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ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

The Best Things To Do In LA And SoCal This Weekend: Jan. 14 - 16

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Japanese drumming group Taikoproject performs a blend of taiko, music, storytelling, and choreography at Pepperdine University.

(Courtesy of Taikoproject)

Watch taiko drummers live on stage. Attend NFMLA’s January film festival, virtually. Attend an Asian Expo featuring food, shopping, anime, and K-pop. Watch a virtual Q&A with Kirsten Dunst. And *For Folk Sake* — check out the pop art of Erick Martinez.

With COVID-19 variants rising, many in-person events are being canceled or postponed. Please check ahead of time to confirm event status and vaccine/testing requirements for entry.

Friday, Jan. 14: 7:30 p.m.

Taikoproject: *Benzaiten*
Lisa Smith Wengler Center for the Arts
Pepperdine University
24255 Pacific Coast Hwy., Malibu

The Japanese drumming group performs a dynamic mix of classical and contemporary taiko drumming, storytelling, and choreography. The show is inspired by *Benzaiten*, the Japanese goddess of everything that flows.

COST: \$20 - \$40; [MORE INFO](#)

Friday, Jan. 14 - Saturday, Jan. 15

NewFilmmakers Los Angeles (NFMLA) Film Festival
Virtual

The monthly film festival returns with the program *InFocus: Counter-Ageism*, which spotlights films and storytellers who are challenging our perceptions around age. Friday’s panel discussions include FilmTrack and Entertainment Rights, Experience and Ageism in the Film Industry with Greenlight Women, and Feature Film Distribution with Andy Bohn. Saturday opens with shorts related to the festival’s theme, followed by the L.A. premiere of Matthew Wade’s *A Black Rift Begins to Yawn*, and closes with a selection of Winter Shorts featuring highlights from NFMLA’s ongoing programming.

COST: \$10 - \$30; [MORE INFO](#)