



LITTLE TOKYO

BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

A program of the Little Tokyo Business Association



Safety Lighting Installed in Hashimoto Plaza

With grants from the Arts District Little Tokyo Neighborhood Council and Rotary Club of Little Tokyo, the LTBA Foundation has installed nighttime lighting in Hashimoto Plaza to help ensure that seniors can pass through the plaza safely.

Hashimoto Plaza is scheduled for improvements under a plan approved by Metro's Board of Directors that also includes additional improvements in both Little Tokyo and the Arts District, such as cross-walks, upgrades in lighting, bike lanes, pedestrian improvements, and more. This transit related grant seeks to safely encourage pedestrians, transit patrons, visitors and local residents to move through the community with greater ease.

Enjoy J-Town *Yokocho* Oct. 31 on First Street

In Japan, a *yokocho* is a narrow street packed with people, bustling with activity and lined with cool restaurants, bars, and snack shops. Los Angeles has its own version of this Japanese trend on the northside of East First Street, where a combination of long-standing and newer establishments have formed their own *yokocho*.

Fugetsu-Do, Far Bar, Mr. Ramen, CRFT by Maki, and newcomer Yaki Papis barbecue plus Suntory premium malts (only available on draft) work together every first and third Sunday of the month to bring a new tasty experience to Little Tokyo.



Next Yokocho: Sunday, Oct. 31.

Halloween Block Party Returns to Little Tokyo



There will be something for everyone when Little Tokyo welcomes the fifth annual Haunted Little Tokyo scavenger hunt and block party Saturday, Oct. 30. Here are the details:

Scavenger Hunt (Oct. 30, 2-5 p.m.). Start with a map at Café Dulce in JVP, then explore Little Tokyo to receive sweet treats and a special prize for visiting key locations.

Block Party (Oct. 30, 7 p.m.-12 midnight). Live DJ, drinks, food, and a costume contest. Check in at Brunswick Square (360 E. 2nd Street). Admission is free, but RSVP is required [here](https://www.golittletokyo.com/haunted/). Guests must be 21+ and provide proof of vaccination or negative Covid-19 test

result within 72 hours before entering the event.

For more information, visit <http://www.golittletokyo.com/haunted/>.

JACCC Features n/soto Dining Experience

Visit the Toshizo Watanabe Culinary Center at the Japanese American Cultural & Community Center (JACCC), where **n/soto** provides a unique dining experience featuring a nine-course dinner and a curated beverage on Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturday through Nov. 6, 5:30 and 8:30 p.m. Cost is \$125 per person and reservations are required.



n/soto is a California Japanese izakaya with a focus on market-driven product, that will pop-up for a limited time at JACCC, 244 San Pedro St., prior to opening in Mid City later this fall. The team led by chef Yoji Tajima (Yojisan Sushi, Sushi House Unico), will serve a tasting menu that previews various dishes and flavors that will appear on **n/soto's** menu. The Toshizo Watanabe Culinary Center is adjacent to the James Irvine Japanese Garden where you will be able to enjoy a beverage al fresco before dinner. [Click here](#) to make a reservation.

Negative COVID test or proof of vaccination is required.



Miné Okubo Collection Shown in Milestone Year

Now until Feb. 20, 2022, the Japanese American National Museum commemorates the 75th anniversary of Miné Okubo's collection, which includes sketches that she completed while she was incarcerated at Tanforan and Topaz detention centers, original drawings that she

created for her memoir, and a draft of the final manuscript.

For the first time, the materials comprising Miné Okubo's masterpiece will be exhibited, revealing the art of her groundbreaking book, *Citizen 13660*. Published in 1946, not only was it the first book-length account on America's concentration camps from the perspective of a former incarcerated, but it was also an early example of a graphic memoir. Through a series of nearly 200 illustrations, Okubo captures how

Pipilotti Rist Exhibition at Geffen Contemporary



Pipilotti Rist: Big Heartedness, Be My Neighbor is the first West Coast survey of the internationally renowned Swiss media artist. Rist's installations explore relationships of video and the body; exterior environments and interior psychological landscapes; and reason and instinct.

The exhibition also debuts a new audio-video installation made specifically for the Geffen Contemporary at MOCA, 152 N. Central Ave. Please note that a number of the works in this exhibition include nudity.

