



A Remarkable Tour of Santa Monica's Sacred Places

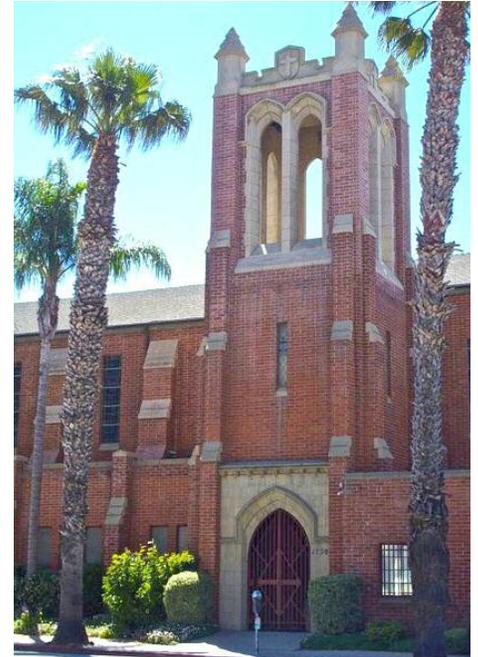
Fifteen historic places of worship throughout Santa Monica will be featured at our annual architectural tour on **Saturday, October 7, from 1-5 pm**. Sacred Places will explore the beauty, history and culture of churches, chapels and a synagogue. Sites were selected for their historical significance, cultural diversity, and location in different parts of the City.

Established in 1875, just months after the City's founding, First United Methodist and First Presbyterian both began as small wooden chapels downtown and later evolved into major modern architectural landmarks. Also downtown, St. Augustine rose from the ashes of a disastrous fire in 1966 that destroyed the original 1887 wooden church. Nearby, St. Peter and St. Paul Coptic Church offers a glimpse into ancient Eastern Orthodox traditions.

Our City's oldest African-American church, Phillips Chapel was founded in 1906. The church adaptively reused a former school building, later remodeled in the 1940s to include commemorative stained glass windows. It was designated as a Santa Monica landmark in 2005 to honor its centennial. The large scale of Calvary Baptist Church, also serving African-Americans, reflects its former mid-City population base prior to construction of the 10 Freeway.

Two churches with predominantly Latino congregations will be featured: Saint Anne, founded in 1908, which has an outdoor shrine; and Iglesia el Sermon del Monte, which meets in a building originally built as a Baptist church in 1919 with magnificent stained glass windows.

This self-driving or biking tour offers sev-
SACRED PLACES continues on page 5



Pilgrim Lutheran Church Photo: Judy Raffel

Santa Monica Conservancy Receives 4th Award for Resource Center

The Santa Monica Conservancy's Preservation Resource Center received one of only two Preservation Awards presented at the 47th Annual Los Angeles Architectural Awards, hosted by the Los Angeles Business Council (LABC) on June 22, at the Beverly Hilton Hotel.

The ceremony honored the Conservancy for its role in saving and rehabilitating a late 1890s Shotgun House, which now serves as a LEED Gold educational center and a model of adap-

tive reuse for the community. The City of Santa Monica, Fonda-Bonardi and Hohman Architects, Historic Resources Group, Minardos Group and FormLA Landscaping were also recognized for the Shotgun House project.

Since opening in 2016, the Preservation Resource Center has welcomed and educated thousands of visitors, and earned awards from the California Preservation Foundation, Los Angeles Conservancy, and Governor's Office.

The Conservancy's Preservation Resource Center was one of 45 winning projects selected from a competitive pool of over 200 projects, ranging from civic buildings and transportation hubs to commercial office and creative retail. Winners were selected by a jury panel representing a cross-section of industry experts, including representatives from top architectural firms, the City of Los Angeles, developers and engineers.

"The honored projects tonight provide a window into the values we hold dear and provide a path forward in how we all can improve our quality of life through beauty, function, and

BUSINESS COUNCIL continues on page 3

Update on the Civic Auditorium & Sports Field

At the June 27 City Council Meeting, Council voted unanimously to support the "temporary" multipurpose sports field in place of the surface parking lot on the Civic Center site and to move forward with the Request for Proposals (RFP) seeking a development team to reimagine, renovate and operate the Civic Auditorium. The motion included a parking study intended to plan for the loss of parking resulting from the addition of the field and an effort to work with current users of the parking, including the Courthouse, and possibly the Coastal Commission to develop alternatives to provide replacement parking as needed. Developing plans for additional field space at Memorial Park was also included.

