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FROM THE

Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations



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Cultural Diversity Month Celebrated in Diverse Ways

Los Angeles – During the month of October, the Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations calls upon community groups, private entities and other governmental agencies to join the Commission in celebrating what makes this County such a special place to live.

The Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations, the Los Angeles City Department of Recreation and Parks, and ConnectLA, a non-profit group committed to bringing diverse communities and sectors together through shared projects, will be celebrating Cultural Diversity Month by coming together to celebrate “Teens Make a Difference Day” on Saturday, October 27, 2007.

“Teens Make a Difference Day 2007” is a countywide program to encourage teens, ages 13-18 years of age, to plan and implement one-time or ongoing self-initiated volunteer and community service projects in their community. The goal is to significantly increase the number of teen and community service projects in 2007 from the 107 projects and over 3,300 youth who participated in 2006 and to encourage teens to engage in projects that improve intergroup relations.

Partners with the three sponsoring groups include Poseidon School, the Los Angeles Junior Chamber of Commerce, the Los Angeles Unified School District Beyond the Bell Branch, and L.A Conservation Corps Clean and Green Program.

This countywide effort is part of the 14th annual national *Make a Difference Day*, sponsored by the Points of Light Foundation and USA Weekend magazine.

For more information contact Juan Huevo at jhuevo@hrc.lacounty.gov. Information on commission programs, including zerohour, can be obtained by visiting: www.zerohour.com and www.LAhumanrelations.org.

Other groups joining the Commission to celebrate the County's diversity include:

- Residents of the City of Glendale and other Angelinos can enjoy a trip around the world on Saturday, October 13, 2007 when they attend the Unity Festival at Verdugo Park. The event will feature foods from around the globe, international music and dancers, arts and crafts, exhibitions and a lot of attractions for kids. The event is held from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at 1621 Canada Blvd., Glendale. For more information, call (818) 548-2780 or (818) 548-6464.
- The City of Long Beach's Cultural Diversity Arts Exhibit will kickoff in Bixby Knolls at the "First Fridays Long Beach" event on October 5, 2007 at 7 p.m. The exhibit will be held at Oasis Gallery, 4242 Atlantic Avenue, for the entire month of October. Exhibit hours are Tuesday-Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The exhibit features work from Long Beach adult and young artists as well as photographs from the Press Telegram's archives that represent diversity. The address is 4242 Atlantic Avenue, Long Beach, 90807. For further information, contact Melissa Morgan, at (562) 570-6948.
- The City of Inglewood will celebrate the various cultural arts with a downtown arts festival on historic Market Street. The event will be held on Saturday, October 6th. For more information, contact Teresa Estrada-Quintanar at (310) 412-5396.
- The City of Santa Clarita is celebrating diversity with a series of educational youth events at the various libraries and a special "Kids Around the World" Wednesday, October 17th event at the Santa Clarita Borders bookshop. For information on this 10:30 a.m. event contact Janine Prado at (661) 286-4017.
- The Asian Pacific America Legal Center 24th Anniversary dinner recognizing excellence and service in the Asian Pacific American community is being held at the Bonaventure Hotel in Los Angeles, on Thursday, October 18th, with reception and silent auction at 6:00 p.m.; program at 7:00 p.m. For information regarding sponsorship opportunities, please contact Clayton Weung, Development & Events Manager, (213) 241-0201.
- The City of Monterey Park will host its Harmony Festival from September 28th through October 20th. For information contact Dan Costley at (626) 307-2541. You can go to the city's website for more specific information.

October is also recognized with the following cultural designations and celebrations:

- Filipino American History Month
- Interfaith Month
- Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender (LGBT) History Month
- National Disability Awareness Month
- National Hispanic Heritage Month (September 15-October 15)
- Polish American Heritage Month