



DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS  
City of Los Angeles

201 North Figueroa Street  
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Los Angeles, CA 90012  
TEL 213.202.5500  
FAX 213.202.5511  
WEB [culturela.org](http://culturela.org)

**MEDIA ALERT**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**THE WALT DISNEY COMPANY,  
THE OFFICE OF MAYOR ANTONIO R. VILLARAIGOSA, AND  
THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS PRESENT  
THE MUSIC LA STUDENT CONCERT AT THE AUTRY NATIONAL CENTER  
ON MARCH 16, 2008**

*Performance to Culminate 10 Weeks of Musical Exploration in Honor of American Indian Heritage Month*

Enjoy a culminating student performance featuring Native American and South American music and dance traditions by the talented children and teen apprentices of the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs' Music L.A. Program, on Sunday, March 16, with a reception at 4 p.m. and a free student concert at 5 p.m. at the Autry National Center, located at 4700 Western Heritage Way Los Angeles, CA.

This performance, featuring beginning and accomplished young musicians, is the culmination of two, ten-week performance-based workshops held from November through February at United American Indian Involvement and New Jefferson Continuation High School in honor of American Indian Heritage Month. Elementary, middle, and high school students participated in the Music LA Program to celebrate, preserve, and promote various native music traditions, from Northern style pow-wow drumming and singing, to indigenous flute music. The Music LA Program is managed by the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs and is presented by The Walt Disney Company, the 2007/08 Heritage Month Title Sponsor, and Mayor Antonio R. Villaraigosa.

Local instructors from the Southern California Indian Center will lead students from United American Indian Involvement in an evening of music including native drumming, songs, and dance. Dance performances will include fancy shawl dancing, jingle dress dancing, boys dancing, and round dance collaboration. A guest performance by students from the Music LA Program at New Jefferson Continuation High School will showcase traditional Andean music played on the panpipes, or Siku instruments.

DCA's Music LA is a music education program created to provide quality instruction and professional music education programming for young people throughout the City of Los Angeles with a focus in communities where few or no music education programs exist. Courses offered during the Mayor's Heritage Month celebrations introduce ethnomusicological principles and provide music training for young people, with the cost of tuition fully subsidized through the generosity of Disney for the Heritage Month Programs.

United American Indian Involvement is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization whose mission is to provide quality services and advocacy for the American Indian community within the county of Los Angeles, State of California, and the United States in a respectful manner with high regard for cultural values, tribal affiliation, spiritual and personal values.

The Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) serves as a leader to generate and support high quality arts and cultural experiences for Los Angeles residents and visitors. DCA advances the social and economic impact of the arts and assures access to arts and cultural experiences through grant making, marketing, public and community arts programming, arts education, and creating partnerships with artists and arts and cultural organizations in every community in the City of Los Angeles.



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DCA grants \$3.4 million annually to over 300 artists and nonprofit arts organizations and awards the Artist-in-Residence (A.I.R.) and City of Los Angeles (C.O.L.A.) Individual Artist Fellowships. The Department provides arts and cultural programming in its numerous Neighborhood Arts and Cultural Centers and Theaters, and creates several arts and education programs for young people. It directs public art projects and manages the City's Arts Development Fee, Art Collection, and Murals Program. DCA markets the City's cultural events through development and collaboration with strategic partners, design and production of creative promotional materials, and management of the [culturela.org](http://culturela.org) website.

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