



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS
and BLUE STAR FAMILIES present
arts.gov/bluestarmuseums
BLUE STAR MUSEUMS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BETHEL WOODS TO PARTICIPATE IN BLUE STAR MUSEUMS

The Museum at Bethel Woods is one of more than 2,000 museums across America to offer free admission to military personnel and their families this summer

May 17, 2019 (BETHEL, NY) – For the sixth year, The Museum at Bethel Woods will take part in **Blue Star Museums**, a program which provides free admission to our nation’s active-duty military personnel and their families this summer. The 2019 program will **begin earlier than in past years**, launching on Saturday, May 18, 2019, Armed Forces Day, and ending on Monday, September 2, 2019, Labor Day.

Blue Star Museums is an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts in collaboration with Blue Star Families, the Department of Defense, and more than 2,000 museums nationwide. First Lady of the United States Melania Trump and Second Lady of the United States Karen Pence are honorary co-chairs of Blue Star Museums 2019.

“The National Endowment for the Arts is proud to celebrate the tenth summer of collaborating with Blue Star Families, Department of Defense, and especially the more than 2,000 museums across our nation that make this program possible,” said Mary Anne Carter, acting chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts. “Organizations such as Bethel Woods Center for the Arts are providing wonderful opportunities for military families to share a memorable experience together this summer.”

This year’s participating organizations include fine art, science, history, and children’s museums, as well as zoos, aquariums, gardens, and more. Museums are welcome to sign up for Blue Star Museums throughout the summer at arts.gov. Military can find the list of participating museums at arts.gov/bluestarmuseums.

“We’ve seen the tremendous impact the Blue Star Museums program brings to our military families, and we’re thrilled to be celebrating a decade of support,” said Kathy Roth-Douquet, chief executive officer of Blue Star Families. “Not only are museums fun to explore but are also great for making memories and strengthening military families as a whole.”

The free admission program is available for those currently serving in the United States Military—Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard as well as members of the Reserves, National Guard, U.S. Public Health Commissioned Corps, NOAA Commissioned Corps, and up to five family members. Qualified members must show a **Geneva Convention common access card (CAC)**, **DD Form 1173 ID card (dependent ID)**, or a **DD Form 1173-1 ID** card for entrance into a participating Blue Star Museum.

Located at the historic site of the 1969 Woodstock festival, **The Museum at Bethel Woods** explores the social, political, cultural and musical transformations of the sixties while drawing connections to the issues that continue to affect our world today. It features an award-winning permanent collection, evolving exhibits and engaging programs. In addition to the Main Exhibit and in honor of the 50th anniversary of the greatest festival of all time, The Museum proudly presents the 2019 Special Exhibit **We Are Golden: Reflections on the 50th Anniversary of The Woodstock Festival & Aspirations for a Peaceful Future**, part of **A Season of Song and Celebration**. This exhibit examines the desires of the youth of 1969, places the legendary festival within the context of the positive societal changes it inspired and asks today's youth what THEY are asking of the world now.

We Are Golden features a large collection of authentic Woodstock artifacts such as instruments, clothing, equipment, art and photography. Highlights include **Jack Casady of Jefferson Airplane's bass guitar** and tunic, **handwritten lyrics** for "Goin' Up the Country" by **Alan Wilson of Canned Heat**, a speaker cabinet and mixing equipment used by Bill Hanley at Woodstock which helped to set the standard for outdoor sound engineering and **world-class photographs** from the 15 best photographers of the festival.

We Are Golden is presented by [Orange Bank & Trust](#).

For more information about Bethel Woods Center for the Arts and to plan your museum visit, please go online www.BethelWoodsCenter.org.

Museum Summer Hours:

April 29-September 2

Open every day: 10:00 AM-7:00 PM

Museum Early Fall Hours:

September 3-November 3

Open every day: 10:00am-5:00 PM

Museum Fall Hours:

October 4-December 23

Thursday-Sunday: 10:00 AM-5:00 PM

(Home for the Holidays hours: December 26–31, open every day, 10am–5pm)

NOTE: Please call ahead to verify museum hours on concert days. Access to the grounds is closed on Pavilion concert days. The Monument continues to be open to visitors seven days a week, all year long via West Shore Road. The Museum will be closed from June 13-16th for Mountain Jam, on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve day, and Christmas Day.

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DISCLAIMER

The Bethel Woods Center for the Arts' celebrations marking the 50th Anniversary of the greatest festival of all time, planned for the Summer of 2019, are not produced, sponsored by, or affiliated with Woodstock Ventures LC, the organizer of the 1969 Festival and its other reunion festivals, and are not WOODSTOCK® events.

About Bethel Woods Center for the Arts

Bethel Woods Center for the Arts inspires, educates, and empowers individuals through the arts and humanities by presenting a diverse selection of culturally-rich performances, popular artists, and community and educational programming. Located 90 miles from New York City at the site of the 1969 Woodstock festival in Bethel, NY, the lush 800-acre campus includes a Pavilion Stage amphitheater with seating for 15,000, an intimate 440-seat indoor Event Gallery, the award-winning Museum at Bethel Woods, and a Conservatory for arts education programming.

Through the in-depth study and exhibition of the social, political, and cultural events of the 1960s, as well as the preservation of the historic site of the Woodstock Music and Art Fair, Bethel Woods educates individuals about the issues and lessons of the decade while inspiring a new generation to contribute positively to the world around them. The not-for-profit organization relies on the generous support of individuals, corporations, and foundations to develop and sustain programs that improve the quality of life in the region and beyond.

For more information please visit www.BethelWoodsCenter.org.

About the National Endowment for the Arts

Established by Congress in 1965, the National Endowment for the Arts 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 Arts Endowment 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. Visit arts.gov to learn more.

About Blue Star Families

Blue Star Families builds communities that support military families by connecting research and data to programs and solutions, 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. With Blue Star Families, military families can find answers to their challenges anywhere they are. For more information, visit bluestarfam.org.