



In this file photo, actress Diane Keaton attends the LA Premiere of "Love The Coopers" at The Grove in Los Angeles.



This undated photo provided the Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising Museum in Los Angeles shows costumes from last year's Oscar winner for costume design, 'The Grand Budapest Hotel'.



In this file photo, 'Downton Abbey' actress Lesley Nicol poses for a portrait at The Peninsula hotel in Beverly Hills, Calif. — AP photos

5 places in LA to soak up Oscars vibes

It's Oscar season in Los Angeles. With the 88th annual Academy Awards scheduled for Feb 28, here are five places in LA to soak up those glitzy Oscars vibes and maybe even run into one of the nominees.

The Peninsula Beverly Hills

The Peninsula Beverly Hills hotel is known as the ultra-luxe stay for Oscar nominees. While the hotel won't name names, Kate Winslet and Cate Blanchett have stayed there, and Oscar winners Anne Hathaway and Reese Witherspoon have been spotted there. VIP guests get personally monogrammed - yes, monogrammed - pillowcases. For those who can afford some true Oscars-worthy pampering, the hotel offers services such as a week-long "Red Carpet Ready" package of personal training sessions and spa treatments, including a body scrub with detox wrap. The total cost? A cool \$3,000.

If, like most of us, you don't have that much cash to blow, consider, say, a 15-minute lip-plumping treatment for \$45, or snagging a drink at the hotel's sun-soaked bright blue rooftop pool and garden. Nearby are several other glam lodging options: the Beverly Hilton Hotel, home of the boozy Golden Globe Awards, and the century-old Beverly Hills Hotel with its star-packed Polo Lounge.

With its sprawling swath of swanky stores, including Barneys New York, Swarovski and Diane

von Furstenberg, this outdoor retail center always attracts a slew of movie stars, from Mark Wahlberg to Oscar winner Halle Berry. Walk along the main path, or take a quick trolley ride to the historic Farmers Market next door. Around since 1934, the Farmers Market - a savory-smelling mix of colorful stalls - serves up everything from thick pizza to gumbo. It's also a Hollywood institution. Legendary visitors have included Marilyn Monroe, Frank Sinatra and the Beatles.

Runyon Canyon Park

Those tabloid photos you see of celebrities and their pooches huffing it up a winding dusty path? More than likely, they're photos of Runyon Canyon, a 160-acre nature park nestled in the Hollywood Hills. Hit the park's trails for panoramic views of LA at the top, and keep your eyes peeled to avoid dog droppings. You might just see Runyon fans such as Miley Cyrus and Jake Gyllenhaal sweating it out to prep for the onslaught of Oscars events.

Arclight Hollywood

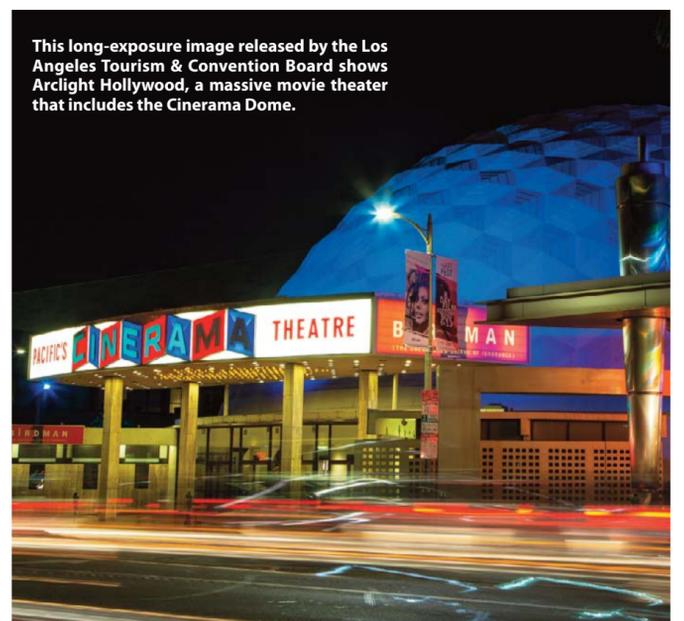
One of the most striking movie theaters in the country, the Cinerama Dome has hosted oodles of big Hollywood film premieres since opening in 1963. It has more than 800 seats and looks like an enormous white golf ball chopped in half. In 2002, the Dome became part of the newly opened ArcLight Hollywood multiplex, the massive 14-screen flagship of the ArcLight Cinemas chain.

