

The Cerritos News

December delights at the CCPA



Merry-Achi Christmas returns to the Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts December 6 through December 8.

The Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts (CCPA) gets ready to close out the year with a bang! From R&B to Pop and Jazz and magic and more, check out what's in the December lineup!

Kick off the holidays with the festive "Home for the Holidays," sponsored by the Cerritos Auto Square, on Thursday, December 5, at 7 p.m. Enjoy Yuletide tunes and favorites from Platinum-certified singer-songwriter and "American Idol" finalist Haley Reinhart ("Lo-Fi Soul"); Grammy nominee Ruben Studdard ("Flying Without Wings"); four-time Grammy-nominated Gospel great Oleta Adams ("Get Here"); and renowned R&B-Soul Grammy-Oscar winner Peabo Bryson ("If Ever You're in My Arms Again," "By the Time This Night Is Over"). Tickets start at \$54.

The annual tradition "Merry-Achi Christmas" returns to Cerritos in a colorful Mexican holiday celebration filled with seasonal songs, dance, and festive merriment. Headlining the exciting extravaganza is the nation's premier Sol de México de José Hernández Mariachi, which is joined by America's first all-female Mariachi — Reyna de Los Angeles — and the Folklórico Revolución dance company. Join the celebration on Friday, December 6, at 7 p.m.; Saturday, December 7, at 7 p.m.; and Sunday, December 8, at 2 p.m. Ticket prices start at just \$40.

Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony offers family fun

The City of Cerritos will hold its annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony on Monday, December 2, from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Cerritos Civic Center.

Get an early jump on the holiday spirit at this special night for Cerritos families. The evening features holiday music, entertainment, crafts, and fun for all ages. The Cerritos City Council will light the City's Christmas tree at 6 p.m.

Santa will be available for visits following the lighting. Remember to bring a camera.

For more information, call the Community Participation Division at (562) 865-8101. ■

Mark your calendar for "Jake Shimabukuro Holidays in Hawaii." Immerse yourself in the spirit of the holidays as the ukulele virtuoso, whom "Rolling Stone" magazine crowned a "musical hero," presents a musical wonderland of his signature favorites along with timeless holiday classics. Get tickets now, starting at \$54, for this special Director's Pick show at 8 p.m. on Friday, December 13.

Rewind to the '90s with R&B superstars Dru Hill and All-4-One in this show full of chart-topping hits from the 1990s. Hear favorites like "Tell Me," "In My Bed," and "Never Make a Promise" from Urban Music Icon Award winner Dru Hill. Grammy winner All-4-One delivers timeless gems like "I Swear," "I Can Love You Like That," and "So Much in Love." Check out the "'90s R&B Rewind" on Saturday, December 14, at 8 p.m. Ticket prices start at just \$64.

"Get Down on It" with Kool & the Gang on Sunday, December 15, at 7 p.m. The Grammy-winning band has been wooing audiences the world over with its catchy concoction of Jazz, R&B, Funk, and Pop. The group, which boasts American Music Awards, a BET Soul Train Lifetime Achievement Award, and a Grammy for "Open Sesame" — was recently inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame. Hits include "Celebration," "Ladies Night," "Cherish," and "Jungle Boogie." Kool & the Gang consists of original member Robert "Kool" Bell, keyboardist Curtis "Fitz" Williams,



Scan the QR code to access the CCPA Events page to purchase tickets.

trumpeter Michael Ray, and guitarist Shawn "Shawny Mac" McQuiller. Tickets start at \$74.

Who better to get you into the Christmas mood than Grammy Hall of Famer Johnny Mathis? Hailed by the "Los Angeles Times" for his "distinctive vocal tone, with its telltale quaver," the legend also known as "The Voice of Romance" has captivated generations of fans with his classic hits, including "Chances Are," "Misty," and "Winter Wonderland." Join the icon as he performs timeless holiday tunes in the family-friendly "A Johnny Mathis Christmas" on Thursday, December 19, at 7 p.m. Get tickets now, starting at \$95.

Back by popular demand, the "Dave Koz and Friends Christmas Tour 2024" rings in the holidays with seasonal tunes and cheer. Grammy-nominated saxophonist extraordinaire Koz leads a sterling lineup of Jazz greats, including guitarist-singer Jonathan Butler; "Billboard's" 2012 "Smooth Jazz Artist of the Year" and saxophonist Vincent Ingala; producer-guitarist Adam Hawley; and award-winning vocalist Rebecca Jade. Tickets start at \$60. Show times are 8 p.m. on Friday, December 20, and Saturday, December 21.

Maestro Hyun S. Joo leads 50 musicians, a 50-member choir, and featured soloists in the "Los Angeles Symphony Christmas Concert," a showcase of classic Opera arias and Christmas music. Tickets start at \$25 for this Performance Partner Program at 7 p.m. on Sunday, December 22. The 10-percent Choose Your Own Season discount does not apply to this show, which has a no refund, no exchange policy.

