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[Photos](#) Available

CALENDAR ADVISORY

GRAND PARK'S OUR L.A. VOICES 2021: A POP-UP ARTS+CULTURE FEST TO EXPLORE THE POWER AND IMPACT OF THE ARTS THROUGH DIVERSE DISCIPLINES AND ARTISTIC PERSPECTIVES

Three Digital Episodes on Consecutive Thursdays Highlight Los Angeles' Cultural Ecosystem and Invite Viewers to Engage with the Arts by Participating in Talks and Workshops

DJ Lani Love to Kick Off the Festival with a Live Hip-Hop Set Spinning Tunes from the Vietnamese Diaspora

WATCH ON: Thursdays, April 15, 22, and 29, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. PT on olav.grandparkla.org

WHAT:

Grand Park's popular spring arts experience, *Grand Park's Our L.A. Voices: A Pop-up Arts+Culture Fest*, continues in 2021, with dynamic digital offerings that celebrate the distinctive cultural and artistic richness of Los Angeles' arts community. The free performing and visual arts exhibition, featuring more than 12 L.A. based artists, will feature new programs on Thursday nights on April 15, 22 and 29, 2021, beginning at 6:00 p.m. on olav.grandparkla.org; all programs will be available for on-demand entertainment. *Grand Park's Our L.A. Voices: A Pop-up Arts+Culture Fest*, a TMC Arts program, will feature a mix of live performances and presentations along with recorded programming during a 2.5 hour block each Thursday evening. The three programs aim to reduce the distance between artist and audience by offering at-home engagement opportunities such as talks, conversations and arts-based workshops where people can learn more about the critical issues impacting communities in L.A. County, as seen through an artist's point-of-view.

WHEN:

Thursdays, April 15, 22, and 29, 2021, at 6:00 p.m.

WHERE:

olav.grandparkla.org (Live streaming and on-demand viewing)

SCHEDULE:

April 15, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

- **LIVE PERFORMANCE: VIET TRAP presented by DJ Lani Love**
[DJ Lani Love](#) spins a set of Hip-Hop tracks from Vietnam and the Vietnamese Diaspora live at 6:00 p.m.
- **TALK: Vietnamese New Wave: Then and Now presented by DJ Lani Love & Elizabeth Ai**
DJ Lani Love and filmmaker Elizabeth Ai will discuss the director's current project, [New Wave Documentary](#), a film documenting and preserving the sociocultural influence and impact of the popular 80s music genre, New Wave, on the Vietnamese Diaspora. Their conversation will explore the origins of Vietnamese New Wave and its cultural significance, then and now.
- **WORKSHOP: Creation Stories of the Los Angeles Basin presented by the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs and the NEA BIG Read, featuring Meztli Projects**
Through a land acknowledgement exercise, viewers will learn some of the original names of the cities and communities in Los Angeles. The creation stories of the Los Angeles Basin will be led by [Meztli Projects](#) guest Elder Alan Salazar (Tataviam/Chumash) who will share from his new book *Tata*,

more

the *Tataviam Towhee*, a nature story illustrated by Mona Lewis using pigments made from rocks and soil collected in Tataviam territory. Viewers can enter a special drawing to receive a gift basket with a copy of Salazar's book as well as Tonga Elder Cindi Alvitre's book *Waa'aka': The Bird Who Fell in Love with the Sun* and also Louise Erdrich's *The Round House*, which is this year's L.A. title selection for the NEA Big Read Program. To enter the free drawing, send an email to: elizabeth.morin@lacity.org by April 23, 2021, with subject matter "Native Voices." Winner will be announced at the end of *Our L.A. Voices* on April 29, 2021.

- **FILM PREMIERE: *Changing Landscapes presented by AKP Recordings***

The experimental documentary short *Changing Landscapes (Isle of Eigg)* by multidisciplinary art studio [Arthur King](#) was filmed in the Scottish Hebrides. The process, or artistic methodology, of the *Changing Landscapes* series is focused primarily on field recordings and is the unchanging framework that allows the location to serve as the focus of the art. Watch the [trailer](#). The film will be available for viewing on-demand April 15–30, 2021, at olav.grandparkla.org.

April 22, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

- **LIVE WORKSHOP: *Milagros presented by the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs and the NEA BIG Read, featuring Ofelia Esparza and Rosanna Esparza Arhens***

Featuring master altar builder and National Endowment fellow [Ofelia Esparza](#), this session will explore the question, "What is the miracle needed right now?" Alongside her daughter, Esparza will invite viewers to tap into their artistic abilities to create a Milagro, which is a religious folk charm. A list of suggested craft materials will be posted on the website.

- **TALK: *Conversation with L.A.-based artist Jonah Elijah***

[Jonah Elijah's](#) work encapsulates Black life in America and addresses controversial issues that impact the African American community. Using materials to explore economic inequality, displacement, and human rights, Jonah Elijah's artist practice embraces discomfiting realities.

- **ARTS-BASED FAMILY WORKSHOP: *Welcome to My Neighborhood! presented by Jocelyn Ayala of the dA Center for the Arts.***

Arts educator [Jocelyn Ayala](#) will take Angelenos on a walk around Downtown Pomona to point out the city's most eye-catching features. She will then use that narrative to teach participants how to create a vision board for what we would like our neighborhood to look like post-COVID. Suggested supplies for at-home participation include paper, pencil, pen, watercolors and any art supplies on hand.

