Scavenger Hunt: Highlights and New Works

1) At the Briscoe, you can see many gorgeous sculptures both inside and outside of the museum. The most recently installed outdoor sculpture features a Great Blue Heron Pair by Walter T. Matia. The Riverwalk is home to many different species of birds; Can you identify and describe 3 different types of birds in the surrounding area?

2) Head up to the 3rd Floor of the museum and into the Governor Dolph Briscoe, Jr. Gallery. This gallery features one of the most iconic figures of the West: the Cowboy. Investigate the art in this gallery and find 5 different tools that might have been used by Cowboys.

3) Exit the Governor Dolph Briscoe, Jr. Gallery and mosey on over to the wall of spurs. Each set of spurs featured is unique and was used by different groups of people. Did you know that spurs were first introduced to the Americas by the Spanish?

4) In addition to spurs, the 3rd floor galleries contain many examples of beautiful saddles – some were even owned by very famous people such as Pancho Villa and Roy Rogers! Locate these exquisite saddles and note their intricate designs. How long do you think it took someone to make these saddles?

5) Just outside of the Governor Dolph Briscoe Jr. Gallery, you will notice a painting by an unknown artist called Fandango. This painting is filled with action including people dancing, playing games and chatting it up. How many animals can you find in the painting?

6) Enter the Guerra Family Gallery on the 3rd Floor. This gallery highlights the Spanish influence on the West. At the very center of the room, you will notice the intricate sword previously owned by Santa Anna. Did you know that the handle of the sword is made from shark’s skin? This is what gives it its beaded appearance.

7) Head down to the 2nd floor Mezzanine gallery. Here you will find many works of art that tell a story. Find the corner that features a bright, colorful painting by Logan Maxwell Hagege called Yesterday the Sky was Blue. What do you think the story behind this piece is? What clues does the artist leave in the painting to tell that story?

8) Recently installed at the Briscoe is A Real Belly Buster by Alfredo Rodriguez can be found in the New Works gallery on the 1st Floor. If you had to guess, what do you think happened that made these cowboys laugh so hard?

9) If you find your way into the Women of the West gallery, you will discover many works created by women and others that tell the stories of women living in the West. Locate the sculpture by Deborah Copenhagen-Fellows. What is the subject of the
sculpture doing? What does her facial expression tell you about how she might be feeling?

10) When you leave the museum, don’t forget to check out the beautiful McNutt Sculpture Garden. Whether it’s to stop and have a picnic lunch or to marvel at the sculptures, the garden is not to be missed. How many sculptures can you count in the garden?