

Weighty guests arrive for annual Bohemian Grove

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Abstract

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Full Text

July 14--Some of the world's wealthiest and most prominent begin arriving today for the annual encampment at the Bohemian Grove, a gathering some describe as a benign men's club and others as an insidious gathering of power.

The encampment is expected to have 2,000 attendees at any one time, a guest list that has included U.S. presidents and foreign heads of state, politicians, industrial barons, actors, artists and musicians.

As in the past, their identities and a description of the programs are closely guarded by officials of the San Francisco-based Bohemian Club.

Club General Manager Matt Oggero declined to discuss the event, although he did say the grove has hired 600 to 800 local workers, mostly high school and college aged.

"We hire a great bunch of really great young people each year," Oggero said.

The encampment opens on Friday and will run until Aug. 1. It will include a Cremation of Care ritual, "low jinks" comedic play held on the middle weekend and a "high jinks" serious dramatic play the final weekend.

The most heavily attended weekend will be July 24 and 25.

Presidents

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