



SANTA MONICA Through the Arts

THE POWER OF THE ARTS

In ways both big and small, the arts have a positive impact on the lives of Santa Monicans. Whether attending an opening at a gallery or singing in a local choir, the arts help us express ourselves, connect with our community, and see our environment in new ways. April was Arts Month, and provided a time to spotlight and celebrate the positive contributions that the arts make to our communities. One way the City celebrated Arts Month was to recognize six Arts Leaders who are having an impact throughout the City. You can learn more about them and the work they do on the next page. The City continues to promote, showcase and support the arts on a daily basis to ensure that the city continues to be fertile ground for creativity.

As part of its commitment to supporting artists, we provide both individual and project fellowships that recognize and fund local artists. Art in the Parks features outdoor performances throughout the City through September, including the Meet Me at Reed and Jazz on the Lawn summer concert series. And be sure to start thinking about participating in this year's COAST, the City's annual Open Streets event. This year, for its fourth iteration, COAST will celebrate all the ways people get around without cars and will showcase the self-expression and creativity of participants. Artist-led workshops leading up to the event will provide the community with opportunities to participate in creating artworks that will be featured at the event, as well as opportunities to create unique embellishments for your own ride. More

than two miles of Santa Monica streets will become a communal gathering space for strollers, bikers, and rollers alike to come together and build a more people-powered and sustainable Santa Monica on Sunday, September 15, 2019. For more info, visit santamonica.gov/coast.

Learn More About
Santa Monica's
Next Biennial
Budget



santamonica.gov/budget

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2019 ARTS LEADERSHIP AWARDS RECIPIENTS

On Wednesday, April 24, the Santa Monica Arts Foundation and over 150 attendees celebrated the six recipients of the 2019 Arts Leadership Awards at a public reception and awards ceremony at the Annenberg Community Beach House. The awards honor local leaders whose efforts support Santa Monica’s vibrant artistic, creative, and cultural communities. This year included a new awards category honoring young Santa Monicans who have already shown great leadership in the arts. The event featured performances by local artists D’Lo and Santa Monica College Synapse Dance Theater, and videos about the awardees. The awards were original artworks by renowned Santa Monica artists David McDonald and Bruria Finkel. Senator Ben Allen and State Assemblymember Richard Bloom’s offices presented additional Certificates of Recognition, lifting the reach of the awards from the city to the state level.

The awardees and awards are:

Marisa Caichiolo – Arts Patron Award

Through the cultural programs, including contemporary art exhibitions, lectures, workshops and educational activities at Building Bridges, Marisa has provided the community with engaging experiences, created opportunities for international and local artists through residencies, and established international relationships.

Jacob Jonas – Bruria Finkel Award

This dance company creates a platform for local and international artists to present new and exciting work in Santa Monica through “To the Sea: Dance Concerts on the Pier,” as well as offering artists exposure via their savvy social media outreach.

Laemmle Arts – Creative Community Innovator Award

The dynamic arts programs that are presented at the Laemmle Monica Film Center include:

- Laemmle Live, a performing arts series where emerging artists and professional performers from local schools and organizations celebrate our diverse community with live performance.
- Art in the Arthouse, which connects audiences with visual art by turning part of the Monica Film Center into an art gallery.

Carmen Casillas - Youth Leadership in the Arts Award

Carmen is captain of two of Santa Monica High School’s dance teams where she teaches and trains students to express themselves through dance and further improve their dancing and artistry skills.

Isabelle D’Amico - Youth Leadership in the Arts Award

Isabelle is a youth representative as part of the 18th Street Arts Center’s Gallery Advisory board, where she advocates for diverse youth involvement in community art projects. At SAMOHI she is producer of the SAMOHI Film Festival and Executive Producer and Technical Director of the student run, SAMOHighlights, a school TV news show.



2019 Santa Monica Arts Leadership Awardees (L to R): Greg Laemmle, Carmen Casillas, Sheryl Myerson, Marisa Caichiolo, Isabell D’Amico, Jacob Jonas

SANTA MONICA TRAVEL & TOURISM LAUNCHES COMPLETE GUIDE TO STREET ART MURALS

As you may have noticed, our beach city is now home to more than 120 street art murals all within 8.3 square miles. These murals are brought to life by a combination of different entities from the City of Santa Monica, local business improvement districts, individuals and Beautify Earth, a non-profit whose mission is to transform every wall into a beautiful piece of art.

Each mural has its own story to tell, and many stand out for capturing the unique history and vision of Santa Monica. For example, the “Jay Adams Tribute” by artist Dvate pays tribute to the accomplishments of one of skateboarding’s biggest icons on Main Street while “Beach Day” by Bumblebee, located on Wilshire Boulevard, shares the excitement of a day at the beach from the perspective of a child, albeit a larger-than-life child at 50-feet tall.

