



Free admission at the Figge again this summer



By KWQC Staff Posted: Wed 11:57 AM, May 24, 2017

DAVENPORT, Iowa (KWQC) — Summer may be the perfect time to explore the Figge Art Museum. The museum announced there will be free admission starting Saturday, May 27, 2017 and running through Sunday, September 3, 2017. This is the third summer that the museum has offered the free admission program and last summer, officials say they had their best attendance. The free program is possible due to support by the Bechtel Trusts and John Deere Classic.

FIGGE ART MUSEUM TO OFFER FREE ADMISSION MAY 27–SEPTEMBER 3

Davenport, Iowa (May 24, 2017) – The Figge Art Museum will be offering free admission May 27–September 3, 2017 thanks to the support of the Bechtel Trusts and John Deere Classic and media support from the Quad City-Times.

"This is the third summer in a row the museum is offering this perk to the community," said Executive Director Tim Schiffer. "Thanks to the Bechtel Trusts and John Deere Classic there is no barrier to entry and everyone in the community will have full access to the museum and all it has to offer free of charge."

In 2016 the museum had its best year, serving more than 111,000 people. During the 2016 free admission period the museum served over 31,000 visitors, 9,000 more than the previous year with over 47% visiting for the first time. In addition, there were visitors from all 50 states, the District of Columbia and 23 foreign countries.

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Traveling exhibitions on view this summer will include: Kara Walker: The Emancipation Approximation opening May 27 that will take visitors on a mythical journey to the era of the Civil War. Opening June 10 is Message in a Bottle Collection by Chad Pregracke from his years of cleaning up the Mississippi River watershed and Life Along the Mississippi featuring panoramic photographs of father and daughter Aernout and Teska Overbeeke. MAiZE by Jean Shin will open June 24 where visitors will be able to experience thousands of repurposed green plastic bottles crafted into "cornstalk" sculptures that will form an elaborate maze in the third-floor gallery.

Visitors will have full access to each exhibition, the permanent collection gallery, free docent-led weekend tours, special programming every Thursday evening from 5-9 p.m., Family Day on June 24, Big Picture: In the House drop-in program offered on Wednesdays, June 7-August 2 (no session on July 5) either 10:30-11:30 a.m. or 1:30-2:30 p.m. (suitable for ages 5-12), the art cart available selected Tuesdays, special activity stations throughout the museum to expand your viewing experience on selected weekends and a variety of other free programming all summer long. Check out www.figgemuseum.org for more information. Visitors can also take advantage of the Figge Cafe open Tuesday-Friday for lunch from 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

"Now is the time to be excited about the Figge," says Director of Development Raelene Pullen, "There has been tremendous growth in visitors and donors during the past few years and we want to continue to build upon that momentum so that everyone in the Quad Cities region understand the importance of having an art museum like the Figge in this community."