

Temple Beth Israel, Celebrating 90 Years

by DELAINE W. SHANE, TBI History Committee Chair

On March 30, 2014, Temple Beth Israel of Highland Park and Eagle Rock (TBI) will be honored by the Highland Park Heritage Trust (HPHT), a well-known preservation organization. HPHT's Bi-Annual Community Award Ceremony will be held at the temple to recognize several honorees including TBI.

In conjunction with the awards ceremony, TBI will present an historical exhibit that will pay tribute to people and events in the 90 years since the founding of the congregation (originally known as the Highland Park Hebrew School Association). This wonderful event is expected to have a large turnout with both organizations' members in attendance, along with the public, government officials, and the press.

The exhibit pieces will pay homage to the people and events at TBI over the years. These pieces will represent one (or more) of three TBI exhibit themes: 1) Oasis, 2) Jewish Experience, and 3) Tikkun Olam. The "Oasis" is in reference to the temple's status as an outpost to Jewish Los Angeles and yet is unique in its own right, including its architecture. The "Jewish Experience" refers

to its flexible, hamishe atmosphere that allows its congregants, clergy, and friends to develop, implement, and take in meaningful TBI activities (be they spiritual, religious, educational, social activism, ethnic cuisine, or cultural). The "Tikkun Olam" is where the temple and/or separately its congregants have helped to "repair the world" and do "mitzvot". There will be a time line of key milestones throughout the 90 years, as well as recognition of the temple's effort to landscape in a sustainable manner and create an Exodus Garden.

TBI is a "do-it-yourself" temple that relies heavily on volunteers (whether those individuals are members or not), therefore the exhibit will also depend on information and photos that members and community may have available. Temple Beth Israel looks forward to working on this in a collaborative and expeditious manner.

Editor's Note: HPHT is happy to partner with TBI to accomplish this task. Please use HPHT contact information if you think you have something of value for this momentous event. info@hpht.org, (323) 908-4127

Photo by Charles J. Fisher



Membership in Action

Every January, the Board of Directors reviews the programmatic and organizational needs of the previous twelve months and identifies the initiatives the organization will take on over the upcoming twelve months. With the holidays now behind us and the 2014 Board in place, we are ready to get to work. I would like to thank our out-going Board members – Nicole Possert, Linda Phelps, and Linda Miller for their hard work and dedication on the Board over the many years. Their experience, passion, and commitment to the community have had significant influence on how HPHT operates and serves our community. I would like to also welcome Harvey Slater and Ronald Rocha to our 2014 Board. They have each expressed interest and are committed to the work that we do to accomplish our mission. I look forward to working with them and our existing Board to get our initiatives accomplished throughout the year.

This year marks an important time for preservation in our Northeast community. First, we have SurveyLA coming to NELA in the Fall. This survey is the City's first comprehensive citywide program to identify significant historic resources throughout the city. Although we have the Highland Park/Garvanza Historic Preservation Overlay Zone (HPOZ) - the largest HPOZ in the entire city, SurveyLA will not be considering those properties that fall within the HPOZ since they were surveyed during the creation of the historic district in the early 1990s and the Garvanza expansion in 2010. It has been at least 20 years since the initial survey was adopted and many properties that were not identified then are waiting to be recognized today.

A lot has happened in our neighborhoods in the past 20 years - to list a few, there has been a noticeable increase of property renovations and restorations, involvement and pride in our neighborhoods by residents and businesses, and the fact that our mid-century architecture is now over 50 years old. Since the survey will skip the HPOZ, there are many properties within and outside of the HPOZ that merit inclusion in the survey. For more information about SurveyLA and to learn how you can get involved, visit the City's website at www.opreservation.lacity.org/survey.

Other exciting news to share - the Southwest Museum and the Arroyo Seco Branch Library are both celebrating their 100 year anniversary this year. This is a big milestone for each of our treasures. Please look forward to more information on these and other significant icons in the coming months. Additionally, we will be launching our new website, archiving over 30 years of HPHT material, and entering into a new phase for our shared project of archiving and digitizing NELA newspapers dating back to the early part of last century.

