





Contact:
Sabrina Skacan
213-972-3332
sskacan@musiccenter.org
Artist Photos available

GRAND PARK + THE MUSIC CENTER'S 4TH OF JULY BLOCK PARTY: HOME EDITION TO BE BROADCAST ON ABC7/KABC-TV LOS ANGELES WITH CONTINUED PROGRAMMING STREAMED VIA GRAND PARK'S AND THE MUSIC CENTER'S DIGITAL PLATFORMS

Rapper D Smoke Headlines Event Along with Performances by San Cha, Amindi and Ginger Root, Plus Stand-Up Routine from Comedy Collective Filipino AF, Cooking Demo by Chef Jocelyn Ramirez of Todo Verde Restaurant and Profiles of L.A. Personalities such as Danny Trejo, Susan Feniger, Mikey Alfred and More, Sharing Stories of Community Pride

The Annual Event Will Televise Live on July 4, 2020 on ABC7 (7:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m.) and LA 36 and Grand Park's and The Music Center's Digital Streaming Platforms (8:00 p.m.–10:00 p.m.)

LOS ANGELES (June 24, 2020)—For the first time, the eighth annual <u>Grand Park + The Music</u> <u>Center's 4th of July Block Party: Home Edition</u> has partnered with ABC7/KABC-TV Los Angeles, Southern California's most-watched television station, to broadcast the first hour of the highly popular celebration on Saturday, July 4, (7:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m. PDT) on ABC7. Viewers can also stream the first hour live on <u>abc7.com</u> and <u>ABC7's Connected TV Apps</u>. The special will simulcast on L.A. County's public access Channel 36 and will continue with expanded programming streamed from 8:00 p.m.—10:00 p.m. PDT on Grand Park's and The Music Center's digital channels. The event is hosted by ABC7 Eyewitness News anchor Coleen Sullivan, who will be joined throughout the special by Eyewitness Newsmakers' host Adrienne Alpert, and community journalists Sophie Flay, Ashley Mackey and Eric Resendiz</u>.

In line with Grand Park's mission to honor the County's cultural diversity through programming reflective of the "park for everyone," *Grand Park + The Music Center's 4th of July Block Party: Home Edition* will feature performances and profiles of more than 25 local artists and community partners representing the vitality of Los Angeles. While the family-friendly, free event pivoted to online platforms due to restrictions limiting large public gatherings, it will now also be accessible to television audiences through this unique partnership. The park will remain open on July 4th as it has been a central site for civil demonstrations; however, there will be no programming available in the park or the traditional fireworks show.

Rapper and songwriter <u>D Smoke</u> (née Daniel Anthony Farris) will headline the event, performing songs from his debut album, *Black Habits*. The Inglewood native was the winner of Netflix's music competition show *Rhythm & Flow* in 2019. Additional music performances will include Latinx soulstress <u>San Cha</u>, bedroom pop singer <u>Ginger Root</u> and dancehall newcomer <u>Amindi</u>. The line-up also includes Filipino American comedians from <u>Filipino AF</u> performing improv and sketch routines (digital only) as well as a plant-based Street Tacos cooking demonstration from <u>Chef Jocelyn Ramirez</u>, owner of East L.A.'s Todo Verde. The remainder of the program features the viewpoints of L.A.-based personalities sharing their personal stories and cultural perspectives of what it means to be an Angeleno. To get the party started, Grand Park will also host two 50-minute DJ sets on Wednesday, July 1, 2020, starting at 5:00 p.m. with <u>143 Worldwide</u> and the vibrant tones of R&B (DJ Jadaboo), followed by <u>Cumbiatón</u> and the rhythms of Cumbia at 6:00 p.m. (DJs Sizzle Fantastic and Funky Carmelo); each set will be streamed on <u>Grand Park's</u> <u>Mixcloud</u> channel.

