



MEDIA ALERT
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**CITY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS
WILL COMMISSION ARTISTS TO CREATE AND PERFORM
HISTORIC OR ORIGINAL WORKS
IN OBSERVANCE OF
THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LOS ANGELES CIVIL UPRISING
IN THE
LEIMERT PARK CULTURAL HUB**

Los Angeles - The **Department of Cultural Affairs** will commission a total of six playwrights, actors, or spoken word artists to create and perform historic or original works in the **Leimert Park Cultural Hub** from April 29 to May 4 in observance of the 30th anniversary of the civil uprising. The event, ***Voices of the Rebellion: 30th Anniversary Reflections***, in conjunction with: ***Monumental Los Angeles***, a travelling public art installation initiative hosted and supported by Council District 10 and the Department of Cultural Affairs from February through May 2022.

Six live performances will take place in Leimert Plaza Park in front of the installation of Hank Willis Thomas’s ***All Power to All People*** artwork at 3 p.m., approximately the same time the acquittals were announced, for six days – representing the 6 days of the 1992 civil uprising. ***All Power to All People***, a 28-foot-tall Afro pik with a raised fist capping the handle is a symbol of “community, strength, perseverance, comradeship, and belonging” – themes that should be expressed in the proposed theatrical works. Actors will perform monologues, short plays, or poetry not to exceed five minutes in length. Each of the 6 projects will receive an award of \$2,000, consisting of an artist fee and production fee. Applications can be accessed at: <https://culturela.org/calls/leimert-park-cultural-hub-voices-of-the-rebellion/>. DCA committed \$10,000 towards the installation of the monuments for the ***Monumental Los Angeles*** initiative in addition to \$12,000 in commissions to South LA theater artists for programming.

“The Department of Cultural Affairs is honored to observe the anniversary of the civil uprising with the ***Voices of the Rebellion: 30th Anniversary Reflections*** theatrical works that will illumine, elevate, and uplift the community, South LA, and the City of Los Angeles at-large,” said **Daniel Tarica, Interim General Manager of the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs**. “The overarching themes of *Black Pride*, *Black Power* and *Black Joy* informing these works will also

support the ***All Power to All People*** piece now on exhibit in Leimert Plaza Park, and in observance of such a challenging time in our shared history.”

Council District 10 worked with the following LA coalition of community partners to host ***Monumental Los Angeles: LA Commons, Community Coalition (CoCo), Los Angeles Urban League, Big Bowl of Ideas, and Kindred***. The exhibition period offers the opportunity to amplify the work of these pillars of the community.

“As part of our work to recognize and honor the history of our community, we’re proud to welcome the commissioning of these incredible works of performance art. It’s been our priority to work with DCA to promote a bold, diverse, and energetic cultural agenda because the arts not only contribute to the vitality of a community, but also are representative of a living history that informs so much of our world today – especially here in Leimert Park Village,” said **Ibert Schultz, Council District 10 Senior Deputy for Strategic Initiatives**.

ABOUT THE MONUMENTAL TOUR

The ***Monumental Tour*** is a public art exhibition traveling across the domestic United States featuring a rotating cast of American contemporary artists honoring aspects of the African American experience. ***Monumental*** has been touring since 2018. The national civic deployment of these major works used the following criteria: works were offered to BIPOC institutions first and ideally; were placed in proximity to, or directly in, African American communities; and aligned with institutions, organizations, and cultural change makers whose focus was aligned, intentional, and rooted in the uplifting and advancement of the community.

In Los Angeles, ***Monumental Los Angeles*** will be on view through May, 2022, and will feature acclaimed American artists: **Arthur Jafa, Coby Kennedy, Christopher Myers, and Hank Willis Thomas**. Collectively, the works engage with one another in a curated discourse and honor and examine aspects of the African American experience, from the first slaves brought over in the 16th century to the present-day prison pipeline – and the struggle for liberation in between. Individually, each artist’s distinct visual perspective invites the viewer to consider themes such as: Colonization; Oppression; Privilege; Black Middle-Class Labor and the Decline of Industry; Black Pride; Black Power; Black Joy; and Subjugation. The works will be in the following locations:

Leimert Plaza Park - *All Power to All People* (Black Empowerment / Equity Work)

The Coby Center - *Kalief Browder: The Box* (Solitary Confinement / Protest Work)

Benny Potter Park – *Caliban’s Hands* (Colonization / Gentrification Work)

Nate Holden Performing Arts Center - *Big Wheel* (Deindustrialization/ Service Work)

More information on the works can be found at: www.monumentaltour.org.

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; 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.

For more information, please visit culturela.org or follow us on Facebook at: [facebook.com/culturela](https://www.facebook.com/culturela), Instagram [@culture_la](https://www.instagram.com/culture_la), and Twitter [@culture_la](https://twitter.com/culture_la).

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