

We Create Community

CITY OF LONG BEACH PARKS, RECREATION
& MARINE

AUGUST 2023 | VOLUME 12
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DAY CAMP JAMBOREE BRINGS SUMMER FUN FOR KIDS



On July 21, Parks, Recreation and Marine's Community Recreation Services Bureau (CRS) staff hosted the Day Camp Jamboree. More than 450 youth from 12 day camps enjoyed a fun day of water play, crafts, and games at the El Dorado Regional Park Golden Grove. The Jamboree kicked off with performances from each

camp as Bailey the LA Kings Mascot and the crowd cheered each group on. The LA Kings added to the fun with their ball hockey set up, and giveaways. In addition to the fun activities, participants enjoyed pizza and shaved ice while listening and dancing to the DJ also provided by the LA Kings. This incredible day and free field trip for day camp participants was planned by the hard-working CRS Jamboree Committee.

Director's Corner

BRENT DENNIS, DIRECTOR, LONG BEACH PARKS, RECREATION & MARINE AND ANIMAL CARE SERVICES



The Summer of 2023 has been unfolding with many memorable moments sparked by the significant number of special events

and engaging programs throughout Long Beach. Parks filled with concert crowds and movie goers, along with hundreds of summer camp kids, reminded us of the incredible impact our Department has upon the community. With just a few weeks remaining before schools are back in session, there still remains a lot of FUN to be had by people of all ages, abilities, and interests.

The City of Long Beach will be inviting the community to learn about and respond to the proposed fiscal year 2024 budget throughout the month of August. The following dates, times and locations have been scheduled to welcome input on the priorities reflected in the proposed City budget:

August 14	6:30-8 pm	Cabrillo High School
August 17	6-7:30 pm	Mark Twain Library
August 21	6-7:30 pm	Jordan High School
August 24	1-2:30 pm & 6-7:30 pm	Virtual Meetings

The 40th Annual Long Beach Pride was celebrated downtown on Marina Green the first weekend of August. Great entertainment on the various stages with renowned performers filled the venue with energetic enthusiastic attendees. A highlight of the Pride weekend was the dedication of a new mural on the Bixby Park Community Center as Long Beach's participation in the LA vs. Hate county-wide mural initiative. The week prior, a Long Beach Disability Pride event was held in Harvey Milk Park as another example of how our City proudly celebrates diversity and inclusiveness.

With a citywide commitment to safety and aesthetics, our park trees received a significant amount of attention for the first time in recent memory. Great Scott Tree Services has been in all nine Council District parks removing dead, dying, and diseased trees along with necessary tree trimming on high priority trees near playgrounds, outdoor fitness areas, parking lots, walkways, trails, and facilities. Biologist surveys of trees are being conducted where work occurs to assure that no harm or disturbance of nesting birds. Plans are underway to identify resources to address the planting of new trees in the parks where trees have been removed.

**Parks
Make
Life
Better!**

The Park Ambassador program is two months old already with noticeable improvement in the cleanliness and welcoming qualities of our park restrooms. The second shift team of ten Ambassadors have been very visible as they traverse the City to tend to the 55 free standing park restroom facilities with extra attention to the deep cleaning, graffiti abatement, vandalism repairs, and the day's end locking of the restrooms and mini parks after the 10 p.m. park closure time on a nightly basis. This new additional maintenance staffing model will greatly enhance the park visitor experience.

We hope to see the month of August bring increased activation and beautification of our parks and beaches! Parks Make Long Beach...Parks Make Life Better!



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PARKS, RECREATION & MARINE OFFERS A VARIETY OF FALL CLASSES FOR RESIDENTS



Registration for a variety of new and existing recreation classes offered by

Long Beach Parks, Recreation and Marine (PRM) is going on now. More than 700 activities in art, music, nature, fitness, special interest subjects, adult sports leagues and aquatics will begin in September and continue through November 2023. The upcoming classes for the fall include options for every age range, including:

PRESCHOOL

Parent & Me Soccer where you won't just watch from the sidelines for ages 2 to 3 years, 6 months.

Preschool Cooking Thyme with hands-on activities for ages 2 to 7 years old.

