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[Press kit here.](#)

18TH STREET ARTS CENTER CELEBRATES SANTA MONICA ARTISTS IN FAMILY-FRIENDLY COMMUNITY FESTIVAL & ARTISAN MARKETPLACE



*L: Screenprinting with Mariángeles Soto-Díaz at the Spring 2018 Pico Block Party;
R: A young guest at the Spring 2018 Pico Block Party.*

SANTA MONICA (CA) – 18th Street Arts Center, a 30-year-old artist residency and contemporary arts center in the inland Pico Neighborhood of Santa Monica, holds its fourth major Pico Block Party community festival focused around **celebrating Santa Monica artists and artisans** on **Saturday, June 1, 2019 from 3-6 PM**. The free family-friendly artistic festival will feature art-making workshops with professional artists, performances, open studios with resident artists, exhibitions, food trucks, and other creative activities.

For the first time, Pico Block Party will include an **Artisan Marketplace**, featuring handmade local goods from a diverse group of local westside and Santa Monica-based artists and artisans.

The Pico Block Party series grew out of 18th Street Arts Center's in-depth community outreach programs, including its bilingual neighborhood oral history project, CultureMapping90404.org. That project spurred the creation of a Neighborhood Advisory Council in 2018, who helped shaped the content for this Pico Block Party. The addition of an Artisan Marketplace this year provides a key opportunity for the development of market opportunities for local artists, which is part of a plan around larger artist development opportunities 18th Street is undertaking region-wide.



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Past Block Parties have drawn upwards of 600 people to the Center's large campus, and have provided a platform for the artistic and cultural vibrancy of our Pico Neighborhood to intermingle with LA-based exhibiting artists and international artists in our visiting artist residency program.

FEATURING:

Art Workshops

- Make puppets and act out short plays with artist **Molly Allis**
- Create homemade stamps and fabric prints using recycled plastic with artist **Dahn Gim**
- Experience cultures of the Pico Neighborhood with **Janeen Jackson and Taste of Pico**
- Create autobiographical collages about yourself and your "father figure" with artist **Marcus Kuiland-Nazario** in conjunction with his exhibition *MACHO STEREO*
- Learn how to compost with worms with Santa Monica's **Sustainability Works**
- Enjoy artistic activities from a variety of **local community groups**

Performances (on the main stage)

- Experience Ballet Folklórico and other cultural dance traditions with **Cabeza de Vaca Cultural Dance School**
- Holla for the original rhymes and beats of the **Pico Youth and Family Center youth MCs**
- Sing with folk guitarist and songwriter **Alex Wand & friends**
- Learn Earthian Folk Dance with artist and performer **DaeUn Jung**

Food & Vendors (more tbd)

The Green Truck

Taco Cartel

Oaxacan Ice Cream

Handmade artisanal goods from local artists

Neighborhood Organizations

Pico Youth and Family Center

Dance Alive Center

Cabeza de Vaca Cultural Dance School

Committee for Racial Justice

Parent Connection Group

Untitled No. 1

And more...

Artist Open Studios



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David McDonald (Los Angeles)
THE WINTER OFFICE (Denmark)
ha:ar - Hande Şekerciler and Arda Yalkın (Turkey)
Debra Disman (Los Angeles)
and more...

Also On View

Marcus Kuiland-Nazario | *MACHO STEREO*
June 1 - July 26, 2018
Atrium Gallery (blue building)
Opening Reception during Pico Block Party

Highways Performance Space and Gallery

Sponsors

In-kind donations of deliciously healthy and nutritious snacks generously provided by **GoGo SqueeZ** and **Bare Snacks**.

Our corporate sponsor **Kinecta** has also been instrumental in underwriting the free arts workshops, and **Dublabb** has generously provided in-kind support for sound equipment.

Community Corps of Santa Monica is our partner in the Artisan Marketplace, underwriting the booth rental costs for low-income Santa Monica vendors.

This event was generously funded by the City of Santa Monica Cultural Affairs.

EVENT INFORMATION:

Pico Block Party and Artisan Marketplace
Saturday, June 1, 2019 | 3-6 PM
Campus-wide event
Food trucks, music, open studios, performances, and more

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LINKS:

Event Info and RSVP: <https://18thstreet.org/event/pico-block-party-artisan-marketplace/>
Bilingual oral history website: <http://culturemapping90404.org>
Additional information: 18thstreet.org



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Celebrating its 30th anniversary in 2018-2019, 18th Street Arts Center is one of the top artist residency programs in the US, and the largest in Southern California. Conceived as a radical think tank in the shape of an artist community, 18th Street supports artists from around the globe to imagine, research, and develop significant, meaningful new artworks and share them with the public. We strive to provide artists the space and time to take risks, to foster the ideal environment for artists and the public to directly engage, and to create experiences and partnerships that foster positive social change.

Follow 18th Street on social media:

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YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/user/18thStreetArts>