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For additional information, contact:

LaTonya C. Jones

T: 212-341-6022 E: lcjones@records.nyc.gov

Ken Cobb

T: 212-788-8604 E: kcobb@records.nyc.gov

Free Admission, Special Programming Mark Sixth Annual *Night at the Museums* Tuesday, June 25

Evening Features Prime Access to Lower Manhattan's Most Beloved Cultural Institutions

NEW YORK – Downtown has one of the most diverse and concentrated groups of culturally significant institutions in the world, and ***Night at the Museums*** is the signature event each year that showcases the breadth of all it has to offer. Now in its sixth year, the event boasts participation from 13 organizations offering free admission and a slate of special programming, performances, exhibitions and tours. ***Night at the Museums*** takes place **Tuesday, June 25, from 4–8 p.m.** and is hosted by the Downtown Cultural Association as part of **River To River Festival 2019**, Lower Manhattan Cultural Council's annual summer arts festival.

Night at the Museums welcomes visitors of all ages to spend a summer evening exploring New York City's history and heritages. In celebration of Downtown also as a premier dining destination, this summer's ***Get Low*** campaign, sponsored by the Downtown Alliance, offers restaurant goers a 20 percent discount at a range of restaurants in the area on summer Tuesdays, so they can taste their way through Lower Manhattan all season. Patrons can check out the Downtown Alliance's Instagram account [@downtownnyc](https://www.instagram.com/downtownnyc) to find out which restaurants are running the special each week, beginning after Memorial Day. #GetLow2019

All activities are free, but some require tickets or advance reservation. Information guides will be available at all venues, as well as downloadable/viewable online. For complete information, including a map, a schedule of special events, and tips on how to plan your evening see below or visit **NightAtTheMuseums.org**.

Participating ***Night at the Museums*** institutions are:

African Burial Ground National Monument, a unit of the National Park Service, is the oldest and largest known excavated burial ground in North America for both free and enslaved Africans. It began use in the 17th century, but was only rediscovered in 1991. The story is both of the Africans whose holy place this was, but also the story of the modern day New Yorkers who fought to honor these ancestors.

Programming: Tour the visitor center, rangers will be on hand to answer questions and provide periodic presentations. View the film *Our Time At Last*, which details the history of the African Burial Ground from its creation, through its rediscovery, and onto its designation as a national park.

nps.gov/afbg

Black Gotham Experience was established in 2010 by artist/historian Kamau Ware, Black Gotham Experience is an immersive visual storytelling project that celebrates the impact of the African Diaspora on New York City since 1625. The tale of Sarah's Fire begins in 1664 on the southern tip of the island Manhattan that is home to both free and enslaved Black people. This walking tour illustrates the peculiar universe of urban slavery in a port city with deep ties to the sugar plantations of the West Indies. A key persona in this story is an enslaved woman named Sarah who is one of 29 people that participated in the

first militarized Black rebellion on the island of Manhattan on April 6, 1712. Free hourly tours of Sarah's Fire take place on June 25: 4–5:30 p.m., 5–6:30 p.m., 6–7:30 p.m. Tours begin at 192 Front Street.

[Opening at the River to River Festival on June 3rd.](#)

China Institute is the go-to resource on China—from ancient art to today's business landscape and its rapidly shifting culture. Its programs, school and gallery exhibitions bring to life the depth, complexity and dynamism of China. Tour the latest gallery exhibit "Art of the Mountain: Through the Chinese Photographer's Lens" and enjoy a live-music performance. China Institute is located at 40 Rector Street, between West and Washington Streets. chinainstitute.org

Federal Hall National Memorial features exhibits that present the history of Federal Hall, a museum and memorial to America's first President and the beginnings of the United States. National Park Service Ranger-led tours will take place on the hour from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., and the Junior Ranger program features activities for kids. Visitors can also pick up a copy of the Bill of Rights as well as other giveaways. While supplies last. nps.gov/feha

Fraunces Tavern® Museum is the only museum located in Manhattan that focuses on the Colonial period, Revolutionary War and the Early Republic. Stand in the room where General George Washington bid farewell to his officers, explore special exhibitions such as *Fear & Force: New York City's Sons of Liberty* and *Confidential: The American Revolution's Agents of Espionage*, and learn how important New York City was during the birth of the nation at this historic site and museum. Special Night at the Museums programming includes live 18th-century music and dance lessons provided by the Tricorne Dance Ensemble, guided tours of the museum, and a Colonial Costume Photo Booth. Frauncestavernmuseum.org

Museum of Jewish Heritage – A Living Memorial to the Holocaust is New York's contribution to the global responsibility to never forget. The museum is committed to the crucial mission of educating diverse visitors about Jewish life before, during, and after the Holocaust. On view for free during Night at the Museums are: "Ordinary Treasures: Highlights from the Museum of Jewish Heritage Collection", "Dimensions in Testimony" created by USC Shoah Foundation, and Andy Goldsworthy's "Garden of Stones". Tours of "Ordinary Treasures" will be offered on the hour from 4–7 p.m. Note: A paid ticket is required for entry to the special exhibition "Auschwitz. Not long ago. Not far away." mjhny.org

National Archives at New York City connects visitors to our nation's history. Our theme is *Revolutionaries and Rights* and the historic strides taken throughout history. Engage with costumed historical interpreters throughout the building. Stop into our Learning Center to discover many of the national treasures of New York, go on an "Archival Adventure," and pull archival facsimile documents off the shelves. In the Welcome Center, view original documents and the new exhibit "New York on the Record: Rightfully Hers" about women and the right to vote. In the Research Center, begin a journey into family history research/genealogy by examining immigrant arrivals (including Ellis Island), federal census and naturalization (citizenship) records, plus so much more. For additional details visit: www.archives.gov/nyc

National Museum of the American Indian, Smithsonian Institution illuminates through exhibitions and programs the diversity of Native peoples of the Americas, from the Arctic Circle to the southern tip of Patagonia. Activities and programming embrace the newly opened imagiNATIONS Activity Center, a family-friendly, interactive learning environment where the focus is Native innovations throughout history that shape the modern world. The museum is located at One Bowling Green within the historic Alexander Hamilton U.S. Custom House, across the street from Battery Park. Tours will also be offered on the hour from 5–7 p.m. of the museum's exhibitions "Infinity of Nations" and "Transformer: Native Art in Light and Sound," as well as the Custom House building itself. Please visit the calendar at AmericanIndian.si.edu for tour details.

