

LA WEEKLY[®]

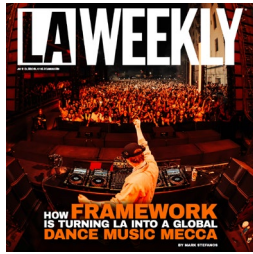
JULY 18 - 24, 2025 | VOL. 47 / NO. 37 | LAWEEKLY.COM

A DJ wearing a black cap and a light-colored long-sleeved shirt is seen from behind, performing at a DJ booth. The booth is equipped with two turntables, a mixer, and various cables. The DJ has one hand raised in the air. In front of the DJ is a massive, dense crowd of people, many of whom are holding up their phones to take photos or videos. The scene is illuminated with warm, orange-toned stage lighting, creating a vibrant and energetic atmosphere. The background shows the structure of the event space, including scaffolding and stage equipment.

HOW **FRAMEWORK**
IS TURNING LA INTO A GLOBAL
DANCE MUSIC MECCA

BY MARK STEFANOS

CONTENTS



ON THE COVER:

Dom Dolla performs at the Historic Sears Building, Oct. 26, 2024.

Photo: Shevin Dissanayake @shevindphoto
Design: Mark Stefanos

FOOD 2-3

You need to try these Black-owned hidden gems.

BY SIMONE GRANT

SPONSORED 4

Terry Heller made Preferred Roofing the pinnacle of its industry.

BY CONNOR MCCRORY

ART 5

The Mark Jude Gallery opens in the Historic Sears Building in Boyle Heights.

BY MICHELE STUEVEN

MUSIC 6-8

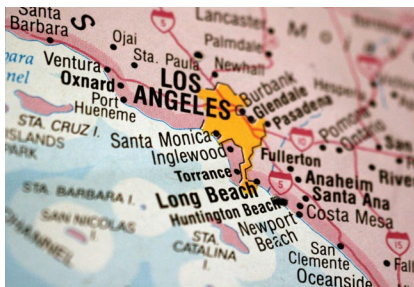
Kobi Danan's production company Framework is making LA an elite dance music city.

BY MARK STEFANOS

CLASSIFIEDS 8

LA WEEKLY

EDITOR IN CHIEF: MARK STEFANOS
SENIOR EDITOR: MICHELE STUEVEN
PRODUCTION AND DESIGN
LAURA E. WHITE FOR STREET MEDIA



FOOD

8 BLACK-OWNED HIDDEN GEM RESTAURANTS IN LOS ANGELES YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT

BY SIMONE GRANT

Let's just say the best food spots hit different when they don't have a huge social media presence. These eateries spend their time making sure their food is, in Gen Z parlance, *bussin* — they would rather have their customers leave satisfied than with an aesthetic picture for the Gram. Through word of mouth, their lines are always around the corner. In the beautiful city of Los Angeles, these are the Black-owned hidden gem restaurants you should know about.



COURTESY SIMONE GRANT

1. Worldwide Tacos

This legendary taco spot is famous for having a very diverse menu of some of LA's best tacos. You may have seen this Leimert Park-adjacent neighborhood restaurant on season three, episode four of the hit TV series, *Insecure*, when Issa Rae's character Issa Dee drops her long-awaited taco when she runs into her future love interest Nathan. Nathan offers to buy her another one but is told the wait time will be "at least an hour." Issa tells him it's worth it — and she's definitely not lying. While the wait times can be long, the food definitely makes up for it. This neighborhood staple was founded in 2002 by co-owners Frederick Sennie and Jay Sin and offers a variety of taco flavors with traditional meat options and vegan selections. From BBQ to curry to raspberry chipotle, Worldwide Tacos is a

flavor seeker's dream.

worldwidetacos.com

2419 W Martin Luther King Jr Blvd,
Leimert Park, CA 90008



COURTESY SIMONE GRANT

2. Fresh and Meaty Burgers

Founded by Mr. Hood, this burger spot surely lives up to its name. These fresh and made-to-order burgers are known for their bold flavors and thick patties — they are not stingy when it comes to their patty sizes. As a family-owned and operated business, all of Mr. Hood's children are involved in some capacity, whether they are the co-owners making sure things run smoothly or associates supporting and assisting with everyday operations. If you are feeling really hungry, I recommend the King Burger or Meaty Burger Special. You can get these hefty burgers with or without cheese, and with your choice of a beef or turkey patty. Their tacos and chili cheese fries are neighborhood favorites, and they have an extensive menu offering chili fritos, vegan burgers, the Chicken Breast Special, and more. If you have room for dessert, check out their homemade shakes and ice cream. Trust us, you won't leave hungry after Fresh and Meaty.

freshnmeatyburgersla.com

3016 W Florence Ave, Los Angeles, CA
90043



COURTESY CATHY SCOLA/GETTY



COURTESY SIMONE GRANT

3. Mama's Chicken and Market

Mama's Chicken and Market has solidified itself as a staple in the Los Angeles community for over 50 years. This family-owned restaurant was founded in 1964 by Elbert Hall Jr. as a small hamburger stand, with space for just one employee. Thanks to the partnership between Hall and Karen Whitman, this Crenshaw District gem has stayed proudly serving its community. With the tagline, "You know it's good 'cause mama made it!" you already know that the food will be made with love, heart, and soul. The lengthy menu includes both breakfast and dinner specials. Some of their popular menu items include the Chicken Sausage Links (which one Yelp customer called "the best chicken sausage for miles"), the Turkey Sausage Link, and the Turkey Sausage Burger. We can't ignore that "Market" is included in the name. That's right — not only do they have the best chicken sausage in Los Angeles, but they are also a mini market. It's a two-in-one stop as soon as you walk through the door.