To help both visitors and residents better discover our local art scene, Santa Monica Travel & Tourism has created a comprehensive guide that lists every street art mural in the city. The guide provides a photo, address and – when possible – mural and artist name to provide for the easiest and most efficient way to explore Santa Monica’s street art scene. The guide can be accessed at santamonica.com/complete-guide-to-street-art-murals-in-santa-monica.

Is there a street mural we missed or a new one you’ve spotted? Email marketing@santamonica.com so we can add it to the guide!



MEET SKYE AND LOGAN

How a Classroom of Kids — and One Empowering Teacher — Are Helping To Meet The Needs of People Experiencing Homelessness in Santa Monica

It's often said that children are our future, and if the kids at John Muir Elementary School are any indication, Santa Monica is bound to have a future that's characterized by empathy, pragmatism, and ingenuity. It's at John Muir that 11-year old Logan and his class took it upon themselves to make a positive difference in the community by putting on a sock drive for the unhoused people in the community. The kids' inspiring resolve only serves to spur on our goal, to keep working to meet the needs of the homeless community and ultimately to end the homelessness epidemic.

EXPLORING AND EMPOWERING

Logan is a student in teacher Skye's classroom. Skye teaches children with a variety of learning needs, including cognitive delays and traumatic brain injuries. Since the kids are at different ages and developmental stages, meeting their learning needs requires a creative approach to teaching. But Skye doesn't mind approaching things creatively. Not only does she find it more fulfilling, she also finds that the kids stay much more engaged when learning is a little more "applicable to what's going on in the community and world".

Skye's larger perspective approach that focuses on real world issues and sceneries as a way to foster innovative real world problem solvers led her to take the class for a walk through the neighborhood to explore the community. She had them think of ways they could help improve it. Logan and his classmates took the lesson seriously — studying their surroundings, taking note of their neighbors, and brainstorming ways to make things better.

The thing that struck Logan and the other kids the most on their neighborhood walk were the unhoused people they came across — specifically that most of them didn't have socks. Concerned that these people might be cold, the kids decided that the best thing they could do to improve their community was put on a sock drive to help keep their neighbors warm.

Back in the classroom, Skye empowered the kids by letting them take the lead. They researched homelessness in Santa Monica and found that there are over 900 unhoused people in the city. With that number in mind, they made it their goal to collect at least 1,000 pairs of socks so that they could reach everyone.

Skye then set up a GoFundMe page and the kids drafted a website to increase awareness of the drive and begin gathering socks, and sending



We Are Santa Monica is proud to highlight standout individuals committed to creating a stronger community. To find out more, visit weare.santamonica.gov.

letters to those in the local government. It was a success. The kids were able to amass a whopping 2,000 pair of socks — double their goal. When they were all collected, the kids took a field trip to a shelter to deliver the socks in person.

KIDS LEADING THE WAY

Skye says she hopes these kids inspire others to remember you don't have to be an adult or activist to make a difference in the world. People in any job or position — including school children — can take small steps, look around, and decide how to make a better community and world.

SANTA MONICA FIRE DEPARTMENT CELEBRATES 130 YEARS OF SERVICE



Organized fire fighting began in Santa Monica in October of 1875, when six citizens organized The Crawford Hook and Ladder Company. As Santa Monica grew so did the fires and the Fire Department. On March 22, 1889 a group of citizens gathered at the town hall to adopt the Constitution of the newly formed Santa Monica Hose and Ladder Company and the Santa Monica Fire Department was founded.

During the next 100 years, the methods and resources of the fire service experienced many changes. For example, hand-drawn carts and leather buckets were replaced with horse-drawn vehicles and steam pumpers, which quickly gave way to gasoline engines. In 1974, the Santa Monica Fire Department became the first fire department in the nation to deliver paramedic services by a fire engine company. Since then, the department has grown into a Class 1 organization, providing highly specialized services including a full-time hazardous materials response unit, an urban search and rescue team, a dedicated airport response cadre, an accredited fire academy, and a comprehensive all-hazards fire prevention division.

Today, the Santa Monica Fire Department protects more than 92,000 residents in an area of 8.3 square miles and consists of over 130 firefighters and civilian employees under the command of Fire Chief Bill Walker.

We are honored to serve the City of Santa Monica and appreciate all the support from the community over the past 130 years!

SUMMER OF FUN



We're trying something new this month by providing a broader calendar of city events coming up in Santa Monica! Check out the entire list of events at santamonica.gov/events and find the latest news by subscribing to the City's newsletter at smgov.net/newsletter.

