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LACC AND CHLA HOLD EARTHDAY CELEBRATION

Earth Day Honoree Ron Finley will speak at event held at "The City's Garden"

April 18, 2022, Los Angeles – Los Angeles City College (LACC) and Children's Hospital Los Angeles (CHLA) will host "Sustainability, Climate Change and Our Environment," an Earth Day celebration on April 22, 2022, from 10am to 2pm at The City's Garden on the LACC campus.

The garden opened a year ago with initial funding from CHLA. Team members from the hospital's Community Impact Champion's Network continue to partner with LACC students in the upkeep and development of the garden. Ron Finley, known as the "Gangsta Gardener," will be the keynote speaker at the event.

The celebration will draw attention to climate change, educate attendees about the importance of sustainability, promote activism in environmental issues and causes, provide small bites using garden ingredients prepared by LACC Dietetic students, and provide an opportunity to gather and celebrate Earth Day and The City's Garden.

"Our garden expands opportunities for experiential learning, provides increased access to affordable nutritious food for our students and our community and fights climate change," said LACC Biology Professor Sean Phommasaysy, who oversees the project.

"The City's Garden is part of LACC's overall commitment to provide healthy food to students and the community," said Dr. Mary Gallagher, President, Los Angeles City College. "Our garden builds stronger, safer communities by connecting citizens to each other and their local food systems."

"Children's Hospital Los Angeles has a strong tradition of responding to the needs of the community and sustaining and promoting local healthy food environments that

achieve community wellness close to home,” says Lara Khouri, Executive Vice President and Chief Strategy and Transformation Officer at Children’s Hospital Los Angeles. “This garden is an essential element of CHLA’s commitment to our neighbors, beyond our clinical expertise.”

“The mission of Children’s Hospital Los Angeles—to create hope and build healthier futures— includes a commitment to work with our community,” says Ellen Zaman, Executive Director of External Affairs at Children’s Hospital Los Angeles. “We are proud to partner with LACC as it cultivates this remarkable resource for the campus and the community.”

Maintaining the garden is among many good neighbor programs led by the hospital volunteers who comprise CHLA’s Community Impact Champion’s Network, says Rolando Gomez, MBA, Administrator of Government and Community Affairs at Children’s Hospital Los Angeles. “While they may have different motivations for participating, each member shares a common belief that CHLA is more than a hospital—it is an organization made up of compassionate individuals who want to help improve the lives of kids and families in the community,” he said.

About Los Angeles City College

Established in 1929, Los Angeles City College is one of the oldest of the California Community Colleges. Located in the heart of Hollywood, LACC provides a dynamic innovative learning environment offering more than 100 vocational and professional programs including degrees, transfer programs and certificates to more than 18,000 students. Los Angeles City College is home to one of the most vibrant and diverse campuses in the country. The campus provides a wide range of professional and vocational programs at a fraction of the cost of state and private colleges.

About Children’s Hospital Los Angeles

Founded in 1901, Children’s Hospital Los Angeles is the highest-ranked children’s hospital in California and fifth in the nation on the prestigious U.S. News & World Report Honor Roll of Best Children’s Hospitals. U.S. News ranks Children’s Hospital Los Angeles in all 10 specialty categories. Clinical care at the hospital is led by physicians who are faculty members of the Keck School of Medicine of USC through an affiliation dating from 1932. The hospital also operates the largest pediatric residency training program at a freestanding children’s hospital in the Western United States. The Saban Research Institute of Children’s Hospital Los Angeles is home to all basic, translational, clinical and community research conducted at the hospital, allowing proven discoveries to quickly reach patients. Our mission: to create hope and build healthier futures. To learn more, follow us on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, YouTube and Twitter, and visit our blog at CHLA.org/blog.