"For seven years, *Grand Park + The Music Center's Fourth of July Block Party* has provided a space where neighbors from across Los Angeles were welcomed and invited to lift one another up through music, dancing and art," said Rachel S. Moore, president and CEO of The Music Center. "We may not be able to gather physically this year, but we can still bring a sense of unity to this virtual event, and appreciate the power of the arts to heal, connect and celebrate the diversity in our County."

"Grand Park is heeding the call as L.A.'s central gathering place by providing a virtual platform of joy, cultural expression, reflection and community on July 4th," said Julia Diamond, director, Grand Park. "Grand Park + The Music Center's 4th of July Block Party: Home Edition was curated to amplify voices of the multiple artists, perspectives, experiences and neighborhoods from among the many who make up one Los Angeles."

The virtual celebration is intended to help ensure the public's safety and well-being as Grand Park follows sound public health practices to slow the community transmission of COVID-19 in Los Angeles County.

<u>Grand Park + The Music Center's 4th of July Block Party: Home Edition Highlights:</u>

KABC-TV Broadcast Hosts

• Members of the Eyewitness News Team will host and introduce Grand Park's performances and profiles featured during the 7:00 p.m. broadcast on ABC7. Eyewitness News Anchor Coleen Sullivan will host

the event and will be joined by Eyewitness Newsmakers' host <u>Adrienne Alpert</u>, and community journalists <u>Sophie Flay</u>, <u>Ashley Mackey</u>, and <u>Eric Resendiz</u>.

Music

- Rapper and songwriter <u>D Smoke</u> (née Daniel Anthony Farris) headlines the eighth annual *Grand Park + The Music Center's 4th of July Block Party: Home Edition,* performing songs from his debut album, *Black Habits*. The artist also chats about growing up in L.A. as well as how his education background and being a school teacher has influenced his career. (Headline Performance and Profile)
- 21-year old singer artist <u>Amindi</u>, who takes pride in her Jamaican heritage and Inglewood neighborhood, made her mark with the 2017 release of "Pine & Ginger," which garnered 25 million streams. While discussing her views on the 4th of July and her support of equality and justice efforts, Amindi also performs songs including her newest single, "Love Em Leave Em." (Profile and Performance)
- Editing films, videos and other multimedia by day, and making music under the name <u>Ginger Root</u> by night, Cameron Lew fronts a sound described as "Aggressive Elevator Soul". Lew discusses his Chinese American heritage, growing up in Orange County and how everything from Philly sounds to Soul Stax helped influence his cool groovy music style. (Performance and Profile)
- A five-resident artist collective, <u>Cumbiatón</u> was founded in Boyle Heights and focuses on creating a safe space for Women of Color and Queer and Trans People of Color DJ's and community. Sizzle Fantastic talks how Cumbiatón welcomes and celebrates those who have been most marginalized. (July 1st Performance; July 4th Profile)
- Founded in 2013 with DJs Partytime, siik, and SOSUPERSAM, 143 Worldwide's parties have gone global, mixing love songs and R&B. The group takes their "1-4-3" name directly from the 90s pager code for "I love you;" Cody Debacker (aka Partytime) and Samantha Duenas (aka SOSUPERSAM) chat why they encourage everyone to join their music party. (July 1st Performance; July 4th Profile)
- With a striking stage presence, Los Angeles' singer-songwriter <u>San Cha</u> spans Cumbia, Punk Bolero, Electro and traditional Mexican Rancheras. A powerful voice for Queer Latinx identity, San Cha discusses familia, acceptance and inequality before performing her song, "Capricho Del Diablo" acapella. (Profile and Performance)
- A fixture of the L.A. radio scene, <u>Sérgio Mielniczenko</u> has been the longtime host of two shows, the
 "Brazilian Hour" on KXLU and "Global Village Friday's" on KPFK. Speaking about COVID-19 and the Black
 Lives Matter movement from a Brazilian viewpoint, Mielniczenko also muses on the healing powers of
 music and his 40-year career as a cultural contributor in Los Angeles. (Profile)
- GRAMMY®-nominated <u>Thalma de Frietas</u> is a multidisciplinary artist, performer and composer from Rio de Janeiro, known for her genre-bending mix of Brazilian traditions, pop, jazz and Latin music. Now based locally, de Frietas talks about the intersections of Brazilian music, culture and current events in Los Angeles. (Profile)