Little Princess Ballet Dance for ages 3 years, 6 months to 5.

YOUTH

Math Development teacher structured for ages 6 to 11.

Reading Development teacher structured for ages 4-11.

All about Dough teaches a variety of different cooking methods for ages 8 to 15.

Musical Theatre explores dance, acting, music and song for ages 6 to 13.

Exploring Instruments is a beginning level for ages 7 to 11.

ADULTS

Oil Painting with still life arrangements and landscapes for ages 16 and up.

2 Step & Swing with no partner or experience needed for ages 18 and up.

Karate teaches blocks, punches, strikes, and kicks for ages 13 and up.

Belly Dance burns calories and reduces stress for ages 14 and up.

Ceramics Workshop teaches coiling, slabbing, and mold making for ages 16 and up.

ADULTS 50+

Senior Line Dancing learn new dances each week.

Chair Based Yoga for beginners and experienced yoga students.

Functional Movement, Balance & Brains improves balance, stability, and agility while strengthening your body and brain for all fitness levels..

Residents can register for classes online, in person or by mail. To register online: Visit LBParks.org anytime to register.

To register in person: Bring completed registration form and payment to the PRM Registration Reservations Office (2760 Studebaker Rd.) weekdays between 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information call 562.570.3111.

To register by mail: send the completed registration form (page 55 in Recreation Connection) and payment to: City of Long Beach, 2760 Studebaker Road, Long Beach, CA 90815. Please write address, phone number and class #(s) on the check.

Residents can browse the new and existing fall classes in the latest issue of Recreation Connection, PRM's programs catalog, at LBParks.org or pick up a copy at Long Beach park community centers and Long Beach Public Library branches.



PARTICIPATE IN COASTAL CLEANUP DAY ON SEPT. 23 FROM 9 A.M.-NOON AT VETERANS PIER

LONG BEACH MUNICIPAL BAND MUSICIANS GET TO KNOW THESE FAMILIAR FACES

The Long Beach Municipal Band has been a tradition in Long Beach for 114 years.

Residents look forward to the band's free summer concerts in the park and spending time with family and friends. The music spans the genres of patriotic, big band, pop, rock and music from the movies and theater. Several long-time members of the band are part of this beloved tradition. Outside of their work as members of renowned orchestras and working on recording projects and performing with some of the biggest names in music industry, they come together every summer to perform memorable music for thousands of people in our Long Beach parks.



BASSOONISTS DUNCAN MASSEY, LEFT AND ANDREW KLEIN

Duncan Massey

Bassoonist Duncan Massey is a longtime member of the Long Beach Municipal Band. He is also the principal Bassoon of the New West Symphony and the Riverside County Philharmonic. He is as a member of the Long Beach Opera Orchestra and the Chamber Orchestra of the South Bay. Duncan has performed with the Minnesota Orchestra, the Houston Ballet Orchestra, and numerous organizations in the Los Angeles area.

Andrew Klein

Bassoonist Andrew Klein is also a longtime veteran of the Long Beach Municipal Band. He met Duncan Massey as freshman at CalArts and they have been the best of friends since. Andy is a long-time member of the Pacific Symphony's bassoon section. Andrew has been a music instructor and taught banjo, bass guitar, guitar, music theory and ukulele.



L-R: DRUMMER GORDON PEEKE, PIANIST DAVID WITHAM AND GUITARIST MICHAEL HIGGINS

Michael Higgins

Michael Higgins has been the guitarist/banjo player for the Long Beach Municipal Band for the past 29 years. He met the band's drummer Gordon Peeke and pianist David Witham when they were students at Cal State Long Beach. Michael says he feels blessed to be playing with his best friends and that they are still making music together. He has performed with Maynard Ferguson, Eddie Harris, Frank Sinatra, Tom Kubis, Bill Watrous, David Clayton Thomas, Barbara Morrison, Michael Tilson Thomas, The Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra, The L.A. Opera, Shirley MacLaine, Jeffrey Osborne, and the original 5th Dimension. Higgins has five CDs of original music available on cdbaby.com. His first recording was on Maynard Ferguson's High Voltage album. Higgins received a B.A. in Music from CSULB and a master's degree in Studio Jazz Guitar From USCULB and a master's degree in Studio Jazz Guitar From USC.

