

JULY 1, 2026

Gloria Molina Grand Park's Summer Block Party ARTISTS' & COMMUNITY PARTNERS' BIOS

PERFORMERS AT THE FRONT YARD STAGE (The park's performance lawn between Grand Ave. and Hill St.)

- **Pangea Sound**

In 2019, Falcons and Supernova started Pangea Sound, an authentic and highly acclaimed experiential DJ and production collective. What began as a passion for bringing music cultures together has grown into a nationwide music event series, fusing fresh sounds from the Caribbean, Africa, Latin America, the U.S. and everywhere in between. By bridging genres and communities, Pangea Sound creates an all-inclusive environment that celebrates global music culture.



PERFORMERS AT THE BACK YARD (Located across from City Hall)

- **Jungle Fire & Friends** (formerly known as L.A. Tropifunk Collective)

The Jungle Fire sound is a deep foray into Afro/Latin funk with an authentic and highly explosive approach. The L.A.-based juggernaut pulls its influences from the music of legends, such as Irakere, Ray Barretto, James Brown, Fela Kuti and Manu Dibango, while creating a melting pot of Afro-Caribbean and West African rhythms with heavy break beat funk. Originally conceived as a one-off project in 2011, Jungle Fire quickly gained attention by lighting up local clubs and underground warehouse parties in L.A.'s thriving funk and soul scene. Since then, the band has played an impressive amount of club and festival dates in domestic stages and abroad, including the U.K., Spain, Mexico, Colombia, Brazil and L.A.'s iconic Hollywood Bowl. Its members' diverse musical and cultural backgrounds are a direct reflection of the musical and cultural landscape of Los Angeles, with the city's unique international and multicultural mix of sounds and flavors being critical components of the group's sounds.

- **Kaimera**

With a foundation in traditional cultural dance and street dance styles, Kaimera is a contemporary multicultural dance collective that draws on the identities and experiences of its performers who come from various cultural and social backgrounds. Kaimera aims to provide a platform for and accessibility to cultural performance art and acknowledge the impacts of living in a modern world and among different communities with an emphasis on representing and celebrating mixed heritage, the diaspora and pop/street cultural influence.

- **Tatiana Tate**

More than ever, monstrously talented young women are redefining jazz, gospel, funk, R&B and neo-soul, challenging the longstanding male-dominated status quo. At the forefront is Tatiana Tate, an L.A.-born trumpeter, composer, bandleader and artist whose résumé rivals musicians three times her age. She began her musical journey as a drummer at age five, before falling in love with the trumpet at eight. She quickly emerged as a rising force, serving as a featured soloist with the Colburn Conservatory of Music Jazz Workshop Band and the Arturo Sandoval All-Star Youth Jazz Band. Since then, Tate has performed with musical icons including Stevie Wonder, Lizzo, TLC, DoeChii, Arturo Sandoval and Keyon Harrold. She leads a powerhouse ensemble, proving that jazz, funk and soul are not only alive, but also thriving in the hands of the next generation.

- **Anthony Valadez**

A longtime presence on Los Angeles' airwaves and the founder of *Alternativo* (KROQ's first Latin Alternative music program), Anthony Valadez spent 15 years at KCRW, most recently co-hosting the flagship show *Morning*

Becomes Eclectic, and is currently an on-air host and DJ at KMHD in Portland. On television, he hosted three seasons of *Crate Diggers* on Fuse TV, exploring stories about records with some of the country's most dedicated vinyl collectors. As a recording artist, Valadez has released three albums on Plug Research and created official remixes for Ozomatli, David Bowie and Local Natives. Valadez also works as a mentor in the Community Radio Program at Otis College of Art & Design and serves as the host and producer of Grand Performances' podcast GP360.

ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY PARTNERS

- **EyeJack**

Sutu is an Australian digital artist and XR specialist who combines art and technology in new ways to tell immersive stories. He is the co-founder of EyeJack, an art and technology company that creates immersive arts experiences and software and has onboarded over 10,000 artists into XR. Sut's immersive projects have been shown at the Tribeca, Sundance, Venice and SXSW festivals. Commercially, he has created art and experiences for popular films, including *Doctor Strange*, *Spider-Man* and *Ready Player One*, as well as for musicians The Weeknd, John Legend, Jean Michel-Jerre, Laurie Anderson, George Clinton, deadmau5 and Nona Hendryx. His art often explores themes surrounding the future of digital technology, community and culture. He is an Eisner-nominated and Webby Award-winning artist, as well as a TED speaker; in 2024, he was inducted into the XR Hall of Fame.

- **For Freedoms**

As director of For Freedoms, **Tani Ikeda** is a 2017 Daytime Emmy® Award-winning producer and director in the Outstanding Travel & Adventure Program category for the series *Wonder Women*. She is executive producer and director of the Black Lives Matter YouTube Original Series *Resist* and 2022 Best Immersive Project winner at the Tribeca X Awards for the mixed reality series *Emerging Radiance*. Originally from Seattle, Ikeda resides in Los Angeles, where she produces and directs for Immediate Justice Productions, a production company and nonprofit that delivers high-end content and has provided mentoring opportunities to over 20,000 teenage girls and non-binary youth in the U.S., China, Uganda and India.

- **Grizzly Entertainment**

Grizzly Entertainment is a world-leading drone light show entertainment company. Its expert team of pilots and creative masterminds brings the art of drone light shows to life like never before with stunning visuals to deliver a truly unforgettable experience. Grizzly Drone Light Shows are revolutionizing the world of events and brand activations with cutting-edge technology and spectacular drone light shows.

- **Statloba for Good**

Statloba for Good (SFG) is a registered non-profit organization that leverages "Sport for Good" programming and community development initiatives to empower its members and partners to effect positive change in the communities they serve. SFG believes strongly that combining the connecting power of sport with a data and AI-driven approach to community health and development will maximize impact, reach and quality of targeted outcomes.