



Press Release

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El Monte Lights Up Holiday Season at 45th Holiday House Community Celebration

El Monte, Calif. – With the arrival of Santa in his sleigh and the lighting of the Christmas Tree, El Monte kicked off the holiday season with the help of hundreds of children and families at the 45th annual Holiday House event.

The El Monte Community Center was transformed into a winter wonderland experience for the two-day celebration which took place Dec 2-3. Families gathered outside the community center on opening night with hot chocolate in hand, eagerly awaiting the arrive of Santa. Children sang songs and cheered as he made his way down Tyler Avenue just in time for the lighting of the Christmas Tree.

El Monte city council and staff were on site welcoming families and escorting them to the Holiday House.

“This is an annual holiday tradition that we look forward to hosting every year,” Councilwoman Norma Macias said. “This event inspires unity in our tight-knit community that allows us to celebrate our children, parents, talents, schools and offer exposure to worthy causes.”

Once inside, families were treated to an array of Christmas decorations from floor to ceiling complete with multiple Christmas trees, thousands of lights, nutcrackers, and several displays featuring homemade ornaments and holiday gifts for purchase. From clothing to jewelry to home-baked goods, there was something for everyone.

Extending into Saturday for a full day of continuous holiday activities, hundreds of families returned for the gingerbread contest, magic show, pictures with Santa and a variety of delicious goodies.

Fundraisers for Arroyo High School and Pee Wee Cheerleaders took place along with a canned food drive for the El Monte/South El Monte Emergency Resources Association (ERA). In addition, attendees took advantage of the San Gabriel Valley Energy Wise Partnership, which offered free energy efficient holiday LED lights in exchange for old lights.

For a list of more upcoming holiday events in El Monte, visit <https://www.facebook.com/CityofElMonte/>.

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Photos

HolidayHouse1: Families make their way through the holiday boutique which featured a variety of homemade gifts and holiday arts and crafts at the 45th annual Holiday House hosted in the El Monte Community Center Dec. 2-3.

HolidayHouse2: Santa arrives with his elves at the lighting of the Christmas Tree outside the El Monte Community Center at the 45th annual Holiday House hosted Dec. 2-3.

HolidayHouse3: El Monte Gibson Mariposa Park Cheerleaders perform for the large audience at the 45th annual Holiday House hosted Dec. 2-3.

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The City of El Monte, located in Southern California, is committed to improving the quality of life for its citizens and strives to provide its community personalized service, uncompromising commitment, and individualized accountability. For information on the City of El Monte, please call 626-580-2001 or visit www.elmonteca.gov.