CONVENTION GUIDE

GENERAL INFORMATION AND CONVENTION SERVICES

Convention Locations

Most English sessions and the Job Information Center are in the J. W. Marriott. Most foreign language and comparative literature sessions and exhibits are in the Los Angeles Convention Center.

Badges

Plastic badge holders are available at the MLA registration and information center in the Los Angeles Convention Center. Lost badges can be replaced for $7 at the MLA registration center.

Business Center

J. W. Marriott, AVT Business, 3rd floor (Mon.–Fri., 7:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m.; Sat. 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.; Sun., closed).

Child Care

MLA members in need of child care during the convention should make arrangements directly through one of the convention hotels. The MLA has funds available to reimburse up to $200 each to members who use a hotel-recommended service for child care during convention hours. If more requests are received than can be reimbursed with available funds, preference will be given to graduate students and members in lower-income categories. Members should submit a request for reimbursement, along with a receipt for child care from one of the hotel-recommended services, no later than 20 January 2011 to Maribeth Kraus, Director of Convention Programs.

Convention News and Program Update

During the convention the *Convention News and Program Update* will print special notices, changes in schedule, and brief reports on convention activities. It is available free at the MLA information center. The 6 January issue will be available on the MLA Web site in late December.

Council of Editors of Learned Journals (CELJ)

Officers and experienced editors who are members of the Council of Editors of Learned Journals (CELJ) will be available for consultation and advice for other editors and scholars who have questions about what to expect in journal submission, peer review, and publishing processes. Beginning scholars (graduate students and entry-level professors) are particularly welcome.

Editors from CELJ will be available to provide informal information and private consultations on 7 and 8 January from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in 408A, Los Angeles Convention Center.

Disabilities, Facilities and Services for Persons with

The MLA is committed to making arrangements that allow all members of the association to participate in the convention.

Meeting Rooms. Meeting rooms at the convention are accessible by elevator, and the doors are wide enough to accommodate wheelchairs. There will be a desk in the convention registration and information center at the Los Angeles Convention Center (Concourse Hall Foyer, level 1, West Hall entrance) staffed with personnel who can provide assistance to convention attendees with disabilities. There will also be a satellite desk in the lobby of the J. W. Marriott. To reserve hotel rooms that are specifically equipped for persons with permanent or temporary disabilities, check the appropriate boxes on the convention registration form and the housing reservation form or write or call Karin Bagnall in the MLA convention office by 12 November. The earlier we receive your requests, the better we can meet your needs.

Shuttle Bus. A complimentary transportation service will be available throughout convention meeting hours to transport attendees with disabilities. Arrangements may be made at the desk for persons with disabilities in the Los Angeles Convention Center (Concourse Hall Foyer, level 1, West Hall entrance) as well as the J. W. Marriott (Lobby level). Further details and phone numbers will be posted at the convention center and headquarters hotel.

Sessions. Speakers are asked to bring five copies of their papers, even in draft form, for the use of members who wish to follow the written text. Speakers who use handouts should prepare some copies in a large-print format (14- to 16-point type size). Speakers should indicate whether they want their papers and handouts returned. Sign language interpreters and real-time captioning are available on request. To arrange for either of these services, write or call Karin Bagnall in the MLA convention office by 12 November.

Scooter Rentals. Scooters, for navigating the convention more easily, can be rented from Scootaround (888 441-7575 or http://scootaround.com/rentals/m/mla/).

Karin Bagnall coordinates arrangements for persons with disabilities; she can be reached at the MLA convention office at kbagnall@mla.org; the TDD number is 646 576-5148.

Exhibits

Over 110 firms will display books and other materials of interest to teachers of language and literature in the Los Angeles Convention Center (Concourse Hall, level 1, West Hall entrance). The area will be open on 7 and 8 January from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and on 9 January from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Admission to the exhibit area is restricted to persons wearing badges or carrying appropriate passes. To view a list of the 2011 exhibitors, visit the MLA Web site or refer to page 1172 of the Program. The exhibit booth will also feature special times to meet with members of the MLA Annual Convention's Program Committee, staff members from the book acquisitions and *MLA International Bibliography* departments, the executive director, and the editor of *PMLA*. Times and dates will be listed in the *Convention News and Program Update*.

