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GRAND PARK'S FALL AND WINTER SEASON OFFERS FREE EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES THAT UNITE ANGELENOS

-- Popular Events from Years Past Top the List of Grand Park's Fall and Winter Programming --

LOS ANGELES (August 16, 2016) – [The Music Center](#) today announced [Grand Park's](#) fall and winter season with free programming that includes the return of the park's most popular events and offers Angelenos the opportunity to come together as a community to share cultural experiences and celebrate with one another. The season's highlights include the return of Grand Park's Downtown Día de los Muertos, the California Community Foundation's "We Are Los Angeles" public art exhibit, Grand Park's Light Up the Holidays, and the park's annual, highly popular New Year's Eve celebration, Grand Park + The Music Center's N.Y.E.L.A.

"Grand Park was founded as the park for everyone and, in just a few short years, has become a popular gathering place for Angelenos from all over the County," said Rachel Moore, president and CEO of The Music Center. "The events and activities planned for this fall and winter offer our community a number of opportunities to come together, experience many traditions and cultures, and continue to build bonds that can further unite us all," she added.

Lucas Rivera, director of Grand Park, offered, "This fall and winter, we are bringing back some of Grand Park's most beloved events. From Grand Park's Noche de Ofrenda to *¡LUNCHTIME!* yoga and Grand Park + The Music Center's N.Y.E.L.A., Angelenos can come to Grand Park knowing they will be entertained and have the opportunity to share memorable experiences with their families and friends," he explained.

The fall and winter programming line-up includes:

Grand Park & Ryman Arts Present Make Your Mark in the Park *Sunday, October 2, 2016 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.*

For the fifth year in a row, Grand Park and Ryman Arts team up to present the flagship event for The Big Draw LA – Make Your Mark in the Park. This free fun-filled, public drawing celebration brings together families, seniors and art lovers, as well as people who like to draw along with those who think they cannot, to participate in an array of hands-on, collaborative drawing activities of every level. Grand Park will be transformed into a giant experimental drawing studio with activities that explore traditional and alternative mark-making. Guests can experiment with colored tape to create giant geometric patterns along the sidewalks and collaborate to create and share comics, masks and banners. All art materials are provided free of charge.

Grand Park's Downtown Día de los Muertos

Grand Park's Noche de Ofrenda

Saturday, October 29, 2016; 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

For the fourth year in a row, Grand Park will partner with Self-Help Graphics & Art to present a traditional Noche de Ofrenda ceremony honoring the dead and featuring prayer led by the local indigenous community. In addition to enjoying performances by traditional dancers representing the Aztecan, Oaxacan and Michoacán traditions, as well as Los Angeles-based poets and musicians, the event will unveil a master altar created by master altar maker Ofelia Esparaza. The event kicks off the official unveiling of Grand Park's Día de los Muertos altars and art installations developed by local artists and community groups.

Grand Park Día de los Muertos Altars

October 30, 2016 – November 5, 2016

Grand Park celebrates the traditions of Día de los Muertos with multiple ways to experience and learn about the holiday. In partnership with Self-Help Graphics & Art, the park will present 35 altars and art installations created by local artists and community groups in honor of Día de los Muertos. The altars, which will remain in the park all week long, will focus on themes that impact local communities. Altar subjects range from personal stories that celebrate families and lost loved ones, to more contemporary expressions of current affairs and community challenges, such as gang violence, immigration reform and education.

The park will also honor Oaxacan Día de los Muertos traditions by paying special tribute to Los Angeles' Oaxacan community. Much of the now highly recognizable celebratory elements of the holiday are rooted in the Oaxacan approach, specifically the creation of altars and sugar skulls. The park will also feature various floral- and color-themed Altar-Ofrendas celebrating the traditional city plaza installations closely associated with Oaxacan customs surrounding the holiday.

The park will offer free lunchtime tours, which will highlight the artwork and discuss the traditions of the holiday.