"The Illusionists . . . will blow your mind!" raved the "New York Theatre Guide." Celebrate the holidays with the entire family in this mind-blowing spectacle featuring jaw-dropping talents, mentalism, and magic acts from acclaimed illusionists. "Magic of the Holidays" has shattered box office records across the globe and "is sure to wow you with many moments of serious 'how-did-they-do-that!?' magic," hailed the "New York Theatre Guide." Ticket prices start at \$54 for this show on Sunday, December 29, at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. The event is sponsored by Aria Apartment Homes.

Get tickets at cerritoscenter.com or call the Box Office at (562) 916-8500. ■

Contact Santa this holiday season

Little ones can email or chat with Santa this holiday season.

To receive a call from the North Pole, register by Thursday, December 5 through the Classes/RACER link on the City's website at cerritos.gov. Four to six year olds (registration number 13341) must be available to chat with Santa on Thursday, December 5 between 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. Seven to nine year olds (registration number 13342) must be available to take calls from the North Pole on Friday, December

6 between 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. For more information, call Heritage Park at (562) 916-8570.

Children ages 11 and younger can also email Santa starting Monday, November 25 through Friday, December 13. A link to email Santa will be posted on cerritos.gov.

For more information about contacting Santa, call the City's Recreation Services Division at (562) 916-1254. ■

City Council Recap



Scan the QR code to view City Council meeting minutes and agendas at cerritos.gov/agendas

City to observe upcoming holidays

The following Cerritos facilities will be closed in observance of Christmas and New Year's Day:

Christmas Eve

City Hall, the City Clerk's Office, the Cerritos Library, the Cerritos Senior Center at Pat Nixon Park, Community Centers, the Cerritos Olympic Swim & Fitness Center, and the Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts (CCPA) Box Office will be closed on Tuesday, December 24. The Cerritos Iron-Wood Nine Golf Course will close at 2 p.m.

Christmas

City Hall, the City Clerk's Office, the Cerritos Library, the Cerritos Senior Center at Pat Nixon Park, the CCPA Box Office, and all Recreation facilities will be closed on Wednesday, December 25. There will be no trash collection, and the schedule will be delayed by one day for the remainder of the week.

New Year's Eve

All Community Centers will be closed on Tuesday, December 31. The Cerritos Iron-Wood Nine Golf Course and the Cerritos Olympic Swim & Fitness Center will close at 2 p.m. The Cerritos Library and Cerritos Senior Center at Pat Nixon Park will close at 5 p.m.

New Year's Day

City Hall, the City Clerk's Office, the Cerritos Library, the Cerritos Senior Center at Pat Nixon Park, the CCPA Box Office, and all Recreation facilities will be closed on Wednesday, January 1. There will be no trash collection, and the schedule will be delayed by one day for the remainder of the week. ■

Donate to community programs this holiday season

This holiday season, residents are invited to donate to local community programs, including Toys for Tots and the Salvation Army Angel Giving Tree Program.

The annual Toys for Tots program, sponsored by the United States Marine Corps with the City of Cerritos, provides gifts to local underprivileged children. New, unwrapped toys may be dropped off now through Friday, December 13 in the Toys for Tots bins at Cerritos City Hall, Cerritos Library, Cerritos Senior Center at Pat Nixon Park, Liberty Park, Cerritos Park East, and Cerritos Sheriff's Station.

The Salvation Army Angel Giving Tree Program helps brighten Christmas for needy children. To participate, pick up one or more tags at the Cerritos Senior Center now through Friday, December 6. Each tag will list the child's age, gender, clothing size, and toy request. Submit your donation, along with the original tag, to the Cerritos Senior Center on or before Friday, December 13.

For more information, call the Community Participation Division at (562) 865-8101. ■

Volunteers sought for Friends of the 1st CEB

The City of Cerritos adopted the 1st Combat Engineer Battalion (1st CEB), United States Marine Corps, Camp Pendleton, in 2007 to encourage strong ties between the Marine unit, residents and the City. The Friends of the 1st CEB is a non-profit, all-volunteer organization that organizes programs in support of the Marines.

The Friends of the 1st CEB are seeking volunteers to help with the organization's efforts to support the Marines. For information about how to become a volunteer, contact Chuck Sooter at (562) 860-8174 or visit friendsofthe1stceb.org.

Each month, the City joins with the Friends of the 1st CEB in honoring a marine for his or her high standards and outstanding work ethic and performance. Marines are presented with a proclamation by the Cerritos City Council, and are provided with accommodations and entertainment for a week-

end sponsored by local businesses. The program is designed to recognize the marines of the 1st CEB who serve our country and protect our freedom, in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Marine Corps and the United States Naval Service.

First activated in 1941, 1st CEB has served from World War II through every major conflict to the present day. The unit's mission is to provide mobility, counter-mobility, survivability, and general engineering in support of 1st Marine Division.

