

121 VC FILMFEST 2009: The Visual Communications Los Angeles Asian Pacific Film & Video Festival

Established in 1983, the Visual Communications Film Festival is Southern California's premier showcase for film and video works by Asian Pacific American and Asian Pacific international cinema artists. The festival encompasses screenings, panels, workshops, and artists' awards.

WHEN: **April 30 through May 7, Various times**
SITE: Directors Guild of America, 7920 Sunset Blvd.,
Aratani/Japan American Theatre
COST: \$10 General; \$8 Students and Seniors
SPONSOR: Visual Communications
INFO: 213-680-4462 ext. 59, www.vconline.org

MAY

122 Asian American Heritage Month Celebrations

Asian American Month is a citywide commemoration of Asian American heritage and history in Los Angeles. The celebration will acknowledge Southern California's Asian American contributions in the areas of education, religion, the arts, culture, and the humanities. Events include music concerts, performances, and several gallery exhibitions.

WHEN: **Throughout May**
SITE: Various sites throughout Los Angeles
COST: Varies
SPONSOR: The City of Los Angeles Office of Mayor Antonio R. Villaraigosa
INFO: www.apahm.org

123 Ford Amphitheatre 2009 Summer Season

This season the historic Ford Amphitheatre presents more than one hundred jazz, world music, dance, theater, film, choral events, and family shows in a 1,200-seat outdoor amphitheatre. Food and beverages are available for purchase on site.

WHEN: **May through October, time varies by performance**
SITE: Ford Amphitheatre, 2580 E. Cahuenga Blvd., Hollywood
COST: Prices vary, call for information.
SPONSOR: Los Angeles County Arts Commission
INFO: 323-461-3673, www.fordamphitheatre.org

124 Cuban Music Festival "2009 Presencia Cubana en Los Angeles"

This festival celebrates the cultural heritage of the Cuban community living throughout the greater Los Angeles area. Come and enjoy live performances, arts and crafts, Cuban food, and activities for children.

WHEN: **May To Be Announced, 12:00 noon – 7:00 p.m.**
SITE: Echo Park Lake, 1632 Bellevue Ave., Echo Park
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Duval Productions & CauseConnect
INFO: 310-261-8778, www.caribeculturalfoundation.org

125 Venice Garden and Home Tour

Don't miss touring the eclectic and imaginative gardens and homes of the unique seaside community of Venice, benefiting the non-profit Neighborhood Youth Association.

WHEN: **May 2, 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**
SITE: Las Doradas Children's Center, 804 Broadway, Venice
COST: \$60 in advance, \$70 at the door
SPONSOR: Neighborhood Youth Association
INFO: 310-821-1857, www.venicegardentour.org

126 Undiscovered Chinatown Tour

Tours take visitors to a number of off-the-beaten-track points of cultural and historical interest, and will guide those interested in shopping to some of Chinatown's best bargains and trendiest shops.

WHEN: **May 2, 10:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**
SITE: Los Angeles Chinatown
COST: \$20
SPONSOR: Chinatown Business Improvement District
INFO: 213-680-0243, www.chinatownla.com

127 19th Annual Pacific Islander Festival

The Pacific Islander Festival celebrates the heritage, traditional culture, and the arts of the indigenous cultures of Polynesian, Micronesian, and Melanesian communities of Los Angeles with authentic ongoing stage performances. The event will also feature island villages with hands-on demonstrations, traditional arts presentations, and ethnic food to enjoy.

WHEN: **May 2 & 3, 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**
SITE: Harbor Regional Park, 2580 Vermont Ave., Wilmington – Harbor City
COST: Free admission and parking
SPONSOR: Pacific Islander Community Council, City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs & Council District 15
INFO: 714-968-1785, 310-293-2136, www.hiccsc/picc



Aquarium of the Pacific

128 Cinco de Mayo

A celebration of Mexico's victory over the French forces in Puebla, Mexico in 1862, with popular and traditional music, cultural presentations, dance, and food booths for everyone to enjoy.

WHEN: **May 2 & 3, 10:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.**
SITE: El Pueblo Historical Monument, 125 Paseo de la Plaza, Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Olvera Street Merchants and El Pueblo Historical Monument
INFO: 213-485-8372, www.cityofla.org/ELP



129 Israel Independence Day Festival

An annual celebration of Israel's Independence Day. The Israel Independence Day Festival presents a full day of entertainment on four stages with Judaic and Israeli vendor booths, an artists' pavilion, carnival

rides, non-stop folk dancing, dozens of ethnic food booths, free arts and crafts for children, a sky diving show, a fashion show, special programs for kids and teenagers, and an official ceremony.