This is a special ticketed exhibition. Tickets are available until Jan. 2, 2022. Special exhibitions at MOCA are \$18 for adults; \$10 for students with I.D. and seniors (+65); and free for children under 12 and jurors with I.D. Special exhibitions are free to MOCA members. Make reservations for this and other exhibitions [here](#).

MOCA requires that all visitors age 12 and older show proof of full vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test taken within 48 hours prior to visit.

County Issues COVID-19 Updates

Effective Oct. 7, recent changes to the [County Health Officer Order](#) will require bars, breweries, wineries, distilleries, nightclubs, and lounges to verify, for indoor service and operations, the COVID-19 vaccination status of all patrons ages 12 and over. By Nov. 4, 2021, all on-site employees must provide their employer with proof of full vaccination against COVID-19.

Operators of restaurants and food facilities are strongly encouraged to reserve and prioritize indoor seating/service for those who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19.

[Japanese](#)

[Korean](#)

[Spanish](#)



Party fun is captured by Mykle Parker Photography.



LTBA volunteers (l-r) Joanne Kumamoto, Yoko Kawaguchi, Tomoko Omura, Nancy Takayama, Kitty Sankey, and Ellen Endo.

LTBA Hosts Children's Party at Terasaki Budokan

Children and their families were treated to cultural entertainment, Japanese dinner and dessert, origami lessons, face-painting, and more when the Little Tokyo Business Association (LTBA) and Worthy of Love L.A. hosted a party on Sept. 30 for children experiencing homelessness.

Wesley Nishinaka of Skid Row-kyo Mission coordinated the entertainment program, which included ondo dancing, Steve and Robie La of Ryujin Taiko, and a karate demonstration led by sensei Art Ishii and Walter Nishinaka of Matsubayashi Shorin Ryu. Skid Row-kyo is a non-religious, nonprofit fellowship group based at Centenary United Methodist Church. In addition to 130 in attendance, the party was livestreamed to residents of Hope Gardens Family Center.

Special thanks to Terasaki Budokan, Union Rescue Mission, Westwood Presbyterian Church, Don Tahara of First Street Cuisine, J.P. Dizon of Cruller Palette, Send in the Clowns L.A., and committee chairs Kitty Sankey and Mike Okamoto.

Station Projected to Open Fall 2022

Construction on the 1.9-mile Regional Connector has spanned seven years, beginning with the groundbreaking in September 2014, but the long-awaited public transit project could open by August 2022, making the Little Tokyo/Arts District Station the second-busiest in the entire L.A. County Metro system.

Service will extend from the Little Tokyo/Arts District Station to the 7th St/Metro Center Station in downtown Los Angeles, allowing passengers to access the L, A, E, B and D Lines (Gold, Blue, Expo, Red, Purple). In addition to serving Little Tokyo and the Arts District, the Regional Connector will serve the Civic Center, Historic Core, Broadway, Grand Avenue, Bunker Hill, Flower Street, and the Financial District.

The new Metro Rail extension will also provide travel between Azusa and Long Beach, and between East Los Angeles and Santa Monica, without transferring lines.



Find Rent Relief for Tenants, Landlords

Help is available for those negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and in need of financial

assistance.

Assembly Bill 832 provides \$5.2 billion to help struggling California renters by covering rent that a tenant may owe for as far back as April 2020 - along with future rent payments, if needed. Eligible renters may also receive assistance for unpaid utility payments dating back to April 1, 2020, or for future utility payments, which will both be compensated at 100% of cost, limited to a total of 12 months, and paid directly to the utility provider.

Renters that meet the income eligibility requirement (see below) may apply for this program to get help with rent and utility bills. Income eligibility is based on you or your family's adjusted gross income. If you are a single taxpayer and your adjusted gross income based on your recent pay stubs, unemployment payment, or other proof of income is up to \$75,300.00, you meet the income eligibility threshold. Income eligibility for filers is adjusted according to the number of household members. To determine eligibility, interested parties are encouraged to take this quiz: <https://housing.ca.gov/eligibilityquiz.html>.

Little Tokyo BID Safety Patrol

(213) 326-0636

For Graffiti Removal, Bulky Item Pickup and other City services

[click here](#) to make a report online. Dial 3-1-1 or Call (213) 473-3231

Little Tokyo BID Office

Phone (213) 880-6875

email: board@visitlittletokyo.com

www.visitlittletokyo.com