mamaschicken.name

2510 W Slauson Ave, Los Angeles, CA
90043



ALL PHOTOS COURTESY SIMONE GRANT

4. Fred's DownHome Burgers

Located right next door to Mama's Chicken (like literally in the next parking lot) is the long-standing walk-up eatery Fred's DownHome Burgers. If you are looking for good food that tastes like it was made in your own home, then this hidden gem is a must-try. Their famous "Fred's Specials" lets you choose between beef, turkey, pastrami, chicken, or sausage burgers, or taco options, along with their crispy fries and a drink. Plus, their menu is stacked with burritos, wings, chili cheese fries, dogs, fritos, fresh homestyle fries, desserts (cake, peach cobbler, and banana pudding), and more.

2524 W Slauson Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90043



5. Rusty Pot Cafe

Located in the heart of Inglewood is the Southern-inspired American food restaurant Rusty Pot Cafe. This laid-back and welcoming space was founded by owner and head cook Linda Credit and serves delicious breakfast and lunch options.

They've been part of the Inglewood community for over 10 years and have been serving locals quality dishes with great customer service. Some of their popular dishes include breakfast omelettes, fried catfish, The Overload Breakfast Sandwich, and their customer favorite Famous Fried Chicken and Waffles. Dine in to enjoy your food in a family-friendly atmosphere, and take-out is available for those on the go.

rustypotcafe.com

324 S Market St, Inglewood, CA 90301



6. Big Daddy's Kick'n Chicken

Located off of La Brea and Nutwood in Inglewood is the family-owned and operated Big Daddy's Kick'n Chicken, known for their charbroiled and generously sized chicken. "If it ain't kickin it's just plain ol chicken!" is their motto, and they surely stand by it with their reputation for serving very flavorful and juicy chicken. They offer the Chicken Dinner, which comes with a choice of two sides (collard greens, corn, green beans, macaroni and cheese, red beans and rice, or yams) and a corn bread, or Half a Chicken, which comes a la carte.

big-daddys-kickin-chicken.myshopify.com

214 E Nutwood St, Inglewood, CA 90301

7. Ms. Ruby's Bakery

Don't let the "Bakery" in the name of this Inglewood family-owned eatery fool you — they sell food as well, and it's amazing. As someone who has been coming to this spot since I was little, Ms. Ruby's feels like family, and she treats you as such. Just last week, I stopped by to grab a piece of her infamous red velvet cake. She was only taking cash at the time because she wasn't quite familiar with the card reader and was waiting for one of the cooks to finish in the kitchen, so she offered to let me have the cake free of charge, saying, "I trust you'll be back."



Of course, I waited, but this goes to show just how community-oriented Ms. Ruby is. Other baked goods include pecan pie, sweet potato pie, lemon pound cake, coconut cake, pineapple coconut, and more. This cooked-to-order spot is filled with comfort food with a homemade touch, and their turkey burger and tacos are local favorites.

404 E Manchester Blvd #1320, Inglewood, CA 90301

8. Wings & Pot

If you are a lover of finger-licking good chicken wings, this spot on Manchester and Haas Ave. will have you coming back for more. Wings & Pot has a very diverse selection of combos and flavors tailored to your taste. The wings are extra crispy



and seasoned to perfection. Let's not forget the fries, which are perfectly salted and served fresh and hot. Customers can even customize their own loaded potato or fries. Wing flavors include Hannie's Hot, Willie Wild Mild, Barbara Ann BBQ, Gramp's Garlic Parm, and more.

wings-pot.foodjooy.com

2108 W Manchester Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90047

interium cabinets

CUSTOM FURNITURE

- Cabinetry
- Wardrobes
- Kitchen sets
- Walk-in Closets

Contact Us

+1 (213) 767-1727
info@interiumcabinets.com

SPONSORED

FROM RUTHLESS TO ROOFTOPS: HOW TERRY HELLER MADE PREFERRED ROOFING THE PINNACLE OF ITS INDUSTRY

BY CONNOR MCCRORY



Terry Heller



Zach Boren

Growing up in Los Angeles, it's almost a rite of passage to end up in the entertainment industry in some shape or form—and that's exactly what Terry Heller did.

Starting at just 11 years old, Heller was surrounded by some of hip-hop's biggest legends, including Dr. Dre and Eazy-E. How did a kid from the Fairfax District and later Westlake Village get access to that world? The answer lies in his infamous uncle, Jerry Heller.

Jerry, Terry's uncle on his father's side, was a towering figure in his life from infancy. Terry recalls how Jerry began babysitting him around the age of one—and instead of changing diapers, he'd just toss him into the shower.

Jerry never had kids of his own, and Terry became the closest thing to a son. By the time Terry finished high school and began college, N.W.A. was dominating the scene, and hanging out with Dre and Eazy was just another day for him.

"I was very aware of how famous these guys were," Terry recalled. "But it felt normal. Dre would tell me to come over and listen to tracks he recorded the night before. At the time, I thought he just liked having me around. Years later, I realized I was the target demographic—the suburban white kid he wanted to test the music on."