The battalion consists of Headquarters and Service Company, Engineer Support Company, and four engineer line companies: Alpha, Bravo, Charlie, and Delta Company (Cadre).

For more information about the Friends of the 1st CEB or the Meritorious Marine Program, contact Chuck Sooter at (562) 860-8174 or visit friendsofthe1stceb.org. ■

Gridley Park playground refurbishment contract awarded

The Cerritos City Council recently awarded a \$254,850 contract to R.E. Schultz Construction, Inc. for the Gridley Park East Playground Refurbishment project. The playground area located on the eastern end of Gridley Park was damaged by an arson fire. As the damage was caused by arson, this project will be funded entirely by an insurance settlement.

As a part of the project, the Orange-based R.E. Schultz Construction, Inc. will remove and replace the damaged playground equipment and rubberized surfacing. For more information, please call the Public Works Department at (562) 916-1220. ■



Shop & Dine in Cerritos



Thank you for supporting local restaurants and businesses.

shopcerritos.com

Follow Cerritos on social media

Stay in the know with what's happening in the City of Cerritos and at the Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts. Follow us on Facebook @CityCerritos, on Instagram @city_of_cerritos, on LinkedIn @cityofcerritos, on YouTube @CityofCerritos and on X @CityCerritos to get the latest City updates. Go to any page on the Cerritos website at cerritos.gov for all the links. ■

Scan the QR code to stay connected and follow us on social media at cerritos.gov



Scan the QR code to watch weekly update videos about the City of Cerritos.



December Library News



REGISTRATION

In order to register, patrons must be in the City's RACER registration database. For more information, please visit the City of Cerritos website at cerritos.gov.

CLASSES/RACER ONLINE REGISTRATION TIPS

To check the availability or to register for classes, please visit the Cerritos website at cerritos.gov and look for the Classes/RACER link or scan the QR code below.



Scan the QR code to access the RACER Registration page.

You will not receive confirmation by mail for classes registered online.

Please print a receipt at the conclusion of your transaction and bring it with you to the first day of the event or class. For additional information, please call the Library Reservation Desk at (562) 916-1388. Computers at the Cerritos Library may be used to access RACER.

ONLINE REGISTRATION

cerritos.gov

Cerritos Resident online registration for all programs listed begins **Sun., Dec. 1 at 11 a.m.**

Non-Resident online registration for all programs listed begins **Sun., Dec. 8 at 11 a.m.**

PHONE REGISTRATION

Call (562) 916-1388

Cerritos Resident phone registration for all programs listed begins **Mon., Dec. 2 at 11 a.m.**

Non-Resident phone registration for all programs listed begins **Sun., Dec. 8 at 11 a.m.**

WALK-IN REGISTRATION

Cerritos Resident walk-in registration for all programs listed begins **Sun., Dec. 1 at 11 a.m.**

Non-Resident walk-in registration for all programs listed begins **Sun., Dec. 8 at 11 a.m.**

The following Library programs require advance registration:

For more information call (562) 916-1388, unless otherwise noted.
Seating is limited for all programs.

STORYTIMES

Cerritos Library's 30-45 minute storytimes incorporating stories and audience participation will be held in the Little Theater. Only children registered for storytime may be brought to the program. Space is limited to 40 participants.

Thursdays at 11 a.m. for ages 5 and under
13899 Thurs., Dec. 12

Second Saturday of the month at 11:15 a.m. for ages 5 and under
13904 Sat., Dec. 14

HOLIDAY WREATH WORKSHOP FOR TEENS AND ADULTS

Participants will make a decorative wreath to take home and use as a beautiful decoration for the holidays. Supplies will be provided. The fee is \$5. No refunds will be given. Space is limited to 15 participants.

13905 Wed., Dec. 11 6-7 p.m.
Ages 13 and Over Skyline Room

GINGERBREAD HOUSE DECORATING

Get in the holiday spirit by decorating your own gingerbread house.

We supply the house, icing, and candy, you provide the imagination! The class fee is \$5. No refunds will be given. Space is limited to 10 participants.

13906 Wed., Dec. 11 3:30-4:15 p.m.
Ages 7-10 Art Studio

SQUISHIES KEYCHAIN PAINTING CLASS

Join us as we paint and decorate Squishies toys and make them into keychains. Supplies will be provided. Space is limited to 15 participants.

13907 Fri., Dec. 13 4-5 p.m.
Ages 8-13 Art Studio

DIAMOND ART SNOWFLAKE ORNAMENTS

Join us as we learn how to create sparkling snowflake ornaments with diamond art. Supplies will be provided. Space is limited to 15 participants.

13908 Tues., Dec. 17 3:45-4:45 p.m.
Ages 8-12 Art Studio

A BLUEY HOLIDAY STORYTIME

Join us for special holiday stories featuring Bluey and her friends, then get crafty as we create Bluey-inspired holiday crafts. Perfect for little ones who love stories, creativity, and holiday fun! Space is limited to 18 participants.

