

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE—December 8, 2025**

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## **SKIRBALL CULTURAL CENTER HOSTS ANNUAL HANUKKAH FESTIVAL**

### **All Communities and Generations Invited to Celebrate the Jewish Festival of Light on Sunday, December 14, from 12:00 to 5:00 pm**

**December 8, 2025, Los Angeles, Calif.—**The Skirball Cultural Center will host its annual Hanukkah Festival on Sunday, December 14, 2025, inviting people of all communities and generations to celebrate the Jewish Festival of Light to kick-off the holiday season. Highlights of the kid- and family-friendly event include:

- Dance to a vibrant blend of Yiddish and soul music with Festival headliners **Klezmer Juice**
- Climb aboard the award-winning and newly reopened **Noah's Ark at the Skirball** (limited walk-up tickets available day of, first-come, first-served)
- Explore nature-based play in the new **Bloom Garden**, inspired by the Jewish values of renewal, connection, and caring for the earth
- View ***In Celebration of Light and Liberty***, a Hannukah lamp designed by Zachary Oxman for the official residence of the Vice President of the United States
- Join a special talk and food tasting inspired by ***Sabor Judío: The Jewish Mexican Cookbook***, with authors **Ilan Stavans** and **Margaret Boyle**, moderated by *LA Times* columnist **Gustavo Arellano**
- Discover Black-Jewish connections through temporary exhibitions, ***Draw Them In, Paint Them Out: Trenton Doyle Hancock Confronts Philip Guston*** and ***Glass Sukkah: This Home Is Not a House*** by contemporary artist Therman Statom
- Journey through the Skirball's permanent exhibition ***Visions and Values: Jewish Life from Antiquity to America***
- Enjoy the timeless Hanukkah story brought to life with puppets and music by **Skirball Storytellers**
- Harness the magic of color and light with **Padlab Lighting** to reveal hidden messages, create prismatic rainbows, and draw using UV light in the Light Lab
- Meet the one-and-only **Monty Pickle**, a puppet filled with Jewish joy, for a special story time and pickle tasting in the Pickle Lounge
- Don't miss additional **kid-friendly activities**, including artmaking, a sing-along, Dreidel Lounge, photo booth, and a special Light Lab
- Purchase traditional **Hanukkah treats**, including jelly doughnuts (*sufganiyot*) and fried potato pancakes (*latkes*)—or get your latkes Mexican-style with mole sauce, crema, and queso fresca
- Conclude the celebration at sundown with a special community **candle lighting ceremony**

For general information, the public may call (310) 440-4500 or visit [skirball.org](http://skirball.org).



Visitors gather around lights that illuminate the Skirball Cultural Center's lilypond at a community candle lighting ceremony during the Skirball's 2024 Hanukkah Festival. Photo by Mercie Ghimire.

### **Hanukkah Festival Pricing**

General Admission = \$20.00

Seniors and full-time students = \$15.00

Children 2-17 = \$13.00

Members and children under 2 = FREE

Parking = FREE

### **Hannukah Festival Schedule**

10:30 am Early check-in begins, Noah's Ark tickets available on a first-come, first-served basis

11:00 am Museum exhibitions open, including Noah's Ark at the Skirball

12:00 pm Hanukkah Festival begins

4:00 pm Noah's Ark closed

4:30 pm Community candle lighting ceremony

5:00 pm Hanukkah Festival ends

### **About Hanukkah**

The Skirball's annual Hanukkah Festival kicks-off the first night of Hanukkah, commemorating the freedom that the Maccabees fought to preserve nearly 2,000 years ago. It is a winter festival of light that is observed by Jews around the world who gather with family and friends to light a Hanukkah menorah (*hanukkiah*) for eight nights—bringing more light into the world during the darkest season of the year.

**About the Skirball Cultural Center**

The Skirball Cultural Center ([skirball.org](http://skirball.org)) is a place of meeting guided by the Jewish tradition of welcoming the stranger and inspired by the American democratic ideals of freedom and equality. We welcome people of all communities and generations to participate in cultural experiences that celebrate discovery and hope, foster human connections, and call upon us to help build a more just society.

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