

Summer Activities

Suggested by the History Department at Millikan Middle School

Are you looking for fun and educational ways to spend your time this summer? Consider visiting the following museums/cultural events or watching documentaries or programming on the following networks:

Los Angeles County Museum of Art

Address: 5905 Wilshire Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90036

This multi-building complex houses paintings, sculptures, costumes, and world-renowned textiles and decorative art offerings. American and European works comprise the bulk of the museum's holdings, but vast collections of Asian and ancient art are available as well. Free admission on the second Tuesday of each month and free after 5pm daily.

Getty Center

Address: 1200 Getty Center Dr, Los Angeles, CA 90049

In the foothills of the Santa Monica Mountains, the Getty Center unites the J. Paul Getty Trust's museum, institutes, and grant program. The 110-acre complex is home to a great collection of pre-20th century European paintings, drawings, manuscripts, sculpture, decorative arts, and photographs.

Getty Villa

Address: 17985 Pacific Coast Highway, Pacific Palisades, CA 90272

The Getty Villa houses the J. Paul Getty Museum's collection of approximately 44,000 Greek, Roman, and Etruscan antiquities.

Norton Simon Museum

Address: 411 W Colorado Blvd., Pasadena, CA 91105

A collection of European art from the Renaissance to the 20th century and a stellar collection of South and Southeast Asian art spanning 2,000 years. Free admission on the Friday of each month from 6 to 9pm.

Museum of Contemporary Art

Address: 250 S Grand Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90012

MOCA's primary location is this Arata Isozaki-designed building, but two satellite locations exist at the Geffen Contemporary in Little Tokyo and at the Pacific Design Center. Art offerings range from paintings and works on paper to sculptures and installations. The museum features works by well-known artists like Jackson Pollock, and Claes Oldenburg.

Natural History Museum of Los Angeles

Address: 900 Exposition Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90007

[Portions of the museum are undergoing renovations expected to be completed in late 2010 – please call for details before visiting.] When in LA, a visit to the Natural History Museum is a must. Well-known for detailed exhibits of North American and African mammals, the museum also has a fascinating marine life exhibit. Free admission on the second Tuesday of each month and free after 5pm daily.

Page Museum – La Brea Tar Pits

Address: 5801 Wilshire Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90036

One of the world's richest fossil sites, La Brea Tar Pits is the setting for this intriguing museum. Visitors get a look at life in Southern California during the Ice Age (between 10,000 and 40,000 years ago) thanks to exhibits of recovered fossils from animals like mammoths, dire wolves, birds of prey, and saber-toothed cats.

Griffith Park Observatory

Address: 2800 East Observatory Road, Los Angeles, CA 90027

Admission to the Observatory building and grounds is FREE daily. Closed Mondays.

The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Library

Address: 40 Presidential Drive, Simi Valley, California 93065

Ronald Reagan inspired Americans to act and achieve even more than they imagined. His legacy thrives at The Reagan Library where events and exhibits rediscover his values, actions and spirit of determination. The Museum is designed for self guided activities.

Heritage Square Museum

Address: 3800 Homer St, Los Angeles, CA 90031

Located on the banks of the historic Arroyo Seco canyon, this open-air museum features historically and architecturally significant buildings that reflect everyday life in LA from 1850-1950. Exhibits are arranged in a village-like setting, and guided tours begin at the visitor center, which is housed in the Palms Depot, an 1887 train station.

Museum of Latin American Art

Address: 628 Alamitos Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90802

MOLAA's mission is to educate the public about contemporary Latin American art and culture. Free admission each Friday.

California African American Museum

Address: 600 State Dr, Los Angeles, CA 90037

Thanks to a wonderful collection of art and artifacts, this museum traces the history, experience, and culture of African Americans, focusing on California and the western US. The museum offers permanent and changing exhibits, including a vibrant display depicting the early New Orleans jazz era.

Japanese American National Museum

Address: 369 E 1st St, Los Angeles, CA 90012

This museum occupies a remodeled Buddhist temple and features photographs, personal objects, art, and artifacts reflecting the history of Japanese immigration and assimilation into American culture. Among the facility's attractions are those that allow visitors to experiment with origami, examine Japanese family photo albums, and learn about World War II. Free every Thursday from 5 to 8 PM and every third Thursday of the month 12-8 p.m.

Skirball Cultural Center

Address: 2701 N Sepulveda Blvd Los Angeles, CA 90049

A museum and more that includes changing exhibitions, music, theater, comedy, film, literary programs, Zeidler's Café, and Audrey's Museum store. Free admission each Thursday.

Museum of Tolerance

Address: 9786 W Pico Blvd, Simon Wiesenthal Plaza, Los Angeles, CA 90035

This museum offers interactive, high-tech exhibits that explore and identify racism and prejudice, both in America and during the European Holocaust. It utilizes film, technology, photographs, and artifacts to relate its story and that of a variety of American families.

International Printing Museum

Address: 315 Torrance Blvd., Carson, CA 90745

Open 10-4 Saturdays. The history of the printing press is shown in all its glorious evolution. You will see a real-to-life colonial printer practicing his craft and hear how printing changed the lives of writers and thinkers like Mark Twain and Benjamin Franklin. Objects on display include antique printing machines and early printed documents.

Petersen Automotive Museum

Address: 6060 Wilshire Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90007

Located on Wilshire at Fairfax, this museum offers fun, interactive exhibits that present the history of the automobile, along with full-scale reproductions of scenes and buildings that mark important milestones in the development of the motor car in Los Angeles. Five galleries house changing exhibitions of various types of vehicles.

The Nethercutt Museum

Address: 15200 Bledsoe Street, Sylmar, CA 91342

The Nethercutt Museum showcases more than 130 of the world's greatest antique, vintage, classic and special interest automobiles including many top winners of the Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance. Free daily. Tuesday - Saturday

The Japanese Garden

Address: 6100 Woodley Ave, Van Nuys, California, 91406

The balance of positive and negative forces, Yin & Yang, are ever present here. Obvious in the skillful blending of traditional Japanese landscaping with modern Occidental architecture, less so in the way the Japanese concept of "WA" or harmony is used to unite the desires of the human spirit with our more mundane requirements—the exquisite beauty of a Japanese garden with the need for an abundant supply of fresh water.

Huntington Library and Gardens

Address: 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA 91108

Free admission on the first Thursday of each month (requires online reservation that is open @ 9am the 1st of 1 month in advance)

Watch documentaries and education programming with your family on the following networks:

PBS

The History Channel

The Discovery Channel

Also, check the offerings at your local library

The following films/shows have been recommended by the history department. Please watch these with your family and at your discretion.

Luther

Inside Mecca

Inside Islam

Schindler's List

News about the economy

Finally, take some time to explore the links posted to Ms. Harris' website – they are incredible!

<http://teacherweb.com/CA/millikanmiddleschool/harris/index.html>