Working at Ruthless Records, Terry eventually signed and managed a group called ATBAN Klann, who would go on to become the Black Eyed Peas.

"Will [will.i.am] was one of the hardest-working guys I've ever met," he said. Frustrated that Eazy-E didn't fully grasp Will's vision, Terry paid \$1,200 for a video shoot with USC filmmakers to prove their potential. It worked and Eazy was impressed. Terry soon found himself directing the debut video for an unknown group—Bone Thugs-N-Harmony's

"Thuggish Ruggish Bone," which became one of the year's biggest releases.

From there, Heller became a go-to music video director, producing about 25 videos a year. But not all moments were glamorous. He recalled the tension during the Ice Cube "No Vaseline" era, when he'd feel eyes on him at clubs whenever the diss track played. There was also a surreal meeting with Lil Wayne and Cash Money's Baby in a plush chinchilla-furnished motorhome. "He tried to intimidate me by saying Suge Knight was a good friend," Terry said. "I've got Suge's number. Should we call him together?"

In fact, Heller once had a direct encounter with Suge Knight. Early one morning, Suge and six men dressed in red came to Ruthless looking for Jerry. "He asked where my uncle was—I told him I didn't know. He didn't believe me," Terry said. When he called Jerry, his uncle simply told him to have Suge come back the next day. Heller won't elaborate on what happened after, other than to say Eazy and Jerry later struck a multimillion-dollar deal with Interscope—after Suge had taken Dre from Ruthless.

Despite a successful 15-year run in music video and commercial directing, Terry always felt out of place. "I think because success came to me so young and seemingly easy, I didn't feel like I deserved it," he admitted. When Napster hit and the music business changed, Heller shifted gears. Even though they closed \$7.8 million in revenue that year, Terry was concerned about his future and young children, so he jumped into real estate—developing homes and apartment buildings.

Eventually, Terry made another pivot. In 2024, he bought a 29-year-old roofing company called Preferred Roofing from a retiring owner. "Within 60 days of meeting him, I bought the company. In the first year, we increased revenue by 450%.

I was built for this," he said. His goal? To become the biggest roofing brand in the industry.

Heller credits a real estate buddy for introducing him to Zach Boren, a driven New Yorker who had moved to L.A. after marrying his wife who grew up in Beverly Hills. Terry and Zach met for dinner and instantly clicked. "I made him an offer right there...I knew that this guy was a fucking rock star and I wasn't leaving that restaurant until he said yes," Terry said. Together, they've expanded Preferred Roofing rapidly, becoming the go-to roofing company for all types of properties and servicing property managers, legacy family offices, and homeowners. After adding a commercial division, their first booked job brought in \$800,000. With another acquisition pending in Orange County, expansion into Arizona and Florida is next on the horizon. Zach added... "Terry's energy is infectious and he has a lot to say (Zach chuckles) but he's one of the few people that actually backs it up. I'll never forget one of the first days after we bought the company, I was the first to show up. I can tell he was pleased, but the next day, he texted me at 5:45am asking where I was? We push each other to be the very best!"

"Our success formula is simple," Heller said. "As a developer, the biggest pain point is just getting contractors to return your call. We pride ourselves on world-class customer service, like a 5-star resort experience. That, plus premium materials and unbeatable warranties, is our edge."

In the end, Heller says his skill set has never really changed—whether it's signing an artist, directing a video, building a property, or growing a roofing empire. "I stay curious, surround myself with people smarter than me, and always have the confidence to say, Let's go." 📍

ART

THE MARK JUDE GALLERY OPENS IN THE HISTORIC EAST LA SEARS BUILDING

BY MICHELE STUEVEN



From Left: Jackson, Mark and Nicholas Jude

COURTESY MARK JUDE GALLERY

Before there was Amazon and the internet, there was the Sears Catalog Big Book. It offered everything from ready to build home kits to clothes, furniture, tools, jewelry, appliances, and even opium in the early days. And anything that was ordered west of the Mississippi came from the huge Sears, Roebuck & Co. mail order building in Boyle Heights.

Built in 1927, the building was used for mail order until 1992, when Sears closed the distribution center and sold the building. While Sears still operated a retail store on the ground floor until 2021, the enormous 1,800,000-square-foot complex remained vacant and subject of much handwringing and speculation among preservationists.

Until now.

The halls are lined with the overflow of building owner Izek Shomof's classic car collection, which includes two Sears motorcycles, as well as galleries, showrooms and music. The Israeli-born longtime LA resident and real estate developer, Shomof opened Tony's Burger in downtown LA at the age of 16 and has bought and saved landmarks like the historic Leland Hotel, the King Edward Hotel and the Hotel Alexandria in 2012. Shomof, who wrote the book *Dreams Don't Die*, bought the Sears building in 2013, which holds a soft spot in his heart.

"I started working at a young age," Shomof, who is also a film producer, tells *LA Weekly*. "I immigrated to America in 1973 and my parents were not doing so well. One day when I got out of the house I saw my mom walking on the street to the laundromat with a heavy basket of dirty clothes, which broke my heart. So

I saved up some money and went down to the Sears store in Boyle Heights and bought her a washer and dryer."

And now there are new family memories being built inside the sprawling warehouse floors.

