



**First Night Monterey Announces 33rd Annual Community Celebration of the Arts!  
Ring in 2026 with “We’ve Got the Beat!” in Historic Downtown Monterey**

Monterey, CA — December 31, 2025 — First Night Monterey invites the community and visitors alike to its 33rd Annual New Year’s Eve Celebration of the Arts, an unforgettable evening of creativity, culture, and community set in the heart of historic downtown Monterey. This year’s theme, “We’ve Got the Beat!”, honors the rhythm of life, music, dance, and artistic expression that unite us all.

From 3:00 PM to midnight on Wednesday, December 31, downtown Monterey will be transformed into a vibrant tapestry of performances, interactive art, and family-friendly fun. This beloved tradition brings together over 150 artists, 30+ performance venues, and thousands of attendees to ring in the new year through the universal language of the arts.

**Highlights include:**

- Live music and cultural dance across multiple outdoor and indoor stages
- Hands-on art activities for all ages in the Kids’ Zone and Creation Stations
- Dazzling light installations and large-scale community art
- A Twilight Procession and the beloved Grand Finale-two Finales to the New Year

“Our FNM 2026 theme, ‘We’ve Got the Beat!’ celebrates the pulse of our community and the rhythm that connects us,” said Ellen Martin, Executive Director of First Night Monterey. “Whether it’s the beat of a drum, the stomp of a dance, or the energy of togetherness, this night is for everyone to feel inspired and uplifted.”

First Night Monterey remains a safe, family-friendly, and alcohol-free event that showcases the artistic and cultural richness of the Monterey Bay area. The event is made possible by the generous support of the City of Monterey, local businesses, community partners, and dedicated volunteers.

Admission buttons are available in November online and at all Monterey County Safeway’s, Albertson in Monterey and The Grove Market in Pacific Grove. Children 5 and under are free.

**Celebrate community. Celebrate creativity. Celebrate the beat!**

For tickets, volunteer opportunities, and the full schedule, (available in November 2025) visit <http://www.firstnightmonterey.org>, find us on Facebook and Instagram