We are delighted to see the commitment to issue an RFP for the Civic Auditorium reconfirmed. However, the one concern that was not resolved was the softball field overlay proposed in the staff report, pending additional conversations with the school district.

CIVIC AUDITORIUM continues on page 4



The Preservation Resource Center received a Preservation Award from the Los Angeles Conservancy on May 3. Clockwise from top left: Libby Pachares, Ken Breisch, John Zinner, Mario Fonda-Bonardi, Peyton Hall, Kaitlin Drisko, Karen Ginsberg, Carol Lemlein, Hilda Weiss and Susan McCarthy. Photo: Los Angeles Conservancy

Preservation Resource Directory, see page 5

OUR MISSION

The Santa Monica Conservancy is the leading voice for preserving our historic places. We promote understanding of the cultural, social, economic and environmental benefits of historic preservation through education, assistance and advocacy.

JOIN US

The Santa Monica Conservancy exists because of the involvement and generosity of people like you. Become a member today and strengthen our voice for preserving Santa Monica's architectural and cultural heritage.

Membership information is available on p. 7.

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Santa Monica, CA 90406

Visit the Preservation Resource Center:

2520 2nd St., Santa Monica, CA 90405
Open Saturday, Sunday and Wednesday
11 am - 2 pm and by appointment

THE NEWSLETTER STAFF

Amy Green
Tom Hofer
Sherrill Kushner
Ruthann Lehrer
Carol Lemlein
Libby Pachares
Robin Tung
Hilda Weiss

This newsletter is supported in part by a grant from the City of Santa Monica and the Santa Monica Arts Commission.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

It recently occurred to me that 2017 is the Conservancy's 15-year anniversary, and we have been so busy we've hardly made note of it! Volume 1, Number 1 of the newsletter was published in February 2003 with lead articles about the "Homeowner's Freedom of Choice Initiative," which threatened to overturn a significant provision of the Landmarks Ordinance and the important Strick House on La Mesa Drive, the only house in America designed by renowned Brazilian architect Oscar Niemeyer. It had not yet been designated and its future was considered uncertain as a new owner, unaware of the home's significance, planned to demolish it.

The Conservancy's first Board had nine members, with Tom Cleys as President, and elsewhere in the four pages the entirety of 110 individual and member households were listed! These were the Board members at that time:

Ken Breisch	Arlene Hopkins	Bea Nemlaha
Bruce Cameron	Sherrill Kushner	Doris Sosin
Tom Cleys	Lori Nafshun	Pam Vavra

We have come a long way in 15 years. Looking back at just this past year, the very strong historic preservation policies in the recently passed Downtown Community Plan (DCP), is one thing we will remember with great pride. As I mentioned last issue, the DCP proposes the strongest protections yet for the historic downtown buildings identified in the Historic Resource Inventory.

Many members may not be aware of how the Conservancy's Board and Advocacy Committee have worked for years with the Landmarks Commission and staff to make some of these new protections possible. One example is use of the California State Historical Building Code (CHBC), which can save important historic features and provide significant cost savings for property owners. Many project teams have not known the historic code was available to them. Further, when it was requested, expensive delays in project approval often resulted. The new DCP specifies that planning staff will promote and expedite use of the code for HRI-listed properties, wording explicitly requested by the Conservancy.

For instance, without use of the CHBC, the front entrance and interior doorways of the Shotgun House (which meet CHBC requirements for accessibility) would have been required to be reconstructed to meet current code, resulting in increased costs and a loss of historic integrity.

This effort is far from over, however, and you will continue to see our Board and other Conservancy representatives at Landmarks, Planning Commission and Council meetings—the visible “tip of the iceberg” of our advocacy. The next major effort will be the update of the Landmarks Ordinance, which both the Landmarks Commission and the Conservancy have been trying to improve for over a decade.

We do our best to keep up with preservation issues and needs, but your help in identifying concerns and supporting solutions is essential. Thank you for making these successes possible!

Carol Lemlein

Remembering Jeanne Cherry

We are saddened to report the passing of Leadership Circle member Jeanne Cherry and send our heartfelt condolences to her husband Jim and their family.

We first met Jeanne a few years ago when we announced a fundraiser at the 1913 Bundy House, the landmark home of America's first Wimbledon champion, May Sutton Bundy, and her husband, national tennis champion Thomas Bundy.

