



MEDIA ALERT
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**City of Los Angeles
Department of Cultural Affairs
and
Councilmember O’Farrell
Celebrate and Unveil
Completed Phase 1 Restoration
of
Frank Lloyd Wright’s Iconic Residence A**

Los Angeles - The City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) and Los Angeles City Council President Pro Tempore Mitch O’Farrell, joined by City and community leaders, today celebrated the completion of the first phase of restoration of Frank Lloyd Wright’s landmark Residence A, the extant guest house to Wright’s famed Hollyhock House, which is the first and only UNESCO World Heritage Site in the City of Los Angeles.

“Hollyhock House and Residence A are world-class resources right in our own backyard, which is why the careful restoration of these treasures has been so important,” said Councilmember O’Farrell. “It has been amazing to watch Residence A literally come back to life and shine atop Barnsdall Art Park, one of the jewels of the City’s parks system. With Phase 1 completed, it’s onward to Phase 2 so we can not only celebrate the beauty and grandeur of this building, but also enable all Angelenos to fully access, enjoy, and learn from this priceless piece of history.”

Residence A, completed by Wright in 1921 as a guest house to Hollyhock House, is located in Barnsdall Art Park within the Hollyhock House UNESCO World Heritage Site boundary. It is the first visible element of the Hollyhock House campus upon entrance to the park. The property’s significance extends to its status as both a National Historic Landmark and as Los Angeles Historic Cultural Monument #33. Phase 1 of the Residence A restoration project began in 2017 and cost more than \$5 million from various sources including City dollars, funding from the former Community Redevelopment Agency, and the National Park Service. As part of Phase 1, exterior finishes were meticulously recreated, structural and seismic work was completed, and building systems were improved. The planned

Phase 2 will provide critical interior detailing, furnishings, finishes, and infrastructure repair, as well as exterior landscaping and ADA-commensurate hardscaping needed to re-open the site to the public.

Hollyhock House was Frank Lloyd Wright's first Los Angeles commission and an ode to California's freedom and natural beauty. Built between 1919 and 1921 for Aline Barnsdall, the house introduced young architects Rudolph Schindler and Richard Neutra to Los Angeles. It is a harbinger of California Modernism, which came to include celebrated homes by all three visionaries that continue to impact the direction of residential design.

Both Hollyhock House and Residence A today are curated and operated by DCA. The lead architect and project manager for the restoration was the Bureau of Engineering, with the Department of General Services serving as general contractor. Project Restore, a nonprofit organization, served as grant administrator and restoration manager.

"At 100, this National Historic Landmark is being brought back to its original 1921 design for all to enjoy," said Abbey Chamberlain Brach, DCA's Hollyhock House curator. "With its exterior lovingly restored, Residence A now showcases new facets of Frank Lloyd Wright's work on Olive Hill, as well as the vision Aline Barnsdall and her architect shared for an arts community at Barnsdall Park."

"As lead architects and project manager for the restoration of Frank Lloyd Wright's Residence A, the Bureau of Engineering team has worked tirelessly to bring this cultural and historic monument back to life for the residents of Los Angeles, and for visitors from around the world who come to visit Barnsdall Park and the Hollyhock House complex," said Gary Lee Moore, City Engineer and General Manager for the City of Los Angeles Bureau of Engineering. "We want to thank Councilmember Mitchell O'Farrell, Project Restore, and the Department of Cultural Affairs for their collaboration and commitment to this iconic project."

"As an organization committed to preserving the city's historical landmarks, we're excited to oversee full restoration of Residence A, a beautiful civic treasure," said Ed Avila, president of Project Restore. "We're appreciative of funders like Los Angeles City Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell, the U.S. Department of Interior National Parks Service, and other municipal partners who make this collaboration possible and understand the importance of this work for future generations of Angelenos."

Since taking office in 2013, Councilmember O'Farrell has been one of the City Council's champions of historic preservation, having led the designation of over two dozen Historic-Cultural Monuments in the 13th Council District. O'Farrell took the lead on the completion of the Hollyhock House restoration and grand reopening in 2015, and was instrumental in the UNESCO World Heritage Site designation.

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

As a leading, progressive arts and cultural agency, DCA empowers Los Angeles's 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; performing arts; and strategic marketing, development, design, and digital research. 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.

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