

EARTH DAY EVENT

MSSC at NHMLAC*



*Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County

EARTH DAY at NHMLAC was celebrated on Sunday, April 19, 2026. The *Mineralogical Society of Southern California* (MSSC) and other organizations took part in the event.

MSSC had hands-on exhibits, ultra-violet lights, “Which rock is heaviest?” specimens and fun facts about rocks and minerals (you eat this!), and free rock specimens for the kids - of all ‘em!

The MSSC exhibits were informative for all ages. Here are a few examples: The density test (Which rock is heaviest?) was fun with difference between a much smaller iron specimen Vs. a very large pumice specimen. The magnetic test was interesting as there was only one specimen on the table that reacted to a magnet. Still, people tried to get the magnet to “stick” to several specimens. There was anorthosite from the same place NASA astronauts trained, a one + billion year old basement rock, a display of different colored quartz crystals: rose, citrine, amethyst. Then there was the fluorite delight viewed under UV light and a wonderful large specimen of malachite to ooh and ahhh over, as well as, fossil bones, petrified wood and many other examples. By the way, the “you eat this!” was marble/calcite carbonate that is found in breakfast cereal! There was much more to delight all the people who came to our exhibit station and, of course, there were hand-outs for the kids and the smiles on their faces said it all.

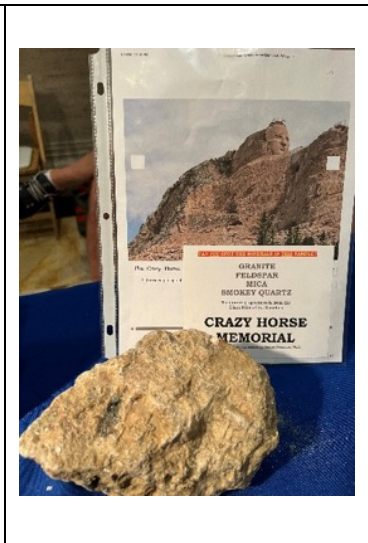
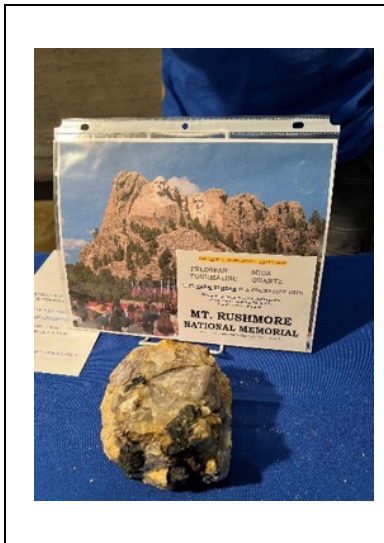
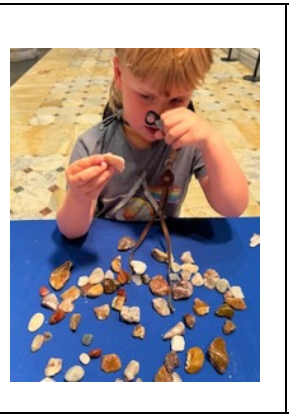
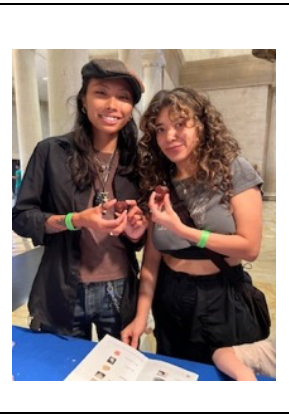
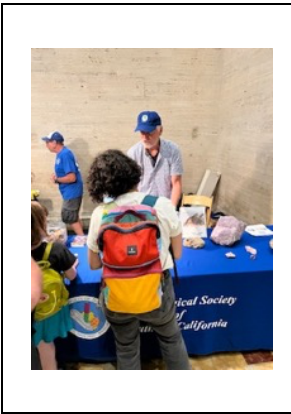
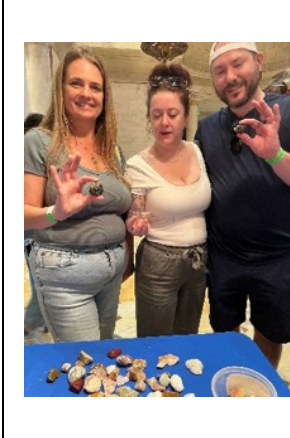
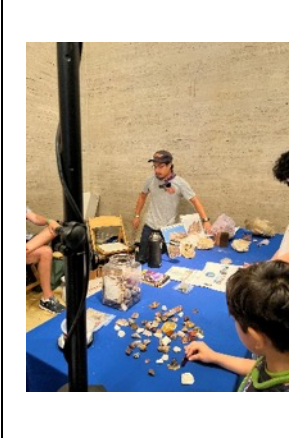
All in all, it was fun to contribute in this way. Angie brought brochures and Paolo made up flyers, which we handed out. Patrick did great as our ambassador/pitchman, talking up MSSC, encouraging people to put our website and QR Code (the revised one) on their phones for more information to view at their leisure. Not sure, but maybe we were able to get a couple more members.

Many thanks to MSSC volunteers David L, Patrick S, Jeff D, Bert V, Paolo S, Kenneth N (friend of Paolo’s) and Angie G. Split shifts made the day easy.

Here are some photos from the event. Enjoy!

Photos Credit: Angie Guzman







This photo is in the Public Domain:
"Earthrise" by Bill Anders, Apollo 8, Dec.24, 1968

THAT'S ALL FOLKS!



Angie Guzman 04/19/26