What began in a small apartment as a passion project between former restaurateur Mark Jude and his twin sons, Jackson and Nicholas, has now evolved into The Mark Jude Gallery, a more than 3,000 square foot multidisciplinary art space. The family has transformed the once-dormant landmark into an interactive destination for experimental exhibitions, cinematic curation, and cross-genre events that blend visual art, live performance, and immersive storytelling.

The exhibition that opens on Thursday, July 24 will feature artists like Antonio Kim, Caterina Piccardo, Samuel Scharf, and Megan Mueller—working across ceramics, digital media, conceptual installations, and urban archival scans.

With backgrounds in film, architecture, and international arts, the family team draws from European cinema, UCLA research labs, and NYU's Tisch School to create a space that feels more like a creative encounter than a traditional gallery visit.

"This is a family project between myself and my twin sons," Mark tells *LA Weekly* on a tour of the space that still houses the rusty old circular shafts and chutes that would slide the packages down to the loading docks of the nine-story building.

"I used to work in the museums in Washington DC, the Smithsonian and National Gallery of Art and went to art school," he says. "I was a chef in these museums and my sons were in the museums



COURTESY ROBERT GAUTHIER/GETTY

all the time, so this is a natural place for us to be. We also had a couple of restaurants, where artists would come in and we'd show their work in the restaurant. It's a lot more fun showing art than running a restaurant."

One of the highlights in the gallery is the ceramic interpretation of the ancient moon jug by local Korean American artist Antonio Kim.

"The moon jug is an iconic piece of Korean design and sculpture and he re-interpits it by creating moon jugs that are destroyed or in the process of being destroyed," Nick Jude explains during the tour. "His message is that Korean society is still very rigid and traditional, seeped in the past and he wants to break that up. It's a visual representation of how Korean culture needs to evolve and break down

to become something else."

Other plans for the space include interactive supper clubs combining art and food.

"What we're excited about doing with this gallery is start a cultural community space and curate immersive art experiences," says Nick. "In August we're going to have two supper clubs take place in the space where a fine art video game designer will create something interactive where you can make it, take it apart, see, taste and hear the food. We're also working on a shoebox opera, which will be 20-minute opera segments in collaboration with a singer and a music designer. We want to produce art experiences that you don't normally see in a gallery. Coming out of the pandemic, people really want to experience things again." [E]

MUSIC

HOW FRAMEWORK'S KOBI DANAN IS TURNING LOS ANGELES INTO A GLOBAL DANCE MUSIC MECCA

BY MARK STEFANOS



Michael Bibi on Hollywood Blvd.

COURTESY @JV_STUDIOS_

In the conversation about great global dance music cities, sometimes Los Angeles gets left out.

Sure, Vegas can be great, but you'll get fistbumped in the eye and pushed out of a VIP section. Miami has the glitzy megaclubs, but you'll eventually miss the underground. You'll get vibe-checked, side-eyed and squished in New York and London. Berlin is techno's heart and has an epic club scene, but you'll be loath to find music of other genres, and if you smile too much, people will think you're an idiot. You'll find quality and fun in Tulum and Bali, but with a pretty limited calendar. Ibiza has some of the biggest and best clubs, but it's open only half the year, you'll sweat yourself to a crisp and fly home broke.

When you factor in everything LA has to offer — music of all kinds, a bustling after-hours scene, world-class festivals, and events across town at venues and creative outdoor spaces year-round — it goes toe-to-toe with the best of the best.

"LA is absolutely on par with these cities in terms of scale and reach," says Kobi Danan, who founded LA's underground dance music production house Framework, along with Erik Litmanovich.

He should know — since 2013, Framework has been instrumental in elevating LA's prominence, responsible for an increasing load of the elite dance events in this city. Their tentacles reach

far and wide, and their production quality is bar none.

They run Sound, one of *DJ Mag's Top 100 Clubs*, that draws A-list and emerging DJs, and throngs of loyalists to its deep, active dancefloor without the bottle-service-hassle typical of Hollywood. Last year they opened Spotlight a couple of blocks away where AV Club used to be, a more intimate 200-person capacity venue with genre-spanning programming.

They curate the Yuma tent at Coachella, the massive enclosed club (with AC) on the festival grounds catering to house and techno. And they throw Framework in the Desert, a Coachella afterparty that's basically a festival on its own — in 2025, the Weekend One three-day affair welcomed over 14,000 people to the Atlantic Aviation airport hangar, with headliners Chris Lake, Chris Lorenzo, Mau P, deadmau5 and Alesso. It's what people are raving about when they say they're going to Coachella but only for the afterparties.

Plus they partner with Goldenvoice to produce events at The Shrine and The Fonda, and Wynn Nightlife for programming at XS and Encore Beach Club in Vegas.

But perhaps the most standout and culturally impactful LA events they've thrown are the run of shows across the city at iconic and unconventional venues over the past several years. These

innovative and unmissable concerts become the talk of the town, and generate FOMO thousands of miles away:

They hosted Anjunadeep, Abracadabra and CamelPhat in Bunker Hill's California Plaza, Fatboy Slim and CamelPhat in Pershing Square, transformed Chinatown's Gin Ling Way for Mahmut Orhan and Francis Mercier, and helped throw an Afterlife mini-festival with Tale Of Us, Adriatique, Cassian and Layla Benitez at LA Historic Park for the notoriously technical visual and audiophiles.

RED Studios, the former home of Desilu Productions and Ren-Mar studios — where they filmed everything from "I Love Lucy" to "Seinfeld" to "Barney & Friends" — became a giant venue for Duke Dumont and Rampa.