Gordon Peeke

Gordon Peeke has played drums and percussion with The Woody Herman Band, Stanley Clarke-George Duke Project, Jeffrey Osbourne, Isaac Hayes, Michael Jackson, DEVO, Christina Aguilera, Cher, and The Los Angeles Philharmonic. He has played Broadway shows such as Sister Act, Spamalot, Flower Drum Song, Mask, Stormy Weather, Drowsy Chaperone and Dream Girls. Gordon has played on over 70 major movie soundtracks including Bottle Rocket, Rushmore, Royal Tenenbaums, Life Aquatic, Thirteen, Rocky and Bullwinkle, Herbie Fully Loaded, Nine, and Burlesque, along with numerous TV shows and jingles.

Dave Witham

Pianist Dave Witham studied piano with Jaki Byard at the New England Conservatory of Music, and Alan Broadbent in Los Angeles. His writing and performing associations include saxophonist Ernie Watts, bassist and

composer Jay Anderson, the Jeff Gauthier Goatette, and percussionist Luis Conte. He was Musical Director for George Benson from 1990-2007, and a producer for Tom Scott and Grover Washington. His recording and performance credits include Barbra Streisand, Patti Austin, Lee Ritenour, Jose Feliciano, John Patitucci, Bluezeum, Joao Bosco, Larry Carlton, Randy and Michael Brecker. More recently, he was an assistant conductor for the musical version of Lion King, and the associate conductor for the show Wicked at the Pantages Theater in Hollywood.

Mike Whitman

Mike Whitman plays Alto and Soprano Saxophone and flute. He is a Grammy Award winning musician with over 40 years of experience in the entertainment business. He was a member of Poncho Sanchez' band for the Grammy award winning live album Latin Soul and has performed at the Grammy Awards, the Golden Globe Awards and three Academy Award shows. Mike has performed with artists Jack Sheldon, Stan Kenton, Sarah Vaughan, The Pacific Symphony, Tony Bennett, Natalie Cole, Nancy Wilson, Lou Rawls, The Temptations and The Four Tops. His performances with celebrities include Vanessa Williams, Frank Sinatra, Glen Frey, Huey Lewis, Michael Bolton, Joe Williams, Don Rickles, Merv Griffin, Billy Crystal, Rob Reiner, Sammy Davis Jr. and Queen Elizabeth II.



SAXAPHONIST AND FLUTE PLAYER MIKE WHITMAN

Jane Green

Jane Green is an oboist and has been a freelance musician in Southern California since 1982, performing with the Long Beach Opera, Los Angeles Philharmonic, Pacific Symphony, and the Glendale Symphony. She was also an instructor at Biola and Azusa Pacific Universities. Previously she performed with the Detroit Symphony and was a member of the Michigan Opera, Toledo Symphony, and the Houston Ballet. Jane joined the Municipal Band in 1983, and is where she met Teri Christian. They began carpooling from Whittier and became fast friends. Jane took a break from the band but rejoined in 2001, under former Conductor Larry Curtis. "The Municipal Band has been my absolute favorite group", she says. "The audiences are incredible and their reaction to our performances make it incredibly exciting for us as performers."



LONGTIME FRIENDS OBOIST JANE GREEN, LEFT, AND FLUTIST TERI CHRISTIAN, RIGHT

Teri Christian

Flutist Teri Christian, a resident of the Artcraft Manor neighborhood of Long Beach, began playing with the Municipal Band in 1984 along with fellow band member oboist Jane Green. One of the greatest joys of being in the Municipal Band, aside from the obvious pleasure of working with talented fellow musicians, has been the enduring friendships formed with generations of regular concert goers at each of the concert venue parks. Teri met her husband, Municipal Band Sound Engineer Bob Christian, while working with the band. They have been married for 18 years. Teri has played with, among others, Idina Menzel, Patti LuPone, Bebe Neuwirth, Michael Crawford, Dennis DeYoung (Styx), Lalo Schifrin, and David Benoit as well as with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Riverside Symphony, San Bernardino Symphony, and Center Theatre Group.