Thank you for your continued support of the Highland Park Heritage Trust. There are so many ways you can support our mission including attending our events throughout the year, volunteering your time in the various segments of the organization, and by making a donation towards our efforts. The hard work and dedication of our membership and board members is greatly appreciated, and I am proud to work with everyone by promoting and advocating the story of our community.

ANTONIO CASTILLO
HPHT President



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Our Cornerstone is the official newsletter of the Highland Park Heritage Trust, a non-profit community organization.

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National Trust for Historic Preservation Reception Wednesday, December 18, 2013 at the Ebell Club

Photos by MARTHA BENEDICT



The NATIONAL TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION recently opened a new field office in downtown Los Angeles to take direct action on National Treasures and engage many more people in our work of protecting the significant places that tell America's story. As new Field Director of the LA Office, Chris Morris will work with the National Trust's longstanding partners and stakeholders to identify important and diverse sites across Los Angeles, Southern California, and Arizona where the National Trust can play a critical role in their preservation, protection, and reuse. The office also includes the expertise of Jeana Wisner from the Trust's innovative Preservation Green Lab, and a new Field Officer who will join the staff in early 2014.

Top left: Ebell Club's festive setting for the event
Top right: Jonathan Silberman, HPHT Vice President and Michele Clark, Asst. Executive Director Old Mill Foundation
Middle left: Ronald Rocha, HPHT Board Member and Amy Inouye, Chicken Boy's Mom!
Middle right: Harvey Slater, HPHT Board Member and member, Edgar Miramontes
Bottom left: Nicole Possert, HPHT Board Member; Chris Morris, NTHP Field Director; Robert Kieft, Occidental College Librarian

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...and special recognition to Amy Inouye, who produces *Our Cornerstone* and other print materials

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HPHT BLOG: Take Care of Your Wooden Windows:

Justine Leong, HPHT Secretary and practicing architect reported: I read an article, *This Cold House*, published in the *Claremont Courier*, March 4, 2013, written by John Neiuber, President, Claremont Heritage, and it is VERY relevant for Highland Park.

Folks think that changing out their old windows will give them energy savings, but it is better to weatherize them than replace. This is a sticking point for many homeowners.

This article can be also be found at <http://historichighlandpark.blogspot.com/>

REMINDER: Northeast Los Angeles Newspaper Project

Consider donating recent issues, 1980 to present, of historic Northeast newspapers – *Highland Park New Herald and Journal*, *Eagle Rock Sentinel*, *Lincoln Heights Bulletin-News*, *South Pasadena Journal*, *Eastside Journal-Los Angeles*, *El Sereno Star*, and *Arroyo Seco Journal* – contact online, info@hpht.org, by phone (323) 908-4127

THE LIVING MUSEUM: SYCAMORE GROVE

On March 8, 2014, will be the Inaugural "The Living Museum: Sycamore Grove" Walking Tour, a year round walking district that will provide both self-guided walking tours and scheduled walking tour events within a 15 minute walking radius of the Southwest Museum Metro Stop. Visitors will gather at the Metro Parking Lot on Woodside at 10:30AM, 12:00PM, 1:30PM, and/or 3:00PM Cultural destinations will include the Southwest Museum (2014 marks it's centennial year), Casa de Adobe, Heritage Square, the Lummis Home, Audubon Center, Arts and Crafts' Movement and Professor's Row, Route 66, The Arroyo Seco Parkway, Sycamore Grove Park itself, the Arroyo Seco, and on and on! As you well know, concentrated within the walkable district is a veritable Petri dish of impressive history, architecture and ecology of Los Angeles. <http://www.friendsofthesouthwestmuseum.com/PlanUnveiled.html>

Highland Park Historical Cultural Monuments & Preservation Plan

Learn more about HCM's (Historical Cultural Monuments) and the Preservation Plan for the Highland Park / Garvanza Historic Preservation Overlay Zone. Monday, March 10, Charles Fisher will give us a preview of the book he is writing about the 1000+ HCMs in Los Angeles. Then, on Monday, April 14, Shannon Ryan, from the Los Angeles City Office of Historic Resources, will enlighten us about the Preservation Plan and the importance and possibilities that can influence the Survey LA process in Northeast Los Angeles. Both 30 minute presentations will begin at 7PM before the monthly board meeting and are open to all members and the public. info@hpht.org, (323) 908-4127

