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Presented by Breton Associates
Breton Fine Art
Dana Yarger, Curator

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Dana Yarger: Spokesperson



Dana Yarger, as Elephant Parade Ambassador, appeared on KCAL9 News to discuss the parade, the world's largest outdoor art exhibition in support of the endangered Asian elephant.

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Statues of endangered elephants arrive in Dana Point

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Dana Alan Yarger, ambassador for Elephant Parade USA, poses with some of the painted elephants that soon will be on display across Dana Point at the St. Regis Monarch Beach Resort. The elephant parade event starts Aug. 20 to raise money for saving Asian elephants.

EUGENE GARCIA, ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER



Endangered Asian Elephant Art Exhibition Heads To Dana Point

May 19, 2013 10:07 AM





This weekend concludes Dana Point's two-month Elephant Parade, an outdoor exhibit of sculptures of baby Asian elephants.

A public Final Farewell was held Saturday at Lantern Bay Park, featuring music, artist appearances, creative workshops and more. [See a slideshow here.](#)

On Sunday, select elephants from the exhibit will be up for auction from 2 to 6 p.m. at the Laguna Cliffs Marriott Resort & Spa, 25135 Park Lantern, Dana Point.

Tickets to the auction are \$175 per person, or \$300 per couple. Proceeds will benefit the Asian Elephant Foundation, a nonprofit dedicated to protecting and raising awareness of the species, listed as endangered by the International Union for Conservation of Nature.

For more information, visit elephantparade.com or email auction@elephantparade.com.

Elephant Parade co-founder Mike Spits (left) and U.S. parade ambassador, Dana Yarger, enjoy crowds bidding the herd farewell. Photo by Andrea Papagianis

“Elephant Parade attracted hundreds of thousands of visitors to Dana Point and we are proud to have been given the opportunity to host such a noble cause,” said Mayor Steven Weinberg.

“The elephants brought smiles to all, and our community will forever remember this special event,” Weinberg said.


Dana Yarger: Community Activist

ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

Published: Nov. 17, 2013 Updated: Nov. 18, 2013 1:39 p.m.

Auction caps playful 10-week trunk show

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Leila Endersby, of San Clemente, was attracted to this "Corn" elephant by Thailand-born Nat Pasilla because it has the yellow-green colors of her Brazilian heritage.

CINDY YAMANAKA, ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER



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Don Simkovich



Don Simkovich | LA Business News Examiner

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November 18, 2013  Like 3

The 2013 Elephant Parade in Dana Point raised money and awareness for Asian elephant conservation and brought attention to businesses in the coastal city. Dana Point's resorts supported the 10-week event and say it was one of the most significant events to ever take place in the city.

An auction of the 34 elephants took place on the final day, Sunday Nov. 17 and one elephant was auctioned off for \$100,000.

The Parade's Local Benefit

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Elephants Parade through CUSD Offices en Route to Dana Point

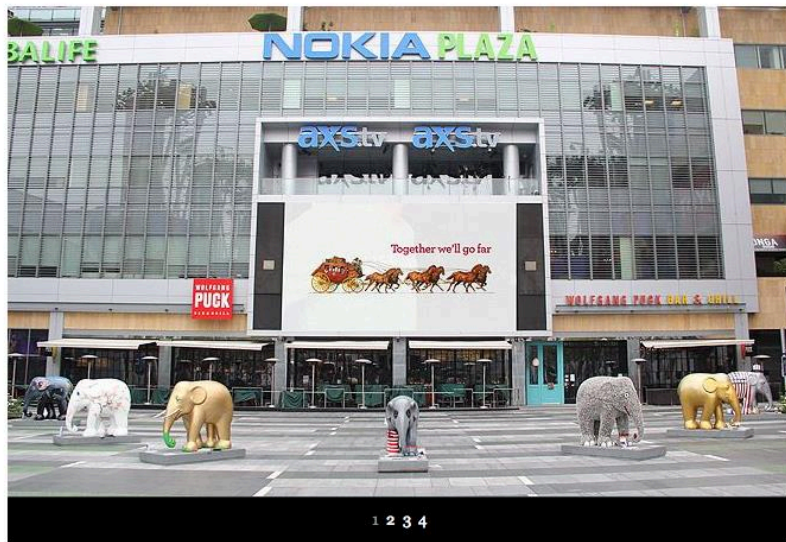


The Dana Point City Council in January approved bringing the international Elephant Parade to Southern California. Here city staff and council members pose with Dana Yarger (fourth from right), who helped bring the event to town, and the city's first visiting Asian elephant. Photo by Andrea Papagianis

Trunk Show: Elephant Parade Brings Their Art Exhibition Stateside to Save a Species

The organization, in conjunction with The Asian Elephant Foundation, has raised \$6 million to date

Posted on 10/24/2013 5:32:00 PM by Marielle Wakim



Elephant Statues Safe and Sound, Displayed at Nokia Plaza

Posted by [Peter Schelden](#) (Editor) , October 23, 2013 at 04:54 PM

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It turns out the elephant statues gone missing Monday night didn't travel far.