With reserved seating, cushy stadium seats, a bar and cafe, and various film exhibits, the Arclight Hollywood is a popular place for movie fans and celebrities alike. Oscar winners such as Charlize Theron have caught late-night showings there. Grab a martini, get some popcorn and see all the Oscar-nominated films!

Fidm museum's art of motion picture costume design exhibit

Anyone who covets the spiky, apocalyptic clothes in "Mad Max: Fury Road" or the silky 1920s outfits in "The Danish Girl," both nominated for best costume design Oscars, will love the Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising Museum's 24th annual Art of Motion Picture Costume Design exhibit. The free exhibit, in downtown LA, opens to the public from Feb 9 to April 30. It showcases more than 100 costumes from 20 films released in 2015, including costumes from all five films nominated for best costume design.

On display? Cate Blanchett's sleekly retro hat and fur coat from Oscar-nominated "Carol" and the big bouncy blue ballroom dress from Oscar-nominated "Cinderella." Nowhere else can you see every stitch and button this close. — AP



This long-exposure image released by the Los Angeles Tourism & Convention Board shows Arclight Hollywood, a massive movie theater that includes the Cinerama Dome.



Style your season with Centrepoint's Spring, Summer looks

Centrepoint, the region's largest fashion retailer, has a collection that brings out your inner trendsetter to take on the season in your own personal way. Centrepoint's fresh, fun and fashion looks let you transform every day basics in to statement styles with a collection of strong trend choices for the whole family.

This spring, Babyshop's collection for tots and teens will have kids and moms excited and eager to shop. Little girls can look forward to a fresh color palette of earthy green, soft yellow and feminine peach. Floral patterns remain a Spring staple along with flora and fauna imagery. Key shapes include front knot shirts, relaxed pull-on pants, denim dungarees, two-tier, prom and skater style dresses, and angel sleeves. Little lads will be dressed in bold, bright shades of vermilion orange, bright and navy blue, and softer green and grey. Key collection pieces include slim-collared shirts and tees and Henley neck t-shirts. The casual spring look is accentuated by chinos and jog pants. Denim continues to make a dominant statement and multi-stripe paneling and prints feature in staple pieces.

Splash's seasonal selection includes trendy silhouettes in shades of pink, coral and blue with monochrome adding depth and subtlety to the range. Womenswear styles are showcased in a range of summer dresses, skirts, tops and comfortable pants that will keep fashionistas dressed on-trend through the day. The collection also unveils bright hues and rustic tones ranging from orange and red, infused with cooler blues. Black, blue and white stripes add a contemporary touch to the nautical styles.

For the stylish and sporty man, Splash has a range of T-shirts, parka shirts, long

sleeveless sweats, grid checks, knee slit denims, and ripped shorts in subtle colors of ivory, grey, blue and beige. 70s Style is still big this season with a re-interpretation of wardrobe staples such as classic blue jeans, textures blazer, summer jackets and floral printed Polos.

Shoe Mart's latest footwear and accessories collection has a range of Boho chic, and Mod styles. Ladies can choose from footwear styles in denim works, floral prints and a line-up of neon shoes. The men's range has comfortable summer sandals, leather moccasins, and laced formal footwear. The children's range has fun and comfortable styles in trendy summer colours.

Lifestyle brings you an assortment of fresh and fashionable accessories to make your spring outfits pop this season. Trendy bags and jeweled accessories elevate your style-quotient. For fun and fabulous make up styles try bright summer hues like oranges, pink, gold and cool blues this season from popular cosmetic brands like NYX, Misslyn & Make-up Factory. Lifestyle also has a selection of tasteful and elegant home decor products such as charming tea sets, scented candles and home fragrance assortment like no other, lamps & chandeliers, cushions and bathroom accessories. All of this and more available at great prices, to spruce up your home this season or gift to friends and family.