Friends of Bill W.

In the Los Angeles Convention Center, Meeting Room 301A (level 2) is set aside for the Friends of Bill W. throughout convention hours.

Graduate Student Lounge

J. W. Marriott (Studio 1, 2nd floor).

Headquarters Offices

J. W. Marriott (Studio 3, 3rd floor) and the Los Angeles Convention Center (Meeting Room 401, level 2).

Illness and Medical Emergencies

Procedures may vary from one hotel to another.

J. W. Marriott. Dial 711 from any house phone.

Los Angeles Convention Center. Dial 5133 from any house phone.

Please note: whether you are seeking medical advice or have a medical emergency, the hotel or convention center will direct you to the closest hospital emergency ward.

Information Center

Los Angeles Convention Center (Concourse Hall Foyer 1, level 1, West Hall entrance). The information center will be open on 6, 7, and 8 January from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and on 9 January from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Job Information Center

J. W. Marriott (Gold Salons 1 through 3, 1st floor). The Job Information Center will be open on 6 January from 12:00 noon to 8:00 p.m., on 7 January from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., on 8 January from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and on 9 January from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Lost and Found

Members wishing to report items either lost or found should call 711 at the J. W. Marriott; at the Los Angeles Convention Center, speak with the security guard at the MLA registration and information desk (Concourse Hall foyer, level 1, West Hall entrance).

Lounges

Los Angeles Convention Center (West Lobby). A graduate student lounge will be located in the J. W. Marriott (Studio 1, 2nd floor).

Mail and Messages

Although the hotels will make every effort to deliver mail and messages received during the convention, the MLA can assume no responsibility for failure in delivery. A message service in the J. W. Marriott (Gold Salon 4, 1st floor) is provided in conjunction with the Job Information Center to facilitate exchange of messages between job candidates and interviewers. For other kinds of messages, determine the recipient's hotel by referring to the "Who's Where" listing (see "Who's Where" section) posted near the members' lounge in the convention center, then leave messages with the desk clerk at the appropriate hotel. Bulletin boards where convention attendees may post messages for their colleagues will also be provided in the lounge.

Meetings

Meetings will be held in the J. W. Marriott and Los Angeles Convention Center. Details on all sessions, including the Presidential Address, the Delegate Assembly, and open hearings, can be found in the Program and on the MLA Web site beginning in November.

Membership in the MLA

For the convenience of those who would like to join the MLA, as well as for continuing members who would like to pay their 2011 dues, a membership desk will be located in the registration center. MLA membership runs from 15 January through 14 January of the subsequent year. Individuals who join the association while registering for the convention are entitled to register at members' rates.

NEH Information

Staff members from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) will be available to provide materials and information about the endowment on 7 and 8 January from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon in 408A, Los Angeles Convention Center.

On 6 January from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. in 403B of the Los Angeles Convention Center, representatives from the NEH will offer a workshop that highlights recent awards and outlines current funding opportunities.

Parking

Parking in garages near the Los Angeles Convention Center ranges from approximately $12 to $27 per day. Parking at the J. W. Marriott is $38 overnight and up to $40 for all day; in-and-out privileges are for overnight guests only. Parking at the Convention Center is $50 overnight, with in-and-out privileges, and up to $25 for all day.

Passes

A convention speaker may obtain a pass for a family member or friend who has no professional interest in language or literature to hear a paper given by that speaker. These passes are available to speakers at the MLA information center on the day of their session.

All MLA members and members of the profession that the MLA serves are required to register in order to participate in or attend meetings. Please note that if you need a pass for an evening session you must obtain it before the information center closes.

MLA convention registrants may obtain free passes to the exhibit hall for guests they accompany in the hall. Persons who are not registered for the convention and who are not accompanied by registrants may purchase a one-day pass to the exhibit hall for $20. These passes are available at the Exhibit Registration booth, Los Angeles Convention Center (Concourse Hall, level 1, West Hall entrance).