In 2023, Union Station became a stage for Knee Deep and Adriatique. Last year, Maceo Plex performed at SCI-Arc in the Arts District, and the Historic Sears Building in Boyle Heights brought Dom Dolla. *[Read more about the transformation of The Historic Sears Building in this issue.]*

And earlier this year, they shut down Hollywood Blvd. for Michael Bibi, a feat they first tackled in 2023 when the thoroughfare hosted *Fisher, Chris Lake and 12,000 fans* for a three-hour dance bonanza called Under Construction that they pulled off without a hitch. Plus they've

done nearly 20 more shows indoors and outdoors around Exposition Park and The Shrine.

The series continues this summer and fall with over a dozen shows announced so far:

Chris Stussy is coming to Exposition Lawn July 19 and 20, followed by "Abracadabra Los Angeles," which will feature BLOND:ISH, Yamagucci and Notre Dame on Oct. 4.

Gin Ling Way will bring Hot Since 82 on July 26 and Flight Facilities on Aug. 9.

Francis Mercier with Sparrow & Barbossa are coming to California Plaza on Sept. 20, and Mau P to LA Historic Park on Oct. 10 and 11.

The Historic Sears Building will host Sammy Virji on Sept. 6 in the Rio Vista Lot; "20 Years Innervations," a show featuring Dixon, A\$he, Jimi Jules and Julya Karma at The Dock on Sept. 13; and "Paradise Los Angeles" featuring Jamie Jones Oct. 25.

And Hollywood Blvd. will again be taken over on Sept. 27, this time by Adam Port of the Afro house collective Keinemusik, which has been booming in popularity.

Throwing top-notch events of this magnitude, at locales that rarely have amplified audio, requires incredible vision followed by meticulous planning and execution.

Below, Kobi Danan tells us how

Framework has gotten to the place where they can pull them off with such frequency, how they've maintained their authenticity and quality, and what is motivating him as he makes LA a global powerhouse of underground dance.

LA WEEKLY: When you co-founded Framework in 2013, what was your goal for LA's underground music scene?

KOBI DANAN: We recognized that Los Angeles needed a true home for underground dance music. At the time, most venues leaned toward more commercial electronic programming. So when we found a home at Sound, we launched "Framework Fridays" to create a clear distinction — a space where we could explore deeper, more underground sounds, particularly house and techno.

Back then, Friday nights gave us the freedom to be more musically adventurous, while Saturdays catered to a broader mix. That's how Framework started: as a brand rooted in authenticity and curation.

As the underground scene grew in popularity, so did Framework. Many of the artists we supported early on — who we were personally fans of — began gaining mainstream attention. We were proud to have championed them from the beginning. As demand grew, so did our scale and ambition.

How has that mission evolved over the past decade?

It's evolved in ways we never expected. We've gone from artists nearly selling out a 650-cap venue like Sound, to those same artists selling 40,000+ tickets at some of LA's most iconic spaces. That journey — watching the scene grow from niche to mainstream while keeping its soul intact has been incredibly rewarding.

[We now] curate experiences that are not only sonically rich, but feel authentic — from how you're treated at the door to the energy of the person dancing next to you. We never want people to feel like they're being herded through a show. We aim to preserve the integrity, ambiance, and connection that made Framework special from day one.

How have Sound and Spotlight factored into Framework's mission?

We view Framework as a ladder. At the top, we're producing shows for 25,000+ people, however, every artist starts somewhere. Sound was our original proving ground, but we needed an even more intimate space — enter our new venue, Spotlight. Only a 200-person capacity, it lets us nurture new talent and also host massive names like Carl Cox, Justice and Dom Dolla in a setting that feels incredibly personal.



Solomun at Exposition Park 2024

COURTESY @ITSKINDERELLA



Dom Dolla at The Historic Sears Building

COURTESY @JY_STUDIOS

How do you view the evolution of the city's dance music culture, and what role has Framework played in that growth?

It's a complex time. The traditional nightclub scene has struggled in the past years, many once-busy venues have shut down. We're grateful to still be here, venues like Sound and Spotlight aren't typical clubs. We program them like concert venues, bringing in top-tier international or notable local acts every time we open the doors. Still, it's bittersweet to drive down Hollywood Boulevard and see the remnants of nightlife's past. There's a lot to work ahead to revitalize the club culture here, but Framework is committed to being part of that resurgence.

How do you cultivate a sense of community through your events?

We focus on flawless execution — exceptional production, smooth operations, and most importantly, safety. When attendees feel secure, they let go and enjoy themselves fully. That foundation creates an organic sense of community. People keep coming back because they trust the experience we create.

What are you most proud of in connecting artists and fans in LA?

One of our proudest moments recently was being recognized by the State of California Assemblyman, Mark Gonzalez, who officially designated June as Electronic Dance Music Community Month. That recognition



Kobi Danan

COURTESY OF FRAMEWORK

means the city and state see the value of what we're doing — not just as event producers, but as community builders.

This support has also made it easier to produce shows in unconventional venues. What once felt impossible — securing permits, working with city departments — is now a collaborative process. It's allowed us to create more meaningful, one-of-a-kind experiences which in turn connects our artists and fans to each other.

What inspires you to transform unique spaces like RED Studios, the Historic Sears building, and Hollywood Blvd. into dancefloors?

