



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Supervisor Kathryn Barger to Unveil Glendale COVID-19 Memorial Art Installation**

On Friday, February 26, at 11:30 am, Supervisor Kathryn Barger will help Glendale Library, Arts & Culture unveil a Central Library art installation at an outdoor, socially distanced press event. “15,000 & MORE: A Plethora of Light & Darkness” is a memorial to the more than 15,000 lives lost to COVID-19 thus far in Los Angeles County and was funded by the City of Glendale Arts & Culture Commission’s Art Happens Anywhere COVID-19 relief initiative.

“15,000 & MORE: A Plethora of Light and Darkness” is an art installation of more than 15,000 silver and gold ingot-shaped, folded paper structures currently on display at the Glendale Central Library. The gold and silver ingots are attached in long groupings to a string and suspended from the Central Library’s ceiling (see photos). Best viewed from the front windows of the Library at night, each ingot within the exhibit represents a life lost to COVID-19 in Los Angeles County. It is both a beautiful and poignant reminder that while numbers of new cases are currently on the decline, daily case counts are still three times higher than they were in October 2020, and County reports have identified new strains of the virus in the community.

The exhibit is the brainchild of artist Connie D.K. Lane, who engaged several Glendale community members in crafting many of the ingots via an artist-pick-up-kit, made available at the Central Library in November 2020. Lane created a “how-to” video to instruct participants in the making of the ingots. The ingot concept is based on the Chinese ancestral worship of deceased relatives. The gold and silver ingots are typically burned in a special ceremony as an offering to one’s deceased ancestors in the afterlife. The exhibit will be on display at least through June 2021. This exhibit is sponsored by the City of Glendale Arts and Culture Commission as part of the Art Happens Anywhere program-COVID-19 relief initiative.

WHEN: Friday, February 26

- Outdoor Press Conference: 11:30 AM, masks required of all attendees.
- Opportunities to film and photograph 15,000 & MORE: 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM and 12 PM – 1 PM
  - Please note, limited numbers of people will be allowed in the library at any one time. Anyone entering the library will be required to complete a COVID-19 risk questionnaire and temperature check.

WHERE: North Entrance, Glendale Central Library, 222 E. Harvard St. Glendale, CA 91205



WHO:

- Los Angeles County Supervisor Kathryn Barger, 5<sup>th</sup> District
- Glendale Mayor Vrej Agajanian
- Arts & Culture Commission Chairperson Caroline Tufenkian
- Artist Connie D.K. Lane
- Director of Library Arts and Culture, Dr. Gary Shaffer



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About Supervisor Kathryn Barger

Supervisor Kathryn Barger proudly serves the residents of the 5<sup>th</sup> District — Los Angeles County’s largest — spanning 2,800 square miles, which includes 22 cities and 70 unincorporated communities in the Antelope, San Gabriel, San Fernando, Crescenta, and Santa Clarita Valleys. For more information about Supervisor Barger and the 5<sup>th</sup> District, visit [kathrynbarger.lacounty.gov](http://kathrynbarger.lacounty.gov).

About Glendale

Known as the “Jewel City,” Glendale is the fourth largest city of Los Angeles County. With a population of more than 200,000, Glendale is a thriving cosmopolitan city that is rich in history, culturally diverse,



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and offers nearly 50 public parks, and easy access to a municipal airport. It is the home to a vibrant business community, with major companies in healthcare, entertainment, manufacturing, retail, and banking.

#### About Library, Arts & Culture

Founded in 1907, the Glendale Library, Arts & Culture Department includes six neighborhood libraries as well as the Brand Library & Art Center, a regional visual arts and music library and performance venue housed in the historic 1904 mansion of Glendale pioneer Leslie C. Brand, and the Central Library, a 93,000 square foot center for individuals and groups to convene, collaborate and create. Now on the web at [www.eGlendaleLAC.org](http://www.eGlendaleLAC.org), the Department also serves as the chief liaison to the Glendale Arts and Culture Commission which works to continually transform Glendale into an ever-evolving arts destination. For more information contact Library, Arts & Culture at 818-548-2021 or via email at [LibraryInfo@glendaleca.gov](mailto:LibraryInfo@glendaleca.gov).

#### About Glendale Arts and Culture Commission

The mission of the Glendale Arts and Culture Commission is to enrich the human experience, reinforce Glendale's identity and civic pride through arts and culture, and to recognize the importance of arts to our quality of life and to the local economy. This is accomplished by consciously integrating arts and culture into the daily life of the people of Glendale through urban design, planning, economic development, and education. For more information about the Glendale Arts and Culture Commission see the website: [www.glendaleartsandculture.org](http://www.glendaleartsandculture.org)

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