



The Noyes Museum of Art of Stockton University
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PRESS RELEASE

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THE NOYES MUSEUM OF ART TO PARTICIPATE IN BLUE STAR MUSEUMS
The Noyes Museum of Art of Stockton University is one of more than 2,000 museums across America to offer free admission to military personnel and their families this summer in collaboration with the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, and the Department of Defense.

GALLOWAY, NJ – The Noyes Museum of Art of Stockton University has announced the launch of Blue Star Museums, a collaboration among the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, the Department of Defense, and more than 2,000 museums across America to offer free admission to the nation’s active duty military personnel including National Guard and Reserve and their families from Memorial Day through Labor Day 2016. Leadership support for Blue Star Families programming and promotional materials has been provided by MetLife Foundation. The program also provides families an opportunity to enjoy the nation’s cultural heritage and learn more about their new communities after a military move. The complete list of participating museums is available at arts.gov/bluestarmuseums.

Military families are invited to visit the Noyes Museum of Art of Stockton University’s locations at the Noyes Arts Garage of Stockton University in Atlantic City; at the Noyes Gallery in Kramer Hall and the Noyes Shop in Hammonton; and at the Stockton Seaview Hotel in Galloway. These locations offer wonderful exhibitions and family fun all summer long! As an extra “thank you,” the Noyes Shop in Hammonton and the Noyes Museum of Art Gift Shop at the Arts Garage will offer a 15% discount on all shop purchases to active duty military and their families through September 5. Not valid on custom framing orders.

“The Blue Star Museums program is a fun, free activity for families to enjoy during the summer months,” said NEA Chairman Jane Chu. “The program is also a great way for service member families to connect to their new communities and it can provide a meaningful way for families to reconnect after deployment. The Blue Star Museums program is also a perfect way for the arts community to say ‘thank you’ to our service members and their families for the sacrifices they make on our behalf, every day.”

“Blue Star Museums has grown into a nationally recognized program that service members and their families look forward to each year,” said Blue Star Families Chief Executive Officer Kathy Roth-Douquet. “It helps bring our local military and civilian communities together, and offers families fun and enriching activities in their home towns. We are thrilled with the continued growth of the program and the unparalleled opportunities it offers.”

This year, more than 2,000 (and counting) museums in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and American Samoa are taking part in the initiative. Museums are welcome to join Blue Star Museums throughout the summer. The effort to recruit museums has involved partnerships with the American Alliance of Museums, the Association of Art Museum Directors, the Association of Children’s Museums, the

American Association of State and Local History, and the Association of Science-Technology Centers. This year's Blue Star Museums represent not just fine arts museums, but also science museums, history museums, nature centers, and dozens of children's museums. Among this year's new participants are the Arkansas Arts Center in Little Rock, Arkansas, the Children's Museum of New Hampshire in Dover, New Hampshire, the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History in Pacific Grove, California, the Rochester Museum & Science Center in Rochester, New York, and El Rancho de las Golondrinas, a living history museum in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

About Blue Star Museums:

Blue Star Museums is a collaboration among the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, the Department of Defense, and more than 2,000 museums across America. The program runs from Memorial Day, May 30, 2016 through Labor Day, September 5, 2016. The free admission program is available to any bearer of a Geneva Convention common access card (CAC), a DD Form 1173 ID card (dependent ID), or a DD Form 1173-1 ID card, which includes active duty U.S. military - Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, as well as members of the National Guard and Reserve, U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps, NOAA Commissioned Corps - and up to five family members. Some special or limited-time museum exhibits may not be included in this free admission program. For questions on particular exhibits or museums, please contact the museum directly. To find participating museums and plan your trip, visit arts.gov/bluestarmuseums.

All summer long, Blue Star Museums will share stories through social media. Follow Blue Star Museums on Twitter @NEAarts and @BlueStarFamily, #bluestarmuseums, on Facebook, and read the NEA Art Works blog for weekly stories on participating museums and exhibits.

Museums that wish to participate in Blue Star Museums may contact bluestarmuseums@arts.gov, or Wendy Clark at 202-682-5451.

This is the latest NEA program to bring quality arts programs to the military, veterans, and their families. Other NEA programs for the military have included the NEA/Walter Reed Healing Arts Partnership; Great American Voices Military Base Tour; and Shakespeare in American Communities Military Base Tour.

About Blue Star Families:

Blue Star Families is a national, nonprofit network of military spouses, children, parents, and friends, as well as service members, veterans, and civilians, dedicated to supporting, connecting, and empowering military families. With our partners, Blue Star Families leverages data-driven insights to curate resources for military families, including career development tools, local community events for families, and caregiver support. Since its inception in 2009, Blue Star Families has engaged tens of thousands of volunteers and serves more than 1.5 million military family members annually. Blue Star Families also works directly with the Department of Defense and senior members of local, State, and Federal government to bring the most important military family issues to light. With Blue Star Families, military families can find answers to their challenges anywhere they are. Visit bluestarfam.org for more information.

About the National Endowment for the Arts:

Established by Congress in 1965, the NEA is the independent federal agency whose funding and support gives Americans the opportunity to participate in the arts, exercise their imaginations, and develop their creative capacities. Through partnerships with state arts agencies, local leaders, other federal agencies, and the philanthropic sector, the NEA supports arts learning, affirms and celebrates America's rich and diverse cultural heritage, and extends its work to promote equal access to the arts in every community across America. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the NEA, and the agency is celebrating this milestone with events and activities through September 2016.

About the Noyes Museum of Art of Stockton University:

The Noyes Museum of Art was founded in Oceanville, NJ, in 1983 to collect, preserve, and exhibit American fine and folk art, with an emphasis on New Jersey artists and folk art forms. Today, the Noyes Museum's exhibitions continue to reflect the area's cultural heritage, while also presenting significant artwork by regional and national artists working in a variety of media. The Noyes has also expanded to include galleries in Hammonton, Atlantic City, and at Seaview Resort in Galloway. The Noyes Shop: Hammonton, which opened in 2008, specializes in custom framing and can be reached at (609) 561-8006. In February 2010, The Noyes Museum of Art formed a partnership with Stockton College (now Stockton University) to form The Noyes Museum of Art of Stockton College. Through a 2013 partnership with the CRDA, The Noyes Museum of Art of Stockton University opened The Noyes Arts Garage of Stockton University, a unique multi-use arts and retail space at 2200 Fairmount Avenue in Atlantic City.

The Museum remains a 501 (c)(3) organization, with general funding provided by: the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a state partner of the National Endowment for the Arts; the Mr. and Mrs. Fred Winslow Noyes Foundation; Stockton University; and the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation.

Current & upcoming exhibitions from The Noyes Museum of Art of Stockton University:

Summerlands: Works from the Noyes Permanent Collection

at the Noyes Gallery at Seaview, Galloway

May 5 – August 28, 2016

Diane Tomash: Plein-Air Paintings & Prints at the Noyes Gallery at Seaview

May 5 – August 28, 2016

The 2016 New Jersey Arts Annual: Fine Arts at the Noyes Arts Garage, AC

April 8 – July 28, 2016

Allison Block: Inner Workings at the Noyes Arts Garage, AC

May 26 – July 31, 2016

Hammonton: 150 Years of Industry at the Noyes Gallery at Kramer Hall

March 7 – August 8, 2016