It starts with imagining the spaces filled with music and people. We look for open-floor plans and architectural character — spaces that tell a story. We want people to walk in and feel like they're part of something special and immersive.

What challenges come with securing and producing at such iconic locations?

It's incredibly complex. Every detail matters — from staging and sound, to fencing, restrooms and safety. Unlike

traditional venues, we're building everything from scratch for a single show. That includes working with the fire department, building and safety, and city permitting agencies to ensure a secure environment. It's a huge lift, but I feel we've become experts at it.

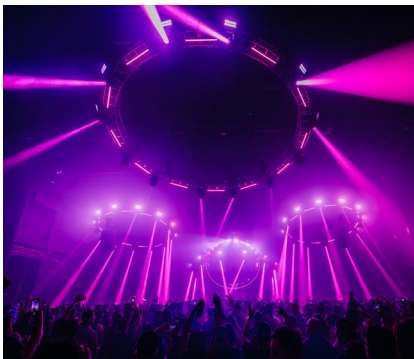
Why did you choose the Historic Sears Building as a venue and how well does it work as a venue?

Anyone who's driven LA's freeways has seen the iconic Sears Tower. I grew up remembering how legendary that brand was, and seeing the building sitting empty felt like a missed opportunity. When the chance came to activate it, we had to jump at it.

As a venue, it has worked beautifully. We've only done one show there so far, but we have at least three more planned this year and we're exploring ways to use more of the site. It has incredible views of the city and tons of potential.

How is working with the city of LA as a partner?

It's been exceptional. The City of LA has become one of our greatest allies, giving us access to opportunities we never



Duke Dumont at RED Studios Hollywood
COURTESY @ITSKINDERELLA

thought possible. While we're grateful, we're also ambitious. We're constantly dreaming up new experiences and seeking new locations. The city's ongoing support has helped turn those dreams into reality.

Any fun surprises we can expect for your upcoming LA shows?

Yes, quite a few. One I can share is our

upcoming show at Television City, the historic landmark's lot on Fairfax near The Grove. We'll be collaborating with one of our longtime artists for a large-scale experience. We love activating culturally significant venues and reimagining them for new audiences.

With events ranging in scale from intimate to massive, how do you decide when to go big versus keeping things small?

It comes down to demand and budget. Personally, I'd love for every show to be 1,000 people or less, as intimate and close as possible. However, we always tailor the size of the experience we want to create based on artist popularity and our expenses. We see it as a core responsibility of any promoter to nurture a thriving ecosystem — one that both reflects the audience's current taste and provides space for emerging talent to shine.

How do you balance booking global stars with emerging talent?

We're always excited about discovering and supporting new artists. We watch how they're performing in their local scenes and monitor global reactions. It's a tight-knit community of bookers around the world — we share insights on who's gaining popularity and why. That network helps us stay ahead and we're constantly searching for new talent that aligns with the Framework vision.

Are there specific up-and-coming artists you're excited to showcase in LA?

Absolutely. We're excited about Ben Sterling and Le Yora, they're both bringing something fresh to the scene right now.

What keeps you passionate about pushing LA's underground music forward and what excites you most about your work?

Knowing that we've helped grow what was a niche scene into something tremendous — and that people are making real memories at our events — is incredibly

fulfilling. I'm proud that in 12 years, we've kept people safe, built a trusted reputation, and fostered something bigger than just a party. We're responsible for every person who walks through those doors, and it's a responsibility we take seriously. That's the real reward.

What's been the most rewarding moment in your work with Framework?

The true reward for me and my team is 100% seeing the energy in the room, park or venue, people who lose themselves in the music and production, letting go of their week, and being fully present. That energy is everything and all I've ever needed to keep me going in this industry.

Find information and tickets for Framework's upcoming show, and recaps of past shows at thisisframework.com. Follow Kobi Danan on Instagram @kobidanann and Framework @thisisframework. Interview edited for length and clarity. [L]

LA WEEKLY CLASSIFIEDS

EMPLOYMENT & EDUCATION

Software Engineer sought by Netflix Animation, LLC., Burbank, CA: Develop storage solutions, web services, and APIs. Work from home permitted when not reporting to Burbank office. Salary: \$151,549 - \$491,000/year. Email resumes: netflixanimationresumes@netflix.com. Ref. Job Code: JR8308656.

Dentist (Job Code: JK0129) sought by Sahawneh Dental Corporation in Burbank, CA. Provide comprehensive dental care to patients. DDS, DDM or equivalent. Must be licensed & registered with the State of employment. \$106,038-\$220,000. Apply by email at Jackie.Zavatsky@smilebrands.com (Reference Job Code).