Jeanne not only attended, but also generously provided historical memorabilia from her own collection and that of the Southern California Tennis Association. She was a wonderful supporter of the Conservancy and her presence will be missed.



Jeanne Cherry (far left) with May Cheney, the granddaughter of May Sutton Bundy, as well as May's husband, Nick Newberry, at the Bundy Salon in 2014. Photo: Rich Schmitt

Shannon Ryan

By Robin Tung



Shannon Ryan discovered her love of preservation and architecture while visiting Roman ruins during childhood visits to see family in Italy. A Santa Monica native, she came to view historic preservation as a tool for

community building and involvement.

With her dual degrees in Urban Design and Architecture Studies and Italian, Shannon has worked for the Los Angeles Conservancy, the Los Angeles Department of City Planning in the Office of Historic Resources, and currently serves as a Planning Development Manager in Mayor Garcetti's Office of Economic Development. She also volunteers as a docent for the Shotgun House.

"I became a Shotgun House docent because I wanted to connect with others about Santa Monica history and architecture, and most im-

portantly, help inform others about historic preservation in a simple and digestible way."

She has advocated for the designation of a number of buildings at Landmarks Commission and Planning Commission meetings. Some of her favorite historic sites in Santa Monica include 423 Ocean, Chez Jay, the Third Street Historic District, the Sovereign Apartments (where she lived for two years), and the Shotgun House. Outside of work and volunteering, she enjoys exploring Los Angeles with her husband and their dog, and learning how to surf.



Hand-drawn Cards at the Shotgun House

Note cards with prints of exquisite line drawings are available for a donation of \$5 at the Shotgun House. The cards feature signature Santa Monica places like the Pier, Incline, and Pergola as well as succulent gardens and coral trees. Printed on parchment-like paper, the note cards (5.5" x 4") come with matching envelopes in packets of 10. The cards were created and generously donated to the Conservancy by local artist Ruth Rosen.

The cards may be purchased during operating hours at the Preservation Resource Center (2520 2nd Street). Proceeds help fund the Conservancy's programs.

Docents Tour Robinson House & Gardens

By Libby Pachares

Docents of the Annenberg Community Beach House had the opportunity to tour the Robinson House and Gardens located in Beverly Hills on Thursday, August 3. The group tour, arranged by Beach House docent Anita Roglich, included a docent-led tour of the property, including the gardens, main house and pool pavilion.

The Virginia Robinson Gardens is a unique historic estate, a cultural jewel that transports the visitor back to the birthplace of Beverly Hills. Built in 1911, it was once the residence of retail giants Virginia and Harry Robinson (of Robinsons Department Store) and now occupies an illustrious place in history as the first luxury estate built in Beverly Hills. Located behind the iconic Beverly Hills Hotel, the beautiful six-acre property contains a breathtaking display garden, mansion and pool pavilion. Both William Randolph Hearst and Marion Davies owned homes nearby.



Annenberg Community Beach House docents visit the Robinson House and Gardens, listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Photo: Ruthann Lehrer

BUSINESS COUNCIL *continued from page 1* public benefit in one of America's most dynamic cities," noted Kai-Uwe Bergmann of the visionary architectural firm BIG, whose projects include Google's California headquarters.

A full list of honorees as well as pictures of the winning projects is available at www.labusinesscouncil.org.

Nick Gabaldon Day



Youth from the Martin Luther King, Jr. Recreation Center celebrated Nick Gabaldon on June 3 at our beach. Photo: Alison Rose Jefferson

Make Music Los Angeles



On June 21, singer/songwriter Cameron Clarke performed at the Shotgun House as part of Make Music Los Angeles, a national day celebrating live music.

Fourth of July Parade



Alec Nedelman, Jean Fleet, Carol Lemlein, Libby Pachares and Margi Falk at the Main Street Parade on Fourth of July.



Photo: Drisko Studio Architects

Drisko Studio Architects Designs Award-Winning Building

Congratulations to our Board secretary, architect Kaitlin Drisko, and her firm Drisko Studio Architects for their design of a new residence hall at Scripps College in Claremont. The residence hall received a 2017 Excellence in Design Award for new construction from the City of Claremont. The project was also awarded LEED Gold certification for its energy-efficiency features. Drisko Studio Architects' design and integration of stonework, wrought iron, and tile paving make the new residence hall reminiscent of the historic campus.

"We are delighted with the design and functionality created by our partner architects Drisko Studio Architects, who also worked closely with student representatives in furnishing the student common areas," noted Dean Calvo, vice president for Business Affairs and treasurer at Scripps.

