



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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NOBEL PEACE PRIZE NOMINEE TO LEAD PEACE WALK AT MACARTHUR PARK SATURDAY — *Reyes says peace leader Thich Nhat Hahn teaches us through the peace walk at MacArthur Park, that togetherness is possible.*

Renowned Peace Leader Thich Nhat Hanh will lead a peace walk at MacArthur Park on September 29 to support the healing in Los Angeles, America and the world, Councilmember Ed. P. Reyes announced today. The day will begin with a peace walk entitled “Peace is Every Step” at 9:30 a.m. at the MacArthur Park bandshell, 2230 West 6th St. followed by a lunch and meditation exercises

“Thich Nhat Hanh teaches us that compassion, understanding and acceptance are what we need most in this world. MacArthur Park is a microcosm of that world, with all its nationalities, cultures and languages,” said Reyes. “Today, more than ever given the war and violence in the world, the anger rooted in fear and misunderstanding, we need to come together in peace and mindfulness as a community, as a country, and as a world. Hahn teaches us, through the peace walk at MacArthur Park, that togetherness is possible.”

At the event, local artists and children will present Hahn with a banner, commissioned by Councilmember Reyes. The banner is crafted by professional artists from Ave. 50 Studio with kindergarten and first grade students from MacArthur Park Primary Center.

“You are invited to come and walk peacefully,” said Thich Nhat Hahn. “We shall walk in such a way that each step we make becomes a realization of peace; each step becomes a prayer for peace and harmony. Children will join us and we shall walk together in silence, with no banners and no pickets. The walk will not be a petition addressed to anyone, nor will it be a demonstration against anyone. The walk is to unite our hearts, to nurture our togetherness and to dissipate fear and separation.”

Thich Nhat Hanh returns to MacArthur Park after leading a peace walk in 2005 that drew about 3,000 people. Revered as one of the greatest peacemakers of our times, Thich Nhat Hahn has authored more than 100 books, and was nominated by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. for the Nobel Peace Prize. A Buddhist monk since the age of 16, he has survived persecution, three wars, and 39 years of exile from his native Vietnam. In 2005, Nhat Hahn was allowed to return.

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