California Community Foundation's "We Are Los Angeles" Public Art Exhibit at Grand Park

November 12-17, 2016

Working closely with The Music Center, The California Community Foundation (CCF) will present *We Are Los Angeles*, a six-day art exhibit in Grand Park featuring 30 unique angel sculptures created by local artists. A re-envisioning of the angels public art project from 2000, *We Are Los Angeles* aims to activate civic pride among Angelenos. The exhibit is organized by the CCF as the culmination event of its year-long centennial celebration. For 100 years, CCF has aimed to create positive change in Los Angeles County through the arts, civic engagement, education, health, housing, immigrant integration, youth empowerment and more.

Grand Park Lights Up the Holidays

November 28, 2016 – December 25, 2016

Grand Park will magically come alive with park-inspired holiday décor for the holidays with a 45-foot tree as a highlight.

Grand Park + The Music Center's N.Y.E.L.A.

Saturday, December 31, 2016 8:00 p.m. – January 1, 2017; 1:00 a.m.

For the fourth year, Grand Park's N.Y.E.L.A. will be the go-to central gathering place in Los Angeles where Angelenos from all over the County ring in the New Year. This unique civic event, which has been recognized alongside major New Year's Eve celebrations around the world, brings Angelenos and their family and friends together around the common purpose of looking forward to the future. Grand Park's N.Y.E. LA will include music, dancing, large-scale art installations and a unique only-in-Los Angeles New Year's countdown, featuring 3-D digital video mapping on the side of the iconic City Hall with an integrated light show.

-- more --

Returning Grand Park Favorites:

¡LUNCHTIME! Food Trucks

Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays; 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Lunch trucks on Olive Court (between Grand Avenue and Hill Street) & the Marketplace (between Spring Street and Broadway)

With more than 45,000 lunches sold in the park just last year, Grand Park continues its tradition of lunchtime in the park by providing downtowners and park visitors a wide variety of food trucks three days per week. Trucks are parked in two locations in the park: on Olive Court, between Grand Avenue and Hill Street, and in the Marketplace, between Broadway and Spring Street.

¡LUNCHTIME! Yoga reTREAT

Wednesdays and Fridays, November 2, 2016-May 31, 2017; 12:15p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Grand Park's popular yoga sessions return, giving participants the opportunity to relax, rejuvenate and re-energize.

For more information about free fall and winter programming at Grand Park, visit grandparkla.org. Follow Grand Park on Facebook (GrandParkLosAngeles), as well as Twitter, Instagram and Snapchat (@GrandPark_LA).

About Grand Park

A vibrant outdoor gathering place, Grand Park is a beautiful public park for the entire community in Los Angeles County. With expansive green space for gatherings large and small, Grand Park celebrates the county's cultural vitality and is host to community events, cultural experiences, holiday celebrations, and many other activities that engage and attract visitors from all communities. The 12-acre Grand Park stretches from The Music Center on the west to City Hall on the east and is easily accessible by Metro via the Red/Purple line to the Civic Center/Grand Park station. The park was named one of American Planning Association's 10 "Great Public Spaces" in the U.S. for 2013. Working closely with the county, The Music Center is responsible for all operations and programming for the park. For more information, visit grandparkla.org. Follow Grand Park on Facebook (GrandParkLosAngeles), as well as Twitter, Instagram and Snapchat (@GrandPark_LA).

About The Music Center

The Music Center is LA's home to the world's greatest artistic programs and events. With four iconic theaters and four renowned resident companies – Center Theatre Group, the LA Master Chorale, the LA Opera and the LA Philharmonic – and recognized for its illustrious dance programming, Gloriosa Kaufman Presents Dance at The Music Center, The Music Center is a destination where audiences find inspiration in the very best of live performance, as well as nationally recognized arts education and participatory arts experiences. The Music Center also programs and manages Grand Park, a 12-acre adjacent greenspace, with year-round free programming. For more information, visit musiccenter.org. Follow The Music Center on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Snapchat (@MusicCenterLA).