This spring Centrepoint is the definitive one-stop shop for the family's fashion and lifestyle needs. The new collections are available at all Centrepoint stores located in Al-Rai, Avenues, Hawally, Salmiya, Fintas, Jahra, Fahaheel, Sulaibikhat, and Kuwait City.

Behbehani Group debuts latest showroom at Gate Mall

Adding to its ever expanding network of locations, Behbehani Group (Morad Yousuf Behbehani Company), recently announced the opening of its latest showroom at the Gate Mall in Eqaila on February 4th, 2016.

The showroom, which is located on the lower ground floor of the mall, is a representation of Behbehani Group's long-standing tradition of luxury and excellence. Utilizing expert interior design, impeccable display areas and highly trained staff, it offers a warm and welcoming atmosphere to enhance every shopping experience. Brands available at this location include Balmain, Calvin Klein, Certina, Caran D'ache, Dunhill, Ebel, Frederique Constant, Hamilton, Korloff, Longines, Movado, Oris, Pandora, Rado and Tissot. With such a wide assortment of luxury brands, Behbehani Group further strengthens its role as Kuwait's leading retailer of exclusive timepieces and jewelry.

On the occasion, Shahzad Gidwani, the Group's General Manager said, "We're proud of this newest addition to our network of locations and look forward to pro-

viding our Gate Mall patrons with the same exceptional service standards they have come to expect from us everywhere else." The showroom was inaugurated by Amthal Maraf, Head of Business Development.

With more than 80 years of expertise in luxury brand retailing, Behbehani Group has come to mean the standard of premium boutiques and showrooms stocking only the finest in global timepieces, accessories and jewelry. The Group's showroom network ensures that it remains in close contact with its customers and their cultural sensitivities, enabling them to cater to their every need while fulfilling their demand for world-class services and experiences. Behbehani Group currently has showrooms at Salihiya Complex, Souq Sharq, The Avenues Mall, Al-Kout Mall, Laila Gallery, Marina Mall, 360 MALL and Al-Hamra Luxury Centre in addition to its newest location at the Gate Mall.



Man who gave name to 'Peanuts' Linus dies at age 90

Linus Maurer, a cartoonist and illustrator whose old friend and colleague Charles M Schulz borrowed his first name for Charlie Brown's blanket-wielding best friend Linus in his "Peanuts" comic strip and cartoons, has died at age 90. Maurer died Jan. 29 in Sonoma, California, his longtime partner Mary Jo Starsiak told The Associated Press on Friday night. His exact cause of death was not clear, but he had struggled with Parkinson's disease and heart trouble late in life.

About 65 years ago, Maurer and Schulz worked together at Art Instruction Schools Inc. in Minneapolis, when "Peanuts" was getting started. Schulz told the story in a book celebrating "Peanuts" 50th anniversary. "Linus came from a drawing that I made one day of a face almost like the one he now has," Schulz wrote. "I experimented with some wild hair, and showed the sketch to a friend of mine who sat near me at art instruction, whose name was Linus Maurer. It seemed appropriate that I should name the character Linus." It was a common practice for Schulz, who named many "Peanuts" characters, including Charlie Brown, after the people that surrounded him.

Schulz, who died in 2000, and Maurer remained lifelong friends, both settling in the same part of Northern California north of San Francisco later in life. There, Maurer drew editorial cartoons for the Sonoma Index-Tribune, which first reported his death.

Maurer had a successful run with comics in his own right, with syndicated strips in the 1960s and 1970s called "Old Harrigan," "Abracadabra" and "In the Beginning." He also created the "Challenger" puzzle that was syndicated in newspaper crossword sections. Before that, he had worked as an illustrator for IBM and AT&T in New York and as an art director for the McCann Erickson ad agency and Wells Fargo Bank in San Francisco. — AP



In a Sept 23, 2003 file photo, the real Linus, artist Linus Maurer, cuts a ribbon during unveiling a statue of Linus of 'Peanuts' comic strip fame during a ceremony at his hometown of Sleepy Eye, Minn. — AP