June

mon	tue	wed	thu	fri	sat/sun
					1/2 SAMO PRIDE LIGHTING CEREMONY AND PARTY 7PM - 9PM SANTA MONICA PIER SMPRIDE.COM 310.458.8900
3 SOCIAL MEDIA & THE JOB SEARCH 3:30PM - 4:30PM PICO BRANCH LIBRARY SMPL.ORG/PICOBANCH (310) 458-8684	4 GENTLE YOGA 6:30PM FAIRVIEW BRANCH LIBRARY SMPL.ORG/FAIRVIEWBRANCH (310) 458-8681	5 FRANK DECARO AND PANDORA BOXX PRESENT DRAG 7PM MAIN LIBRARY SMPL.ORG 310.458.8600	6 SOUNDWAVES: JOHN CAGE'S "LECTURE ON NOTHING" 7:30PM MAIN LIBRARY SMPL.ORG 310.458.8600	7 Sorry, We're CLOSED	8/9
10 SWIM CENTER FIRST DAY OF SUMMER 5:30AM - 8:30PM SANTA MONICA SWIM CENTER SANTAMONICA.GOV 310.458.8700	11 RAINBOW FAMILY STORY TIME (KIDS EVENT) 12:30PM PICO LIBRARY SMPL.ORG 310.458.8684	12 MINDFUL MEDITATION 7:00PM OCEAN PARK BRANCH LIBRARY SMPL.ORG/OCEANPARKBRANCH (310) 458-8683	13 RAINBOW READS (KIDS EVENT) 12:30PM PICO LIBRARY SMPL.ORG 310.458.8684	14 SWIM CENTER TEEN NIGHT 6:30PM - 9PM SANTA MONICA SWIM CENTER SANTAMONICA.GOV 310.458.8700	15/16 JUNETEENTH 11AM - 5PM VIRGINIA AVE. PARK SMGOV.NET/VAPARK 310.458.8688
17 ZINE WORKSHOP: PRIDE MONTH (TEEN EVENT) 3:00PM PICO LIBRARY SMPL.ORG 310.458.8684	18 BEACH = CULTURE: BEACH DANCES 8:30AM - 1:30PM ANNENBERG BEACH HOUSE SANTAMONICA.GOV 310.458.2239	19 BEACH = CULTURE: BEACH DANCES 8:30AM - 1:30PM ANNENBERG BEACH HOUSE SANTAMONICA.GOV 310.458.2239	20 WORLD'S LARGEST SWIMMING LESSON VARIOUS TIMES SANTA MONICA SWIM CENTER & ANNENBERG BEACH HOUSE SANTAMONICA.GOV 310.458.8700	21 Sorry, We're CLOSED	22/23 SUMMER SOULstice 1PM - 7PM MAIN ST. MAINSTREETSM.COM
24 PAJAMA STORY TIME WITH AUTHOR RACHEL MACFARLANE 6:30PM FAIRVIEW LIBRARY SMPL.ORG 310.458.8681	25 GET STARTED WITH 3D PRINTING 5PM OCEAN PARK LIBRARY SMPL.ORG 310.458.8683	26 MINI MAKERS: RAINBOW PRIDE MONTH (KIDS EVENT) 2:00PM MAIN LIBRARY SMPL.ORG 310.458.8600	27	28 LIBRARY AT THE BEACH 10PM - 3PM ANNENBERG BEACH HOUSE SMPL.ORG 310.458.8600	29/30 KIDICAL MASS RAINBOW RIDE (KIDS EVENT) 9AM - 12PM MEMORIAL PARK SANTAMONICASAFEROUTES.ORG 310.458.2201; EXT. 2120

