



CITY OF COMPTON

City of Compton
Public Information Office
City Hall
205 South Willowbrook Avenue
Compton, California 90220
www.ComptonCity.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, December 11, 2015

MEDIA ADVISORY

63rd Annual Compton Christmas Parade

COMPTON– The City of Compton will welcome home native and 2016 multiple Grammy nominee rapper **Kendrick Lamar** as the **grand marshal of the 63rd Annual Compton Christmas Parade** on **Saturday, December 12th**. 10,000 are expected to turnout for the annual event themed “Christmas in Compton.” The parade begins at 11 a.m. and travels west on Compton Boulevard from Bullis Road to Alameda Street. At 2 p.m. **Mayor Aja Brown** will host her **3rd annual toy giveaway** at Wilson Park located at 123 North Rose Street. Toys will be given out on a first come, first served basis. Attendees are encouraged to use public transportation.

WHO:
(partial list)

- Kendrick Lamar, Grand Marshal
- Alonzo “Lonzo” Williams, “Straight Outta Compton”
- Marsai Martin, ABC’s “black-ish”
- The Westbrooks, BET Networks
- Hosea Chanchez, The Game
- Liana Mendoza, American Horror Story & Better Call Saul Season 2
- Marcus Scribner, ABC’s Black-ish
- Marsai Martin, ABC’s Black-ish
- Paula Jai Parker-Martin, TV One’s Hollywood Divas
- Mayor Aja Brown
- Jim McDonnell, Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department
- Isadore Hall, State Senator
- Mike Gipson, State Assemblymember
- Steve Bradford, State Assemblymember (ret.)

WHAT: 63rd Annual Compton Christmas Parade

WHEN: Saturday, December 12, 2015

11 a.m.

WHERE: Compton Boulevard between Bullis Road and Alameda Street

PARKING FOR MEDIA **Parking for media arriving before 11 a.m.**

Lueders Park
700 N. Bullis (Compton CareerLink)

From 710 Freeway take East Rosecrans exit and head West towards Long Beach Blvd. Park will be located to your left on corner of Bullis and Rosecrans. Please park on Rosecrans as Bullis will be blocked for parade line-up by 10:45 a.m.

Parking instructions for media arriving after 11 a.m.

Palmer and Willow Ave.

From 710 Freeway take East Rosecrans exit and head West towards Alameda (before crossing over bridge). Take Alameda exit (far right street before crossing over bridge), and at the light turn left onto Alameda N. Alameda. Continue down N. Alameda to Palmer (Compton VFW will be located on the Left). Turn Left on Palmer. Staff/Volunteer will be on-site so please have media pass ready. Continue on Palmer crossing over Rose to next street called Willow and turn right. Media will be allowed to park and unload right next to the Parade route.

STREET CLOSURES: Compton Boulevard will be closed in both directions beginning at 7 a.m. on Saturday, December 12 between Bullis Road and Alameda Street until 3 p.m. Alternative routes include Rosecrans Avenue and Alondra Boulevard. Bullis Road will be closed between Rosecrans Avenue and Compton Boulevard in both directions from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

More Information on Parade

Since its origin in 1952, the Compton Christmas Parade has been a highlight of the holiday season for locals and residents of neighboring cities. For the 63rd edition, the parade line-up will feature 16 marching bands, 12 drill teams, 2 equestrian teams and over 35 local community groups and businesses including the **Compton Girl Scouts**, **Compton Fire Explorers**, **Compton NAACP** and Compton's chapter of the sorority **Delta Sigma Theta**.

Grand Marshal

Rapper Kendrick Lamar, who is the leading nominee for the 2016 Grammy awards with 11 nominations, including album of the year for "To Pimp a Butterfly" and song of the year for "Alright" will be the 2015 Compton Christmas Parade Grand Marshal.

Lamar, 28, received a total of seven nominations at the 2014 Grammy Awards, including Album of the Year. A year later, at the 2015 Grammy Awards, he won Best Rap Song and Best Rap Performance for his song "I". In May, Lamar received the California State Senate's "Generational Icon Award" from State Senator Isadore Hall III (D-Compton) who represents California's 35th district. From the senate floor, Lamar told the legislature, "Being from the City of Compton and knowing the parks that I played at and the neighborhoods, I always thought how great the opportunity would be to give back to my community off of what I do in music." "To Pimp a Butterfly was" named by music magazines Rolling Stone and Spin the best album of 2015. Complex ranked Lamar atop its "The 20 Best Rappers in Their 20s" annual list.

