

FRANK GEHRY
WEIGHS IN

WHAT HE THINKS OF L.A.

POT FARMS IN
THE HILLS

WEEDING OUT THE RENEGADES

BIRTH
OF A CITY
L.A.'S BEGINNINGS → A PHOTO-ESSAY

Los Angeles

WINE
SHOP

SECRET
GARDEN

PICNIC
SPOT

CANDY
STORE

DOG
BEACH

CREOLE
FOOD

OYSTER
BAR

HOSTESS
GIFTS

BEAUTY
BAR

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THEATER TICKETS UNDER \$25

➡ DON'T HAVE the dough to splurge on a star-studded big-stage spectacle? Some of L.A.'s most entertaining and economical theater flourishes in 99-seat venues. At East Hollywood's **SACRED FOOLS THEATER COMPANY**, 20 to 25 bucks buys you a ticket to productions of provocative, funny, and inventive new work, such as the tribute to silent film star Buster Keaton in which video projections transform live actors into onscreen characters. Starving artists can spring for *Serial Killers*, the \$7 Saturday-night development series that has the audience deciding which shows will return the following week. » 660 N. Heliotrope Dr., East Hollywood, sacredfools.org.

DOG DAY CARE

➡ THERE ARE no aromatherapy candles or private suites at **WAGVILLE**. Instead the emphasis is on fun, comfort, and socialization. Separate areas for large and small dogs are amply stocked with water bowls, chew toys, and balls. During warm weather, four-

legged guests can frolic in sizable faux-turf yards with baby pools for splashing. The Glassell Park facility is well maintained, staffed by serious dog lovers, and offers competitive pricing: \$25 for half days, \$35 for full (cage-free boarding is also available). The application might be longer than Stanford's, but we commend the thoroughness. Owners can check on their charges via Webcam, and there's door-to-door shuttle service as well as field trips to Runyon Canyon and Huntington Beach. » 2400 N. San Fernando Rd., Glassell Park, wagville.com.

MIXED GAY & STRAIGHT CLUB

➡ SERIOUS PARTY people know that a "polysexual" mix improves the revelry, and L.A. has mucho mixed nightlife to choose from. **A CLUB CALLED RHONDA** began in 2008 at Guatelinda, a Mexican dive in East Hollywood, and it has since moved around the Eastside. With Silver Lake danceteria Los Globos as home base, Rhonda also throws pool bashes at the Hollywood Standard along with a megaversion ("Rhondavous") downtown. It's all



GREYSTONE PARK

about dance-floor desegregation, with legendary DJs and about-to-blow-up acts attracting a diverse crowd. Rhonda may not be a real person, but a connected crew has made "her" the number one party girl in town. » *Los Globos*: 3040 W. Sunset Blvd., East Hollywood, rhondasays.net.

CLASSICAL MUSIC SALON

➡ HOW CIVILIZED: classical music in an intimate setting followed by discussions with the musicians and a repast. Let's give a muted, gloved clap for **CHAMBER MUSIC IN HISTORIC SITES**. The series, sponsored by the Da Camera Society of Mount St. Mary's College, features performances by world-class chamber groups at Greystone Mansion. Docents lead you around the historic house before the bows hit the strings; try to

snag a velvet couch as your perch. Other venues include downtown's Bradbury Building and the Coach Barn at the Arboretum in Arcadia, but none are as ethereal as this. » dacamera.org.

HIKE WITH A PAYOFF

➡ SO YOU'RE the sort who doesn't move a muscle without asking "What's in it for me?" This trek has your name all over it. Head to Griffith Park about an hour before sunset, and take the unmarked trail that starts right off **VERMONT CANYON ROAD** (it's about 100 yards south of the Greek Theatre). Wind your way along the dirt path—past woodpeckers darting in and out of pines, past pet owners and their stubby corgis, past the pack of guys fit enough to sing in harmony as they chug along—and half a mile later it spits you out next to Griffith Ob-

CELEBRITY PICK

“ANGIE DIEHL AT NYSA HILL LOOKS AFTER MY DOG SO WELL, SHE'S ALWAYS LOATH TO COME HOME. ANIMAL BOARDING SIMPLY DOESN'T GET BETTER.”

—SHIRLEY MANSON,
LEAD SINGER OF GARBAGE

