

NEWS RELEASE



Montclair Art Museum



A partnership among Blue Star Families,  
the National Endowment for the Arts, and  
more than 600 museums across America

[www.arts.gov/bluestarmuseums](http://www.arts.gov/bluestarmuseums)

**For Immediate Release**

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**THE MONTCLAIR ART MUSEUM TO PARTICIPATE IN  
BLUE STAR MUSEUMS**

**Montclair Art Museum is one of more than 600 museums to offer free admission to  
military personnel and their families this summer**

MONTCLAIR, NJ, May 28, 2010—Today the Montclair Art Museum (MAM) announced the launch of Blue Star Museums, a partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, and more than 600 museums across America to offer free admission to all active duty military personnel and their families from Memorial Day through Labor Day 2010. At MAM, the program will begin on June 2 and continue through September 5. Families can visit [www.montclairartmuseum.org](http://www.montclairartmuseum.org) for hours and other information. The complete list of participating Blue Star Museums is available at [www.arts.gov](http://www.arts.gov).

MAM's director, Lora Urbanelli, said: "We're very pleased to be part of this nationwide effort to honor members of the armed services and their families. Our exhibitions this summer cover an astonishing range of American art, from prehistoric Native American ceramics to historical 19th-century landscape paintings to African American art from the 1930s and '40s to contemporary works. Everyone should find something in our galleries to engage and inspire them."

"America's museums are proud to join the rest of the country in thanking our military personnel and their families for their service and sacrifice," said National Endowment for the Arts Chairman Rocco Landesman. "I cannot imagine a better way to do that than welcoming them in to explore and enjoy the extraordinary cultural heritage our museums present."

More than 600 museums in all 50 states and the District of Columbia are taking part in the initiative.

**Blue Star Museums details**

Blue Star Museums runs from Memorial Day, May 31 through to Labor Day, September 6, 2010. The free admission program is available to active duty military and their immediate family

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members (military ID holder and five immediate family members), which includes active duty Reserve and active duty National Guard. 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 out which museums are participating, visit [www.arts.gov/bluestarmuseums](http://www.arts.gov/bluestarmuseums). The site includes a list of participating museums and a map to help with visit planning.

This is the latest Arts Endowment program to bring quality arts programs to the military, veterans, and their families. Other NEA programs for the military have included Operation Homecoming: Writing the Wartime Experience, Great American Voices Military Base Tour, and Shakespeare in American Communities Military Base Tour.

### **About Blue Star Families**

Blue Star Families is a national, non-partisan, nonprofit network of military families from all ranks and services including guard and reserve, with a mission to support, connect, and empower military families. In addition to morale and empowerment programs, Blue Star Families raises awareness of the challenges and strengths of military family life with civilian community and leaders. Membership includes spouses, kids, parents, service members, veterans, and civilians. For more information, please visit [www.BlueStarFam.org](http://www.BlueStarFam.org).

### **About the National Endowment for the Arts**

The NEA is a public agency dedicated to supporting excellence in the arts—both new and established—bringing the arts to all Americans, and providing leadership in arts education. Established by Congress in 1965 as an independent agency of the federal government, the Arts Endowment is the largest annual national funder of the arts, bringing great art to all 50 states, including rural areas, inner cities, and military bases. For more information, please visit [www.arts.gov](http://www.arts.gov).

### **About the Montclair Art Museum**

The Montclair Art Museum, a notable, community-based institution with an international reputation, boasts a renowned collection of American and Native American art that uniquely highlights art making in the United States over the last three hundred years. The collection includes more than 12,000 objects: paintings, prints, original works on paper, photographs, and sculpture by American artists from the 18th century to the present, as well as traditional and contemporary Native American art and artifacts representing the cultural developments of peoples from all of the major American Indian regions. MAM's Yard School of Art is the leading regional art school, offering a multitude of comprehensive courses for children, youth, adults, seniors, and professional artists.

The Montclair Art Museum is located at 3 South Mountain Avenue in Montclair, N.J. Information and directions are available on the Museum website, [montclairartmuseum.org](http://montclairartmuseum.org), or by calling 973-746-5555. MAM is open Wednesdays through Sundays, Noon – 5 p.m., and closed on Mondays, Tuesdays, and major holidays. Museum admission is \$12 for nonmember adults, \$10 for senior citizens and students with I.D., and free for members and children under 12.

*All Museum programs are made possible, in part, by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, and by funds from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Vance Wall Foundation, the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, and Museum Members.*

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