July

mon	tue	wed	thu	fri	sat/sun
1 MARION DAVIES GUEST HOUSE TOUR 11AM - 2PM ANNENBERG COMMUNITY BEACH HOUSE ANNENBERGBEACHHOUSE.COM (310) 458-4904	2 GENTLE YOGA 6:30PM FAIRVIEW BRANCH LIBRARY SMPL.ORG/FAIRVIEWBRANCH (310) 458-8681	3 JOHN ABRAMS' ANIMAL MAGIC! 2:30PM - 3:30PM MONTANA AVE. BRANCH LIBRARY SMPL.ORG/MONTANABRANCH (310) 458-8682	4 Sorry, We're CLOSED FOURTH OF JULY PARADE 9:30AM STARTS AT PICO & MAIN SANTAMONICAPARADE.COM	5 Sorry, We're CLOSED MARION DAVIES GUEST HOUSE TOUR 11AM - 2PM ANNENBERG COMMUNITY BEACH HOUSE ANNENBERGBEACHHOUSE.COM (310) 458-4904	6/7 MEET ME AT REED FAMILY FUN + ART IN THE PARKS 3PM REED PARK SANTAMONICA.GOV 310.394.6011
8 THE ART OF BOOKMAKING 5:30PM - 7:00PM PICO BRANCH LIBRARY SMPL.ORG/PICOBANCH (310) 458-8684	9	10 SANTA MONICA FARMER'S MARKET 8AM - 1PM BETWEEN 4TH AND 2ND STREET SANTAMONICA.GOV/FARMERSMARKET	11	12 SWIM CENTER TEEN NIGHT 6:30PM - 9PM SANTA MONICA SWIM CENTER SANTAMONICA.GOV 310.458.8700	13/14 SWIM CENTER FAMILY SPLASH DAY 1PM - 3:30PM SANTA MONICA SWIM CENTER SANTAMONICA.GOV 310.458.8700
15	16	17 SANTA MONICA FARMER'S MARKET 8AM - 1PM BETWEEN 4TH AND 2ND STREET SANTAMONICA.GOV/FARMERSMARKET	18 COMMUNITY PICNIC 6:30PM - 9PM ANNENBERG BEACH HOUSE SANTAMONICA.GOV 310.458.8700	19 Sorry, We're CLOSED	20/21 MEET ME AT REED FAMILY FUN + ART IN THE PARKS 3PM REED PARK SANTAMONICA.GOV 310.394.6011
22	23	24 SUMMER READING PROGRAMS: A UNIVERSE OF STORIES MAIN LIBRARY SMPL.ORG 310.458.8600	25	26 SUNSET SWIM 7PM - 10PM ANNENBERG BEACH HOUSE ANNENBERGBEACHHOUSE.COM 310.458.2239	27/28 PAPER SHREDDING 9AM - 2PM CITY YARDS SMGOV.NET/R3EVENTS 310.458.2223
29	30 BEACH = CULTURE: RED HEN PRESS READING 6:30PM - 8PM ANNENBERG BEACH HOUSE SANTAMONICA.GOV 310.458.2239	31 SANTA MONICA FARMER'S MARKET 8AM-1PM BETWEEN 4TH AND 2ND STREET SANTAMONICA.GOV/FARMERSMARKET			



August

mon	tue	wed	thu	fri	sat/sun
				1 Sorry We're CLOSED ANNENBERG GALLERY 9AM - 6PM ANNENBERG COMMUNITY BEACH HOUSE ANNENBERGBEACHHOUSE.COM (310) 458-4904	2 JAZZ ON THE LAWN 5PM-7PM GANDARA PARK SMGOV.NET/JAZZ (310) 458-8300
5	6 NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 5:30PM - 8PM KEN GENSER SQUARE SANTAMONICAPD.ORG 310.458.8474	7 SANTA MONICA FARMER'S MARKET 8AM-1PM BETWEEN 4TH AND 2ND STREET SANTAMONICA.GOV/FARMERSMARKET	8 PAWS TO READ 2PM - 3PM MONTANA LIBRARY SMPL.ORG\MONTANABRANCH (310) 458-8682		10/11 SWIM CENTER TEEN NIGHT 6:30PM - 9PM SANTA MONICA SWIM CENTER SANTAMONICA.GOV 310.458.8700
12	13 BEACH - CULTURE 6:30PM-8:00PM ANNENBERG COMMUNITY BEACH HOUSE SANTAMONICA.GOV/ARTS (310) 458-4904	14 PAJAMA STORYTIME 6:30PM-7:00PM OCEAN PARK LIBRARY SMPL.ORG/OCEANPARKBRANCH (310) 458-8683	15	16 Sorry We're CLOSED LIBRARY AT THE BEACH 10PM - 3PM ANNENBERG BEACH HOUSE SMPL.ORG 310.458.8600	17/18 JAZZ ON THE LAWN 5PM-7PM GANDARA PARK SMGOV.NET/JAZZ (310) 458-8300
19	20 GENTLE YOGA 6:30PM FAIRVIEW BRANCH LIBRARY SMPL.ORG/FAIRVIEWBRANCH (310) 458-8681	21 TWILIGHT CONCERT SERIES 6:30PM-9:30PM SANTA MONICA PIER SANTAMONICAPIER.ORG (310) 458-8900	22	23 SUNSET SWIM 7PM - 10PM ANNENBERG BEACH HOUSE ANNENBERGBEACHHOUSE.COM 310.458.2239	24/25 CARDBOARD YACHT REGATTA 5PM - 8PM ANNENBERG BEACH HOUSE ANNENBERGBEACHHOUSE.COM 310.458.2239
26 MARION DAVIES GUEST HOUSE TOUR 11AM-2PM ANNENBERG COMMUNITY BEACH HOUSE ANNENBERGBEACHHOUSE.COM (310) 458-4904	27	28 TWILIGHT CONCERT SERIES 6:30PM-9:30PM SANTA MONICA PIER SANTAMONICAPIER.ORG (310) 458-8900	29	30 Sorry We're CLOSED	31 SOFT FABRIC MASK MAKING 1PM-3PM CAMERA OBSCURA ART LAB SANTAMONICA.GOV/CAMERA (310) 458-2239

