



Crystal Cove Conservancy Celebrates 21st Annual

Beach Tree Lighting with Guest Appearance from Santa

NEWPORT COAST, Calif., November 15, 2017 - Join Crystal Cove Conservancy for the 21st Annual holiday winter family festival and tree lighting to be held on Saturday, December 2, featuring Orange County's only "on the beach" holiday tree. Crystal Cove Conservancy, the non-profit partner of Crystal Cove State Park, will host their 21st annual complimentary all-day family event on the beach in the Crystal Cove Historic District. The Historic District will be decorated by volunteers with traditional mid-century décor to bring the holiday magic to all of those who love Crystal Cove.

Festivities begin at 10:00 a.m. with a seasonal bazaar featuring handcrafted treasures by local residents and artists as well as old-fashioned holiday decorations. All proceeds benefit Crystal Cove Conservancy and their mission of preservation, conservation and education. The excitement builds when Santa arrives at 4pm for family photos, followed by the 21st annual tree lighting ceremony at dusk, a holiday tradition that draws locals and visitors alike each year on the first Saturday of every December.

At sunset, the tree, adorned with mid-century ornaments, will be lit with twinkling lights. Décor will reflect the vintage character of the Historic District's time period between 1935 and 1955, transforming the seaside cottages into a seasonal display of magical lights, vintage decorations and giant candy canes.

"We're so excited to welcome our many cove friends, families and their children to join us for the 21st annual Crystal Cove tree lighting. From all of us at Crystal Cove Conservancy, we want to give thanks to our many members and supporters and this entire community for making our mission possible here at Crystal Cove State Park. This is our "covey" way of kicking off the holiday season with all of YOU!" says Crystal Cove Conservancy Founder and Vice President, Laura Davick.

The celebration runs from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Tree lighting will be at approximately 5:15 p.m. after sunset. This year, The Conservancy has partnered with Make-A-Wish® Orange County and the Inland Empire who will be selecting a child to do the honors of lighting the tree.

Strolling carolers will join the event at 3:00 p.m., and complimentary hot chocolate, apple cider and home baked goodies will be provided by The Beachcomber Café. Guests are encouraged to wear their holiday sweaters and festive wear.

Crystal Cove Conservancy President & CEO, Alix Hobbs adds, “The holiday magic is alive at this memorable event. Join us for a family photo, a sunset with a loved one or a moment to tell Santa all your holiday wishes. Crystal Cove’s glistening colored lights and mid-century decorations welcome all to enjoy a little peace during the busy holiday season.”

Guests can park at the Los Trancos parking lot on the inland side of Pacific Coast Highway or at the Pelican Point lots north of the Historic District lot for \$5 per hour or for a maximum of \$15 for the entire day. The Beachcomber shuttle bus will be available from the Los Trancos parking lot for \$1.50 each way. Additional shuttle service will also be available from the Pelican Point parking lots (P-1, P-2, P-3, P-4). Carpooling or car services like Uber or Lyft are recommended as the Los Trancos parking lot usually fills to capacity.

About Crystal Cove Conservancy

Crystal Cove Conservancy is the nonprofit public benefit partner to Crystal Cove State Park, employing a social enterprise model to fund important preservation, education and conservation initiatives that will cultivate our planet’s next generation of environmental stewards ensuring that Crystal Cove, and places like it, live on for generations. The Conservancy, formerly known as Crystal Cove Alliance, was founded in 1999 by Laura Davick to save Crystal Cove Historic District from being developed into a luxury resort property.

The Conservancy works in partnership with California State Parks to provide stewardship support for Crystal Cove’s nearly 2,800 acres of public lands including: The Crystal Cove Historic District and beach cottages (a National Register of Historic Places site); 2,400 acres of pristine wilderness habitat and the unspoiled Moro Canyon watershed (a National Natural Landmark site); over three miles of rocky beach coastline and intertidal habitat; 400 acres of coastal bluff habitat; and special underwater and offshore areas including the Crystal Cove State Marine Conservation Area MPA. By being a stewardship partner for this Southern California jewel, the Conservancy has been uniquely positioned to develop a nationally recognized STEM education program that uses authentic field science and monitoring to immerse students and community members in the practice of conservation and open space management. For more information, visit www.crystalcove.org.

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