Comedy Sketch

• Comedy variety show <u>Filipino AF</u> entertains viewers with Improv, sketch and stand-up routines about Filipino American identity and life in Los Angeles. (Digital Performance only)

Food Personalities

- Started by Lorenzo and Danny Cerda, <u>Cerda Vega</u> is known for its homemade Birria de Res and Mexican French Dip. The popular food truck chefs discuss how their mobile catering business has survived the COVID-19 pandemic while helping the community and feeding first responders. (Profile)
- A cookbook author and restaurateur, <u>Susan Feniger's</u> career spans decades in L.A. with the opening of her signature restaurant, Border Grill, and other ventures with business partner Mary Sue Milliken. On July 4th, Feniger chats about the beautiful food evolution in Los Angeles. (Profile)

- Husband and wife, Johneric and Christine Concordia, talk about their restaurant, <u>The Park's Finest</u>, based in Historic Filipinotown, and discuss their love for the community and support of frontliners during this time of COVID-19 through The Feed the Frontliners Project. (Profile)
- <u>Chef Jocelyn Ramirez</u> founded Todo Verde in 2015 with a mission to create delicious and healthy plant-based food inspired by her Mexican and South American roots for the Eastside community. Chef Ramirez talks about Mexican Vegan food and the beauty of changing one's lifestyle before demonstrating how to make Street Tacos & Three Sisters Salad (Las Tres Hermanas in Chipotle) from her cookbook *La Vida Verde*. (Cooking Demonstration)
- <u>Sarintip "Jazz" Singsanong</u> immigrated to the United States in 1979 with only \$200 in her pockets. Twenty-seven years later, she and her late brother, Suthiporn "Tui" Sungkamee, transformed Hollywood's Jitlada into a cult following, specializing in spicy Southern Thai cooking. Jazz talks about living the American Dream and living her mantra: Since she is blessed, she needs to bless others with her gifts. (Profile)

Hollywood

- Hailing from North Hollywood, film director and fashion designer <u>Mikey Alfred</u> speaks about his fashion line, which brings awareness to racism and a need for change and his hope for his fellow Millennials to lead the way. (Profile)
- Known for his many roles in films, <u>Danny Trejo</u> is also a producer and entrepreneur as the owner of Trejo's Tacos and Trejo's Coffee & Donuts. The community leader chats about Los Angeles through his eyes, the strength and characteristics of Angelenos as well as what it was like for him growing up in LA. (Profile)

Literature

- Fifteen-year-old <u>Zoie Brogdon</u> is a young equestrian champion and member of the Compton JR. Posse and aspiring poet. From her View Park home, Brogdon reflects on her generation's fears and hopes for a new day with the recitation of her poem, "Melanin". (Profile)
- <u>Luis J. Rodriguez</u> was the official Poet Laureate of Los Angeles from 2014 to 2016 and is the founder of
 Tia Chucha's Centro Cultural & Bookstore in the San Fernando Valley. An arts advocate and community
 healer, Rodriguez recites his poem, "Love Poem To L.A.," which reflects on the city's external and
 internal beauty and how to love the good, the bad and the ugly of Los Angeles. (Poetry Reading)

Photography

- <u>B+</u> (née Brian Cross), a legendary Hip Hop photographer from Ireland, talks about the power of photos to tell a story and how they have the power to shape narratives, especially during the times of revolution. (Profile)
- Estevan Oriol discusses Los Angeles through his eyes and how his work as a photographer and director have intertwined with L.A. identity, Hip Hop culture and familia. (Profile)