13909 Wed., Dec. 18 11 a.m.-noon
Ages 4-6 Little Theater/
Art Studio

BABIES 'N' BOOKS

Children and caregivers participate in music, nursery rhymes, simple stories, and books. The class is limited to 20 participants. No class on January 20 & February 17.

13910 Mon., Jan. 6- Mar. 10
11 a.m.
Ages 6-25 mos. Little Theater

PRESCHOOL STORYTIME

Children and adults will participate in stories, songs, rhymes, and a simple craft activity. The class is limited to 18 participants.

13911 Tues., Jan. 7-Mar. 11
11 a.m.
Ages 3-5 Little Theater/
Art Studio

HOMEWORK HELP

An after-school homework help program will be offered for Cerritos residents. Students should bring their homework and a book to read. A parent or designated individual is required to sign students in and out of each class meeting. Space is limited to 15 participants per class. Please register for only one of the following sessions.

13912 Tues., Jan. 14-Mar. 11
3:30-4:30 p.m.
Grades 1-3 Art Studio

13913 Wed., Jan. 15-Mar. 12
3:30-4:30 p.m.
Grades 3-6 Art Studio

CHILD & TEEN READ ALOUD

Children who are able to read are invited to participate in special read aloud sessions. These children will be teamed up with energetic teens during this weekly program. To be eligible for this program, all participants must attend the first day of class for testing. Space is limited to 10 participants.

13914 Wed., Jan. 15-Mar. 12
3:45-4:45 p.m.
Ages 6-8 Little Theater

CLASSIC EDUCATIONAL BOARD GAMES FOR ELEMENTARY STUDENTS

Join us as students will be introduced to, and learn how to play, different games with a tutor and other students. These games will stimulate your child's vocabulary, math, and geography knowledge and critical thinking skills. They will learn to follow rules and directions, while improving social behavior and having fun learning new games. A parent or designated individual must sign students in and out of each class meeting. Space is limited to 12 participants per class meeting.

13915 Thurs., Jan. 16-Mar. 13
3:45-4:45 p.m.
Ages 8-12 Art Studio

The following Library programs do not require advance registration:

FAMILY STORYTIME WITH SANTA

Join us for a fun evening of stories, songs and crafts with a special guest from the North Pole.

Wed., Dec. 4 6 p.m.
All Ages Skyline Room

ARTS AND CRAFTS FOR KIDS

A free hands-on holiday craft will be held for children ages 2-12. This craft will take approximately 10 to 15 minutes to complete. For more information, call (562) 916-1343.

Fri., Dec. 6 11 a.m.-noon & 5-6 p.m.
Ages 2-12 Art Studio

HOLIDAY CONCERT BY THE CYPRESS SENIOR CHORUS

Enjoy the sounds of the season as the Cypress Senior Chorus shares beautiful holiday selections. Your spirits will be lifted by the lovely choral sounds of this class from North Orange County Continuing Education's Older Adults Program. Director Lee Lassetter is a local educator, organist, and music therapist. The choir is comprised of older, retired adults who love to share their joy of singing with the community.

Mon., Dec. 9 7 p.m.
All Ages Skyline Room

STREET FIGHTER 6 TOURNAMENT FOR TEENS

Get ready to unleash your video game fighting skills at the ultimate Street Fighter 6 tournament for teens! Join us for a fun competition where players will battle it out in this iconic arcade fighting game on the PlayStation 5. Whether you're a seasoned pro or new to the game, this tournament is the perfect chance to show off your moves and meet fellow gamers. Are you ready to rise to the challenge and become the next Street Fighter champion? Snacks will be provided, while supplies last. Space is limited to 16 participants.

Wed., Dec. 11 4-5 p.m.
Ages 13-17 Hi-Tech Lab

December Library News

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KIEHL'S HOLIDAY SKINCARE CLASS

Join us for a fun and informative holiday skincare class from expert staff from Kiehl's Los Cerritos Center. Learn how to keep your skin healthy and glowing throughout the winter season.

Thurs., Dec. 12 6 p.m.
Ages 11 & Over Skyline Room A

BOOK CLUB FOR ADULTS

The Book Club for Adults will meet for a book discussion. Participants will discuss the book "The Man Who Died Twice" by Richard Osman. For more information, call (562) 916-1340.

Wed., Dec. 18 11 a.m.-noon Board Room

NIGHT AT THE MOVIES: "GHOSTBUSTERS" (1984)

Theo Siegel will discuss the making of "Ghostbusters," starring Bill Murray, Dan Aykroyd and Sigourney Weaver, followed by a screening of the film. This film is rated PG and has a running time of 105 minutes.