- **INTERVIEW: *Conversation with Changing Landscapes artist Peter Walker presented by AKP Recordings***

In this interview, dublab's Alejandro Cohen and Arthur King's Peter Walker will discuss the multi-layered project that began on a remote Scottish island and turned into a record, the *Changing Landscapes* film and [pop-up gallery exhibition](#) in Los Angeles. *Changing Landscapes* is available for on-demand viewing April 15–30, 2021, at olav.grandparkla.org.

April 29, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

- **LIVE TALK: *Making Our Neighborhood: How Two Community Journalists Came Together to Redefine Storytelling in East Hollywood, presented by Samanta Helou Hernandez of This Side of Hoover, and Jimmy Recinos of J.T. the L.A. Storyteller Podcast.***

This two-part informational livestream on how to "Make a Neighborhood" will discuss the gentrification occurring in historically ethnic and working-class Los Angeles communities. Part one will describe how [Helou Hernandez](#) and [Recinos](#) conceptualized the discussion series and public art project focusing on three themes of historic redlining, current gentrification and present and future housing affordability

issues in the Virgil Village and East Hollywood areas. Part two will describe the final installment for the series, "Making Our Neighborhood: The Magazine," and the importance of memorializing the artists' exploration in a tangible form for communities to access, while also imparting the need to uplift art and literature in times of hardship

- **PERFORMANCE: *Thurz***

In an intimate setting from his living room, Hip-Hop artist [Thurz](#) will perform songs inspired by the experiences in his community from his recent work, [MORE THURZ ON THURSDAY](#), a playlist that featured a new song debuting each week from January through December 2020. The Inglewood native will be accompanied by Wali Ali Jr. on talk box and others.

- **LIVE WORKSHOP: *Musicians as Workers: A Conversation with Josephine Shetty***

Throughout the 20th and 21st centuries, there are many examples of music workers building worker power. However, exclusionary union models, individualism, increasing inequality and technological changes in the music industry have also hindered music workers from massively collectivizing or uniting in solidarity with the rest of the working class. Shetty, whose stage name is [Kohinoorgasm](#), dives into the meaning of positioning musicians as workers, building broader movements of music workers and how the public can learn from an existing lineage of musicians organizing to build stronger movements of workers today.

- **DANCE WORK/INTERVIEW: *Rasquachencias* performed by [Primera Generación Dance Collective](#)**

Created by four first-generation artists, *Rasquachencias* showcases the collective's past, present and future works to consolidate a vibrant picture of their Mexican American sociality. This dance work explores the power of rasquache play, engaging the possibilities in loud colors, Latinx iconography and recycled juxtapositions to highlight the creative survival strategies produced by the Brown, working-class communities of their heritage.

- **PERFORMANCE: *Love for the Prairie* 《苍穹之恋》 performed by Chinese Dance Company of Southern California (CDCSC)**

CDCSC was co-founded by South Coast Chinese Cultural Center and Pan America Chinese Dance Alliance in late 2019 to provide learning, communication, performance opportunities and platforms for dance lovers in Southern California. The company aims to tell classic Chinese stories with well-known traditional dances, as well as encouraging and inspiring original choreographies to tell stories about American Chinese immigrants. Performed by members of [CDCSC](#), *Love for the Prairie* demonstrates the Mongols' love and reverence for their homeland and nature. The Mongols have always regarded the world as a component of nature; they believe that man and the earth coexist and prosper and all the phenomena of nature are the products of the earth.

Traditional Chinese:

《蒼穹之戀》“天蒼蒼，野茫茫，風吹草低見牛羊”。蒙古人民對草原的熱愛，對親情的珍惜，淵源而流長，溫暖又沁人心脾。蒙古人民對大自然充滿了敬畏而又不失善良的心靈，人與人的不斷羈絆讓蒙古人民永遠的愛上了這片大地。

蒙古人一向把天地萬物看成是大自然的構成部分，認為人與天地萬物共存共榮，大自然的一切現像都是天地的產物。《蒼穹之戀》表現的就是蒙古人對大自然的熱愛和崇敬。

Simplified Chinese:

《苍穹之恋》“天苍苍，野茫茫，风吹草低见牛羊”。蒙古人民对草原的热爱·对亲情的珍惜·渊源而流长·温暖又沁人心脾。蒙古人民对大自然充满了敬畏而又不失善良的心灵·人与人的不断羁绊让蒙古人民永远的爱上了这片大地。

蒙古人一向把天地万物看成是大自然的构成部分，认为人与天地万物共存共荣·大自然的一切现象都是天地的产物。《苍穹之恋》表现的就是蒙古人对大自然的热爱和崇敬。

About Grand Park

A vibrant outdoor gathering place, Grand Park is a beautiful public park for the entire community in Los Angeles County. With expansive green space for gatherings large and small, Grand Park celebrates the county's cultural vitality and is host to community events, cultural experiences, holiday celebrations, and many other activities that engage and attract visitors from all communities. The 12-acre Grand Park stretches from The Music Center on the west to City Hall on the east and is easily accessible by Metro via the B/D (formerly Red/Purple) line to the Civic Center/Grand Park station. The park was named one of American Planning Association's 10 "Great Public Spaces" in the U.S. for 2013. Working closely with the county, The Music Center is responsible for all operations and programming for the park. For more information, visit grandparkla.org. Follow Grand Park on Instagram, Twitter, Twitch, TikTok, Spotify and Mixcloud (@grandpark_la) as well as YouTube and Facebook(@grandparkLosAngeles).

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