



## GRAND PARK FACT SHEET

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, creating and presenting community events, cultural experiences, holiday celebrations and many other activities that engage and attract visitors from all communities. 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.

### Fast Facts

- Opened in October 2012;
- Exists as a 12-acre public park located in the heart of L.A.'s Downtown Civic Center;
- Spans four distinct blocks from The Music Center to City Hall (from Grand Avenue to Spring Street);
- Open year-round from 5:30 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. daily;
- Accessible by Metro via the B/D (formerly Red/Purple) line to the Civic Center/Grand Park station;
- Welcomes 1 million visitors annually;
- Known as "the park for everyone";
- Programs all sizes and styles of events, celebrations and activities for the entire community;
- Hosts official L.A. County celebrations with *Grand Park's NYELA* and *Grand Park's Fourth of July Block Party*;
- Has entertained Angelenos with 1,000 cultural events and activities since 2012;
- Has partnered with 1,500 Los Angeles-based artists and performers since 2012;
- Features 350 trees and 140 different species of plants;
- Greets visitors in 25 different languages via vibrantly colored signage totems with lanterns that are transparent during the day and animated and glowing at night;
- Highlights several prominent outdoor sculptures throughout the landscape.

### Features

Grand Park's urban green-space design brings positive energy to Downtown Los Angeles and offers visitors numerous opportunities for special experiences, from walks and picnics, to curated one-of-a-kind events for all ages. The park's four-block span includes many distinctive features and amenities:

- The historic Arthur J. Will Memorial Fountain, now an iconic focal point of the park, sprays water 50 feet into the air and entertains visitors with five towering colorful plumes of water;

- A quarter inch-deep splash pad with interactive water jets encourages popular water play for all ages;
- Pedestrian-friendly steps and ADA-accessible ramps create a series of broad terraces that lead down into the park;
- The Performance Lawn and stage, located near Hill Street, provide an ideal location for smaller musical performances, art shows and other cultural events;
- Twenty-four gardens offer seasonal foliage, inspired by the six Floristic Kingdoms of the world;
- The Event Lawn facing City Hall accommodates major public events;
- A reconfigured Court of Flags features cherry blossom trees, donated by American Forests and the Consulate-General of Japan in Los Angeles, planted along the flags;
- A dog run open 6:00 a.m.–9:00 p.m. daily;
- A playground for kids up to 12-years-old resembles a treehouse complete with a slide, jungle gym and outdoor musical instruments;
- Olive Court is an open courtyard lined with 16 olive trees and serves as the location for Grand Park’s popular *Lunch a la Park Food Trucks* on Tuesdays through Thursdays, from 11:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.;
- Expansive lawns populated with moveable “Grand Park pink” tables and chairs invite picnics, relaxing and gathering;
- An open pavilion featuring a Starbucks outpost, an ATM and restrooms offer public amenities for park goers.

### **Programming Brief**

As “the park for everyone,” Grand Park offers a central gathering place for children and families, youth and school groups, couples and seniors, downtown dwellers, daily commuters and tourists to enjoy the tranquil quiet of an urban oasis year-round. Whether live at the park or as a platform for vibrant digital programming, Grand Park continues its commitment to be the destination where everyone can enjoy programs that reflect the talent and creativity of emerging and L.A.-based artists as well as the diversity of community partners representative of a multicultural county. Grand Park is a great example of how arts and culture can play a vital role in connecting people through accessible programs and experiences that honor, reflect and celebrate Los Angeles. Yearly lunchtime programming including yoga classes, food trucks and lunchtime concerts attract downtown dwellers, while official county celebrations like *Grand Park’s Fourth of July Block Party* and *Grand Park’s NYELA* welcome Angelenos from across the Southland. The park also produces important cultural commemorations including *Grand Park’s Downtown Día de los Muertos*, and more.

### **History & Design Brief**

Although the concept for the park had been entertained in Los Angeles’s civic circles since the 1950s, it was not until the 2000s when the Grand Avenue Committee—a public-private partnership chaired by James A. Thomas of Related Companies and Eli Broad—and the Civic Center Authority—chaired by former Los Angeles County Supervisor Gloria Molina and Los Angeles City Councilmember Rita Walters—finally advanced the project. Originally named El

Paseo de Los Pobladores de Los Angeles (The Walk of the First Settlers of Los Angeles), and commonly known as the Civic Center Mall, Grand Park became the centerpiece for the Grand Avenue project, transforming and reinvigorating underused public space challenged by grade changes and underground garage access ramps. In July 2010, the County of Los Angeles managed the park's \$56 million construction, which comprised \$50 million in pre-paid rent for ground leases from Related Companies, as well as other city funds and interest. To fulfill the need of a dynamic cultural and global crossroads for civic engagement, Los Angeles-based design firm Rios Clementi Hale Studios incorporated meridian paths and connections that crisscross all four blocks of the park. Fluidity Design Consultants oversaw the restoration of the 1960s-era Arthur J. Will Memorial Fountain, including the creation of the interactive and eventual fan-favorite splash pad.

### **Landscape Brief**

The park was designed as a diverse collection of plantings from around the globe. With nearly 140 different species of plants, the park's landscape intertwines native plantings and drought-tolerant species organized together into 24 gardens representing six Floristic Kingdoms. Many of the park's existing trees were preserved and incorporated into the 2012 redesign along with newer trees, shrubs, flowers and other landscaping plants native to Southern California. Grand Park's floristic gardens feature drought-tolerant specimen plants representing the diverse cultural make-up of Los Angeles itself.

From its design to landscaping to programming, Grand Park, in line with The Music Center, strives to deepen the cultural life of every resident of Los Angeles County. For more information, visit [grandparkla.org](http://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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