The City of Claremont's Architectural Commission established the Excellence in Design Awards Program in 1980 to recognize and encourage high-quality design projects. Awards are presented in several categories, including new construction, restoration, landscaping, signs and sustainable development.

CIVIC AUDITORIUM *continued from page 1*

The request to add a softball field overlay to the "temporary" multipurpose sports field at the Civic causes great concern because of its impacts on the landmark Civic Auditorium, which is still without a plan for rehabilitation more than a year after the Civic Working Group made its report to Council. The multipurpose sports field, as defined in the 2005 Civic Center Specific Plan, was intended for sports like soccer that are played on rectangular fields. The softball overlay will add 25% to the area required for the sports fields, moving the boundaries of the field very close to the Auditorium, and includes fencing and containment netting 26 feet high, as well

"Chain Reaction" Statue Rededicated

"Chain Reaction," the first public work of art designated as a historic landmark in Santa Monica, was rededicated on June 26, on the eve of what would have been Paul Conrad's birthday. Conrad was the Pulitzer Prize-winning, *L.A. Times* cartoonist who designed, sculpted and gifted the statue to the city of Santa Monica.

The 26-foot tall mushroom cloud made of copper and steel chains was installed in 1991 on the lawn of our Civic Center as a hope for nuclear disarmament. Unfortunately, in recent years it was discovered that the steel frame skeleton was corroded and the anchor bolts holding the statue to its base weakened. "Chain Reaction" was saved by local peace activist Jerry Rubin, David Conrad, Paul Conrad's son, and local activists and community members. With funds raised by the activists, the statue has been strengthened and is surrounded by a new Peace Garden with solar lights.



Activists and community members celebrating "Chain Reaction" in the Peace Garden.
Photo: Save Chain Reaction

SACRED PLACES *continued from page 1*

eral designated check-in locations. Visitors will be provided a map and detailed brochure to select sites to see, as time may not permit visiting all 15 locations. Tickets are \$25 for members and \$30 for the public. Tickets may be purchased online at www.smconservancy.org, or by sending a check to P.O. Box 653, Santa Monica, CA 90406. Please indicate the number of tickets you desire and whether you are a Conservancy member, and include your address, email and telephone number.

LIST OF TOUR SITES:

- First Presbyterian, 1220 2nd St.
- Iglesia el Sermon del Monte, 2nd and Hill Sts.

- Church in Ocean Park, 235 Hill St.
- Saint Peter & Saint Paul, 1245 4th St.
- Saint Augustine By-the-Sea, 1227 4th St.
- Saint Monica Catholic Community, 725 California Ave.
- Saint Paul's Lutheran, 958 Lincoln Blvd.
- First United Methodist, 1008 11th St.
- Unitarian Universalist Community, 1260 18th St.
- Pilgrim Lutheran, 1730 Wilshire Blvd.
- Beth Shir Shalom, 1827 California Ave.
- Phillips Chapel, 2001 4th St.
- Mt. Olive Lutheran, 1343 Ocean Park Blvd.
- Saint Anne Church & Shrine, 2011 Colorado Ave.
- Calvary Baptist, 1502 Colorado Ave.

as chain-link protected dugouts and bullpens. The visual impact of such a field on the landmark structure seems totally inappropriate, and it would place additional limitations on the space available for shared use by a revitalized Civic Auditorium.

It seemed clear that all Council members saw the placement of the softball addition to the temporary field at the Civic, even temporarily, as a negative impact, but they supported further conversations with the school district regarding the need and district funding of the additional expense. The Conservancy will remain concerned about the potential negative impact on the future of the Civic Auditorium until a different site is found for the softball field.



The Civic Center Specific Plan envisioned a multi-use Civic Auditorium Park with a soccer field (1) at the corner of 4th and Pico.



Homeowner Steve Glenn talks about the construction and design of the first LivingHome.



Party planner Phyllis Conkle and volunteer Ursula Kress.



Carol Lemlein, Steve Glenn and Diane Miller. Photos: Kristina Sado

Sustainable Design Featured at Fall Salon

The Conservancy’s Annual Salon was held on June 10 and generously hosted by homeowner Steve Glenn. Guests toured his Landmark of the Future, a spectacular Ray Kappe-designed home. Delicious hors d’oeuvres and wine were served and Steve Glenn gave a talk about the design and construction of his pre-fabricated home.