City Council Meetings

The Santa Monica City Council meets at 5:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month in the Council Chamber, City Hall, 1685 Main Street. Upcoming Council meetings:

- JUNE 4** (SPECIAL MEETING FOR BUDGET STUDY SESSION) @ **6PM**
- JUNE 5** (IF NEEDED-SPECIAL MEETING FOR BUDGET STUDY SESSION) @ **6PM**
- JUNE 11, JUNE 25 | JULY 9, JULY 23 | AUGUST 27 @ 5:30PM**

Meeting dates occasionally change. Visit smgov.net/council to confirm schedule and smgov.net/council/agendas to view agenda items. Meetings are broadcast live on CityTV cable channel 16, and streamed at YouTube.com/CityTV16SantaMonica. Meetings air on 89.9 KCRW, 8 p.m. to midnight.

All Council meetings are open to the public. Public comment may be made in person at any meeting, or prior to the meeting via regular U.S. mail, email or by fax to:

City Hall, 1685 Main Street, Room 209
Santa Monica, CA 90401
Phone: 310.458.8201 | Fax: 310.458.1621
Email all Council members:
council@smgov.net

Public Meetings

For updates on meetings for Boards, Commissions and Task Forces, go to smgov.net/clerk or call 310.458.8411.

- Airport Commission**
JUNE 24, 22 | AUGUST 19 | 6:30 P.M. AT CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
- Arts Commission**
JUNE 17 | JULY 15 | AUGUST 19 | 6:30 P.M. AT KEN EDWARDS CENTER
- Architectural Review Board**
JUNE 3, 17 | JULY 1, 15 | AUGUST 5, 19 | 5:30 P.M. AT CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
- Commission for the Senior Community**
JUNE 19 | JULY TBD | AUGUST 28 | 1 P.M. AT KEN EDWARDS CENTER
- Commission of the Status of Women**
JUNE 12 | JULY 10 | AUGUST 14 | 7 P.M. AT KEN EDWARDS CENTER
- Disabilities Commission**
JUNE 3 | JULY 18 | AUGUST 5 | 6:30 P.M. AT KEN EDWARDS CENTER
- Housing Commission**
JUNE 20 | JULY 18 | AUGUST 15 | 4:30 P.M. AT KEN EDWARDS CENTER
- Landmarks Commission**
JUNE 10 | JULY 8 | AUGUST 12 | 7 P.M. AT CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
- Library Board**
JUNE 6 | JULY 4 | AUGUST 1 | 7 P.M. AT MAIN LIBRARY
- Planning Commission**
JUNE 5, 19 | JULY 3, 17 | AUGUST 7, 21 | 7 P.M. AT CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
- Recreation and Parks Commission**
JUNE 20 | JULY 18 | AUGUST 15 | 7:30 P.M. AT CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
- Social Services Commission**
JUNE 24 | JULY 22 | AUGUST 26 | 7 P.M. AT KEN EDWARDS CENTER

Legend

- PRIDE EVENT

- CITY HALL CLOSED EVERY OTHER FRIDAY



Let Us Know What You Think of This New Calendar Format.

santamonica.gov/seascapecalendar

Pro Tip: Hang This Calendar on Your Fridge to Remember a Few Fun Events Happening this Summer!



Samo PRIDE

In honor of Pride Month, we are celebrating the diversity of our community by asking different members of the LGBTQA community to share their story, ideas and perspective on Santa Monica.

Reverend James
PASTOR OF LUTHERAN CONGREGATION,
ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

1) How do you identify?

I identify as gay and married 11 years, together 22, with my husband Christopher.

2) What's your experience in Santa Monica, and how has it changed since you arrived?

When I first arrived on the scene back in 2000, another local pastor left the Ministerial Association because of an openly gay minister (me) who began attending the meetings! Other than that, my experience as a gay man working in Santa Monica has been one of gracious hospitality and receptivity; since arriving in 2000, the welcome has only widened.



Drew
VICAR/PASTORAL INTERN, ST. PAUL'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH OF SANTA MONICA

1) How do you identify?

I identify as Queer and Transgender.

2) What's your experience in Santa Monica, and how has it changed since you arrived?

Definitely not the same as Minnesota, weather-wise! In my time living here, I have only felt welcomed and appreciated. The vibe here is laid-back, casual, free-spirited. The one thing that has been a visible concern for me is the stark contrast between the supremely wealthy and the supremely impoverished. There seems to be a "live and let live," mentality, which can be helpful. And, it can also be read as complacency.

3) What are some of the ways LGBTQ people connect or feel a sense of community in Santa Monica?