Programs

Copies of the Program can be purchased for $5 at the MLA information center. Free copies are available only to those who received in their registration packets a card entitling them to a complimentary Program or to foreign registrants who did not receive their Programs. There is a $5 charge for all additional copies.

Registration

Los Angeles Convention Center (Concourse Hall Foyer, level 1, West Hall entrance).

Registration Refunds

Requests for refunds of registration fees must be made in writing, accompanied by unused convention badges, sent to the director of convention programs at the MLA office, and postmarked no later than 7 January 2011. Refunds requested after 7 January 2011 will not be granted. A $10 service fee will be deducted from all refunds.

Restaurant Reservations and Information

Restaurant reservations and recommendations can be obtained at the Visitor Information Center kiosk inside the West Hall Lobby of the Los Angeles Convention Center. Knowledgeable personnel can offer suggestions on restaurants, nightlife, theater, sports, museums, attractions, and much more as well as make complimentary dining reservations. The kiosk will be open during registration hours. For more information on dining, visit www.dineLA.com.

Shuttle Bus Service

A free shuttle service will operate between the Los Angeles Convention Center and designated locations. Further details will be available at the convention and on the MLA Web site. There will be a shuttle service available throughout the convention meeting hours to transport attendees with disabilities.

Smoking

Smoking is prohibited in most buildings in Los Angeles. In restaurants within Los Angeles County, smoking is allowed in outdoor dining sections only. No smoking is allowed in the J. W. Marriott.

Speaker Ready Rooms

Space in the J. W. Marriott (Diamond Salon 9, 4th floor) and the Los Angeles Convention Center (Meeting Room 308A) has been reserved to allow speakers to run through their audiovisual presentations before their sessions. Those who have computer presentations should have completed a Presenter's Computer Information form to arrange for a pretest appointment. If you have not done so, please contact Karin Bagnall (kbagnall@mla.org).

Telephones

With the increased use of cell phones, there are a limited number of public phones available in the hotels. Calls may not be made from telephones in meeting rooms, and the use of telephones in any convention office is limited to members of the MLA staff.

Transportation to and in Los Angeles

MLA convention hotels are located in downtown Los Angeles near the Los Angeles Convention Center and the LA Live entertainment complex.

Airport Shuttle Transportation. Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) is located 18 miles from downtown Los Angeles. For airport information, visit www.lawa.org or call 310 646-5252. Shuttle transportation from LAX to the downtown Los Angeles convention hotels is available from SuperShuttle (www.SuperShuttle.com) and FlyAway (www.lawa.org/flyaway). Discounts on SuperShuttle service are available by booking with the code ZMACG. FlyAway tickets are $7 each way and can be purchased from the kiosk in the Patsaouras terminal in Union Station.

Metro Bus Systems. Three types of bus service are available in Los Angeles. With 200 different lines, buses travel all over the city to every major destination, including state parks, area attractions, and shopping districts (www.metro.net).

Metro Local (orange) makes frequent stops along major streets throughout the city.

Metro Rapid (red) offers fewer stops and expedited travel times on the city's major streets.