Visual Arts

- The <u>Chinese American Museum</u> (CAM) is an L.A. landmark located in the El Pueblo de Los Angeles
 Historic Monument. As the first museum in Southern California dedicated to the Chinese American
 experience in this state, CAM Board members Gay Yuen and Paula Madison share the importance of
 recognizing how racism has impacted both Black Americans and Chinese/Asian Americans and the need
 for unity across communities to affect change and understanding. (Profile)
- Shepard Fairey, best known for his famous rendition of Andre the Giant, is a muralist and graphic artist who constantly shifts between political art, street art, fine art and more. Fairey discusses how his 20-year career span living in L.A. and the abundance of different cultures that call L.A. home have influenced his art and informed his activism. (Profile)

- Born in Pasadena with a Filipino, Mexican and Native American background, artist <u>Patrick Martinez</u> uses various mediums such as graffiti, painting, ceramic, sculpture and neon to interpret everyday realities. From his studio, Martinez talks about his inspiration through Tupac Shakur's connection to L.A. and the strength of the arts to heal our communities while showing his recent art depicting inner city communities. The Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture recently acquired one of his pieces. (Profile and Artwork)
- Based in Venice, graffiti artist <u>Jules Muck</u> discusses Los Angeles through her eyes, protests and how her
 work as a muralist has become synonymous with some of the most polarizing events in recent times.
 She'll also display her most recent works focusing on the death of Lakers legend Kobe Bryant and
 Minneapolis resident George Floyd. (Profile and Artwork)

Perspectives

• People on the street interviews feature different perspectives of everyday people, including a high school teacher from Venice High School and a protestor from Compton, among others, plus what it means to grow up as a Black child according to 13-year-old Aedan McDaniels.

Calendar Listings

Where:

KABC-TV, Channel 7

LA36

Facebook Live (@GrandParkLosAngeles and @MusicCenterLA)

Grandparkla.org

Musiccenter.org

When:

Saturday, July 4, 2020 7:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m. (ABC7 and LA Channel 36 broadcast) 8:00 p.m.–10:00 p.m. (Grand Park and Music Center digital channels)

For updated information, visit <u>grandparkla.org</u> and <u>july4.grandparkla.org</u>. 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).

^{*}Artists and performances are subject to change.

About The Music Center

The Music Center convenes artists, communities and ideas with the goal of deepening the cultural lives of every resident in Los Angeles County. The non-profit performing arts organization has two divisions: TMC Arts and TMC Ops. TMC Arts, The Music Center's programming engine, provides year-round programming inside The Music Center's four theatres, on The Music Center Plaza, outside at Grand Park—a 12-acre adjacent green space—in schools and other locations all over Los Angeles County and on a digital platform called The Music Center Offstage. TMC Arts presents world-class dance with *Glorya Kaufman Presents Dance at The Music Center*, free and low-cost public concerts and events, as well as K–12 arts education programs along with workshops, performances, interactive experiences and special events on *The Music Center Offstage*. TMC Ops manages the theatres, the Plaza and Grand Park on behalf of the County of Los Angeles. The Music Center is also home to four renowned resident companies—Center Theatre Group, Los Angeles Master Chorale, LA Opera and LA Phil. For more information, visit musiccenter.org. Follow The Music Center on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter @MusicCenterLA.

About KABC Los Angeles

ABC7 Los Angeles is Southern California's No. 1 local news and information source. ABC7 is a leader in digital and social audience engagements and was the first station in the Los Angeles market to regularly broadcast news in high definition and also the first local television station in the United States to surpass 2 million Facebook followers. The station's offices and studio are located in Glendale, California.

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/abc7la/

Twitter: https://twitter.com/ABC7

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/ABC7/

KABC-TV Los Angeles is a Media Partner of Grand Park + The Music Center's 4th of July Block Party: Home Edition

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