Thurs., Dec. 19 6 p.m.
Ages 18 and Over Skyline Room

ELLIE THE ELF: LOST IN THE LIBRARY TUES., DEC. 17-MON., DEC. 23

Our elf, lovingly known as Ellie, has arrived at the library and is jumping from shelf to shelf. Ellie has started a new game at the library. Every day she is moving and hiding in a different location. Children are welcome to come in, find Ellie's location and submit the answer to receive a small prize. Ellie only hides in the Children's Room of the library. Daily clues to locate Ellie will be provided at the Children's Desk. For children ages 2-12.

MATH HOMEWORK HELP

An after-school mathematics homework help program will be offered for Cerritos residents. Students should bring their math homework and a book to read. A parent or designated individual is required to sign students in and out of each class meeting. Space is limited to 20 participants per class. No class on January 20 and February 17.

Mon., Jan. 6-Mar. 10
3:30-4:30 p.m.
Grades 3-5 Art Studio

MUSIC AND MOVEMENT MONDAYS

Children and parents will participate in 30-45 minutes of songs and movement activities that enhance both the growth and fine motor skills of the child. The class is limited to 20 participants. No class on January 20 and February 17.

Mon., Jan. 6-Mar. 10
5:15 p.m.
Ages 4-6 Little Theater

Library Displays

NATURE'S PALETTE: A JOURNEY THROUGH CULTURE AND COLOR

Darshini Aithal is a versatile artist; her creations express a profound reverence for nature and a deep connection to her cultural roots. Born in India and enriched by her education in her homeland and the United States, Aithal's artistic journey is a testament to the seamless fusion of diverse influences and the boundless power of creative expression. In acrylics, she finds a medium that allows her to express the vibrant energy of her surroundings, translating the myriad hues of nature into bold, dynamic compositions with confident strokes and rich textures, breathing life into her artwork. Aithal's artwork will be on display in the local History Room through the end of December.

CERRITOS SENIOR CENTER CHINESE BRUSH CALLIGRAPHY EXHIBITION

More than 20 seniors started the Chinese brush calligraphy class in September 2011. They have met regularly at the Cerritos Senior Center ever since to practice and share ideas. Despite the diversity of their ethnicity, previous professions and different proficiency levels, members bring a great passion for the unique art of Chinese Brush calligraphy. Nineteen pieces are included in this third group exhibition, "Taoism Everywhere." The exhibition will be on display in the main lobby of the library through the end of December.

Be cautious of coyotes in Cerritos

Residents are advised to take the following precautions to avoid encounters with coyotes:

- Feed pets indoors.
- Eliminate potential food and water sources, such as fallen fruit or standing water.
- Keep yards free of thick brush and weeds.
- Enclose the bottoms of porches and decks.
- Keep dogs on a leash at all times when outdoors.
- Keep small animals inside or supervised when outdoors. A fenced yard will not protect small animals because coyotes can easily scale residential fences.

Domestic dogs are especially vulnerable to coyote attacks. Adult coyotes are mainly active at night or in the early morning hours, while young coyotes are often active during the day. California coyotes have adapted to residential neighborhoods, parks and open spaces in urban and suburban areas. They are especially prevalent in areas bordering a flood channel.

Residents who see a coyote in their neighborhood should try to scare it away by shouting, throwing rocks, blowing portable air horns or acting in other aggressive ways in order to reinforce the coyote's fear of people. Motion-sensitive lights on houses or out-buildings may also deter coyotes from approaching.

If an aggressive or fearless coyote approaches you or your pet, consider the following tips:

- Shout in a deep voice.
- Wave your arms.
- Throw objects at the animal.
- Look the coyote directly in the eyes.
- Stand up if you are seated.
- If you are wearing a coat or vest, spread it open like a cape so that you appear larger.
- Retreat from the situation by walking backward slowly. Do not turn your back on the coyote.

The City of Cerritos contracts with Long Beach Animal Care Services to provide a wide range of services, including coyote management. The City of Long Beach has a comprehensive coyote management plan and that plan serves as the de facto plan for Cerritos by extension of the service contract. The majority of cities in the region all have similar coyote management plans as each plan must be in accord with the regulations established by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. To access the comprehensive coyote management plan, please visit <https://bit.ly/2lTHFJE>.

If you see a coyote, fill out an online "Wildlife Incident Report" on the Long Beach Animal Care Services website at longbeach.gov/acs/wildlife/coyote-report. The website has additional information about coyotes. ■

Official Cerritos City Council Candidate Nomination Period closes December 6

There will be three seats open on the Cerritos City Council for the Tuesday, March 4, 2025 general municipal election. The official candidate nomination period opened Tuesday, November 12, 2024 at 8 a.m. and runs through Friday, December 6, 2024 at 5 p.m. sharp in the Office of the Cerritos City Clerk/Elections Official. If an eligible incumbent does not file nomination papers by the Friday, December 6, 2024 deadline, the official candidate nomination period is extended to Wednesday, December 11, 2024 at 5 p.m., sharp, for eligible individuals other than eligible incumbents.

