

# SAN FRANCISCO FIRE DEPARTMENT

Public Information Office

## MEDIA RELEASE



CORRECTED RELEASE – April 15<sup>th</sup> 2024 9:30 a.m.

**CORRECTION – Lotta’s Fountain event time corrected. Participants should plan to arrive by 4:50am for the commemoration that will begin at 5am.**

### **118th Anniversary of the Great San Francisco Earthquake and Fire of 1906 Lotta’s Fountain and Golden Hydrant Painting Commemoration Events**

**San Francisco, CA** - On Thursday, April 18, 2024, the San Francisco Fire Department and other early risers will commemorate the 118th anniversary of the Great Earthquake and Fire of 1906 at an annual commemoration ceremony held at the historic Lotta’s Fountain, in downtown San Francisco, at the intersection of Market, Geary and Kearny. The morning of the earthquake the fountain became a meeting place for families as it was one of the few landmarks to survive to sunrise. It was installed in 1875 and refurbished in 1999 and was a place to meet survivors of the Great Earthquake for decades.

**The commemoration begins at 5AM and participants are encouraged to arrive by 4:50 AM.**

*"This is the time that we San Franciscans commemorate those who suffered great losses and celebrate the spirit and resolve of the people of San Francisco who overcame the devastation of that historical day and rebuilt this great City. This is also a time to educate and remind all people of the importance of disaster preparedness so we are ready when it happens again." – San Francisco Fire Chief Jeanine Nicholson*

After the commemoration ceremony at Lotta’s Fountain concludes, a procession will make its way to the famous golden fire hydrant on the corner of 20th and Church nicknamed “the Little Giant.” The celebrated fire hydrant is said to have been the sole water source used by thousands of volunteers responsible for saving the south side of the Mission District during the aftermath of the 1906 earthquake and it will receive a ceremonial coat of golden paint.

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