WHEN: **May 3, 10 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.**
SITE: Woodley Park, Van Nuys
COST: \$5
SPONSOR: Israel Independence Day Festival
INFO: 818-757-0123, www.israelfestival.com

130 1st Thursday San Pedro ART Walk

On the first Thursday of each month, the artists, entertainers, and business people of San Pedro celebrate the arts with an evening of open galleries, studios, street vendors, and live entertainment in the downtown San Pedro Arts District. Downtown San Pedro is magically transformed into a village of creativity surrounded by historical architecture, including the magnificent Warner Grand Theatre, quaint restaurants and cafes, plus plenty of places to shop for unusual items and gifts. Bring the whole family for an enjoyable evening in this seaside village.

WHEN: **May 7, 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.**
SITE: Downtown San Pedro between 4th & 8th Sts.
COST: Free
SPONSOR: The San Pedro Peninsula Chamber of Commerce
INFO: www.1stthursday.com

131 Santa Monica Festival – Revel with a Cause

The Santa Monica Festival highlights the dynamic connection between the City's communities, culture, business, environment, and art. In its eighteenth year, the festival aims to inspire participants to live a more sustainable



Aaron Paley

lifestyle while enjoying an energetic mix of music and dance, fresh foods from an assortment of local eateries, and shopping at the international marketplace.

WHEN: **May 9, 11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.**
SITE: 2600 Ocean Park Blvd., Santa Monica
COST: Free
SPONSOR: City of Santa Monica Cultural Affairs Division
INFO: 310-458-8350, www.arts.santa-monica.org

132 Raising Readers: A Literacy Festival



David Taylor

This festival focuses on children's language and literacy development. Storytellers, theatre groups, and musicians emphasize the joy of reading. Lots of snacks and fun for children and their families.

WHEN: **May 9, 12:00 noon – 4:00 p.m.**
SITE: Santa Monica College, 1900 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Connection for Children, Santa Monica College, and Association for the Education of Young Children/North Bay Chapter North Bay
INFO: 310-452-3325, www.connectionsforchildren.org

133 Coming Home to Pio Pico

Celebrate the birthday of Pio Pico, last Governor of Alta California under Mexican rule. Enjoy dancing, music, food, 1800's children's activities, and a historic demonstration at Pio Pico State Historic Park.

WHEN: **May 9, 12:00 noon – 4:00 p.m.**
SITE: Pio Pico State Historic Park, 6003 Pioneer Blvd., Whittier
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Friends of Pio Pico, Inc.
INFO: 626-695-1217 x102, www.piopico.org

134 Mexican Mother's Day

Celebrate the closing weekend of the exhibition *Bold Caballeros y Noble Bandidas* with a traditional Mexican Mother's Day, featuring tamales and fresh-cut flowers on sale all day, or make Mom some *papel picado* flowers at our crafts table. Free with museum admission.

WHEN: **May 9, 12:00 noon. – 5:00 p.m.**
SITE: Autry National Center, 4700 Western Heritage Way, Los Angeles.
COST: \$9 Adults, \$5 Students & Seniors, \$3 Children (3-12), Free for children under 5
SPONSOR: Autry National Center
INFO: 323-667-2000, www.autrynationalcenter.org

135 Pomona Art Walk

The Downtown Pomona Arts Colony has an art walk every second and last Saturday of the month that brings big crowds to stroll the streets. Over a dozen galleries host receptions and open houses to showcase their latest exhibits and artists. Music, food, wine, and art from 6:00 p.m. on into the evening.

WHEN: **May 9 & 30, 5:00 p.m. – 1:00 a.m.**
SITE: Garey Park, 2nd & 3rd, Downtown Pomona
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Pomona Arts Colony
INFO: www.metropomona.com

136 New Works Festival

Enjoy the face of new and often experimental theater as College of the Canyons continues its critically-acclaimed New Works Festival. Open to the Santa Clarita Valley community and beyond, the New Works Festival takes works in progress from unheralded playwrights and puts them on the stage. Do you have a script that needs to be seen? Submit it, and watch your dream become reality!

WHEN: **May 13 through 17, Wednesday through Saturday 8:00 p.m., Sunday 2:00 p.m.**
SITE: Santa Clarita Performing Arts Center, 26455 Rockwell Cyn. Rd., Santa Clarita
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Santa Clarita Performing Arts Center
INFO: 661-362-5304, www.canyonspac.com

137 Downtown Art Walk

The Downtown Art Walk is a monthly, self-guided tour of the art exhibition venues in Downtown Los Angeles, which includes commercial art galleries, public museums, non-profit spaces, and grassroots arts venues.