The statues painted by celebrities and artists, including Khloe Kardashian and Laura Seeley of Dana Point were placed on display at L.A. Live's Nokia Plaza and will be returned Monday.



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Have You Herd?: Baby Elephant Sculptures at L.A. Live

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Courtesy: Elephant Parade

Elephant Parade

A herd of baby elephant sculptures are on display at L.A. Live through Oct. 25.

Posted: Thursday, October 24, 2013 11:28 am | Updated: 11:30 am, Thu Oct 24, 2013.

0 comments

DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES — If you ever wanted to see a herd of life-size baby elephant sculptures, now's your chance.

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Through Friday, those in South Park can peep the pachyderms gathered at L.A. Live's Nokia Plaza. The seven custom-painted elephant sculptures — including one from Khloe Kardashian and another from TED conference creator Richard Saul Wurman — are an installation hosted by Wells Fargo Private Bank and Elephant Parade. The temporary installation is intended to generate awareness and support for the endangered Asian elephant.

The Downtown display is a spinoff of the more than 80-count elephant herd that makes up *Elephant Parade: Welcome to America*, currently on display in Dana Point. Elephant Parade was founded in 2006, inspired by a baby elephant named Masha who, after stepping on a landmine, became the first elephant to be fitted with a prosthetic limb.



Trunk Show

Dozens of life-size, colorfully decorated elephant sculptures make their U.S. debut at **Elephant Parade: Welcome to America**. The sculptures are displayed through Nov. 16 at locations in Dana Point, including the harbor, beaches, parks and resort properties. Works are by art-world elite including international street-muralist Chor Boogie, Mumbai jewelry designer Mira Gulati and pinup artist Olivia DeBerardinis; half-sized designs by past contributors such as Tommy Hilfiger, Katy Perry and Diane von Furstenberg will also be exhibited. Previous parades, which support the endangered Asian elephant, have taken place in Singapore, Amsterdam, Milan and London, where one design was auctioned for more than \$240,000. p. 60

BEVERLY HILLS *COURIER*

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— GEORGE CHRISTY —



GEORGE CHRISTY



Elephant Parade

Baby elephant Mosha was fitted for a prosthetic limb after stepping on a landmine in Asia, inspiring Marc and Mike Spitts to create a foundation for the preservation of the Asian elephant with the Elephant Parade, now hosted at Gibson State Park in San Rafael.



Sculptures from the Elephant Parade, many of which will be for sale at the end of the exhibition.



phants and their infants. Poachers rip the ivory tusks, even before the elephants have died.

For years, Hollywood's acknowledged the beauty of the pachyderm. From *Dumbo*, everybody's favorite flying elephant, to movies such as *Gunga Din*, *A Passage To India*, *Indiana Jones*, and the recent *Water for Elephants*.

Roughly 500,000 roam the earth today, writes Caitlin Nicol in an essay "Do Elephants Have Souls" in the *New Atlantis*. She asserts that elephants never forget, and they hold grudges. Rich



Nolan Funk



Elephant caretakers in Asia

of smuggling and poaching slaughter that are everywhere-present. This is why funds are necessary to fight this brutal massacre of ele-





(Credit, My Dana Point)

Now through Nov. 17, the Dana Point elephants will be on parade. [The Dana Point Elephant Parade](#) is less of a parade and more of an ongoing art exhibit scattered around the city of Dana Point. The Elephant Parade was put together to bring awareness to the dramatically dwindling population of Asian Elephants. Proceeds made from the sale or auction of the art will go to support The Asian Elephant Foundation (TAEF). Besides teaching the kids about the importance of conservation of endangered species, the whole family can have a blast finding and looking at the amazing elephant art spread over the city. [This map](#) depicts where the full size and miniature statues are placed throughout the coastal town.

The Elephant Parade Arrives Downtown

If you want to eye some of the be-trunked artworks up close, head for LA Live.

By Alysia Gray Painter | Thursday, Oct 24, 2013 | Updated 7:16 AM PST

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The Elephant Parade

Seven "life-sized" baby elephant sculptures are on display at LA Live from Oct. 23 through the 25th. They're part of the larger, traveling-the-world art set called The Elephant Parade.

