

Life & Arts

The Mirror Guide

to the Best on the Bay

Venice Music Festival is Sunday

Venice Community Housing Corporation's annual fundraiser, the Venice Music Festival and Jazz at Palms Court, 733 Palms Boulevard, on Sunday, September 18, will begin with a champagne brunch served by Off the Wall Catering.

A silent auction on Palms Boulevard in front of the courts will open at 11 a.m. and remain open until 5 p.m. Among the items up for auction are music and movies, restaurant dinners, vacations, jewelry, paintings and other collectibles, and some unusual items such as a ride in a hot air balloon.

In celebration of Venice's diversity, the music festival, which is scheduled from 1 to 6 p.m., will go global.

On the program are Samba, Bossa Nova and Brazilian jazz performed by Braziliando, one of L.A.'s leading Brazilian bands, Sono-Lux that combines Afro-Cuban, Latin Soul, Folkloric and modern Cuban styles, Alula, originally from Ethiopia, a musician/composer/arranger/lyricist/

singer/dancer who has toured the world with his African pop music, and Argentinean rockers, Los Pinguos.

Founded in 1988, The Venice Community Housing Corporation's mission is to preserve, maintain and expand affordable housing opportunities for low-income people, especially families; provide economic development opportunities and support services; increase understanding and support for these community development activities in order to preserve the economic, racial, and social diversity of Venice and surrounding areas.

VCHC offers a variety of programs that work synergistically to foster stable, self-reliant individuals, families and neighborhoods including VCHC's Affordable Housing Program that develops and maintains affordable housing, Human Services that provides a range of family services on-site at its housing facilities, the Infant Toddler Development Center in cooperation with St. Joseph's

Center, that provides child care for children ages three months to three years, ClayWorks for Kids that provides after school arts and recreation activities for at-risk children ages six to nine, L.A. Bridges, a gang prevention program that provides after school activities, tutoring, mentoring and leaderships skills for Mark Twain Middle School students ages 10-14, Venice YouthBuild, a construction job training program for at-risk young adults ages 17-24, Venice Teen Court, a peer-based alternative to the juvenile justice system for teens accused of first time minor offenses, and HandyWorker, that provides free home repairs to low-income elderly and disabled homeowners.

Champagne brunch tickets are \$100, including admission to the Venice Music Festival in the afternoon. A suggested donation of \$20 is requested for the Venice Music Festival only. For additional information call Kristen Laskaris at 310-399-4100 ext. 106.