Most recently, in [an interview with People](#), President Barack Obama said Lamar's "How Much a Dollar Cost" is his favorite song of the year.

Lamar was born in Compton, California, to parents from Chicago, Illinois. His birth name was given to him by his mother in honor of singer Eddie Kendricks. In 1995, at the age of eight, Lamar witnessed his idols, Tupac Shakur and Dr. Dre, film the music video for their hit single "California Love", which later proved to be a very significant moment in Lamar's life. As a teenager, Lamar attended Centennial High School in Compton, where he was a straight-A student.

Featured Participants

Other participants include **Alonzo "Lonzo" Williams** who spearheaded the mid-80s sensation, **World Class Wreckin' Cru**, that included at the time **Dr. Dre** and **DJ Yella**. Williams was recently portrayed in the N.W.A. biopic "**Straight Outta Compton**." Also featured will be **Power 106** morning show host **J Cruz** of the all-new **Cruz Show**, **Radio Free 102.3 KJLH's** Bobo and Elle Andrews, **94.7 The Wave** on-air personalities **Frankie Ross** and **Greg Mack** and **ABC 7** reporters **Leo Stallworth** and **John Gregory**. Fans will also get to see ABC's 'Black-ish' star **Marsai Martin** and the stars of **BET Network's** new original docu-series "**The Westbrooks**."

Elected Officials

Compton **Mayor Aja Brown**, **Councilmembers Janna Zurita**, **Isaac Galvan**, **Yvonne Arceneaux** and **Emma Sharif** will all be featured in the parade along with **City Clerk Alita Godwin**, **City Attorney Craig Cornwell** and **City Treasurer Doug Sanders**. **Los Angeles County Sheriff Jim McDonnell** will join **Compton Station Captain Myron Johnson** in representing sheriff's department while **Deputy Fire Chief Bryan Batiste** will represent the City's fire department. Other local elected officials include members of the **Compton Unified School District Board of Trustees**, **Compton Community College District Board of Trustees** and City commissioners.

State Senator Isadore Hall, **Assemblymember Mike Gipson** and former **Assemblymember Steve Bradford** will also ride in the parade.

Featured Marching Bands, Drill Teams, Dance Squads and Cheerleaders

1. Alma Latina de Lynwood
2. America Vive Foundation Dance
3. Bunche Middle School Marching Band
4. Bunche Middle School Marching Drill Team
5. California Cadet Corps – Walton Middle School
6. Centennial High School Marching Band
7. Diamonds of Compton
8. Divas of Compton
9. Dynasty Imperial High Stomper Drill Team & Drum Squad
10. Enterprise Middle School California Cadet Corps Color Guards
11. Enterprise Middle School Marching Drill Team
12. Epifani Dance Company
13. G-Town Royaletez & Knights
14. GIG Squad Dance Team
15. Lincoln Drew Elementary Cheer Team
16. Longfellow Elementary Gold Squad Dance, Cheer and Drill Team
17. Los Angeles Limited Edition aka Audubon
18. Optimal Christian Academy Drill Team
19. Our Lady of Victory Catholic School
20. Princess Feet Dance
21. Roosevelt Middle School Marching Band
22. Roosevelt Middle School Marching Drill Team
23. Runway 4 Peace
24. San Bernardino Pacesetters Drill Team & Drum Squad
25. The Rulaz Drill Team & Drum Squad
26. Walton Middle School Marching Drill Team
27. Westside Dominators
28. Willowbrook Middle School Marching Band

Parade Route

The parade begins at 11 a.m. and travels west on Compton Boulevard from Bullis Road to Alameda Street.

Street Closures

Compton Boulevard will be closed in both directions beginning at 7 a.m. on Saturday, December 12 between Bullis Road and Alameda Street until 3 p.m. Alternative routes include Rosecrans Avenue and Alondra Boulevard. Bullis Road will be closed between Rosecrans Avenue and Compton Boulevard in both directions from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Social Media

For more information and the latest on the parade follow the City of Compton on Twitter at

[@ComptonCityHall](#), Instagram at [@ComptonCityHall](#) and on Facebook at [Facebook.com/ComptonCityCA](#). Now trending at #CityofCompton, #Compton, #ComptonEmpowered, #VisionForCompton and #ChristmasinCompton

For more information, please visit [www.ComptonCity.org](#).

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