IMMEDIATE RELEAS

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MEDIA ALERT

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City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs
Announces Final Month of Programs for
Friday Art Nights at the Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery in Barnsdall Park
September 5 to 26, 2025

Los Angeles, CA – The City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery's Friday Art Nights summer series continues through September 26, 2025 with culminating programming by Heavy Manners Library and an installation by artist Sophia Le Fraga.

On Fridays, September 5, 12, 19, and 26, Heavy Manners Library—a gallery and bookstore based in Los Angeles—will enliven the gallery's lobby and outdoor spaces. Each Friday evening from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. expect a lively rotation of zine vendors, video projections under the stars in the Barnsdall Park pine grove, and changing interactive exhibitions designed to spark curiosity and conversation.

In addition, Sophia Le Fraga will present a three-panel work in LAMAG's outdoor vitrine that overlays views of Barnsdall Art Park with library call cards, evoking the dynamics between municipal institutions and their publics. These programs offer visitors an opportunity to engage directly with artists and new work in a relaxed, evening setting. Admission is free.

About Heavy Manners

Heavy Manners is a lending library, gallery, and bookstore that seeks to provide a space for developing, sharing, and discussing artwork and creative practice. Because formal art education is increasingly becoming cost-prohibitive and inaccessible, Heavy Manners hopes to be an alternative resource. Our collection focuses on self and independently published books, zines, and other media. Additionally, the library works directly with artists and small publishers to make overlooked, out-of-print, and hard-to-find media accessible. After signing up for one of our membership options, members receive a library card and can borrow books from the library. Visitors are welcome to browse or scan our collection during our open hours. In tandem with the mission of the lending library, Heavy Manners also presents events and gallery shows in our exhibit space, theater, and classroom. With these programs, we hope to create opportunities for budding artists to share their work and for established artists to experiment with new projects. We prioritize programming that provides educational opportunities for those in the community.

About Sophia Le Fraga

Sophia Le Fraga (b. 1990) is an interdisciplinary artist and poet whose work investigates the evolution and impact of language through objects, images, and poetry. Known for blending digital and analog forms, Le Fraga's art explores the traces that language leaves over time. She has exhibited and performed internationally at institutions including MOCA Los Angeles, MoMA PS1, Camden Arts Centre (UK), Centre d'Art Contemporain (Geneva), and PERFORMA15. Le Fraga's writing has appeared in Best American Experimental Writing, BOMB Magazine, Texte zur Kunst, and Dazed. She is the founding editor of No Issue, one-third of Grupo Ñ, and a member of the international artist group Collective Task. In Los Angeles, where she resides, Le Fraga co-curates the Language Garden series alongside Joseph Mosconi and Corina Copp. Her practice foregrounds language's adaptability and resonance within contemporary art and culture.

About the Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery

The Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery's (LAMAG) mission is to be responsive to the human experience. Established in 1954, LAMAG is the longest running institution in Los Angeles devoted solely to exhibiting art. The gallery focuses on artists from Los Angeles – in particular underrepresented artists whose work may not otherwise have found a platform. Our exhibitions, educational and public programs aim to inspire conversation about the contemporary issues and ideas that resonate most with the people of Los Angeles.

Many local artists who have exhibited at the gallery have gone on to become fixtures of the national and international art world, including Carlos Almaraz, Eleanor Antin, John Baldessari, Mark Bradford, Vija Celmins, Harry Gamboa Jr., David Hammons, Barbara Kruger, Kerry James Marshall, Senga Nengudi, Catherine Opie, Sandy Rodriguez, Ed Ruscha, and Bruce and Norman Yonemoto. Today, the gallery continues to build on this rich legacy, operating as a site of discovery for outstanding work by the city's most exciting artists, from recent graduates to practitioners with years of experience.

Offering free admission and programs, LAMAG serves as a welcoming space for everyone, regardless of their race, religion, national origin, ancestry, sex, sexual orientation, age, disability, domestic partner status, marital status or medical condition.

For more information, please contact lamag@lacity.org or visit <u>lamag.org</u> and follow us on Facebook at: <u>facebook.com/LAMAGBarnsdall</u> and Instagram @lamagbarnsdall.

The Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery is a facility of the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs.

About the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA)

As a leading, progressive arts and cultural agency, DCA empowers Los Angeles's vibrant communities by supporting and providing access to quality visual, literary, musical, performing, and educational arts programming; managing vital cultural centers; preserving historic sites; creating public art; and funding services provided by arts organizations and individual artists.

Formed in 1925, DCA promotes arts and culture as a way to ignite a powerful dialogue, engage LA's residents and visitors, and ensure LA's varied cultures are recognized, acknowledged, and experienced. DCA's mission is to strengthen the quality of life in Los Angeles by stimulating and supporting arts and cultural activities, ensuring public access to the arts for residents and visitors alike.

DCA advances the social and economic impact of arts and culture through grantmaking; public art; community arts; performing arts; and strategic marketing, development, design, and digital research. DCA creates and supports arts programming, maximizing relationships with other city agencies, artists, and arts and cultural nonprofit organizations to provide excellent service in neighborhoods throughout Los Angeles.

For more information, please visit <u>culture.lacity.gov</u> or follow us on Facebook at: <u>facebook.com/culturela</u>, Instagram @culture_la, and Twitter @culture_la.

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