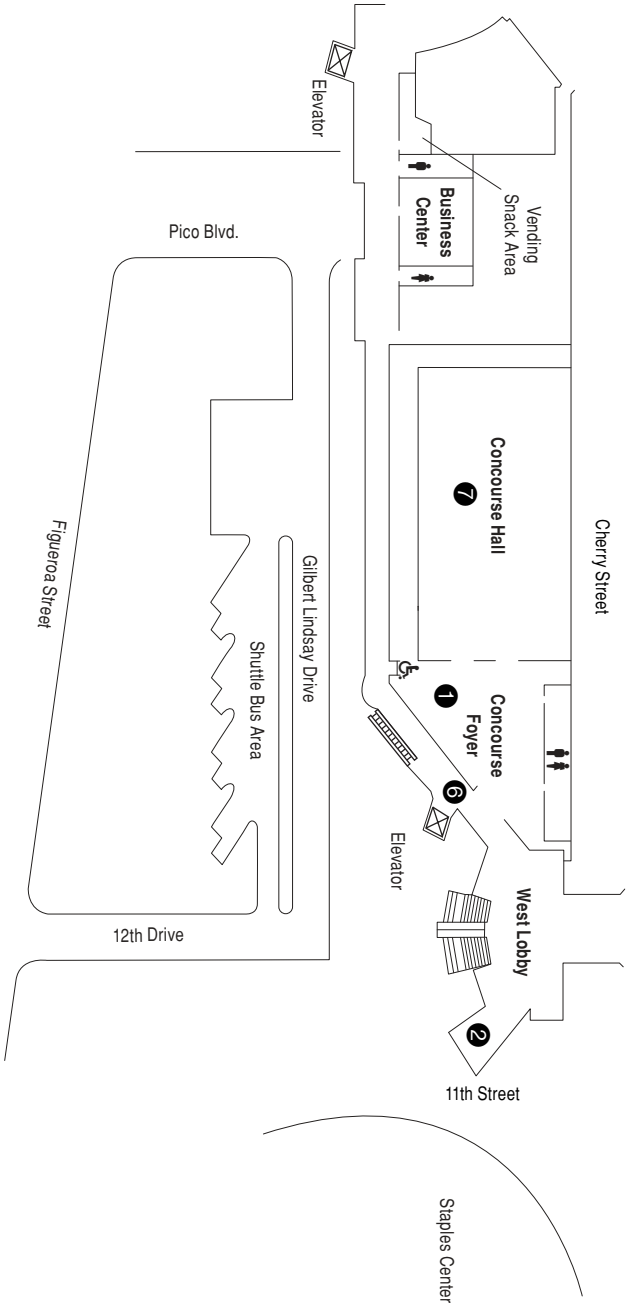
Metro Express (blue) offers reduced-stop service along the city's freeway systems.

"Who's Where" Directory

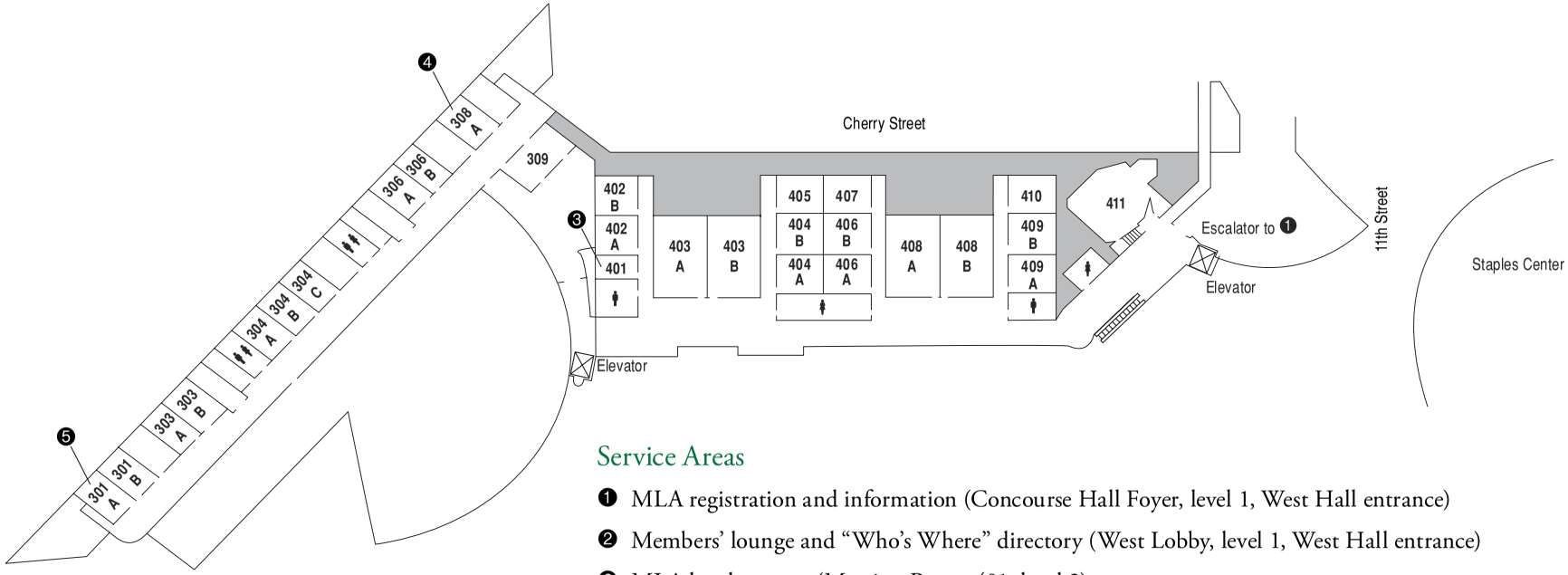
The "Who's Where" directory will be posted in the members' lounge in the Los Angeles Convention Center and near the Job Information Center in the J. W. Marriott. The directory will include the names and convention addresses of persons who make hotel reservations through the housing bureau or send their local addresses to the MLA office before 10 December. Only the names of hotels listed on the convention housing form or local addresses are listed. Members are advised to check their own "Who's Where" listings for accuracy and to make any necessary revisions. The information used to compile the list comes from the housing service, not from the MLA.