Queerness spans all races, colors, and abilities. Add your preferred pronouns to your email signatures and begin meetings by asking everyone to share their pronouns. It'll be awkward at first, but making the table bigger can feel like that sometimes. Own your ignorance - if you don't know something, say that. Don't pretend you know something. Ask us questions - just don't be a jerk about it. Respect our "no" if we don't feel like answering your questions. And above all, know that love is love.

John
CEO OF THE PEOPLE CONCERN

1) How do you identify?

Gay man

2) What brought you to Santa Monica?

What brought me here was a job as the Director of the Ocean Park Community Center (OPCC). What has kept me here are the incredible people I've had the privilege of working with in this community - the people we serve, our staff, volunteers and the many committed individuals, businesses, elected officials, City staff and community leaders dedicated to improving the quality of life for everyone.



3) What else can we do to make our City welcoming for LGBTQ people?

Public affirmation of being a LGBTQ friendly and welcoming city goes a long way in sending a positive message of inclusion. LGBTQ people want to know they are an important part of every community, not as a hidden minority but part of the fabric of what makes Santa Monica special. Telling stories about how LGBTQ people contribute to the community, celebrating PRIDE month and providing opportunities for LGBTQ folks to come together, especially young people who are exploring their sexual identity and need safe places to be themselves, is very important.

Rico
SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANCY
AT CARBON FIVE

1) How do you identify?

I identify as Gay

2) What's your experience in Santa Monica, and how has it changed since you arrived?

Therein lies the real problem with LGBTQ life in Santa Monica. Although few if any deterrents to LGBTQ life exist here, there also isn't much going on. It's a sleepy queer-friendly town right now.



3) What else can we do to make our City welcoming for LGBTQ people?

The first thing that comes to mind is more of a visual presence in general. When you look around, do you and see Pride flags or stickers in windows, or LGBTQ-inclusive advertising like in WeHo? It speaks volumes about the community as a whole when people see these things. The fact that a Pride Festival may be here is HUGE. Geographically, we are not very far from WeHo, yet the 2 cities seem a world apart. I feel that a stronger visual presence this May/June (something which has not been seen before here) will cause more LGBTQ's to come out, identify, and participate. In fact, that's why I feel fortunate to have the Gay Geeks Meetup headquartered in Santa Monica instead of one of the usual hotspots. Hopefully, it will inspire similar groups to emerge, thereby increasing our visibility here.

Marcus
CO-FOUNDER OF 18TH STREET ARTS CENTER
AND ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

1) How do you identify?

Usually I will answer to any pronoun politely spoken in my direction.

2) What is your connection to Santa Monica?

I'm one of the many founding artists of the 18th Street Arts Center. Jan Williamson, the current Executive Director of 18th Street calls us the "First Fivers" (those of us that were here for the first 5 years). I'm currently an Artist in Residence there once again. I have a work in progress called MACHO STEREO that opens June 1 at 18th Street that I've been developing in collaboration with SMPL and the Brentwood Art Center funded by the City of Santa Monica Cultural Affairs Division.



Scott
TRANSGENDER CONSULTANT, CULTURAL
COMPETENCY TRAINER AND CONTENT
CREATOR

1) How do you identify?

I am a trans man, and I use he pronouns.

2) What brought you to Santa Monica?

I was hired by the City to create a video training module to help the Department of Recreations welcome transgender, non-binary, and gender diverse people to use its facilities. In the State of California, the law states that anyone may use the restroom or changing room that matches their gender identity. For some people, how we identify and how the world perceives us do not match, and this has led to nearly 70% of transgender people reporting harassment (9% of them reporting physical violence) in those spaces. For difficult cases like these, there was an urgent need to train front line staff how to react when harassment occurs; or, how to respectfully, compassionately respond when someone gets upset about a trans woman using the women's facilities (for example).



Supervisor Kuehl
THIRD DISTRICT LA COUNTY SUPERVISOR
AND RESIDENT

1) How do you identify?
Lesbian

2) What are some of the ways LGBTQ people connect or feel a sense of community in Santa Monica?

Santa Monica is a welcoming city and the LGBTQ community has always felt comfortable at the beach, in schools, and in our religious institutions. I went to lots of events at the Church In Ocean Park which has always been very diverse and gay-inclusive.

3) What else can we do to make our City welcoming for LGBTQ people?

While we've made tremendous progress on so many fronts with gay marriage and supporting queer young people, there is still work to do. We need more places to gather and socialize. We especially need to provide support to trans youth, who continue to face tremendous discrimination.

Leo
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF
HIGHWAYS PERFORMANCE
SPACE AND RESIDENT

1) How do you identify?
As a gay Latino man.

2) What brought you to Santa Monica?

