

## 6th Annual African Village Weekend Festival

Written by Robert ID1497

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“The 6th Annual African Village Weekend Festival returns to beautiful Memorial Park in Upland, California on Saturday, July 30th and Sunday, July 31st. Join us at the African Village Weekend,” said African Village Weekend founder Tommy Morrow.

The Annual African Village Weekend was started in the City of Pomona in 1999, and relocated to Upland in 2002. We wanted to make the event more convenient for Riverside, San Bernardino, and Los Angeles County residents to attend, said Morrow.

This year's Festival has been expanded with more artist and a bigger sound system. Confirmed musical artist for this year's spectacular event include balladeer and jazz artist Howard Hewitt, violinist Karen Briggs, vocalist S.P., vocalist Phil Perry, Ricky Rouse and smooth jazz great Poncho Sanchez. Other artists are being added to the line up.

“In addition to the musical performances, participants will encounter a Festival like no other. Some of the wonderful activities you will experience first hand include a the free Children's Village, Health Pavilion, business demonstrations, financial seminars pavilion, Autoland and many delicious food vendors to tantalize your taste buds,” said Glenna Gaffney-Dailey entertainment coordinator for African Village Weekend.

The festival will have a bustling country fair atmosphere reminiscent of an African Village is created as the theme; “Living Health: Supporting the Fight Against AIDS” will be observed throughout the Village.

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At the festival, the legacy and tradition of African and African-American culture, customs and commerce are celebrated through events that promote cultural awareness, fun and exciting activities in a festival atmosphere and open environment. The two- day celebration will open with a procession and crowning of the Village King, the Queen Mother. Other participants include the Elders, community leaders, elected officials, dignitaries, past participants and lots of great music.

Followed by the African traditional recognition ceremony, guests will be fulfilled by the cultural presentations of music, art, storytelling, and other events throughout the weekend. There will be something fun and exciting for all ages.

The cost for the festival: Adults \$15 per day/\$25 two-day pass; Seniors (age 60+) \$10 per day; Students (age 13-18 years) \$10 per day and Children 12 and under are Free.

Tommy Morrow and his wife Dr. Gloria Morrow founded the African Village Weekend. For more information, sponsorship or vendor opportunities visit [www.africanvillageweekend.com](http://www.africanvillageweekend.com) or call (909) 392-6907.