Los Angeles Times



Elephant statues

Photographer Terrell C. Woods shot this photo of an elephant statue in Dana Point. (Terrell C. Woods /)

It's not a sight one sees everyday in Dana Point, but starting Friday, the city was been taken over by **painted elephants**. Placing these statues throughout the city and along the beach, **The Asian Elephant Foundation** is hoping to bring awareness to the Asian elephant, whose population has severely declined over the years.

Los Angeles Times | TRAVEL

Elephant Parade



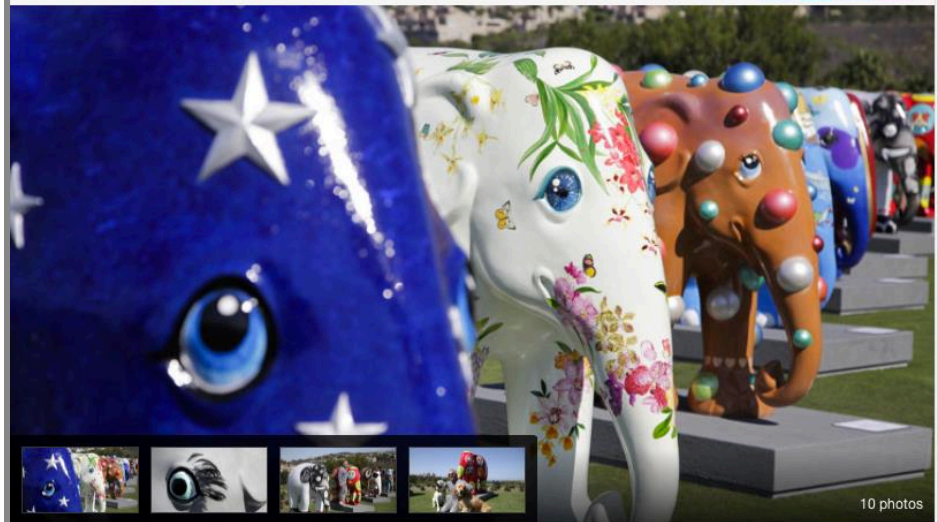
Commons)
 on display in Singapore in 2011. The Elephant Parade was hatched in 2006 after father and son Marc and
 ited an elephant hospital in Thailand. The two met an elephant fitted with a prosthetic after part of its leg
 m off when the animal stepped on a land mine.



Elephant Parade

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10 photos

AP Photo/Jae C. Hong August 22, 2013 4:00 PM

Thirty life-size elephant sculptures made their first public debut in Southern California in an effort to bring awareness to the endangered Asian Elephant species. (Associated Press)

BLAZE

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Herd Of Elephants To Parade Through Dana Point This Fall

August 23, 2013 6:00 AM

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While not your usual Southern California beach vacationers, the herd of elephants visiting Dana Point starting today through Nov. 7 will spend time at all the local tourist spots, including the beach, resorts, parks and Dana Point Harbor. The herd, some 30 life-sized, hand-painted baby elephant statues, is part of Elephant Parade, an open air art exhibition created to bring awareness to the plight of the Asian elephant.

Dana Point has the honor of being the first American city to host Elephant Parade, which has previously visited London, Amsterdam, Singapore and Milan. The opening ceremony starts tonight and lasts throughout the weekend at Doheny Beach Park, where the entire herd will be showcased along with an opportunity to meet several of the elephant artists. Kids can make their own mini elephant with an Elephant Parade Kit (fee) or participate in an elephant coloring activity.

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Asian Elephant Foundation,
 Dana Point, Elephant
 Parade, Khloe Kardashian,
 Marc Spits, Mike Spits

(credit: Elephant Parade)

Elephants Invade Dana Point!

By Matt Coker Fri., Aug. 23 2013 at 3:20 PM

Categories: **Grrrranimals**

Elephants are parading through Dana Point, not to promote a circus but to draw attention to the plight of the endangered Asian elephant species.

After debuting together for VIPs at the St. Regis Monarch Beach Resort Thursday morning, 30 life-size elephant sculptures were sprinkled throughout Dana Point, where they will be on view for the next 10 weeks.

It's part of an international Elephant Parade event that has seen the sculptures make stops in London, Milan and Singapore, but this is not only the first time all 30 have been displayed in the same city at the same time, it's the first time the exhibition has been held on U.S. soil.

Elephant Parade was founded in 2006 by Amsterdam father and son Marc and Mike Spits, inspired by Marc having been introduced to a real-life baby elephant named Mosha who became the world's first to be fitted with a prosthetic limb after stepping on a landmine. To date, Elephant Parade has raised more than \$5 million for Asian elephant conservation.

