



Historical Society of Long Beach

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For Immediate Release

The 29th Annual Historical Cemetery Tour *Where Every Plot Has a Story*

Saturday, October 25, 2025

Long Beach Municipal & Sunnyside Cemeteries
1095 & 1151 E. Willow Street, Long Beach CA 90806

Long Beach, CA –The 29th Annual Historical Cemetery Tour, hosted by the Historical Society of Long Beach, returns on Saturday, October 25, 2025, gates open from 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM. This self-guided tour explores stories of people buried at Long Beach's oldest marked cemeteries--Municipal and Sunnyside on Willow Street. The all-ages event includes graveside vignettes, and diverse community history told through pictorials, panels, and presentations.

Eight gravesites feature actors from the Long Beach Playhouse portraying Long Beach locals who lived extraordinary lives, died extraordinary deaths, and ordinary folks who helped the community grow. Period-appropriate costuming is provided by the Long Beach Playhouse. The performances run 10 minutes and will be repeated more than a dozen times throughout the event allowing attendees to explore at their own pace.

Included this year is the story of Mexican immigrants Ramona and Genero who owned and operated a successful restaurant for 50 years, the Darthula Bougess and Willie White scholarship opportunity story, and Cora Morgan talks about her lively adventures, including a losing campaign against building the Port of Long Beach with public funds. Performances last 10 minutes and are repeated every 20 minutes from 9 AM until 2:40 PM.

Community historian Karen Harper will talk about how local Japanese American families worked with The Farmers and Merchants Bank in the 1940s to save their homes during internment. The event also includes a Dia de los Muertos installation, Cambodian Memorial Flags, and local author signing books. The on-site merchandise booth offers books, postcards, and reprints of historical photographs. Arrive before noon for the full experience.

Bring your own refreshments and take advantage of our rest area under the trees. Guests are encouraged to bring your reusable water bottle and fill up for free! Water provided by Long Beach Utilities.

There is limited onsite parking for compact automobiles. Parking is available at nearby Willow Springs Park where there is an entrance to the Municipal Cemetery and the event. Carpooling is recommended and bicycle parking is available.

Ticket Information

Presale Tickets \$25, Day of Tickets \$30, Youth ages 5-18 \$8

Purchase tickets online only https://hslb.ticketbud.com/29th-annual-historical-cemetery-tour-?_gl=1*3mzdu1*_ga*MTUwNDMzODE5Ny4xNzIxNDEwMzYy*_ga_VSPNTE0ENM,G-

It's the most fun you will have in a cemetery.



Presenting Sponsors

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About the Historical Society of Long Beach

The Historical Society of Long Beach collects, preserves, and presents local history. Through historical collections, exhibitions, and programs we connect people to the past, and to the place they live. We present an inclusive community narrative and help create a greater understanding of our neighborhoods, the city and its place in the larger world. Since 1995, the Historical Society of Long Beach has organized tours of the Long Beach Municipal Cemetery and Sunnyside Cemetery.