The Conservancy is grateful for party planner Phyllis Conkle for helping to create this beautiful event with program chair Ruthann Lehrer, and board member Michael Folonis

for the design of the invitation. Thanks also to our volunteers Jason Cagan, Diane Citron, Phillis Dudick, Jan Jackson, Tim Kline, Jane Koehler, Ursula Kress, Morris Kushner, Fran Lyness, Sara Meric, Diane Miller, Libby Motika, Anita Roglich, Kristin Shank, Robin Tung, and Kristina Sado of Sadofoto for her photography. Finally, we thank our donors Diane Citron, Mario Fonda-Bonardi, Sherrill Kushner, and Nora Lerer. Funds raised at the Salon are dedicated to the Conservancy’s educational and outreach programs.

What’s Blooming at the Shotgun House Garden?

The garden at the Shotgun House is in full bloom, and the colors are vibrant—fired Zauschernia, dazzling purple Coyote Mint, snowy white Seaside daisies, and variegated greens. Summer is an especially good time to visit the garden as the warm sun brings out the resinous, flavorful aromas of the sages and yarrows. The butterflies are enjoying the garden, too. We’ve seen Cabbage Whites, Swallowtails, and Monarchs, and have even discovered a Monarch caterpillar on one of the milkweed plants.

The lush foliage of the redbud and native plants provide oxygen and cool the Shotgun House and its surroundings. FormLA Landscaping notes that the garden also “offers a visual reprieve between the paved, commercial area and a residential community.” Additionally, the plants and soil filter rainwater and runoff, which protects Santa Monica’s ocean. And because the garden is completely organic and does not rely on chemical fertilizers or pesticides, it creates zero pollutants to the community.

To discover more about how the plants help cool the house and the landscaping works to recycle water, or about the names of flowers and plants at the garden, go to www.smconservancy.org.



A Cabbage White butterfly rests after sampling nectar from Coyote Mint blossoms in the Shotgun House Garden.

Preservation Resource Directory Now Online

Our new Preservation Resource Directory lists businesses and craftspeople who specialize in providing goods and services for historic preservation. Our Directory encourages appropriate rehabilitation and renovation of historic structures. Our list includes current Conservancy business members, professionals who have provided goods and services in the rehabilitation of our Shotgun House or were involved in projects receiving the Conservancy’s Preservation Awards, and referrals from owners of historic properties.

We invite Conservancy members to help us expand the directory with member referrals based on successful projects. Conservancy business members are also invited to apply for a complimentary listing. Businesses that apply to be in the Directory will be asked to provide a referral from at least one client or professional who has worked with them on a preservation project.

What are the benefits of being listed? Businesses will be featured on the Conservancy website, which receives over 1,100 unique visitors monthly. The Directory will also be promoted on the Conservancy’s popular Facebook page where individual posts can reach over 2,000 users at a time.

The Conservancy does not guarantee the work and products of those listed in the directory. Users of the directory are encouraged to review licenses, insurance coverages, references and customer ratings. Consulting with the City of Santa Monica staff for approvals may also be necessary before starting a preservation project. Applications and referral forms can be found at www.smconservancy.org.

Landmarks Commission Report

By Amy Green, Commissioner

Each Landmarks Commission meeting begins with a historic exploration of a physical or built detail unique to Santa Monica. The history of accessing the Santa Monica Beach was the topic of the July meeting. Commissioner Margaret Bach addressed the natural and man-made access points that have led residents and visitors to Santa Monica's sandy shores since the late 19th century. Bach's presentation encouraged more questions than answers as she appealed to Santa Monica residents and patrons to share any information they might have about the history of the stairs, inclines and overpasses leading to the beach.

The Commission reviewed demolition permits, considered the potential designations of Landmark Structures, and approved Certificates of Appropriateness for two historic properties. All of 909-911 Montana Avenue has been landmarked; this includes two multi-residential buildings and one commercial structure as well as the land on which they are sited. This property is both unique in its blending of Streamline Moderne and Spanish Revival architecture and a representative example of a



927 Ocean Avenue in Santa Monica

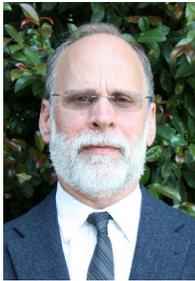
1940s mixed-use property that reflects both multi-family residential and commercial development on the Wilshire and north of Montana areas of Santa Monica.

