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CITY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS LAUNCHES ONLINE ARCHIVE FOR FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT’S HOLLYHOCK HOUSE

This Iconic DCA-Owned Site Joins the UNESCO World Heritage List and is More Accessible Than Ever

Los Angeles, CA — The City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA), with support from the California Arts Council, announces the Hollyhock House Archive. The digital archive, which is free and open to the public, includes 81 works, including remarkable original drawings and plans by Frank Lloyd Wright. The physical archive has over 500 items, which date from 1918 through the early 21st century. The DCA Hollyhock House Archive is available online at: hollyhockhousearchive.org.

Developed to preserve and share historical documents associated with the property, the collection complements the recent UNESCO World Heritage Site Designation. Before or after experiencing the historic house, the public can utilize the online archive to explore the records related to the original construction, renovations, and restorations.

In January 2020 (100 years after Frank Lloyd Wright created his detailed plans for Hollyhock House), DCA makes these resources more accessible than ever by placing the information online. The resulting archive fosters inclusive experiences for visitors of all abilities and levels of interest.

“We are creating a unique, user-friendly, world-class experience at Hollyhock House, both on-site and virtually,” said Councilmember Mitch O’Farrell. "Since the facility was selected as part of a UNESCO World Heritage designation, we are furthering our work to create an architectural centerpiece for the City of Los Angeles. This digital content will only deepen visitor engagement, and I applaud our stewards in the Department of Cultural Affairs for making this happen."

“The Department of Cultural Affairs is thrilled for the opportunity to make this archive material available to those interested in Aline Barnsdall’s vision and Frank Lloyd Wright’s work,” said Danielle Brazell, General Manager of the Department of Cultural Affairs. “Viewing the collection gives anyone interested in the history of the property a deeper understanding.”
Completed in 1921 as the home of noted philanthropist and art collector Aline Barnsdall, the UNESCO-designated Hollyhock House is the first Los Angeles building designed by the famed architect Frank Lloyd Wright. Reopened in February 2015 after an extensive four-year $4.4 million renovation, it stands as the centerpiece of Barnsdall Park, a vibrant twelve-acre cultural campus managed by the Department of Cultural Affairs in the heart of Hollywood.

With the inauguration of the online Hollyhock House Archive we are able to make rare drawings and construction blueprints universally accessible. Now everyone interested in Frank Lloyd Wright may view documents previously available only to scholars,” said Jeffrey Herr, DCA’s Hollyhock House Curator. “Always stretching technology, Frank Lloyd Wright would be delighted with digital technology and the increased dissemination of his work.”

Hollyhock House currently offers self-guided tours, which are open to the public from Thursday through Sunday for a cost of $7 for adults, $3 for seniors/students with identification, and free for children 12 and under. Guided tours are available on Tuesdays and Wednesdays with required reservations. See barnsdall.org/hollyhock-house for more information and tickets.

About the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA)

As a leading, progressive arts, and cultural agency, DCA empowers Los Angeles’ vibrant communities by supporting and providing access to quality visual, literary, musical, performing, and educational arts programming; managing vital cultural centers; preserving historic sites; creating public art; and funding services provided by arts organizations and individual artists.

Formed in 1925, DCA promotes arts and culture as a way to ignite a powerful dialogue, engage LA’s residents and visitors, and ensure LA’s varied cultures are recognized, acknowledged, and experienced. DCA’s mission is to strengthen the quality of life in Los Angeles by stimulating and supporting arts and cultural activities, ensuring public access to the arts for residents and visitors alike.

DCA advances the social and economic impact of arts and culture through grant-making, public art, community arts, and strategic marketing and development. DCA creates and supports arts programming, maximizing relationships with other city agencies, artists, and arts and cultural nonprofit organizations to provide excellent service in neighborhoods throughout Los Angeles.

For more information, please visit culturela.org or follow us on Facebook at facebook.com/culturela; Instagram @culture_la; and Twitter @culture_la.

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