

THE BRISCOE PAIRS FREE LOCALS DAYS WITH FAMILY PROGRAMMING

Free Admission and Free Programming Make First Sundays STEAM-y Fun at the Briscoe

San Antonio, TX – (March 2023) The Briscoe Western Art Museum is steaming into spring by pairing its monthly free days for local visitors with its popular “Full STEAM Ahead” educational series. The new double feature means locals can enjoy the museum for free, while families enjoy free, hands-on – and fun! – educational activities. The new combination kicks off Sunday, April 2.

A Western Oasis: The Briscoe’s Collection

Nestled off the River Walk across from La Villita, the Briscoe campus includes the McNutt Sculpture Garden and features 35 sculptures portraying various aspects of Western life in the garden and around the museum’s beautifully restored historic building that once housed the San Antonio Public Library. The collection spans 14 galleries with Western art and artifacts, including Santa Anna’s sword, works by Frederic Remington, Pancho Villa’s last known saddle, a fantastic Alamo diorama and artifacts, contemporary and historic paintings, sculptures, an impressive spur collection, and other cowboy and Native American relics, weapons and photography. And locals can enjoy it all for free on the first Sunday of each month.

Lasso a Deal: First Sundays Free for Local Residents

The Briscoe continues to tip its hat to its neighbors with the first Sunday of each month greeting Bexar County residents with free admission. The museum’s “Locals Day” waives museum admission so everyone can enjoy heading West without ever leaving San Antonio.

Bexar County residents can enjoy the Briscoe’s Locals Days through 2023, with free admission on April 2, May 7, June 4, July 2, Aug. 6, Sept. 3, Oct. 8, Nov. 5 and Dec. 3. [Online registration](#) for Locals Day is recommended. And if you can’t stop in on Locals Day, children 12 and under receive free admission to the Briscoe every day, as do active duty members of the military, making the Briscoe a terrific spot for everyone to enjoy any time.

Full STEAM Ahead on the First Sunday: Free Education Series Offers Hands-on Fun

The Briscoe’s free monthly education series “[Full STEAM Ahead](#)” will now educate and entertain on the first Sunday of every month as well. Learners of all ages work together and learn about the American West by engaging in hands-on, STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts and Mathematics) learning experiences. Each activity ties back to the Briscoe’s art and artifacts, bringing the West to life in a new way.

From transportation and weather to animals, astronomy and engineering, each program explores an aspect of life in the West to engage and inspire learning. Full STEAM Ahead is

designed for all ages to enjoy, making it a terrific family activity. Enjoy STEAMing with your family 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. on the first Sunday of every month at the Briscoe. New 2023 Full Steam Ahead dates and topics include:

- **April 2: Full STEAM Ahead – Painting Inspired Poetry**

Celebrate Poetry Month and Fiesta at the Briscoe! After studying Kim Wiggins’ “Fiesta Day on the Plaza”, a vibrant, activity-rich painting showing a fiesta – families will create a poem about their favorite part of the painting. Bringing those words to life, they will then create their own artwork to illustrate their poetry.

- **May 7: Full STEAM Ahead – Exploring Art in Nature**

Learn about a form of art called “mandala”, a geometric configuration of symbols. After a short presentation, participants will go on a short nature walk through the Briscoe’s McNutt Sculpture Garden, where we will search for and collect interesting objects from nature. Those objects will be used to create a mandala. Digital photographs will be taken to capture each work of art.

- **June 4: Full STEAM Ahead – Add Lightning to your Art**

Learn about how electrical currents, including lightning, work. After a short presentation, create a piece of art with a light feature, then make the art glow by creating a paper circuit.

- **July 2: Full STEAM Ahead – Tools of the (Cattle) Trade**

The cattle industry is a vital part of the West. Hear more about the cattle industry and the simple machines cowboys used in their daily work, then create a simple machine using found and recyclable materials.

- **August 6: Full STEAM Ahead – Gone for the Winter**

Learn more about wildlife and the fall migration of hummingbirds. After a short presentation, families will have the opportunity to create a hummingbird feeder using found and recyclable materials.

- **September 3: Full STEAM Ahead – Art in the Sky**

Study the night sky through Kim Wiggins’ “Colonel Crockett’s Return to Cibolo Creek”. After a short study of the painting, everyone will create a bedroom planetarium to take home.

- **October 8: Full STEAM Ahead – Pottery of the Southwest**

Learn more about the pottery made by Native Americans in the southwest, including the techniques they used to craft their pieces. Use those techniques to create a piece of pottery of your own.

- **November 5: Full STEAM Ahead – Native American Homes**

Native Americans lived in a variety of homes. The type of home they built fit their culture and lifestyle. While learning about these different homes, put your engineering skills to the

test and use materials provided to try to build a tipi, longhouse, wigwam or other types of Native American shelters.

- **December 3: Full STEAM Ahead – Gingerbread Cowboy Storytime at Cowboy Christmas**

Join the Briscoe to celebrate the holidays with story time and a visit with Cowboy Claus. Families will listen to “The Gingerbread Cowboy” by Janet Squires. After the story, create a gingerbread cowboy of your own and make sure Cowboy Claus knows what you want for Christmas! Cowboy Christmas at the Briscoe is free holiday fun, making the Briscoe the perfect way to make holiday memories with your family.

The Briscoe is open Thursday through Monday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. and closed to the public on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Admission is free for children 12 and under and for active duty members of the military. The museum is proud to participate in Museums For All, Blue Star Museums and Bank of America Museums on Us. The Briscoe is located on the south end of the River Walk, near the Arneson River Theatre and La Villita, with convenient parking at the Riverbend Garage directly adjacent to the museum or one of many downtown surface lots. Museum hours, parking and admission details are available [online](#).

About [The Briscoe Western Art Museum](#): *Preserving and presenting the art, history and culture of the American West through engaging exhibitions, educational programs and public events reflective of the region’s rich traditions and shared heritage, the Briscoe Western Art Museum is located on the San Antonio River Walk at 210 W. Market Street in the beautifully restored 1930s former San Antonio Public Library building. Named in honor of the late Texas Gov. Dolph Briscoe Jr. and his wife, Janey Slaughter Briscoe, the museum includes the three-story Jack Guenther Pavilion, used for event rentals and programs, and the outdoor McNutt Sculpture Garden. Follow the Briscoe on social media, @BriscoeMuseum.*