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IT'S A WRAP: LA COMMONS CELEBRATES THE FINALE OF ITS 25TH ANNIVERSARY WITH A HOLIDAY MARKET HONORING SOUTH LA AND ALTADENA AT THE NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM

From a spring garden party to an inaugural fall gala, and culminating with a festive market as part of the Natural History Museum's Partners in Commons series, LA Commons invited communities across Los Angeles to join in celebration of its 25th anniversary all year long

SOUTH LOS ANGELES, CA – December 5, 2025 – As 2025 draws to a close, [LA Commons](#) will cap off its milestone 25th anniversary year with a joyful event: the *Cultural Treasures Holiday Market*, taking place Saturday, December 6th from 12–5PM at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County (NHM) in Exposition Park.

The latest entry in NHM's *Partners in Commons* series, the open-air market celebrates the artisans, entrepreneurs and food vendors of South LA and Altadena, two communities deeply rooted in Black arts and culture with legacies of resilience and unwavering commitment to cultural preservation.

Visitors to NHM's first-ever *Cultural Treasures Holiday Market* can shop for one-of-a-kind gifts from over 30 local small businesses including Sika x Queen Midas Gold, Kalli Arte Collective and Rhythms of the Village; enjoy music from a live DJ on NHM's community plaza; and engage

in a family-friendly art-making activity led by an LA Commons artist. Admission to the *Cultural Treasures Holiday Market* is free and open to all.

“Partnering with the Natural History Museum to host the *Cultural Treasures Holiday Market* is both the perfect kick-off to the season and culmination of our 25th Anniversary,” says Karen Mack, Executive Director and Founder of LA Commons. “This work not only fulfills our vision of a more connected Los Angeles where arts and culture is valued, shared and celebrated, but also helps to activate the longstanding historic and cultural ties between Altadena and South LA, particularly Leimert Park, to further community-driven healing and resilience as part of our creative recovery programming. We hope everyone can join us in this festive experience of celebrating rich cultural traditions, creativity and resilience!”

A Year of Celebrating Community, Art, Storytelling & Connection

Since its founding in 2000, LA Commons has become a model for community-based arts, equity and cultural connection – producing 130+ public art projects employing nearly 4000 local artists, mentoring over 13,000 youth, and engaging over 70,000 residents across the region.

In 2025, the organization marked its 25th year with a slate of unforgettable programs that brought the community together in celebration, including:

- May’s month-long series of activations kicking off the 25th anniversary campaign, which included an engaging culinary workshop hosted by artist Lozen Orozco of Spirit Plate for a day of storytelling and ancestral connection at the Huntington Library & Garden, a garden party and panel discussion in collaboration with Crop Swap LA, and a launch party for LA Commons’ first line of merch designed in collaboration with fashion incubator Sole Folks.
- In June, LA Commons hosted the 15th iteration of its signature event, *Day of the Ancestors: Festival of Masks*, where Senator Lola Smallwood-Cuevas formally announced her partnership with LA Commons to preserve the cultural contributions of legendary neighborhoods like Leimert Park, the Crenshaw Corridor and Historic Central Avenue in a ground-breaking initiative to designate South LA as a state-recognized cultural district: The Historic South LA Black Cultural District. This exciting South LA news was picked up in [Forbes.com](https://www.forbes.com).
- In October, LA Commons unveiled *Procession: Community Movement Through Time and Place*, an outdoor art exhibition in the heart of downtown Los Angeles presented in partnership with Dance Resource Center and The Music Center. The installation on Jerry Moss Plaza at The Music Center featured five towering triangular structures wrapped with reproductions of public artworks from LA Commons-led projects over the years representing 14 Los Angeles communities.
- Also in October, LA Commons hosted and sold out its inaugural *Colors of Connection Gala*, honoring LA arts champions including The Getty Foundation, California

Community Foundation and Metro Art, emceed by former Mayor Eric Garcetti and featuring multidisciplinary artist and speaker Autumn Breon.

Throughout the year, LA Commons also released its *25 Stories for 25 Years* video series, which quickly became a fan favorite, featuring micro-documentaries capturing the stories and voices of artists, youth, community leaders, culture bearers and civic leaders who have helped shape the organization's remarkable legacy.

About the *Cultural Treasures Holiday Market*

The December 6 holiday event is more than a market, it's a celebration of South LA and Altadena. Attendees can enjoy:

- Unique artisan gifts and handmade goods
- Live DJ
- Culinary goods from vendors like Crenshaw Juice Co., Rincon Hondureño, Dulanville Food Truck, and much more
- Free, all-ages art activity led by LA Commons

The event location is hosted in NHM Commons, the Museum's new public-facing space dedicated to community collaboration. A separate general admission ticket is required for access to NHM's main exhibitions.

WHEN:

Saturday, December 6, 2025

12:00 PM – 5:00 PM

WHERE:

NHM Commons at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County
900 Exposition Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90007

PRICE:

Free (Museum admission ticketed separately)

LINK:

<https://nhm.org/calendar/cultural-treasures-market-nhm>

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About LA Commons

Everyone has a story to tell. LA Commons, a 501(c)(3) arts nonprofit organization, is on a mission to engage communities in artistic and cultural expression that tells their unique stories and serves as a basis for dialogue, interaction and a shared understanding of Los Angeles. Through community-based art programs, centered on youth leadership development, we help diverse, generally low-income neighborhoods create dynamic works of public art that build community connection and empowerment.