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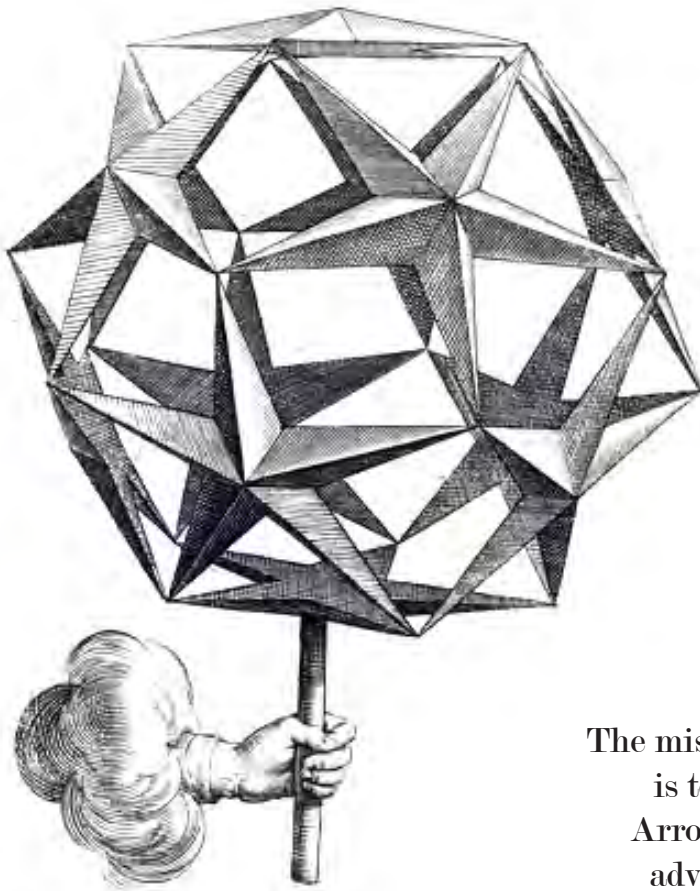


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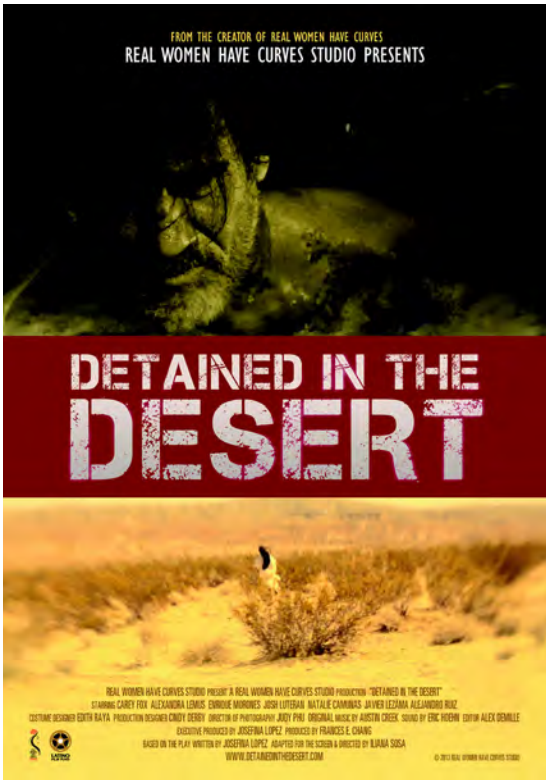
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What we do:
The mission of the Highland Park Heritage Trust
is to preserve the heritage of Los Angeles'
Arroyo Seco communities through education,
advocacy and preservation projects for the
benefit of present and future generations.
www.hpht.org

For more info please contact: Louisa Van Leer PH 323-633-0497 lvanleer@pacbell.net

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4th Annual Lummis Day Film Night: Sat., Feb. 22, 7 PM
***Detained in the Desert* and *A Sacred Journey*—Two Films About Dramatic Life Passages**
Church on York (4904 York Blvd., Highland Park)



Detained in the Desert and *A Sacred Journey*, two very different inspirational films by Northeast L.A. filmmakers that dramatically depict passages through adversity, will be presented at the 2014 Lummis Day Film Night. Tickets are \$15, with all proceeds supporting this year's annual Lummis Day Festival. Order tickets now at www.lummisday.org. Filmmakers from both movies will be present, with a Q&A after the screenings.