I feel that in 1991 Santa Monica was a forgotten beach community and so it was perfect. The promenade was manageable in terms of traffic and shopping and community. Now, I'm concerned about its growth and how that growth is changing Santa Monica. I prefer to be positive about Santa Monica and there many conversations that can take place about growth, diversity, affordability and all that is important to me.

3) What's your experience in Santa Monica, and how has it changed since you arrived?

I was a multi-hyphenated artist who settled here. I was bi-coastal between NYC and Santa Monica for about four or five years, until I stayed here longer than I stayed in NYC. Travel became very complicated and so did the bi-coastal life. I chose to stay in one place for a while and Santa Monica was that place. There's no place I'd rather be.

4) What are some of the ways LGBTQ people connect or feel a sense of community in Santa Monica?

Though Santa Monica is generally gay friendly, I don't think anyone thinks of Santa Monica as a place for LGBTQ people to connect. It's a seemingly liberal California beach community and I believe LGBTQ people, like all people, enjoy the beach and the climate, so like all others, they find their way here to enjoy the city. I've no doubt that there are families with gay children here. I know there are LGBTQ home and business owners and renter, but I don't think of Santa Monica as a gay enclave. I've heard a little about the gay community Santa Monica in the past and would love to learn more.



Fred & Jim
RESIDENTS

1) How do you identify?
We see ourselves as just a regular couple who happens to be gay.

2) What is your connection to Santa Monica?

We've been living and working in Santa Monica for many years. We met by chance on Main Street near Pico about 40 years ago. We married about 10 years ago soon after the laws changed and made that possible. Fred was already in the restaurant business when we met. I joined into it with him about 20 years ago. Back on the Beach Cafe and Back on Broadway restaurant have been staples in the local community for many years.

3) What's your experience in Santa Monica, and how has it changed since you arrived?

Santa Monica continues to be an accepting and progressive community. It becomes more dense with each passing decade. Rising rents and the cost of living have become increasingly challenging. There has been an increase in upscale retail and residents. The City has responded with better planned public transport, including being much more bike friendly, and rent stabilization regulations.

Isabel
STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT AT
SANTA MONICA COLLEGE

1) How do you identify?
Even though I am not a huge fan of labels because of the pressure that sometimes comes with trying to fit in one of them, I do identify as a lesbian.



2) What brought you to Santa Monica?

I was born and raised in Valladolid, Spain. My hometown is one of the most conservative cities in Spain, and since I was very young I felt disconnected to its community. In fact, I never felt comfortable enough to be my true self back there. At 17, when I decided to continue my higher education abroad, one of the very few things that I knew for sure is that I wanted a change of environment. I wanted to live in a progressive community, in which being different would be applauded and not condemned. I had been lucky enough to visit Los Angeles, and Santa Monica specifically, some years back while visiting my older sister who was pursuing her Bachelor's Degree at CSUN at the time. Since the very first time, I fell in love with the friendliness and diversity of the Santa Monica community. I knew that it was the right place for me.

3) What's your experience in Santa Monica, and how has it changed since you arrived?

After almost three years attending Santa Monica College and being actively involved on campus, I can say that Santa Monica and its people have exceeded my expectations. I have not only found a community in which I finally feel confident and proud to show my true colors, but I have also become a servant leader. The high levels of civic engagement of the Santa Monica community have inspired and motivated me to hold leadership positions, in which I have grown and become a more conscious and responsible citizen. I am forever thankful to this community for welcoming me with open arms, for helping me become proud of who I am, and for pushing me to always become a better version of myself!

Kathleen
CEO OF DOWNTOWN SANTA MONICA, INC.

1) How do you identify?
I came out as a lesbian in my early 20s, during my last years of college. I grew up in a small, central Minnesota town and the LGBTQ+ community was very invisible. I didn't even tell my family until I moved to California.



3) What's your experience in Santa Monica, and how has it changed since you arrived?

As you can imagine, it was a significant change from Minnesota. Not only was I in a new town, just out of college and trying to find my way, I was also involved in my first real romantic relationship where I was living with someone, sharing our lives together as a couple. I remember those early days walking down the boardwalk, holding hands and there were plenty of times where that felt unsafe. So you stop holding hands. It was 1988, and I wouldn't say I was overly comfortable, but certainly more so than in Minnesota. There were plenty of times when we had a conversation at work and the gender of the person I was living with was omitted. I was concerned about how my co-workers would react. People could be hostile. It wasn't safe.

Now, it's completely different. When my partner and I decided to have our first child, we had no choice but to be true to ourselves and who we are as a couple. It was a conscious decision and the right one. For every job, every scenario, I was definitely out. And, generally speaking, people have always been very open and accepting. It has changed dramatically, as the world has changed. But Santa Monica has always been more accepting than other places I have lived.

Brandy & Emily
RESIDENTS

1) How do you identify?
She / Her / Hers

2) What else can we do to make our City welcoming for LGBTQ people?