National September 11 Memorial & Museum is the country's principal institution concerned with exploring the implications of the events of 9/11, documenting the impact of those events, and exploring 9/11's continuing significance. Free admission is from 5–8 p.m., with the last admission two hours prior to closing. Tickets are not available in advance and will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis at the museum starting at 4 p.m. Distribution time is subject to change. 911memorial.org

9/11 Tribute Museum is a project of the September 11th Families' Association and offers visitors a place where they can connect with people from the 9/11 community: survivors, family members who lost loved ones, first responders, recovery workers, and people who live and work in Lower Manhattan. Visitors will learn about the historic events of that day, along with the personal experiences of those who experienced it, the unprecedented rescue and recovery operations, and the tremendous spirit of support and generosity that arose after the attacks. 911tributemuseum.org

NYC Municipal Archives at the NYC Department of Records and Information Services (DORIS) preserves and provides public access to historical records and information about New York City government. Its collections date from 1645 to the present. Records include office records, manuscripts, still and moving images, vital records, maps, blueprints and sound recordings. nyc.gov/records

Poets House offers something for everyone in the wide and varied tradition of verse. Visitors can peruse the 70,000-volume poetry library and view exhibitions that focus on the physical and visual expression of poetry. View archival materials from Poets House's history, including handwritten correspondence from legendary poets and writers. Participate in a literary scavenger hunt: visitors will be given popular poems with several words missing and will have to find the poems within the books of Poets House's extensive library. poetshouse.org

The Skyscraper Museum, located in the world's first, and foremost, vertical metropolis, celebrates New York City's rich architectural heritage and examines the historical forces and individuals that have shaped its successive skylines. Visit the museum and join the Curator's Tour, with founding director Carol Willis, of the special exhibition "Housing Density" at 5 p.m. skyscraper.org

South Street Seaport Museum is dedicated to telling the story of "Where New York Begins," and the rise of New York as a port city and its critical role in the development of the United States. The museum uses its historic buildings and ships to provide interactive exhibits, education and unique visitor experiences. Visit the exhibit, "Millions: Migrants and Millionaires Aboard the Great Liners, 1900–1914," in the main museum building at 12 Fulton Street. On Pier 16, there will be open tours of the 19th-century sailing ship *Wavertree* and hourly tours of the lightship *Ambrose* (limited availability; registration on-site). For *Night at the Museums* exclusively, Bowne & Co., located at 209-211 Water Street, will highlight selected examples that show the breadth and brilliance of 19th-century letterpress printing, as well as demonstrate with equipment not regularly on public view. southstreetseaportmuseum.org

SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook: [Fb.com/DowntownCulturalAssociation](https://www.facebook.com/DowntownCulturalAssociation)

Facebook: [Fb.com/LMCCNYC](https://www.facebook.com/LMCCNYC)

#NightAtTheMuseums

#R2R19 #RiverToRiver

#downiswhatsup

Twitter: @LMCC

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SPONSORS & SUPPORTERS

Night at the Museums is produced by the Downtown Cultural Association and presented by Lower Manhattan Cultural Council as part of the River To River Festival 2019. *Night at the Museums* is provided with in-kind support by the Downtown Alliance, NYC & Company, and Concierge-Maps.com.

About the Downtown Cultural Association

The Downtown Cultural Association is comprised of cultural organizations located in Lower Manhattan below Chambers Street. Its purpose is to foster collaborations among and promote the visibility of Downtown's cultural resources. A key project has been the creation of the Downtown Culture Pass, a three-day pass to museums and attractions that is geared toward tourists. DowntownCulturePass.org

About the River To River Festival

LMCC presents the 18th edition of River To River, Downtown New York City's completely free summer arts festival. Performances and events celebrate artistic and creativity in all of its forms throughout spaces in Lower Manhattan. This year's festival encourages the discovery of what arises when we all slow down. LMCC.net/R2R

About the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council (LMCC)

Founded as Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, LMCC serves, connects, and makes space for artists and community. Since 1973, LMCC has been the quiet champion for independent artists and the cultural life force of Lower Manhattan. LMCC.net

About The Downtown Alliance

The Downtown Alliance is striving to make Lower Manhattan a wonderful place to live, work and play by creating a vibrant multi-use neighborhood. It provides service, advocacy, research and information to advance Lower Manhattan as a global model of a 21st-century Central Business District for businesses, residents, and visitors. The Downtown Alliance manages the Downtown-Lower Manhattan Business Improvement District (BID), serving an area roughly from City Hall to the Battery, from the East River to West Street. downtownny.com

About NYC & Company

NYC & Company is the official marketing, tourism and partnership organization for the City of New York, dedicated to maximizing travel and tourism opportunities throughout the five boroughs, building economic prosperity, and spreading the positive image of New York City worldwide. nycgo.com

About Urban Cart (Concierge-Maps.Com)

Urban Cart (Concierge-Maps.com) supplies New York's hotels with the best maps of the City—more than three million a year. The maps are printed on FSC-certified paper with vegetable based inks, and are produced at a 100% wind-powered print plant. concierge-maps.com

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