Manager, Analytics Systems (IT Commercial Applications), Princess Cruise Lines, Ltd., Santa Clarita, CA, Resp for strategic dsgn, techn'l guidance, vendor mgmt, & overall team leadership. Provides techn'l mentorship to ensure dvlpmt cycles maintain pace & accuracy. Creates & maintains techn'l docn. REQMTS: Bachelor's deg, or foreign equiv, in Comp Sci, Comp Engg or reltd field. Min of 4 yrs exp in job or in large analytics systems. Exp must incl 18 mos exp in IT leadership coordg techn'l dvlpmt. Exp must incl: s/ware engg exp in dsgn, dvlpmt & sched batch scripts, optimization modeling, enterprise revenue mgmt, R or Python model dvlpmt. Must have knowl of: Oracle d/base, SQL, Java, C#, .NET & C++. Any suitable combination of edu, training or exp is acceptable. Remote work from any state where the co. is a registered employer, incl: AK, AZ, CA, CO, DC, FL, GA, ID, IL, IN, MD, MN, MO, NV, NY, OH, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, & WA. Any suitable combination of edu, training or exp is acceptable. \$175,000 - \$185,000. Resumes to: P.Nunn@HollandAmericaGroup.com

PLM & Engineering Change Mgr sought by Singer Vehicle Design, LLC for Torrance, CA ofc. Design, develop, test, & evaluate integrated systems for managing industrial production processes. Telecommuting ok. \$143,500 - \$167,400. Apply to Job # PLM1022, 19500 S Vermont Ave, Torrance, CA 90502 or careers@singervehicledesign.com.

GoElite, Inc. seeks **English Language Tutor**. Salary \$86,237/yr. Mstrs. in TESOL or rel. field reqd. Teach students English to prepare for TOEFL exam. Work site: Pasadena, CA. Mail resume to: 680 E. Colorado Blvd. #150, Pasadena, CA 91101.

MARKETING SPECIALIST sought by Xchange Logistics Corp (West Covina, CA) to analyze market trends and develop strategies. Req. Bachelor's in Marketing, Business Admin, or related. Salary: \$48,693/yr. Send resume: 2934 E Garvey Ave S, Ste 300, West Covina, CA 91791.

ACCOUNTANT (Krusher Inc. (Arcadia, CA) seeks Accountant to manage financial transactions, accounts receivable, and accounting records. Req. Bachelor's in Finance, Accounting, or related. Salary: \$61,526/yr. Send resume: HR, 11818 Clark St, Arcadia, CA 91006.

Continuous Improvement TPM Manager sought by Rich Products Corporation, Torrance, CA to provide system architectural imprmnts, dsgn & integrate solutions, etc. 10% US travel. Salary \$119,995/yr. Deg'd applicants exp'd wrkg w/translating biz needs into tchnl rormts for ERP module, etc. No relectn reimbrsmnt. EEO/AA/M/F/Vet/Disability Employer. Apply online at careers.rich.com Job ID 37909.

Software Engineer, Gold Image Printing, Inc., Los Angeles, CA. Maintain & enhance e-commerce website; dvlp & maintain backend systems; monitor, maintain & optimize server infrastructure. BS Engg or CS + 2 yrs exp & demonstrable exp w/ SQL req'd. Send resume to david@goldimageprinting.com.

DESIGN ARCHITECT
Design landscape projects for residential and commercial properties including hardscape and landscape. Work directly with clients to assess needs and vision. Evaluate existing landscapes, features, and structures. Select materials. Prepare scaled visual representations of design proposals. Gain client approval. Periodically inspect projects to ensure adherence to plans. Full-time: 40 hr/week. Required: Associate degree in architecture, related or equivalent. Work Location(s): Ventura County and Los Angeles County. Wage: 92,061/yr. Send ad copy and resume to employer: Victorio and Sons Landscaping, Inc. 2865 Ian Street, Simi Valley, CA 93063.

GoElite, Inc. seeks **Educational Policy Analyst**. Salary \$82,285/yr. Mstrs. in Pub. Pol., Poli. Sci., Int'l Affairs or rel. field reqd. Monitor U.S. educ. policy & prep. forecast reports. Work site: Pasadena, CA. Mail resume to: 680 E. Colorado Blvd. #150, Pasadena, CA 91101.

LIVE-OPS MANAGER
Proxima Beta U.S. LLC has job opp. in Los Angeles, CA: Live-Ops Manager. Manage daily ops for video game prjcts. Salary: \$138,000 to \$148,000 per year. To apply email resumes referencing Req. #LVE22 to us-jobs@global.tencent.com.

GoElite, Inc. seeks **Marketing Specialist**. Salary \$67,413/yr. Mstrs. in Bus., Mkt. Res., or Comm. (incl. digital comm.) or rel. field reqd. Conduct mktg res., create mktg campaigns. Work site: Pasadena, CA. Mail resume to: 680 E. Colorado Blvd. #150, Pasadena, CA 91101.

SENIOR ANALYSTS, \$92,706 - \$96,000/Year, Los Angeles, CA: Estimate ultimate losses using advanced quantitative methods & review reserves in accordance with carrier guidance. Analyzing program performance dashboards to track profitability & providing insights to support underwriting and claims audits. Send res to: Knight Management Insurance Services LLC DBA Knight Insurance Group at Recruitment@knightcompany.com.

UI/UX DEVELOPER sought by DigitBridge, Inc. (Monrovia, CA) to design and develop user interfaces for web apps. Req. Bachelor's in Web/Digital Design or rtd. Salary: \$60,653/yr. Send resume: 417 E Huntington Dr, Ste 100, Monrovia, CA 91016.

COMPUTER PROGRAMMER sought by DigitBridge, Inc. (Monrovia, CA) to develop software applications and systems. Req. Bachelor's in Computer Science or rtd. Salary: \$69,243/yr. Send resume: 417 E Huntington Dr, Ste 100, Monrovia, CA 91016.