Besides raising attention (and hopefully donations) for a worthy cause, the sculptures have star power. Each was painted by celebrities ranging from Khloe Kardashian and Lilly Tomlin to Mumbai jewelry designer Mira Gulati and pin-up artist Olivia DeBeradinis.

More details:

mydanapoint.com/elephants

theasianelephantfoundation.com

[.facebook.com/myDanaPoint](https://www.facebook.com/myDanaPoint) and find additional pictures, videos and stories from past parades at <http://www.mynewsdesk.com/pressroom/elephant-parade>.



Dana Yarger: Business and Sponsor Liason



*California
Life* with Heather Dawson



Hotels, Resorts Hope Elephant Event is Gigantic Hit

International Parade Could Pump Up Business

By KARI HAMANAKA

It's been nine years since Johnny So came to the 400-room St. Regis Monarch Beach as general manager, and he still gets questions from guests confused about the Dana Point resort's location in Orange County.

"Our guests will ask, 'Where are you? Where's Dana Point?'"

"And we tell them we're between Los Angeles and San Diego, and they still don't know."

"Then we say we're right by Laguna Niguel, and they say, 'Oh, now I know,'" he said.

Dana Point's profile could rise soon if an upcoming production brings the visitors some expect will flock to the unusual event.

The Elephant Parade, an exhibit showcasing 33 fiberglass elephant statues decorated by various artists and celebrities and making its way across the globe to much fanfare, will be sprinkled throughout the seaside town starting this month.

Unique Venue

The international event that has drawn tens of thousands of people to such world-class cities as London, Singapore and Milan is being held for the first time in the U.S. in Dana Point—a harbor city roughly 29 square miles in size—a fact that could prove a boon for local business and tourism efforts.

"We wanted to make it a very boutique-



Stampede: (from left to right) Rob Koscelnik, DoubleTree Suites by Hilton Doheny Beach-Dana Point; Mike Spits, founder, Elephant Parade; Bruce Brainerd, The Ritz-Carlton, Laguna Niguel; Johnny So, St. Regis Monarch Beach; Jim Samuels, Laguna Cliffs Marriott Resort & Spa

like first entry into the United States," said Elephant Parade Chief Executive and co-founder Mike Spits, who is based out of the Netherlands. "We had many discussions on whether we should reach out to a large city or a small city. The resorts of Dana Point really embraced the concept and thought it would be a natural fit to do it here."

The Elephant Parade runs Aug. 23 through Nov. 17. The whole idea of the event is to promote elephant conservation efforts.

Statues the size of a baby elephant at about 6 feet long and 5 feet high will be auctioned off at the end of the event. The Tribute Collection, consisting of half-size

elephant statues replicating those from past parades, along with figurines, will also be available for sale.

Organizers said they haven't determined pricing.

Proceeds from the Elephant Parade go to Netherlands-based Asian Elephant Foundation, which disperses the money to various conservation efforts.

Cause's Inspiration

Spits' father, Marc, got the idea for the Elephant Parade after visiting an elephant hospital in China in 2006. He decided that rather than write a check to the cause, he would create something more lasting.

Marc, who was at one time a licensing agent for the popular Smurfs cartoon, worked with Thai designers on the statues' look and feel, with the idea of doing a fundraiser.

Mike saw the paper mache prototypes one day and scoffed at the idea, given what he affectionately calls his father's lazy nature.

Marc countered, calling him a "wise guy" and said, "Let's see you do it," and the two have worked on the Elephant Parade together ever since.

Town's Vested Interest

Holding this year's parade in Dana Point may also have made sense because the city's four largest hotels are fronting the event's more than \$500,000 price tag.

The St. Regis; Laguna Cliffs Marriott Resort & Spa; Ritz-Carlton, Laguna Niguel; and DoubleTree Suites by Hilton Hotel Doheny Beach-Dana Point, together

► Parade to page 28

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Local Elementary Student Wins Design Contest

EYE ON SJC, NEWS HEADLINES | JULY 29, 2013 BY STAFF | 0 COMMENTS

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Something She'll Never Forget: SJC Girl's Elephant Is Tops

The Ambuehl Elementary student's design is selected to appear next to the celebrities' in a star-studded elephant parade.

Posted by [Penny Arévalo](#) (Editor), July 22, 2013 at 03:35 pm

2 Comment 1 Recommend



Morgan Finelt, from Ambuehl Elementary School, was selected from more than 2,000 Capistrano Unified School District fourth- and fifth- graders as the winner of the Elephant Parade: Welcome to America design contest. Courtesy photo