LOS ANGELES CONVENTION CENTER

Level 1



Level 2



Service Areas

❶ MLA registration and information (Concourse Hall Foyer, level 1, West Hall entrance)

❷ Members' lounge and "Who's Where" directory (West Lobby, level 1, West Hall entrance)

❸ MLA headquarters (Meeting Room 401, level 2)

❹ Speaker ready room (Meeting Room 308A, level 2)

❺ Friends of Bill W. (Meeting Room 301A, level 2)

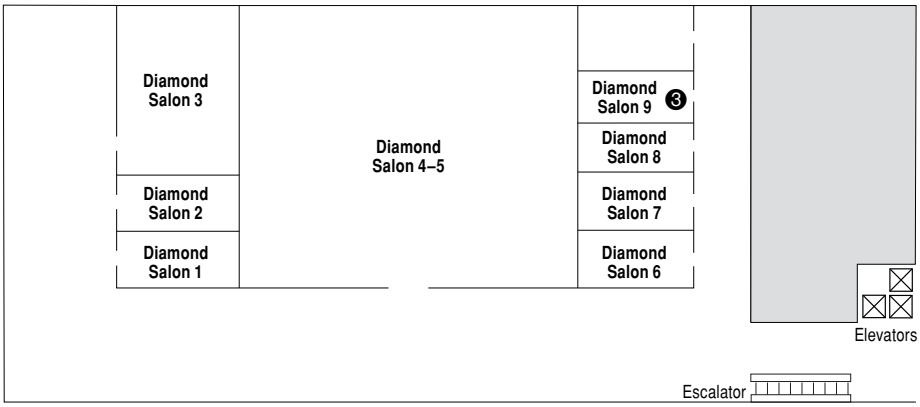
❻ Desk for persons with disabilities (outside Concourse Hall Foyer, level 1, West Hall entrance)

❼ Exhibit hall (Concourse Hall, level 1, West Hall entrance)