BE S.A.F.E. (SUMMER ACTIVITIES IN A FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT) OFFERS YOUTH A VARIETY OF ACTIVITIES

“Be S.A.F.E.” is a program that supports neighborhoods by extending free supervised hours at designated parks



during the evening and employing neighborhood youth. Be S.A.F.E. offers arts and crafts, outdoor games, sports, science activities, computer labs, yoga, Zumba dance and more. By keeping selected parks activated in the evening hours, residents have many options for recreation and spending time together. The program will be offered Monday through Friday, from June 20 through August 25, 2023, from 5 - 8 p.m. at the following sites:

- Admiral Kidd Park, 2125 Santa Fe Ave.
- Bixby Park, 130 Cherry Ave.
- Drake Park, 951 Maine Ave.
- Houghton Park, 6301 Myrtle Ave.
- Martin Luther King Jr. Park, 1950 Lemon Ave.
- Orizaba Park, 1435 Orizaba Ave.

- Pan American Park, 5157 E. Centralia St.
- Ramona Park, 3301 E. 65th St.
- Scherer Park, 4600 Long Beach Blvd.
- Seaside Park, 14th St. at Chestnut Ave.
- Silverado Park, 1545 W. 31st St.

Free Be S.A.F.E. movie showings also will take place at Long Beach parks this summer, made possible by sponsorship from the Port of Long Beach. Upcoming screenings are “Rock Dog 3: Battle the Beat” at Pan American Park on August 17, and “Black Panther Wakanda Forever” at Bixby Park on August 22 and at Silverado Park on August 24.

More information, visit the Be S.A.F.E. webpage.



PRM CONTINUES 44 YEARS OF USDA SUMMER FOOD PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN

For the 44th year in a row, the City of Long Beach Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine (PRM) is offering the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Summer Food Service Program to provide free, nutritious meals to Long Beach children and youth over the summer months.



The program began on June 20 and will operate through August 25. PRM will provide free meals for children and youth Monday through Friday, with times varying at each

site between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Meals will be available to all attending children and youth between 1 and 18 years old. Infant meals will not be provided. Meals will consist of well-balanced, nutritious options and will include cold components such as milk, juice, fruits and vegetables. To participate, eligible youth can simply arrive at a participating location during the designated times; no registration required. Meals must be consumed on site at the location.

This year, the Summer Food Service Program will operate at 23 locations throughout Long Beach and Signal Hill. The full list of locations where meals will be provided is available here or by calling the Summer Food Office at (562) 570-3524.

The Summer Food Service Program began in Long Beach in 1979 and has since provided more than two million meals to children and teens, ages 1 to 18 years. The program was established to ensure that during the school summer break, children would be able to receive the same well-balanced meals they receive during the school year.

The Summer Food Service Program for Children is funded through USDA and administered by the California Department of Education.

EL DORADO NATURE CENTER SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

Join us for a great evening of music on August 24 in our beautiful lakeside setting to

wind down El Dorado Nature Center's summer 2023 concert series with the Salty Suites. Enjoy the sounds of bluegrass, blues, classic country swing and jam band

rock with wonderful vocals and harmonies. Gates open at 6:30 p.m., Concert from 7-8 p.m. Friends of El Dorado Nature Center members can enter early at 6 p.m. Bring an eco-friendly dinner and low chairs. Call (562) 570-1745 for more information.



TANAKA PARK IMPROVEMENTS

NEW HYDRATION STATION AND UPGRADED LIGHTING

The Parks, Recreation and Marine Facility Maintenance Division recently finished improvements at Tanaka Park. Staff installed a new hydration station after removing old concrete, and drains. High-pressure sodium outdoor light fixtures were

upgraded to LED throughout the park. Normally these types of improvements are part of a Capital Improvement Project, but the Tanaka upgrades were accomplished with staff resources.



