

PRESS RELEASE

LBACC in collaboration with ZEYBRAH present:

OCEANS OF RHYTHM CELEBRATION!

DATE: Monday, July 28, 2025

VENUE: Long Branch Arts and Cultural Center, 577 Broadway, Long Branch, NJ

TIME: 6:00 pm

CONTACT: Maggie Fisher: (732) 222-7000 ext. 2050

African Drum and Dance, and Spoken Word

Our theme this year is: “**PerSEAvance.**” We will persevere with inspiration from the rhythm of the ocean and the rhythm of the drums! We celebrate the ability of the human will to cooperate and persevere, in the creation of a healthy ocean environment and a harmonious and peaceful world. (See full press release below.)

The family-friendly program will take place at the Long Branch Cultural Center, located in downtown Long Branch, on Monday, July 28th at 6 pm. Our featured group will be *Yakar Roots and Rhythms, West African Dance and Drum Company* whose members hail from Senegal, West Africa. They will perform empowering rhythms and dances, and will teach some of the traditional movements and songs of their culture to the audience.

There will also be a tribute to the late Mr. Carl Jennings, former director of the Long Branch Department of Recreation, who provided support for ZEYBRAH’S Oceans of Rhythm Celebration for nearly 30 years. Complementing this ocean celebration, there is an art exhibit on display at the Arts Center called “Salted,” which honors the local marine life.

Several amazing spoken word artists will inspire us, including Tyrone Laws, Mychal Mills and Adesanya Alade. The master drummers and dancers of Yakar Roots will motivate us, including: Lamine Thiam, Ousmane Sall, Aida Faty, Ngor Jallow, and Alioune ‘Guido’ Faye. Light refreshments will be provided. Drumming will continue at Seven Presidents Park.

The LBAAC (Long Branch Arts and Culture Center) is collaborating with ZEYBRAH (Zest for Education of Youth Brings Rhythm, Arts and Humanities), a nonprofit organization, specializing in community development through cultural programming. (ZEYBRAH.org) The LB Cultural Center is accessible by NJ Transit to Long Branch train station.