Cerritos registered voters who are interested in running for Cerritos City Council are encouraged to schedule appointments with the City Clerk/Elections Official to discuss the candidate nomination process or to receive the official candidate nomination paperwork.

For more information, please contact the Office of the City Clerk/Elections Official at (562) 916-1248 or election2025@cerritos.us. ■

Santa's Holiday Float returns in December

Santa's Holiday Float returns to Cerritos neighborhoods again this month. The program will be offered on seven nights in December and feature a float with Santa traveling through the residential areas of Cerritos. Children will have the opportunity to wave at Santa and enjoy a festive float with music and holiday decorations.

Santa's Holiday Float will travel through the city starting at 6 p.m. Monday, December 9 through Wednesday, December 11; Friday, December 13; and Tuesday, December 17 through Thursday, December 19.

Maps showing the float's route each evening will be posted on the City's website at cerritos.gov by early December. A GPS tracker will be placed on the float to allow residents to track its location each evening through a link on the City's website.

In the event of rain, the float will be canceled for that evening and the route will be rescheduled to another night.

Parents are urged to supervise their children to keep them from running into the streets while the float is passing. ■

City of Cerritos names new Public Works Director

The City of Cerritos has appointed Alvin Papa as the new Director of Public Works.

In his role, Papa will oversee the divisions of Engineering, Environmental Services, Maintenance, Parks and Trees, Water Operations, Reclaimed Water, and Electric Utility.

With 24 years of experience in engineering and public works, Papa has held key positions, including Deputy Director of Public Works for the City of Huntington Beach and City Engineer for the City of Long Beach. He holds a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from San Diego State University and a master's in public administration from California State University, Long Beach.

Papa also serves as President-elect of the Southern California Chapter of the American Public Works Association and resides in the neighboring city of Lakewood. ■

Business Spotlight

Cerritos Medical Center

Cerritos Medical Center was recently selected for the City’s Business Spotlight Program, which showcases companies that foster pride in the community, provide jobs, and contribute to the local economy.

Since 1992, Cerritos Medical Center has offered a wide variety of medical services to the residents of Cerritos and the surrounding communities. Cerritos Medical Center was founded by John S. Kim M.D., who attended Cerritos College as a high school student and obtained a medical assistant certificate in 1979. Dr. Kim graduated from the University of California, Berkeley, with a degree in biochemistry in 1984 and later earned his medical degree from the University of California, San Francisco, School of Medicine in 1988.

Cerritos Medical Center offers various medical services including pediatric services, internal medicine, women’s health services, employment physicals, and aesthetic medicine.

Cerritos Medical Center, located at 11911 Artesia Boulevard, Suite 101 in Cerritos, can be reached at (562) 404-7622 or at cerritosmedicalcenter.com.

Overnight parking restrictions eased for holidays

Out-of-town guests visiting family and friends in Cerritos for the holidays are welcome to park overnight on Cerritos streets without a permit during the City’s annual holiday parking moratorium.

No parking permit will be required from Saturday, December 7 through Monday, January 6 for the Christmas and New Year’s Day holidays.

Permits are normally required to park on City streets between 3 and 5 a.m. to help keep streets clear and allow residents and deputies to quickly spot suspicious vehicles. Overnight parking permit renewals are taking place now.

For more information, call the Community Safety Division at (562) 916-1266. ■



CITY OF CERRITOSSM

CIVIC CENTER • 18125 BLOOMFIELD AVENUE
P.O. BOX 3130 • CERRITOS, CALIFORNIA 90703-3130
PHONE: (562) 860-0311 • CERRITOS.US



November 27, 2024

Happy Holidays!

As the City of Cerritos welcomes the holiday season, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to the community for an incredible year of accomplishments.

In January, the Cerritos Senior Center at Pat Nixon park celebrated its 30th anniversary. Since 1994, the Cerritos Senior Center has provided a welcome space for seniors to participate in educational programs, receive social services, and enjoy recreational activities.

The City and the Cerritos Auto Square co-produced a documentary titled “Nothing Like It In The World: The Story of the Cerritos Auto Square.” The City and Auto Square hosted a red carpet premiere in February at the Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts (CCPA).

This year, the City launched updated websites for the City, Safer Cerritos, and Shop Cerritos enhancing the online experience for our residents.

The CCPA kicked-off its 2024-2025 Season with a sold out performance by En Vogue and Exposé. The City is pleased to have received another donation from Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn to support seven Arts Education performances this season.

On our streets, the City has repaved key portions of Carmenita Road, Artesia Boulevard, 183rd Street, Marquardt Avenue, 166th Street, and Auto Square Drive, complemented by new, attractive landscaping.

On the business front, the City welcomed new eateries like North Italia, Bafang Dumpling, Sorry Not Sorry Creamery, and Beard Papa’s. A Starbucks drive-through has opened in the Target property on Bloomfield Avenue, and Genesis of Cerritos is building an exciting new dealership at the Cerritos Auto Square.

