

# NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 2, 2011

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## 52nd Annual FREE L.A. COUNTY HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

*Three-hour cultural extravaganza on December 24*

- *performed at the Music Center*
- *broadcast live on KCET and KPFK-FM*
- *streamed live at [www.kcet.org](http://www.kcet.org)*

### WHAT:

Bring the whole family to L.A.'s biggest Emmy-nominated holiday show, the **52nd Annual L.A. County Holiday Celebration**, hosted by **Suzanna Guzman** and **Tia Carrere** at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion. More than 20 choirs, music ensembles and dance companies from the many neighborhoods and cultures of L.A. celebrate the season during this free three-hour extravaganza. Even the parking under the Music Center is free! See it live from 3-6 pm at the Music Center downtown. Watch it live on KCET from 3-6, and again from 8-11 pm. Hear it live on 90.7 FM KPFK. Stream it live at [www.kcet.org](http://www.kcet.org). The L.A. County Holiday Celebration is a gift to the community from the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors.

Highlights of this year's show include:

- Liturgical Afro-Cuban drumming and song from **ADAWE**, an all-women's African music ensemble
- Traditional dance from the Mexican state of Zacatecas from the **Grandeza Mexicana Folk Ballet Company**
- The **Jazz Tap Ensemble** with a holiday-inspired tap dance and an ensemble of live jazz musicians
- A modern interpretation of the traditional Korean fan dance from **Kwan Gyu Lim Dance Company**
- Classic Hanukkah songs – Klezmer style – with **The Shpil**
- **Prime Note Ensemble**, an all-male Filipino choir singing in English & Kinaray-a (a Filipino dialect)
- GRAMMY® nominated **Lisa Haley and the Zydekats** celebrate the holidays Americana/Cajun/Zydeco style
- Current Latin GRAMMY® award nominee **La Santa Cecilia** with a holiday hybrid of Latin culture, rock and world music
- **Mandrill**, one of Funk and R&B's most progressive bands and an important pioneer on the world music scene, will perform a holiday-themed selection
- Holiday hip hop from **Versa-Style Dance Company**
- Pop culture humorist and author **Charles Phoenix** returns as HC's holiday reporter, hosting videos that feature holiday traditions celebrated in L.A. County

***Please scroll down for a complete list of performers  
and links to downloadable, high-resolution photos.***

**WHEN:**

Saturday, December 24, 2011 from 3 pm to 6 pm

- *Doors open at 2:30 pm*
- *Patrons may come and go throughout the three hour performance*
- *Reservations for tickets to the show or parking are not necessary; no wristbands required*
- *Those who can't make it to the Music Center can watch the live broadcast from 3 pm-6 pm on KCET, stream it at [www.kcet.org](http://www.kcet.org), or listen live at 90.7 FM KPFK. The KCET broadcast repeats again from 8 pm-11 pm*

**WHO:**

- 24 performing artists (scroll down for full list) from across L.A. County
- Sponsored by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors
- Produced by the Los Angeles County Arts Commission as part of the Free Concerts in Public Sites program
- Live telecast on KCET is produced by CDK Productions

**WHERE:**

Dorothy Chandler Pavilion at the Music Center  
135 N. Grand Ave.  
Los Angeles 90012

**HOW:**

Information hotline: (213) 972-3099 or [www.HolidayCelebration.org](http://www.HolidayCelebration.org)

**ADMISSION:**

FREE

**PARKING:**

FREE in the Music Center parking garage

**OTHER:**

Since 1964, the Arts Commission has produced a holiday celebration in the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion of the Music Center every year on December 24th. The program honors the spirit of many cultures and holiday traditions through music, song and dance.

*The L.A. County Holiday Celebration is a gift to the community from the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors.*

**Artists performing in 52nd Annual L.A. County Holiday Celebration:**

**ADAAWE**, an all-women's African music ensemble, will perform liturgical Afro-Cuban drumming and song – Click [here](#) to download a high resolution photo of ADAAWE (*Photo courtesy of Los Angeles County Arts Commission*).

**Agape Love Ensemble**, members of the Agape International Spiritual Center, will perform "Love is the Light" and "O Holy Night" – Click [here](#) to download a high resolution photo of Agape Love Ensemble (*Photo courtesy of Los Angeles County Arts Commission*)

**The Bricks\***, comprised of young musicians dedicated to making music that delivers positive social messages, will perform classic holiday selections – Click [here](#) to download a high resolution photo of City of Angels Chorus (*Photo courtesy of Los Angeles County Arts Commission*).

**Charles Dickens Carolers\***, a 24-person a cappella choir dressed in festive attire, will present classic Christmas repertoire selections – Click [here](#) to download a high resolution photo of the Charles Dickens Carolers (*Photo courtesy of Los Angeles County Arts Commission*).

**City of Angels Children's Community Chorus\*** will premiere on the Holiday Celebration with classic holiday repertoire – Click [here](#) to download a high resolution photo of City of Angels Chorus (*Photo courtesy of Los Angeles County Arts Commission*).

**Colburn Children's Choir and the Young Men's Chorus** will perform a Nigerian holiday folk song and a classic Christmas selection – Click [here](#) to download a high resolution photo of Colburn Children's Choir (*Please credit photo: Ed Krieger*).

**Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles** will return to this year's program with holiday repertoire – Click [here](#) to download a high resolution photo of Gay Men's Chorus (*Photo courtesy of Los Angeles County Arts Commission*).

**Grandeza Mexicana Folk Ballet Company** will perform a traditional dance from the Mexican state of Zacatecas – Click [here](#) to download a high resolution photo of Grandeza Mexican Folk Ballet Ensemble (*Photo courtesy of Los Angeles County Arts Commission*).

**Harmonic Bronze Handbell Ensemble**, a 20-person music ensemble of 11 to 18-year olds from Antelope Valley, will perform a festive rendition of "Hava Nagila" – Click [here](#) to download a high resolution photo of Harmonic Bronze Handbell Ensemble (*Please credit photo: Ed Krieger*).

**Jazz Tap Ensemble** will perform an upbeat holiday-inspired tap dance that interacts with an ensemble of live jazz musicians – Click [here](#) to download a high resolution photo of Jazz Tap Ensemble Chorus (*Photo courtesy of Los Angeles County Arts Commission*).

**Kwan Gyu Lim Dance Company\*** will perform a modern interpretation of the traditional Korean fan dance – Click [here](#) to download a high resolution photo of Kwan Gyu Lim Dance Co. Chorus (*Photo courtesy of Los Angeles County Arts Commission*).

**La Santa Cecilia\*** will premiere on this year's program with dance-able holiday selections fusing contemporary and traditional Latin and South American sounds – Click [here](#) to download a high resolution photo of La Santa Cecilia (*Photo courtesy of Los Angeles County Arts Commission*).

**Lisa Haley and the Zydekats** will return to this year's program with a Zydeco-inspired holiday performance – Click [here](#) to download a high resolution photo of Lisa Haley (*Please credit photo: Ed Krieger*).

**Mandrill\***, one of Funk and R&B's most progressive bands and an important pioneer on the world music scene, will perform a holiday-themed selection – Click [here](#) to download a high resolution photo of Mandrill (*Photo courtesy of Los Angeles County Arts Commission*).

**Mariachi Sol de Mexico** will perform classic Mariachi holiday favorites – Click [here](#) to download a high resolution photo of Mariachi Sol de Mexico (*Please credit photo: Ed Krieger*).

**Mt. Rubidoux Seventh Day Adventist Church Choir**, winner of People's Choice, Best Large Choir, and overall first place in the LA Region *How Sweet The Sound Choir Competition*, will perform gospel holiday selections – Click [here](#) to download a high resolution photo of Mt. Rubidoux Choir (*Please credit photo: Ed Krieger*).

**Palmdale High School Choral Union**, a 40-person chorus from the Antelope Valley, will present a spiritual hymn and a swing-style holiday song – Click [here](#) to download a high resolution photo of Palmdale HS Choral Union (*Please credit photo: Ed Krieger*).

**Prime Note Ensemble\***, an all-male Filipino choir singing in English & Kinaray-a (a Filipino dialect) – Click [here](#) to download a high resolution photo of Prime Note Ensemble (*Photo courtesy of Los Angeles County Arts Commission*).

**Salvation Army Tabernacle Children's Chorus**, the largest and youngest choir on the program, is known for their "choralography" and light-hearted holiday songs – Click [here](#) to download a high resolution photo of Salvation Army Tabernacle Children's Chorus (*Please credit photo: Ed Krieger*).

**The Shpil\*** will perform a medley of classic Hanukkah songs in their Klezmer style – Click [here](#) to download a high resolution photo of The Shpil (*Photo courtesy of Los Angeles County Arts Commission*).

**Trumpetology\*** will premiere on the Holiday Celebration with a brass-centered jazz interpretation of "What Child is This" – Click [here](#) to download a high resolution photo of Trumpetology (*Photo courtesy of Los Angeles County Arts Commission*).

**Versa-Style Dance Company\***, a Hip Hop ensemble representing the diversity of Los Angeles – Click [here](#) to download a high resolution photo of Versa Style (*Photo courtesy of Los Angeles County Arts Commission*).

**Voices of Destiny\***, a 45-member gospel chorus and national winner of the Verizon Wireless *How Sweet the Sound Competition*, will premiere with a spiritual holiday offering.

**Young Angels Choir**, a Korean-American youth choir, will return to Holiday Celebration with holiday repertoire – Click [here](#) to download a high resolution photo of Young Angel's Choir (*Please credit photo: Ed Krieger*)

\* indicates groups new to the Holiday Celebration this year

*The Los Angeles County Arts Commission, Laura Zucker, Executive Director, provides leadership in cultural services of all disciplines for the largest county in the United States, encompassing 88 municipalities. The Arts Commission provides leadership and staffing to support the County-wide collaboration for arts education, Arts for All; administers a grants program that funds more than 350 nonprofit arts organizations annually; oversees the County's Civic Art Program for capital projects; programs the John Anson Ford Theatres and co-produces Live @ the Ford on KCET; funds the largest arts internship program in the country in conjunction with the Getty Foundation; and supports the Los Angeles County Cultural Calendar on ExperienceLA.com and SpacefinderLA.org, a site connecting artists and arts organizations. The Commission also produces free community programs, including the L.A. County Holiday Celebration and a year-round music program that funds free concerts in public sites. The 2011-12 President of the Arts Commission is Ollie Blanning. For more information please consult the Arts Commission online press kit: <http://lacountyarts.org/page/pubnewspress>*

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