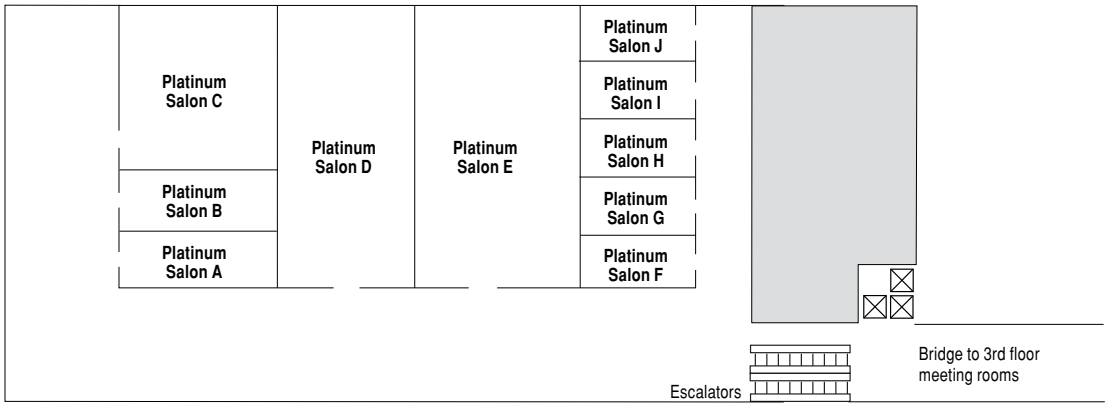
Meeting Rooms

301–309 and 402–411, level 2

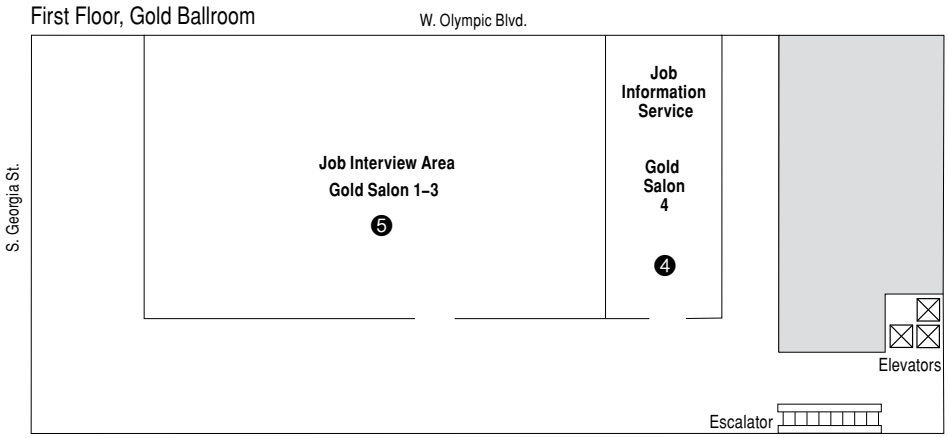
Fourth Floor, Diamond Ballroom

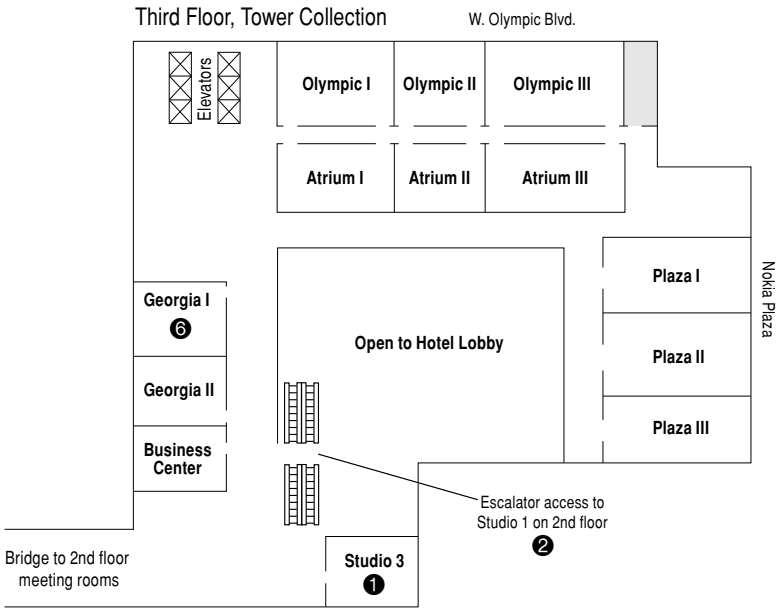


Second Floor, Platinum Ballroom



First Floor, Gold Ballroom





Meeting Rooms

Atrium I–III, 3rd floor

Diamond Salons 1–8, 4th floor

Olympic I–III, 3rd floor

Platinum Salons A–J, 2nd floor

Plaza I–III, 3rd floor

Service Areas

❶ MLA headquarters (Studio 3, 3rd floor)

❷ Graduate student lounge (Studio 1, 2nd floor)

❸ Speaker ready room (Diamond Salon 9, 4th floor)