PRM COMMUNITY SERVICE • MAINTENANCE JULY BY THE NUMBERS

COMMUNITY SERVICE WORKERS PROGRAM



**NUMBER OF
PERSONS
WORKING: 26**

**29 HOURS WORKED AT
EL DORADO PARK AREAS**

20 HOURS WORKED AT LOS CERRITOS WETLANDS

245 HOURS WORKED BEACH MAINTENANCE

294 CSW HOURS WORKED FOR JUNE

4,020 CSW TOTAL HOURS THIS YEAR

GENERAL MAINTENANCE

**172 RESTROOMS CLEANED DAILY
BUREAU WIDE**



**72 GRAFFITI OCCURENCES
ADDRESSED IN JUNE**

**28 FACILITIES & GYMNASIUMS
CLEANED AND STOCKED DAILY**

PARK ACRES MAINTAINED

PARK TURF: 814

PARK LANDSCAPE: 2310

AUGUST 2023 CALENDAR

Th.	17	Dusk	Free Be S.A.F.E Movie "Rock Dog 3" Battle the Beat"	Pan American Park
Fri.	18	Dusk	Free Movie and Dance Party Week "High School Musical"	Houghton Park
Sat.	19	Dusk	Free Movie and Dance Party Week "High School Musical"	Signal Hill Park
Mon.	21	Dusk	Free Movie and Dress Up Week "Super Mario Bros Movie"	College Estates Park
Tue.	22	Dusk	Free Be S.A.F.E. Movie Black Panda:Wakanda Forever"	Bixby Park
Wed.	23	Dusk	Free Movie and Dress Up Week "Super Mario Bros Movie"	Silverado Park
Th.	24	6:30 p.m.	Free Concert – Salty Suites	El Dorado Nature Center
		Dusk	Free Be S.A.F.E. Movie Black Panda:Wakanda Forever"	Bixby Park
Fri.	25	6 p.m.	Free Farewell to Summer Concert – Journey USA	El Dorado Park West
		Dusk	Free Movie and Dress Up Week "Super Mario Bros Movie"	Wardlow Park
Mon.	28	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Tue.	29	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Wed.	30	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Th.	31	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites

SEPTEMBER 2023 CALENDAR

Fri.	1	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Sat.	2	10 a.m.-noon	1st Saturday Stewards Volunteer Cleanup	El Dorado Nature Center
Mon.	4		Labor Day Holiday	
Tue.	5	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Wed.	6	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Th.	7	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Fri.	8	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Sat.	9	11 a.m.-3 p.m.	Youth Festival educational workshops & networking	LB City College PCC Campus
Mon.	11	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Tue.	12	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Wed.	13	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Th.	14	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Fri.	15	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Sat.	16	10 a.m.-noon	Volunteer Wetland Cleanup	Jack Dunster Reserve
Sun.	17	8-10 am.	Morning Bird Walk, free program, parking \$8	El Dorado Nature Center
Mon.	18	8 a.m.	Mon./Wed. Swim Lesson Registration (10/2-10/25)	Silverado Park Pool
		Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Tue.	19	8 a.m.	Tu./Th. Swim Lesson Registration (10/3-10/26)	King Park Pool
		Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Wed.	20	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Th.	21	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Fri.	22	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Sat.	23	8 a.m.	Saturday Swim Lesson Registration (10/21-12/9)	Belmont Plaza Pool
		8 a.m.	Saturday Swim Lesson Registration (10/24-12/2)	King Park Pool
		9 a.m.-1 p.m.	California Coastal Cleanup Day	Call 562.570.1745 for locations.
Mon.	25	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Tue.	26	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Wed.	27	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Th.	28	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Fri.	29	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites

Free Mobile Recess Programs ongoing until August 25

Register on Site

Monday and Wednesday	10 a.m.-noon 1:30-3:30	Grace Park , 361 E. Plymouth Street DeForest Park , 6255 DeForest Ave
Tuesday and Thursday	10 a.m.-noon 10 a.m.-noon 10 a.m.-noon 1:30-3:30 p.m.	Rose Park , corner of Orizaba Avenue and 8 th Street Daryle W. Black Memorial Park , 2023 Pasadena Avenue Hill Street , Hill Street and Gale Avenue Jackson Park , 1432 Jackson Street

Visit www.longbeach.gov/park/recreation-programs/youth-programs/mobile-recess in September for upcoming dates, times and locations

LONG BEACH PARKS, RECREATION AND MARINE

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