Detained in the Desert, Iliana Sosa's debut feature as a director, was cowritten and executive produced by Josefina Lopez, creator of the critically acclaimed *Real Women Have Curves*. *Detained in the Desert* draws parallels between two diametrically opposed people—Sandi, a second-generation dark-skinned Latina and Lou Becker, an inflammatory radio talk show host, who unexpectedly find their lives converging in the desert of Arizona.

Preceding *Detained in the Desert*, the Lummis Day Foundation is proud to present *A Sacred Journey*, by filmmaker Ernesto Quintero. *A Sacred Journey* is the story of a man struggling with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), who shocks his family when he expresses his desire to give a mural to his community. With six months left to live, he embarks on a journey that allows his vision to be painted on the wall so that he may be forever remembered. For more information, call 323-908-0463.

FREE LECTURE at CENTRAL LIBRARY

Sat. March 15 @ 2PM, Taper Auditorium:
The Orange and the Dream of California presented by David Boulé. The orange has been known as the fruit of the gods and a symbol of health, wealth, and love. When the orange and California were linked, their partnership combined fantasy with reality, and they built upon one another for hundreds of years. In conjunction with the publication of a book by the same name. Sponsored by Photo Friends of the LAPL. lapl.org

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EVENTS

- **2nd Monday**, *Monthly HPHT Board and Program meetings*, 7 to 9 PM, Feb.10, Mar. 10, Apr. 8, May 13, Jun. 10, Ebell Club, 131 S. Avenue 57, Highland Park
- **2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month**, Highland Park/Garvanza HPOZ, 6 PM, Arroyo Seco Library Community Room, 6145 N. Figueroa St, Highland Park
- **Thursdays and Saturdays**, 10:00 AM –12:00 PM, Volunteer your time to help with the Community Garden at the top of the Hopi Trail at the Southwest Museum. Scroll down to view the garden at <http://indianfamilies.org/> as well as a photo of the 3rd Saturday Cooking Class. Click on the photo and learn more about how you can join Barbara Arvi as she instructs at these events. Call the center (323) 247-1070, Barbara@indiancenter.org
- **Bi-monthly Walking Tour**, Saturday, February 22, April 26, June 28, August 23, October 25, December 20, register at www.hpht.org or (323) 908-4127
- **NELA Art Second Saturday Gallery Nights**, 7 to 10 PM, Saturday, February 8, March 8, April 12, See gallery map, *NELA Art News* or online at nelaart.com

Saturday, February 22, 7 PM, 4TH ANNUAL LUMMIS DAY FILM NIGHT Presents: *Detained in the Desert* and *A Sacred Journey*, at The Church on York, 4904 York Boulevard in Highland Park. Tickets for the event are \$15 with all proceeds supporting this year's annual Lummis Day 9 Festival. Filmmakers of both movies will present their films and will answer questions from the audience. Tickets available online at www.lummisday.org or contact Carmela Gomes (323) 908-0463

Thursday, February 27, 6 – 7 PM, ARROYO SECO PUBLIC LIBRARY 100TH BIRTHDAY, HPHT will present a 20-minute program in conjunction with the celebration that will be a festive occasion replete with a Birthday Cake.

Saturday, March 8, 10:30 AM – 4:00 PM, INAUGURAL LIVING MUSEUM WALKING TOURS, gather at the Metro Parking Lot on Woodside 10:30AM, 12:00PM, 1:30PM, or 3:00PM Inquire at info@hpht.org

Sunday, March 30, 2 – 5 PM, 2014 BI-ANNUAL HPHT AWARDS CEREMONY, Temple Beth Israel, 5711 Monte Vista Street, light refreshments will be served, info@hpht.org, (323) 908-4127

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