Assistant Planner (Los Angeles, CA) Guide clients through the intricacies of Los Angeles, CA's hospitality permitting process, focusing on land use entitlements, alcohol licensing, & permit expediting. Master's deg in Planning, Real Estate Dvlpmt, or a rtd field; College-level coursework in Planning Theory; Communicative Urbanism; & Community & Economic Dvlpmt. The off wage is from \$55,578 - \$70,000. Send resume to manny@fedsignandconsulting.com, or Monkey Business LLC DBA FE Design & Consulting, c/o Edward Navarrette, 327 East 2nd St., Ste 222, Los Angeles, CA 90012.

Internal Medicine Physician sought by The Los Angeles Free Clinic dba Saban Community Clinic, for Los Angeles, CA office. Provide comprehensive primary & prep. urgent care services, adhering to established clinical protocols, policies, & procedures, while ensuring delivery of high-quality, patient-centered care. \$245,000 - \$310,000. Apply to: Job # 57484, 6043 Hollywood Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90028 or cwashington@sabancommunityclinic.org.

Digital Marketing Manager, F/T, Bachelor's Degree in Management, Marketing, Business Administration, or Related. Mail resume: Leadsmarket.com, LLC, 21600 Oxnard Street Suite 400, Woodland Hills, CA 91367.

Director of Research and Development and Service: 2 yrs wk exp req'd. Wage: \$77,314/yr. Send resume to Blue Air FSE, LLC., 223 W. Rosecrans Ave., Gardena, CA 90248, Attn: M. Kang.

R&D Chemist: Req'd: Master's degree in Pharmaceuticals, Industrial Pharmacy, or rtd. \$75,213/yr. Resume to: US Pharmatech, Inc., 14108 Artesia Blvd., Cerritos, CA 90703

Market Research Analyst: Conduct rsrch on trading, brokerage, & investment trends; anlyz mkt & cust data; generate reports; perf competitive anlyz & monitor regulatory updates. Collab w/ cross-functional teams on client communication strats. Master's deg in marketing or rtd is req'd. Send resume to: Duke 65 Inc., 925 N La Brea Ave, 4th Fl, Los Angeles, CA 90038.

Senior Market Research Analyst: Req'd: Master's degree in Business Administration, Marketing, or rtd. \$86,112/yr. Resume to: US Pharmatech, Inc., 14108 Artesia Blvd., Cerritos, CA 90703

Sr. Accountant (Alhambra, CA). Institute stronger fin'l controls & perform more advanced acctg functions to support our tax, auditing, & acctg svcs. Master's deg in acctg or closely rtd field. 2 yrs of work exp as an accountant in a CPA firm providing acctg & tax svcs to individual & corporate clients; Send resume to vivi@sequoiatax.us, or The Milley Group A.P.C. c/o Vivi Wong, 388 E Valley Blvd, Ste 206, Alhambra, CA 91801.

Herald Christian Health Center seeks **Behavioral Health Therapist**. Salary \$64,813/yr. M.S. in MFT or closely rel. field reqd. Assess patients, provide counseling to indiv., families and/or groups. Work site: El Monte, CA. Mail resume to: 3401 Aerojet Ave., El Monte, CA 91731

Piano And/Or Voice Lessons from dedicated, serious, fun, experienced piano and voice teacher. All ages, all levels. \$125 per month for weekly, 30-minute lessons. Gary Lynn 213-447-4398 (call/text)

DAPS Product Engineer, F/T, sought by Divergent Technologies, Inc. dba Divergent 3D located in Torrance, CA (Salary range: \$148,174-160,325/yr). MS + 2yrs exp. Domestic travel required approx. 3x/yr. Resumes to jocca@divergent3d.com

Project Architects - Core and Below Grade sought by AAI Associates Inc., Los Angeles, CA to produce & review schematic dsgn docs, etc. \$90K - \$105K. Deg'd applicants exp'd w/tchnl dsgn of projects using Revit, AutoCAD, Rhino, Grasshopper & Dynamo, etc. Send resume to khayes@adamson-associates.com & must refer to PA.

Comp. game studio seeks a **Game Designer** to coordinate, impl't & own polished gameplay scen., in-game cinematics & AI behaviors. Req. Bachelor's in Interactive Tech./Digital Game Dev't, Comp. Graphic Art, or rel., plus 2 yrs. exp. as a Gameplay Engr., Tech. Game Designer, or rel. Exp. must incl. with C++, C#, Lua, or other scripting lang., sig. prog. & 3D math skills; exp. with 3D level editors, deep understanding of narrative principles & conveying emotion through gameplay. Salary \$123,800 - \$154,700/yr. Job site: Santa Monica, CA. Work Auth. req'd if hired. Send resume to: Naughty Dog, 2425 Olympic Blvd, Ste. 3000 W., Santa Monica, CA 90404. Principals only.

Business Development Specialist. Req'd: BA in Bus. Admin., Global Studies, or related. Mail Resume: Calwywie, Inc. 438 Amapola Ave. Ste 220, Torrance, CA 90501

Rios, Inc. - Los Angeles, CA
Project Designer (AS01) - Req B Arch (5yr) or foreign equiv + 3yrs exp. Salary \$64,459 to \$103,000 per yr. Designer (XC02) - Req B Arch (5yr) or foreign equiv + cswk/interns/exp. Salary \$64,459 to \$78,000 per yr. Please mail resumes include Job ID AS01/XC02 to Rios, Inc. at 3101 W Exposition Pl, Los Angeles, CA 90018.