

NOVEMBER 17, 2021

L.A. County Holiday Celebration Turns 62, Returns to In-person Performance on December 24

Performed live at The Music Center's Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, this L.A. tradition will also be broadcast and streamed live by PBS SoCal

LOS ANGELES (November 17, 2021) -- The Emmy Award-winning *L.A. County Holiday Celebration* joyously returns to The Music Center's Dorothy Chandler Pavilion to celebrate its 62nd anniversary with a free, live in-person holiday spectacular on Friday, Dec. 24 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

The annual event will feature over 20 music ensembles, choirs and dance companies from the many neighborhoods and cultures that make up L.A.

Once again, PBS SoCal will both broadcast and stream this live event that has been a Los Angeles holiday tradition since 1959. PBS SoCal will air the live broadcast at 3 p.m. PT and encore the program at 10 p.m. PT. KCET will rebroadcast the program on Christmas Day at 6 p.m. PT.

Internationally renowned mezzo-soprano **Suzanna Guzmán** and actor **Brian White** (*Monogamy*, *Ambitions*, *Bronx SIU*, *Ray Donovan*) are back to co-host.

Returning performers include the **Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles**, gospel singers **Lorenzo Johnson & Praizum**, **Jung Im Lee Korean Dance Academy**, klezmer band **Mostly Kosher** and two-time GRAMMY® award-winning **Mariachi Divas de Cindy Shea**. Newcomers include **Dembrebrah West African Drum and Dance** and **cellist and autistic savant Adam Mandela Walden**. **Scroll all the way down for a complete list of this year's performers--22 groups in all.**

Those who can't make it to The Music Center on Dec. 24 can watch the broadcast on PBS SoCal or stream live online at pbssocal.org/holidaycelebration and kcet.org/holidaycelebration.

Tickets to the in-person event are free and available on a first come, first seated basis. Doors open at 2:30 p.m., although the line usually begins to form around noon. Proof of vaccination for Covid-19 or a negative test within 72 hours will be required for admission; patrons should allow extra time for check-in prior to getting in line. Masks must be worn throughout the performance. **The Music Center's Dorothy Chandler Pavilion** is located at **135 N. Grand Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90012**. Parking is free in The Music Center parking garage. For more information, go to HolidayCelebration.org.

The *L.A. County Holiday Celebration* is produced on behalf of the **County of Los Angeles** by **The Music Center** and **PBS SoCal** in association with **CDK Productions**.

[Click here](#) to download high-resolution photos.

[Click here](#) to view the promo trailer.

Details for Calendar Listings '62nd Annual L.A. County Holiday Celebration'

WHAT:

The Emmy Award-winning *L.A. County Holiday Celebration* joyously returns to The Music Center's Dorothy Chandler Pavilion to celebrate its 62nd anniversary with a free, live in-person holiday spectacular. The annual event will feature over 20 music ensembles, choirs and dance companies from the many neighborhoods and cultures that make up Los

Angeles. Those who can't make it to The Music Center can watch the broadcast live on PBS SoCal or online at pbssocal.org/holidaycelebration and kcet.org/holidaycelebration.

WHEN:

Friday, Dec. 24 from **3 p.m. - 6 p.m.**

- Doors open at **2:30 p.m.**
- Patrons may come and go throughout the three-hour performance.
- A live broadcast of the show airs from **3 p.m. - 6 p.m.** on **PBS SoCal** and online at pbssocal.org/holidaycelebration and kcet.org/holidaycelebration, with an encore broadcast on **PBS SoCal** at **10 p.m.**
- Re-broadcast of the show airs on **KCET** on Saturday, **Dec. 25** at **6 p.m.**

WHO:

- **Performing artists** from across Los Angeles County (scroll down for a complete list)
- Hosted by internationally renowned mezzo-soprano **Suzanna Guzmán** and actor **Brian White** (*Monogamy, Ambitions, Bronx SIU, Ray Donovan*)
- Sponsored by the **Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors**
- A presentation of **The Music Center** produced in association with **CDK Productions**
- Live telecast on **PBS SoCal**
- Live streaming at **PBSSoCal.org** and **KCET.org**

ADMISSION:

- **FREE**; no reservations or tickets to the show.
- First come, first seated.
- The line usually begins to form around noon.
- Proof of vaccination for Covid-19 or a negative test within 72 hours required; please allow extra time for check-in prior to getting in line.
- Masks required throughout the performance.

WHERE:

The Music Center's Dorothy Chandler Pavilion
135 N. Grand Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

PARKING:

FREE in The Music Center parking garage.

HOW:

Information hotline: (213) 972-3099 or HolidayCelebration.org

PHOTOS:

[Click here](#) to download high-resolution photos.

VIDEO:

[Click here](#) to view the promo trailer.

