



## 2013



### Stephen Rountree

*Music Center - Performing  
Arts Center of Los Angeles*

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***“Two-thousand and thirteen was a banner year for The Music Center. More than 1.3 million people visited with another 100,000 enjoying the 12-acre Grand Park.”***

The Music Center with its four iconic theaters and four renowned resident companies: Center Theatre Group, LA Opera, LA Phil and the Los Angeles Master Chorale, as well as Gloria Kaufman presents Dance at The Music Center, is regarded as one of the world's premier performing arts destinations.

We are honored to be the County's long-standing partner in bringing the finest quality, most engaging and innovative performing arts experiences to the County's diverse communities. And we also have the privilege of being the steward in programming and operating Grand Park, which, thanks to the leadership of Supervisor Gloria Molina, has quickly fulfilled its role as a central public place for residents from all over the County. This past year, Grand Park was named as one of American Planning Association's "10 Great Public Spaces" in the U.S.

Two-thousand and thirteen was a banner year for The Music Center. More than 1.3 million people visited with another 100,000 enjoying the 12-acre Grand Park. We served 200,000 school children with education programs. Returning to its beloved Los Angeles, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre performed to sold-out houses in April and in classrooms all over Los Angeles with master classes and residencies. Ten thousand park visitors found a new way to enjoy America's independence at Grand Park's Fourth of July Block Party, which featured music, food and fireworks that lit up downtown. And, more than 5,000 dance and fitness lovers of all ages joined together in the largest free dance celebration of the summer at the National Dance Day event in Grand Park. We brought Exxopolis, a luminary, or a giant walk-in sculpture, to Grand Park, enchanting more than 7,000 park visitors with the magic of light, world music, and dance, and marking the opening of the 11th season of The Music Center's World City series.

In the fall, the County, the nation, and the world celebrated the 10th anniversary of the opening of Walt Disney Concert Hall, with events including a free concert conducted by Gustavo Dudamel. In addition, the Los Angeles Master Chorale marked its 50th anniversary with a series of sold-out concerts in Walt Disney Concert Hall.

Grand Park wrapped up the year in style as nearly 30,000 people gathered for a grand-scale 12-block New Year's Eve celebration, "Grand Park's N.Y.E. LA." The Park's first New Year's Eve event introduced Angelenos to a new tradition, the opportunity to join together in a central location for free where they could ring in the New Year. It was indeed a grand year!

We have already begun planning for yet another major milestone in 2014: the 50th anniversary of The Music Center, which stands at the center of LA's arts and culture and is a true jewel in the County of Los Angeles. I hope you join me in looking forward to what is to come.