, CA 90002

<https://www.wattstowers.org/>



The World Stage

The World Stage is an educational and performance art space in Leimert Park Village, the heart of Los Angeles' African American cultural community. It was founded in 1989 by the late world-renowned master jazz drummer [Billy Higgins](#) and by poet and community arts activist [Kamau Daáood](#), in an attempt to fill a cultural void in the L.A. community. Initially formed as a loose collective of artists and arts supporters, The World Stage has grown to assume a pioneering and pivotal role in South L.A.'s music and art landscape.

The Stage's mission is to secure, preserve and advance the position of African American music, literature and works in the oral tradition to a local, national and international audience. With a capacity of 100, The World Stage programs affordable weekly workshops in music and literary arts, and ticketed performances from a range of renowned artists.

4321 Degnan Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90008
<https://www.theworldstage.org/>