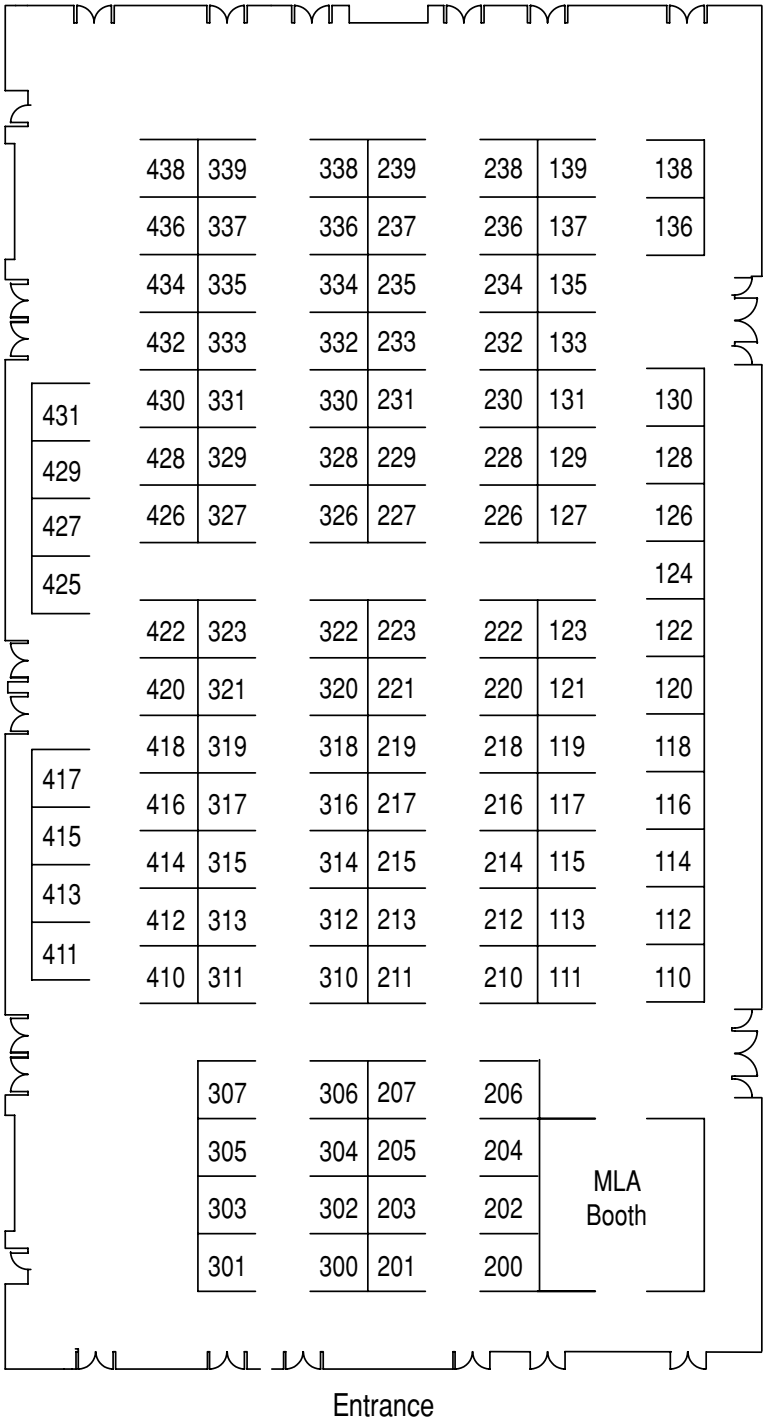
❹ Job Information Service (Gold Salon 4, 1st floor)

❺ Job Interview Area (Gold Salon 1–3, 1st floor)