The City renovated and re-opened the Iron-Wood Nine Golf Course, unveiling a fresh, vibrant look for our community to enjoy. The updates feature enhanced landscaping, lush turf repairs, tee box renovations, and so much more.

Have a safe and joyful holiday season!

Best Wishes,
Cerritos City Council

NARESH SOLANKI
MAYOR

CHUONG VO
MAYOR PRO TEM

BRUCE W. BARROWS
COUNCILMEMBER

LYNDA P. JOHNSON
COUNCILMEMBER

FRANK AURELIO YOKOYAMA
COUNCILMEMBER

Christmas tree recycling offered

Residents in single-family homes can recycle their Christmas trees beginning Thursday, December 26 through Friday, January 10 by placing them at the curb for pick-up by 7 a.m. on their trash collection days. The trees will be composted or used for the Los Angeles County Sanitation District’s daily landfill cover.

Trees to be recycled should not contain any lights, tinsel, nails, metal stands, or decorations, and should not be placed in bags. Trees more than 4 feet tall should be cut in half. Flocked trees will be accepted.

Businesses in Cerritos or residents living in apartments or condominiums can place trees next to their trash bin for collection. For more information, call the City’s Public Works Department at (562) 916-1220. ■

TV3 Schedule: December

City Council and Commission Meetings

Cerritos City Council Meeting

7 p.m. on Monday, December 2 (live), rebroadcasts: 7 p.m. on Friday, December 6 and 10 a.m. on Monday, December 9

7 p.m. on Thursday, December 12 (live), rebroadcasts: 7 p.m. on Friday, December 13 and 10 a.m. on Monday, December 16

Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting

7 p.m. on Thursday, December 5 (Live), rebroadcasts: 3 p.m. on Friday, December 6 and 10 a.m. on Tuesday, December 10

Planning Commission Meeting

7 p.m. on Wednesday, December 4 (live), rebroadcasts: 11 a.m. on Thursday, December 5 and 7 p.m. on Wednesday, December 11

Program Highlights

Mayor’s Weekly 60

11 a.m. on Sunday, December 1; 1 p.m. on Saturday, December 7; 6 p.m. on Friday, December 13; and 3 p.m. on Saturday, December 28

Active Shooter Seminar

2 p.m. on Sunday, December 1; 11 a.m. on Wednesday, December 4; 8 p.m. on Monday, December 16; and 6 p.m. on Thursday, December 19

CCPA Performances: Merry-Achi Christmas

10 a.m. on Saturday, December 7; 7 p.m. on Tuesday, December 10; 11 a.m. on Wednesday, December 18; and 6 p.m. on Saturday, December 21

For Cerritos TV3 schedule and streaming video, visit: cerritos.gov/tv3



Scan the QR code to access the Cerritos TV3 page.

Calendar of Events

- November 27

- **Iron-Wood Nine Golf Course and Swim Center closed at 2 p.m.**
 - **Community Centers closed at 4 p.m.**
 - **Library and Senior Center closed at 5 p.m.**
- November 28

- **Thanksgiving**
 - **City Hall, City Clerk's Office, Library, Senior Center, all Recreation facilities, and CCPA Box Office closed**
- November 29

- **City Hall, City Clerk's Office, Library, Senior Center, and CCPA Box Office closed**
 - **Swim Center closed at 2 p.m.**
- December 2

- **Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony**, 5-7 p.m., Civic Center.
 - **City Council** meeting, 7 p.m., City Hall Council Chamber. Also on December 12.
 - **Cerritos Gadabouts**, 9 a.m.-noon, Cerritos Senior Center at Pat Nixon Park. Also on October 28, December 9, 16, and 23. Contact Richard Taylor at (323) 712-0392.
- December 3

- **Cerritos Chinese-American Senior Citizens Association**, 1-4 p.m., Cerritos Senior Center at Pat Nixon Park. Also on December 10 and 17. Contact Katie Yen at (562) 833-6711.
 - **Cerritos Folk Dancers**, 5-8 p.m., Cerritos Senior Center at Pat Nixon Park. Also on December 10 and 17. Contact Julith Neff at (562) 881-9504.
 - **The "Original" Happy Seniors of Cerritos**, 5-8 p.m., Cerritos Senior Center at Pat Nixon Park. Also on December 10 and 17. Contact Lucita Cordero at (714) 947-6456.
- December 4

- **Planning Commission** meeting, 7 p.m., City Hall Council Chamber.
 - **Friends of the 1st CEB**, 6 p.m., Liberty Park. Contact Chuck Sooter at (562) 860-8174.
- December 5