WHEN: **May 14, 12:00 noon – 9:00 p.m.**
SITE: Downtown Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Bert Green Fine Art
INFO: 213-624-6212, www.downtownartwalk.com

138 JACCC's 26th Children's Day

Come to Little Tokyo, where culture comes alive, for a day filled with activities for children of all ages including the Chibi-K: Kids Fun Run and the San Tai San: 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament. The Asian Pacific Arts and Crafts Faire features



Jesse Feng

cultural entertainment, demonstrations, crafts, and games. Mark the date in your calendar and don't miss out on the fun!

WHEN: **May 16, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**
SITE: Japanese American Cultural and Community Center, 244 S. San Pedro St., Downtown Los Angeles, Little Tokyo
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Japanese American Cultural and Community Center
INFO: 213-628-2725, www.jaccc.org

139 Asian Pacific Heritage Month Celebration

This festive celebration focuses on Asian Pacific heritage and cultural traditions with traditional music, children's dance groups, and colorful ethnic crafts. Zookeeper lectures highlight the Zoo's Asian Pacific animals.

WHEN: May 16 & 17, 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
SITE: Los Angeles Zoo & Botanical Gardens, 5333 Zoo Dr., Los Angeles
COST: Free with paid admission, \$12 Adults, \$7 Children (2-12)
SPONSOR: Los Angeles Zoo
INFO: 323-644-4200, www.lazoo.org

140 Venice Art Walk & Auctions

This is the annual fundraising event to benefit the Venice Family Clinic, featuring a 400-piece art auction, self-guided tours of 60 artists' private studios and homes, live entertainment, delicious cuisine, children's art activities, and more.

WHEN: May 16 & 17, 11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
SITE: 1010 Abbot Kinney Blvd., Venice
COST: \$50 Adults
SPONSOR: Venice Family Clinic
INFO: 310-392-9255, www.venicefamilyclinic.org

141 Long Beach Pride Celebration

Over the past several years, the festival is the largest event in the city of Long Beach, attracting over 90,000 participants over the two-day celebration. More than 200 marching groups and floats comprise the parade entries, representing various religious, governmental, and social organizations.

WHEN: May 16 & 17, 11:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.
SITE: Along Shoreline Drive, Long Beach
COST: \$20
SPONSOR: Long Beach Lesbian & Gay Pride, Inc.
INFO: 562-987-9191, www.longbeachpride.com

142 49th Annual Topanga Banjo Fiddle Contest and Folk Festival

This musical festival presents on four stages over 100 instrumental and singing contestants and professional bands, western style and jamming musicians playing on outdoor Western movie sets. Lots of folk arts booths, National Parks booths, good eats, and children's activities. Since 1961, this event has been Southern California's premier old-time and bluegrass music festival!



Jesse Feng

WHEN: May 17, 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
SITE: Paramount Movie Ranch, Agoura Hills, in the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area
COST: \$12 Adults; \$7 Teens, Seniors over 65; Children under 10 Free
SPONSOR: Topanga Banjo Fiddle Contest and Folk Festival, Inc.
INFO: 818-382-4819, www.topangabanjofiddle.org

143 Children's Art Fest

Enjoy the work of young artists. Create and participate in art activities. Individual and group projects will be on display.

WHEN: May 17, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
SITE: Star Eco Station, 10101 W. Jefferson Blvd., Culver City
COST: Art exhibit and performances are free
SPONSOR: Star Eco Station
INFO: 310-842-8060, www.ecostation.org

144 Museums of the Arroyo Day

Six museums in Pasadena and Highland Park open their doors free of charge to celebrate with special exhibits, music, and activities for children. Free shuttles take guests between museums.

WHEN: **May 17, 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**
SITE: Gamble House, Heritage Square, Lummis Home and Garden, Pasadena Museum of History, Los Angeles Police Historical Society, & Southwest Museum of the American Indian.
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Museums of the Arroyo
INFO: 213-740-8687, www.museumsofthearroyo.com

145 Country Garden Fair

View display gardens created and maintained by members of the public, see a bonsai show, purchase a variety of plants, seeds, and fertilizer, obtain gardening information at the start of the summer growing season, have access to local garden clubs and plant societies, and more. There will also be entertainment and children's activities.

