



City of Long Beach
Working Together to Serve

Memorandum

DATE: November 3, 2009

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Dee Andrews, Councilmember Sixth District **S.A.**

SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM: Name the new theater at MacArthur Park "The Manazar Gamboa Community Theater"

DISCUSSION

This theatre will provide a venue for reviving Homeland Cultural Center's writing and theater program, begun 20 years ago by Manazar Gamboa. People from the neighborhood, including youth and teens, will have the opportunity to express their creativity through the spoken written word, including theater pieces, poetry, and short stories. The theater will be the scene for not only productions, but also poetry readings, open mics, and workshops. It is scheduled for completion in February 2010 and will also be available for rental by outside groups.

Manazar was the co-founder of the Homeland Neighborhood Cultural Center in Long Beach, where he became the artistic director back in 1989. While there he directed the theater and literary reading projects, as well as, writing workshops for adults and children. He also directed more than 2,500 writing workshops for youths in the Los Angeles County juvenile justice system and for inmates at state prisons in Chino and Frontera during 13 years with L.A. theatre Works, a nonprofit in Venice

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation: To request the City Manager to instruct Parks, Recreation and Marine to name the new theater "The Manazar Gamboa Community Theater" at MacArthur Park located at 1321 E Anaheim Street, Long Beach, CA 90813-3711.

03/01/09 5:18 PM

11/11/09 10:11 AM