- **Parks and Recreation Commission** meeting, 7 p.m., City Hall Council Chamber.
 - **Cerritos Optimist Club**, 7 a.m., Denny's, 16907 Pioneer Blvd., Artesia. Also on December 12. Contact Harold Bazarian at (562) 884-2913.
 - **Cerritos (Mid-City) Korean-American Senior Citizens Association**, 9 a.m.-noon, Cerritos Senior Center at Pat Nixon Park. Also on December 12 and 19. Contact Kyo Kim at (562) 900-9382.
 - **Cerritos Indo-American Seniors**, 2-5 p.m., Cerritos Senior Center at Pat Nixon Park. Also on December 12 and 19. Contact Arvind Patel at (562) 322-0085.
 - **Formosa Senior Association**, 5-8 p.m., Cerritos Senior Center at Pat Nixon Park. Also on December 12, 19, and 26. Contact Christine Lee at (213) 219-1430.
- December 6

- **Filipino Seniors of Cerritos**, 1:30-4:30 p.m., Cerritos Senior Center at Pat Nixon Park. Contact Mayette Centeno at (562) 331-0938. Also on December 20.
- December 7

- **Cerritos Certified Farmers' Market**, 8 a.m.-noon, northwest parking lot of the Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts. Also on December 14, 21, and 28.
- December 10

- **Cerritos Republican Club**, 6 p.m., Malibu Room at Cerritos Park East. Contact sdpr59@aol.com or visit cerritos-republican.org.
- December 11

- **Soroptomist International of Artesia-Cerritos**, 6-8 p.m., 11306 183rd Street, Suite 101, Cerritos. Contact Jennifer Hong at (562) 964-9388.
- December 12

- **Woman's Club of Artesia-Cerritos**, 11 a.m., Cerritos Park East. Contact Sue Verway at (562) 926-2660.
 - **Da' Hawaii Seniors Club**, 2-5 p.m., Cerritos Senior Center at Pat Nixon Park. Also on December 19. Contact Carmelita Tiongson at (562) 305-7995.
 - **Bellflower Unified School District Board** meeting, 4 p.m., 16703 S. Clark Avenue, Bellflower.
- December 14

- **Crowd Cleaning Crew**, 9-11 a.m., For Location, Contact Skai at (562) 228-2700 or visit crowdcleaningcrew.org
- December 17

- **ABC Unified School District Board** meeting, 7 p.m., 16700 Norwalk Blvd., Cerritos.
- December 24

- **Christmas Eve**
 - **City Hall, City Clerk's Office, Library, Senior Center, Community Centers, Swim Center and CCPA Box Office closed**
 - **Iron-Wood Nine Golf Course closed at 2 p.m.**
- December 25

- **Christmas**
 - **City Hall, City Clerk's Office, Library, Senior Center, all Recreation facilities, and CCPA Box Office closed**
- December 31

- **Community Centers closed**
 - **Iron-Wood Nine Golf Course and Swim Center closed at 2 p.m.**
 - **Library and Senior Center closed at 5 p.m.**

December 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

2025 community calendars to be delivered

The 2025 Cerritos Community Calendar will be delivered to Cerritos residents and businesses starting the week of December 2. The 2025 calendar features a cover photo of the beautiful Cerritos Senior Center at Pat Nixon Park. Inside photos are of City parks, facilities, events, and businesses.

The calendar also includes a directory of community clubs and organizations, a roster of elected and appointed officials, performance dates for the Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts, and dates for various City meetings and events.

The calendars will be delivered door-to-door by a delivery service. Calendars are limited to one copy per home or business in Cerritos. Residents who have not received a calendar by Friday, December 27 can request one at the City's reception desk in City Hall. ■

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day ceremony and contests planned

In honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, the City of Cerritos will host a special celebration on Monday, January 20 at 10 a.m. in the Sierra Room of the Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts (CCPA). The public is invited to attend this free event, which will include remarks by the Cerritos City Council and community involvement through songs and comments.

As part of the City's Martin Luther King, Jr. Day celebration, the Cerritos Library is sponsoring art and writing contests for students. The art contest is open to students in kindergarten through grade 12. Participants may submit one art entry, no larger than 12" x 18," using any drawing or painting materials.

The writing contest is open to students in grades 7 through 12. Participants may submit one writing entry, which may be a poem or an essay with no more than 300 words, preferably typed on white letter-size paper.

All art and writing contest entries should represent the theme of "More Than a Dream." Contest entry forms are available at the Cerritos Library and on the City's website at cerritos.gov. Completed art and writing entries must be dropped off at the Cerritos Library by 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, January 8.

Selected entries will be recognized at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day ceremony and on the City's website. For more information, call the Community Participation Division at (562) 865-8101. ■

The Cerritos News

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Mayor Pro Tem

Councilmember

Councilmember

Councilmember

Naresh Solanki

Chuong Vo

Bruce W. Barrows

Lynda P. Johnson

Frank Aurelio Yokoyama

City Contacts

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Community Development....	(562) 916-1201
Public Works	(562) 916-1220
Recreation Services.....	(562) 916-1254
CCPA	(562) 916-8510
Cerritos Library	(562) 916-1350
Cerritos Senior Center	(562) 916-8550
Cerritos Sheriff's Station	(562) 860-0044
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