WHEN: **May 17 & 18, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**
SITE: Sepulveda Garden Center, 16633 Magnolia Blvd., Encino
COST: Free
SPONSOR: City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks
INFO: 818-784-5180, www.laparks.org

146 Asian & Pacific Islander Older Adults Festival

Travel to Asia and Pacific Islands without ever leaving Angelus Plaza. The festival brings the pageantry of the Philippines, Guam, Samoa, Korea, China, and Japan. Enjoy traditional folk dancers and choral groups. Light refreshments will be served.

WHEN: **May 22, 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.**
SITE: Angelus Plaza, 255 S. Hill St., Downtown L.A. (Hill Street Courtyard)
COST: Free. Donations accepted
SPONSOR: Angelus Plaza
INFO: 213-623-4352 ext. 327

147 Celebrate Puppetry

To celebrate the multidisciplinary art of puppetry, Optimists International offers free and low cost art and theater activities for Sunland/Tujunga families and the greater Los Angeles community.

WHEN: **Pre-Festival Workshops May 24 & 31, 1:00 p.m.**
Celebrate Puppetry Festival June 6, 4:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
SITE: McGroarty Art Center, 7570 McGroarty Terrace, Tujunga
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Optimist International & City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs
INFO: 818-352-5285, www.balibeyond.com/cp.html

148 Canoga Park Memorial Day Parade

This is the 21st annual Canoga Park Memorial Day parade, honoring the military personnel at home and overseas.

WHEN: **May 25, 11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.**
SITE: 7248 Owensmouth Ave., Canoga Park
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Canoga Park West Hills Chamber of Commerce
INFO: 818-884-4222, www.cpwchamber.org



149 61st Annual Memorial Day Celebration

The City of Inglewood's commemorative ceremonies will celebrate the lives of war heroes and also pay tribute to the courageous men and women who are currently serving in the armed forces. Over 30 local and community-based organizations will take part in the ceremonies. All are invited to join the City in paying tribute to the nation's and Inglewood's heroic servicemen and women.

WHEN: **May 25, 11:00 a.m.**
SITE: Inglewood City Hall, South Mall, 1 W. Manchester Blvd., Inglewood
COST: Free
SPONSOR: City of Inglewood
INFO: 310-412-8700

150 Bones and Blues

Bones and Blues is a monthly concert series featuring live blues and jazz music, domino tournaments, and a hearty barbecue dinner.

WHEN: **May 29, 8:00 p.m.**
SITE: The Center, 10950 S. Central Ave., Los Angeles
COST: \$15 presale, \$25 at the door
SPONSOR: Watts Labor Community Action Committee (WLCAC)
INFO: 323-563-5639, www.wlcac.org

151 26th Annual Salute to Recreation Family Festival

This is the largest annual Department of Recreation and Parks event in the San Fernando Valley and features plenty of activities for the whole family, including a children's area, a petting zoo, carnival rides, games, food booths, an International Village, a Hawaiian Village, an arts and crafts boutique, Teen Night, and entertainment on four stages. Catch the fireworks extravaganza on Saturday night.

WHEN: **May 29 through 31, Friday 5:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m., Saturday 11:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m., Sunday, 11:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.**
SITE: Northridge Park, 10058 Reseda Blvd., Northridge
COST: Free
SPONSOR: City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks
INFO: 818-349-7341, www.laparks.org

152 Armenian Independence Day Festival

This street festival promotes the Armenian culture and its first independence. The free event includes food booths, vendors and live Armenian singers and bands.

WHEN: **May 30, 11:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.**
SITE: Hollywood Blvd. between Vermont & Alexandria, Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Armenian Cultural Foundation & Office of Councilman Eric Garcetti
INFO: 818-243-9264

153 Spring Festival: A Victorian Affair

Step back to the late 19th century at Rancho Los Cerritos to experience the dynamic Victorian era, complete with live music, dancing, unusual entertainment, and even a May pole dance! Participate in period activities such as ice cream making, butter churning, Victorian-era games, and crafts designed especially for children.



Vic Segers

WHEN: **May 31, 12:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.**
SITE: Rancho Los Cerritos Historic Site, 4600 N. Virginia Rd., Long Beach
COST: \$5 Adults, \$3 Children ages 3 – 12
SPONSOR: Rancho Los Cerritos Historic Site, City of Long Beach Department of Parks, Recreation, and Marine & Friends of Rancho Los Cerritos
INFO: 562-570-1755, www.rancholoscerritos.org