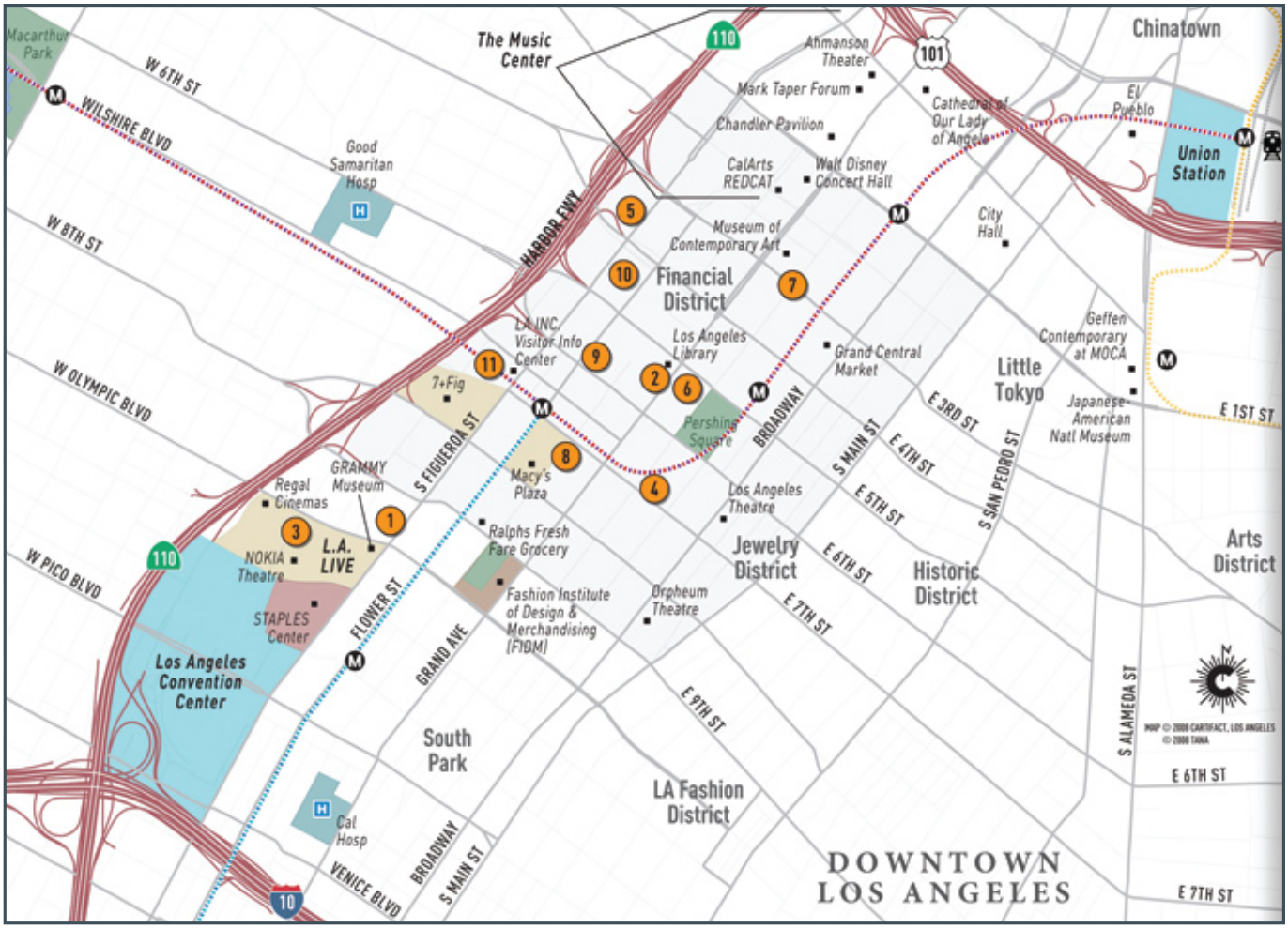
❻ Press room (Georgia I, 3rd floor)

FLOOR PLAN OF THE EXHIBIT AREA

Los Angeles Convention Center, Concourse Hall, Level 1, West Hall entrance



MAP OF LOS ANGELES



Hotels

1. Figueroa Hotel
2. Hilton Checkers
3. J. W. Marriott Los Angeles
4. Los Angeles Athletic Club
5. Marriott Los Angeles Downtown
6. Millennium Biltmore
7. Omni Los Angeles at California Plaza
8. Sheraton Los Angeles Downtown
9. Standard Downtown LA
10. Westin Bonaventure
11. Wilshire Grand Los Angeles