Coming from San Francisco, the lack of Santa Monica queer friendly venues, bars and events was surprising. We hope the addition of this Pride event, and the Birdcage will help encourage more of a LGBTQ community.

A month-long series of events in Santa Monica to celebrate the LGBTQ+ community, individuality, empowerment, inclusivity and acceptance.

Mark your calendars

SaMo PRIDE officially kicks-off on June 1, 2019 and lasts the entire month

SMPride.com

Much more to come, including a city-wide calendar of events, programs, activities and more!

PRESENTED BY:



6 MONTH UPDATE ON SHARED MOBILITY

Since launching our Shared Mobility Pilot Program, the City has been working to protect public safety while increasing transportation options as part of our commitment to become a multi-modal community. Here is an update on our progress:

Shared Mobility Parking Zones

105 parking zones for scooters and bikes have been installed all across the city, including 35 in-street and 70 off-street. See our interactive map with locations and photos of the drop zones at santamonica.gov/dropzones.



Sidewalk Medallions and Permanent Signage

After testing 200 quick-install painted stencils last summer, we are producing more permanent and resilient signage for prohibited areas such as the beach bike path and Palisades Park.

SIDEWALK MEDALLIONS: Beginning in April, roughly 100 medallions indicating scooter and bike dismount zones were installed for sidewalks in downtown and other areas.

PERMANENT SIGNAGE: Roughly 35 signs identifying off-limit areas will be installed along the beach bike path and Palisades Park.



Outreach and Engagement

The pilot program requires the participating companies to provide education and outreach to community members and visitors to Santa Monica. We are working with all four companies to refresh the public education campaign around scooter safety that launched last Summer, and to redeploy many of the tools.

A Community Advisory Committee of residents is providing direct input and feedback at monthly meetings on a wide variety of issues and challenges relating to the operation of the program, including rider and public communications, and enforcement.



Administrative Regulations

The program is governed by Administrative Regulations that can flex throughout the program. Enhanced regulations have been issued twice already, and additional changes coming soon will require the four operators to:

- Incentivize use of the 100+ Shared Mobility Drop Zones
- Strengthen outreach and education requirements for summer months
- Reduce the speed of devices on the beach, Promenade, and Palisades Park to dissuade people from riding in these areas.



Enforcement

A dedicated Code Enforcement officer for the pilot program, and members of the Police Department are focused on scooter safety issues.

- Safety Check: We have initiated regular spot checking and tracking of the maintenance of devices across all five device types.
- Code: Code staff continues to cite operators for parking and other violations. Recently work has stepped up to cite unpermitted companies who are offering devices in Santa Monica.
- Santa Monica Police Department: SMPD continues to cite riders riding on the sidewalk, tandem riding, and other moving violations. SMPD's recurring state grant-funded program on bike and pedestrian enforcement was recently expanded to include e-scooters. This will result in additional enforcement this summer.



Data

Santa Monica is working closely with Los Angeles Department of Transportation on a ground-breaking new transportation data tool that enables more effective street management. Cities have a core mission to manage streets, and the new tool uses technology to do it more efficiently and comprehensively.

- Mobility Data Specification: Operators are required to provide a real-time data stream of device status, location and trips. No personal information about the user is included in this stream. The city continues refine the specification and to analyze the data provided by the operators, and will have compelling visualizations to share.
- User Survey: The first quarterly user survey was done in February. The summary report which was published in May reveals who is riding, why they are riding, and user understanding about rules and safety.

For more information, visit www.smgov.net/sharedmobility.

SANTA MONICA DISTRICT ELECTIONS LITIGATION UPDATE

In February 13, 2019, the trial court issued its final judgment. The court held that Santa Monica's at-large elections for City Council seats violate the California Voting Rights Act and the Equal Protection Clause of the California Constitution and, among other things: (a) ordered the City to hold an election on July 2, 2019 for all seven City Council seats using the seven-district map drawn by the plaintiffs' expert and adopted by the court; and (b) prohibited any person not elected in such a district election from sitting on the City Council after August 15, 2019.

On February 22, 2019, the City appealed. The parties agreed that this appeal automatically stayed the portion of the judgment requiring the City to hold a July 2, 2019 Council election. Plaintiffs argued, however, that the prohibition on anyone not elected through a district-based election serving on the Council after August 15, 2019 was not stayed by the appeal and remained enforceable. The trial court agreed. The City challenged this by filing a writ petition. On March 28, 2019, the Court of Appeal agreed with the City, and issued an order confirming that this portion of the judgment is also stayed pending appeal. As a result, while the City's appeal remains pending, the current Council members will remain in place, and the City will not be required to conduct a district-based Council election.

For the latest information and to access court documents visit santamonica.gov/cvra.

LITIGATION TIMELINE

