



MEDIA ALERT
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August 5, 2022

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**City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs
and
Councilmember Mitch O’Farrell
Announce**

Reopening of Frank Lloyd Wright’s Hollyhock House for Public Tours

Los Angeles - The City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) and Los Angeles City Councilmember Mitch O’Farrell will host a ribbon-cutting ceremony to officially reopen Frank Lloyd Wright’s landmark Hollyhock House on Thursday, August 18, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. Hollyhock House is the first-and-only United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Heritage site in Los Angeles. The reopening aligns with the site’s centennial anniversary.

“The Department of Cultural Affairs is thrilled to reopen our City’s one-and-only UNESCO World Heritage site,” said **DCA Interim General Manager Daniel Tarica**. “Visitors will once again be able to appreciate this historic site in-person, including expanded access through our self-guided tour program. Through the pandemic closure, staff have undertaken critical restoration projects and enhanced interpretation of the site – visitors will now see these significant transformations at Hollyhock House and Residence A.”

“Since taking office, my team and I have worked tirelessly to champion and fund the restoration of the Hollyhock House campus,” said **Councilmember Mitch O’Farrell**. “When Hollyhock House was restored in 2015, we reopened this priceless cultural landmark to the public, and I can still remember the excitement felt by so many Angelenos. We’ve now weathered the storm of COVID-19, and I can’t wait to welcome people back to this iconic place – the only UNESCO World Heritage site in the City of Los Angeles.

Beginning Thursday, August 18, 2022, Hollyhock House will be open again for in-person, self-guided tours for the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic began. Offered Thursday through Saturday from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., tours will offer unprecedented access to Hollyhock House’s restored outdoor spaces, showcasing new aspects of Wright’s self-proclaimed “garden house.” Advanced ticket purchase at hollyhockhouse.org is required, and tour capacity is limited.

DCA will also be hosting a Hollyhock House Lawn Party on Saturday, August 20, 2022 from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. This free community event will feature performances from Bob Baker Marionette Theater, music, crafts, and celebratory remarks. Hot dogs, chips, and drinks will be on sale, and FORT: LA is sponsoring 100 free hot dogs (offered first-come-first-serve). The Lawn Party will celebrate the reopening of all DCA facilities in Barnsdall Park including Hollyhock House, the Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery, the Barnsdall Gallery Theatre, the Barnsdall Arts Center, and the Barnsdall Junior Arts Center. For site-specific program details, please visit: culturela.org/cultural-centers.

Through the pandemic closure, the City of Los Angeles has undertaken significant restoration projects at Hollyhock House and Residence A, the Wright-designed guest house in Barnsdall Park. Transformative exterior and structural restoration work on Residence A was completed in December, 2021; restoration of the interior and landscape are now underway. At Hollyhock House, conservation work on the cast stone, art glass windows, woodwork, and landscape has enhanced DCA's interpretation of the site and Wright's original design. New acquisitions and digital resources will now be accessible to onsite visitors, including general park guests who can utilize QR-code-linked resources like the Hollyhock House virtual tour, restoration-highlight videos, and a site welcome from Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell and Curator Abbey Chamberlain Brach.

"A harbinger of California modernism, Hollyhock House continues to inspire artists, architects, and the public at large," according to **Hollyhock House Curator Abbey Chamberlain Brach**. "We're eager to welcome visitors back inside Hollyhock House to experience firsthand Wright's dramatic expression of California, which feels as modern now as it did upon its completion 100 years ago."

About Hollyhock House

Built between 1919 and 1921, Hollyhock House was Frank Lloyd Wright's first Los Angeles commission and an ode to California's freedom and natural beauty. Designed for Aline Barnsdall, the house was intended to be the centerpiece of a 36-acre arts complex, which was only partially realized.

Hollyhock House is a harbinger of California Modernism, inscribed to the UNESCO World Heritage List in July, 2019 along with seven other Wright sites. In 1927, Barnsdall gave Hollyhock House, 12 acres, and the Residence A guest house to the City of Los Angeles. Now with two Wright-designed houses, the Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery, the Barnsdall Gallery Theatre, and the Barnsdall Arts Center and Barnsdall Junior Arts Center – all operated by the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs – Barnsdall Park has become the dynamic arts park that Aline Barnsdall envisioned for Los Angeles.

About Residence A

The Residence A guest house, completed by Frank Lloyd Wright in 1921, is located in Barnsdall 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 is both a National Historic Landmark and a Los Angeles Historic Cultural Monument #33. Phase I of the Residence A restoration project began in 2017 and was supported by over \$5 million in funding from the City, including the former Community Redevelopment Agency, and the National Park Service's Save America's Treasures grant program. As part of Phase I, exterior finishes were meticulously recreated, structural and seismic work was completed, and building systems were improved. Phase II will provide critical interior detailing, built-in furnishings, finishes, and infrastructure repair, as well as exterior landscaping and ADA-commensurate hardscaping needed to reopen the site to the public.

Both Hollyhock House and Residence A today are curated and operated by the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs. The lead architect and project manager for the restoration is the Bureau of Engineering, with the Department of General Services serving as general contractor. Project Restore, a nonprofit organization, serves as grant administrator and restoration manager.

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 30 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, was instrumental in the UNESCO World Heritage Site designation, and secured funding for ongoing the Residence A restoration.

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. 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).

About Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell

Mitch O'Farrell is the President Pro Tempore of the Los Angeles City Council and represents the 13th District, which includes the neighborhoods of Atwater Village, East Hollywood, Echo Park, Elysian Valley, Glassell Park, Historic Filipinotown, Hollywood, Larchmont Village, Little Armenia, Melrose Hill, Rampart Village, Ridgewood-Wilton, Silver Lake, Spaulding Square, St. Andrews Square, Sunset Square, Thai Town, Verdugo Village, Virgil Village, Western-Wilton, Westlake, and Windsor Square.

Since taking office, Councilmember O'Farrell has been active in the field of [historic preservation](#), including the designation of 30 local Historic-Cultural Monuments. With a background in the arts, he has championed arts and cultural projects in the City of Los Angeles, and has worked collaboratively with City departments on improving and restoring Hollyhock House, Residence A, and the Barnsdall Park campus at large. More information can be found at <http://CD13.com>.

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