

Enriching Lives



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Renderings for Stephen Sorensen County Park Civic Art Project On Display at Lake Los Angeles Festival September 22

Attendees at the Lake Los Angeles Festival September 22 will have the opportunity to get a sneak preview of the permanent artwork for the new Stephen Sorensen Park gym and community building and meet the artists. Artists **Victor Henderson** and **Elizabeth Garrison** have been commissioned by the Los Angeles County Arts Commission to create the artwork. Renderings of the artwork will be on display in the Los Angeles County Arts Commission's booth at the festival, which starts at 11 a.m. in Sorensen Park, 16801 East Avenue P, Lake Los Angeles, CA 93591. The public is invited to give feedback on the artwork to representatives of the County's Civic Art Program in the booth or record their reactions in a comment book.

The Stephen Sorensen Park gym and community building is scheduled to be completed in the fall of 2009. A panel of representatives of Los Angeles County's Department of Public Works, Arts Commission, and the Fifth Supervisorial District Field Office awarded the commission to Henderson and Garrison for the project. The 14,000 sq. ft. building at Stephen Sorensen Park is being designed by Carde-Ten Architects of Santa Monica. The Sorensen facility will include a wood-floored gym, staff offices, full kitchen, multi-purpose room and a classroom. The artists have designed artwork for the interior of the facility as well as the front entrance.

"These talented artists will add great beauty and elegance to the gym-community building and make it an inviting gathering place for the whole community." said Michael D. Antonovich, Los Angeles County Supervisor whose Fifth District includes Lake Los Angeles.

Los Angeles resident **Victor Henderson** earned his BFA from California State University, San Francisco and has been producing art, lecturing, and teaching throughout California. Henderson is the surviving co-founder of the "Los Angeles Fine Arts Squad" a group at the forefront of the contemporary mural movement who produced important murals throughout Los Angeles and Europe. His public art credits include works for the City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, and Caesar's Palace, among others. Henderson has also been featured in numerous publications and his works are held in collections at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Chicago Art Institute, and California Center for the Arts. In addition

Victor Henderson has been teaching since 1963 and has served on the faculty of colleges such as the University of California, Irvine, Otis Art Institute, and California State University, Long Beach.

Elizabeth Garrison is a Los Angeles-based artist who received her MFA from California State University, Los Angeles. Garrison has executed many public art projects in addition to creating gallery work, and lecturing. Like Henderson, Elizabeth Garrison began her artistic career as a muralist but has since expanded her repertoire to include graphic arts digital programs, sandblasted text, hand constructed tiles, architectural glass frit work, plasma cut steel, bronze, landscaping (hard/softscape), and mold construction for form liners. Garrison and Henderson have collaborated on many of their artistic endeavors and in all their projects strive to understand the needs of a site and community.

In accordance with the Civic Art Policy adopted by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors in 2004, one percent of the park's construction costs are allocated for the incorporation of civic art. The Los Angeles County Art Commission's Civic Art Program administers all aspects of the civic art allocation in concert with County constituents and community stakeholders.

The **Los Angeles County Arts Commission**, Laura Zucker, Executive Director, provides leadership in cultural services of all disciplines for the largest county in the United States, encompassing 88 municipalities. The Arts Commission provides leadership and staffing to support the regional blueprint for arts education, *Arts for All*; administers a grants program that funds more than 250 nonprofit arts organizations annually; oversees the County's Civic Art Program for capital projects, funds the largest arts internship program in the country in conjunction with the Getty Foundation, programs the John Anson Ford Theatres and supports the Los Angeles County Cultural Calendar on ExperienceLA.com. The Commission also produces free community programs, including the L.A. Holiday Celebration broadcast nationally, and a year-round music program that funds more than 40 free concerts each year in public sites. The 2007-08 President of the Arts Commission is Rosalind Wyman.