The second newly designated property, 927 Ocean Avenue, was built in 1922 and is a rare example of a 1920s Mediterranean Revival apartment hotel built for the early tourism industry. After thorough research and evaluation, Planning Department staff concluded that the apartment hotel exemplified, symbolized, or manifested "elements of the cultural, social, economic, political or architectural history of the City." Originally constructed as an apartment hotel, it illustrates major patterns in the development of Santa Monica's business and architectural history and is now an apartment house.

New Landmarks Commissioner Appointed

By Sherrill Kushner

Retired senior land use attorney Barry Rosenbaum was recently appointed for a four-year term to the City's Landmarks Commission, replacing John Berley who was termed out. For more than 30 years, Rosenbaum worked for the City of Santa Monica, initially as a City Deputy Attorney with a specialty



in defending the City against constitutional, land use, and rent control challenges, and later as an adviser to the City Council and City boards and commissions, particularly in the areas of planning and land use, historic preservation, housing policies, constitutional law and ethics. He has been a member of many national nonprofit organizations, including those that focus on environmental issues and civil rights.

"Now that I am retired . . . I have the opportunity to give back to the community in ways not previously possible. I view serving on the Landmarks Commission as one significant way to do this," Rosenbaum states. "I have long-rec-

ognized the importance of protecting the City's resources representative of its cultural, social, economic, political, aesthetic, and architectural history, thereby effectively preserving the stories of past generations," adds Rosenbaum.

He is one of seven members on the Landmarks Commission. Commissioners Amy Beth Green and Richard Brand, AIA, were also recently appointed for full terms. Their profiles appeared in our March 2017 issue.

Fall Lectures

On Saturday, September 16, from 3-4 pm, Richard Orton will discuss the colorful, and at times, notorious history of Ocean Park. His lecture on the neighborhood's transformation will be hosted by the Ocean Park Library (2601 Main St., Santa Monica).

On Saturday, October 21, from 3:30-4:30 pm, Michael Burton will present early Santa Monica history, including early native settlements, the City's founding, and the events leading up to the first lot sales in Santa Monica. "Early Lot Sales" will be hosted at the Santa Monica History Museum (1350 7th St., Santa Monica).

The lectures are free and seating is available on a first-come, first-served basis.

2017 FALL PRESERVATION EVENTS

TOUR

Modern by Moonlight

FRIDAYS, SEPTEMBER 8, 15, 22, 29

7:00 - 9:00 PM

Take a 2-hour evening stroll through downtown Los Angeles to take in the architecture, public art, and plazas of the Bunker Hill area.

Los Angeles Conservancy

(213) 623-2489

www.laconservancy.org

TOUR

Neon Bus Cruise

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

7:00 - 10:00 PM

Take a narrated bus tour of neon signs, movie marquees and permanent installations of contemporary neon art through Downtown, Chinatown and Hollywood, placing them within the context of 20th century Los Angeles cultural history.

Museum of Neon Art

(818) 696-2149

www.neonmona.org

TOUR

Journeys: LA Communities through the Eyes of Artists

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

10:30 - 11:30 AM

Join artists Jane Gillespie Pryor, Aaron Rivera and Edith Waddell on this art tour of Union Station. In the tradition of colorful travel destination posters, the artwork on this tour highlights lesser known neighborhoods within Los Angeles County.

Los Angeles Metro

(323) 466-3876

www.metro.net

ART WALK

Muertos Art Walk

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15

10:00 AM - 7:00 PM

Explore over 30 local artists selling original artwork, clothing, jewelry, and creating awareness to keep cultural traditions alive in Los Angeles.

Olvera Street Merchants Association Foundation

(213) 628-1274

www.calleolvera.com

TOUR

Angelino Heights Walking Tour

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Discover the architecture and rich history of this charming Victorian neighborhood east of Echo Park and south of Dodger Stadium.

Los Angeles Conservancy

(213) 623-2489

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- Ronald & Guin Lyster
- Christine Mathieson
- Suzanne & Stuart Schweitzer
- David Selna
- Tabit Ventures — Mark & Jill Tabit
- Paul Youngborg
- Tom Zanich & Jo Anne Yokota

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SACRED PLACES TOUR



Tiffany stained glass depicting the Angel Gabriel at First Presbyterian.

A rare opportunity to experience the extraordinary architecture and history of 15 sacred places of worship in Santa Monica.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7 • 1-5 PM

Advance tickets: \$25 members and \$30 public

At check-in: \$30 member and \$35 public

Purchase today at www.smconservancy.org.

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