ARTISTS PERFORMING IN THE 62nd ANNUAL L.A. COUNTY HOLIDAY CELEBRATION:

- **Adam Mandela Walden**, an autistic savant who is currently a senior at Berklee College of Music in Boston--the first severely autistic student to attend a conservatory full time and the subject of two Emmy-winning HBO documentaries (*Autism: The Musical* and *Autism: The Sequel*)--will perform Ralph Vaughan Williams' "Fantasia on Greensleeves" for violincello (also known as "What Child is This") as well as "Ave Maria" by Franz Schubert, both accompanied by classical pianist Jordan Daniels.
- **Amare Girls Band** breaks tradition, seamlessly combining traditional Chinese instruments--guzheng and pipa--with the Western flute and violin to perform an inclusive composition by band leader and guzheng artist Annie

Zhou that highlights the power of women in music.

- **Celtic Irish Dance Academy**, L.A.'s premier Irish dance school under the direction of Riverdance star, Maeve Croke, will perform a traditional Irish dance that showcases fast feet and the ability to tell a story through music and dance.
- **Dembrebrah West African Drum and Dance** will perform "Koredjuga," a rhythm shared by the Bamana and Malinke ethnic groups on the border of Mali and Guinea, traditionally performed by intermediaries between the people and the traditional chief whose only purpose is to educate others through laughter and irony.
- **Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles**, whose holiday concerts are a beloved, decades-old L.A. tradition, returns to Holiday Celebration for the 31st year in a row to perform classic and inspiring holiday songs from *Holiday Homecoming* at Royce Hall.
- **Jung Im Lee Korean Dance Academy**, the official Korean cultural ambassador to Southern California, returns to Holiday Celebration with *Geom-mu*, a Korean sword dance traditionally performed at royal and official feasts to celebrate victory over war, hardship or disease.
- **Leela Youth Dance Company** will perform "Malkauns Tarana," choreographed by renowned artist Rina Mehta, showcasing the rhythmic footwork, dynamic movements and swift *chakkars* (pirouettes) characteristic of kathak classical dance of North India.
- **Lorenzo Johnson & Praizum** will sing high energy Gospel renditions of classic Christmas songs, accompanied by fun choreography.
- **Los Angeles Chamber Choir** will perform "Glory, Glory, Glory to the Newborn King," based on the spiritual "Go Tell it on the Mountain" with additional words and music by Moses Hogan.
- **Mariachi Divas de Cindy Shea**, the two-time GRAMMY® award-winning all-female ensemble that has pushed to expand the scope of Mariachi music for over 22 years, will reach out to touch those with broken hearts this Christmas season with a Mariah Carey holiday medley.
- **Mostly Kosher** will add New Orleans flare to high energy klezmer and Jewish folk melodies, blending Hanukkah and Mardi Gras into one experience.
- **MUSYCA Children's Choir** will sing "Believe" from *The Polar Express*, reminding us that everything is possible at Christmas, and "Seasons of Love" from *Rent* in honor of the many losses and triumphs experienced by students and their families during this unprecedented time.
- **Pacifico Dance Company** returns to the Holiday Celebration with "Fiesta Calentana," a journey through Mexico's Southwestern, coastal state of Guerrero that explores Peruvian cultural influence in the region through dance, music and holiday traditions.
- **Palmdale High School Choral Union and Sunday Night Singers**, a select ensemble of current high school and alumni singers that has performed nationally and internationally, will perform "White Christmas" and "The Twelve Days of Christmas," an energetic, joyful carol that celebrates coming back together to celebrate the holiday.
- **Sean Oliu and The Coastline Cowboys** return to the Holiday Celebration with songs celebrating country music and the holiday season.
- **Street Corner Renaissance**--just back from a six-week engagement in Dubai--will wow the audience with a *cappella* renditions of the classic Christmas blues tune "Please Come Home for Christmas" by Charles Brown and a spirited medley of "We Wish You A Merry Christmas" and "Joy To The World."
- **The Citrus Singers**, the first American choir to win the International Choral Festival in Spittal, Austria, returns to Holiday Celebration with stunning choral arrangements of holiday favorites accompanied by handbells.
- **The Opera Company at LACHSA (Los Angeles County High School for the Arts)**, which has produced some of this country's finest singers, will perform holiday works from contemporary composers and Jonathan Dove's opera, *Mansfield Park*, based on the Jane Austen novel and set in the Regency era.
- **The Spirit Chorale of Los Angeles**, a professional ensemble dedicated to keeping alive the Negro spiritual along with jazz, blues and original Gospel works, emerges from the pandemic to perform the debut of "Hope for Tomorrow," celebrating and shining a light on the possibilities of the future.

- **VOX Femina Los Angeles**, L.A.'s premier women's choir, will celebrate the season with a performance of holiday songs including the traditional Hanukkah song "S'vivon," the Christmas classic "Jingle Bells" and the Spanish carol "A La Nanita Nana," honoring the diverse communities that make up Los Angeles.

- **Young Angels Choir and Orchestra** will combine voices, orchestra and handbells to perform "Christmas Eve Sarajevo," then rearrange the song to meld Western music with Eastern traditions by adding traditional Korean drums.

© Music Center. All Rights Reserved.