

# THE TRUST FOR GOVERNORS ISLAND

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## **Governors Island Announces 2019 Public Season**

*From May 1-October 31, New Yorkers are invited to enjoy the Island's over 120 acres of expansive open space*

*Ferries will be free for all visitors opening week, May 1-5, and a new ferry will bring increased service beginning in June*

*Programming calendar announced with 70 free events and activities*

**April 2, 2019. New York, NY.** The Trust for Governors Island (The Trust) today announced its six-month public season along with its full lineup of programming and activities. Beginning May 1, New Yorkers and visitors alike are invited to enjoy the Island's open space with unparalleled views of New York Harbor, car-free recreational activities and an expansive calendar of events and public programs just a quick ferry ride from Lower Manhattan and Downtown Brooklyn. This year, Governors Island will be open daily from May 1 to October 31, with extended late-night hours every Friday and Saturday between Memorial and Labor Day. Ferries will be free for all visitors during the first week of the season, Wednesday, May 1 to Sunday, May 5.

"We're excited to kick off another season for New Yorkers to experience the culture and natural beauty of Governors Island," said **Mayor Bill de Blasio**. "With a new ferry and extended hours, more New Yorkers will be able to enjoy the Island than ever before."

"Governors Island continues to bring an easy and affordable escape to all New Yorkers right in the heart of the city," said **Michael Samuelian, President and CEO of the Trust for Governors Island**. "We're proud to continue to expand access to this Island oasis with the arrival of our brand-new ferry and even more evening hours this season. With new and improved dining options and even more cultural and educational partners from across the city, we are adding more and more amenities to complement the Island's amazing views and vibrant park."

### **EXPANDED ACCESS**

This season, public hours will expand with late nights every Friday and Saturday between Memorial Day and Labor Day. The Island will remain open until 10:00pm those evenings, allowing visitors to enjoy delicious food and cocktails from Island vendors, beautiful open space and special events surrounded by the incredible nighttime New York skyline. Additional evening arts and cultural programming will be announced in the coming weeks.

In addition to expanded hours, expanded ferry access comes to Governors Island this season. Beginning in June, visitors will be ferried to the Island by a new addition to the Trust's fleet: a brand-new, 400-passenger ferry. Built to serve flexible routes and support the ever-expanding events and services offered, as well as future activation of Governors Island into a year-round

destination, the new vessel will increase frequency of trips between Lower Manhattan and Soissons Landing on weekends, with service approximately every 20 minutes, carrying an additional 1,000 passengers per hour. A new weekend ferry schedule will be announced in the coming weeks and will go into effect in June.

“Governors Island has continued to grow into a welcoming green space, and I am thrilled to see all of the new amenities that will be available to the public this summer season,” said **Manhattan Borough President Gale A. Brewer**. “I hope all New Yorkers will take advantage of the increased ferry service, extended hours, many food vendors, and free events that will take place there this season.”

“I am thrilled to invite my fellow New Yorkers to take advantage of all that Governors Island has to offer as it launches its 2019 season of activities. With 70 free events and a new ferry, even more families will have an opportunity to explore and relax on this iconic sanctuary of lush green space, unbeatable waterfront views, and eye-opening art. I thank the Trust for Governors Island and all its community and arts partners for their collaborative work to preserve this haven for culture, recreation and discovery,” said **Council Member Margaret S. Chin**.

## **SPECIAL EVENTS**

Events on the Island start soon after opening day, with the **1<sup>st</sup> Annual Opening Weekend ShinDIG**, a community volunteer event and opening celebration hosted by the Friends of Governors Island on May 4. Special events kick into high gear in June, with the 14<sup>th</sup> iteration of the **Jazz Age Lawn Party**, the world’s largest prohibition-era gathering with live music, dancing and more, and the freeform folk festival **Porch Stomp**. Events featured later in summer include the **New York City Poetry Festival** in July, the **Japan Performing Arts Festival** in August and the **Vendy Awards**, a fierce competition featuring the best of New York City street food. New to Governors Island this year is the **Longines Global Champions Tour**, one of the world’s most exciting and competitive equestrian series, coming to New York City for the first time ever in September.

“Governors Island continues to be a beacon of joy and openness in our crowded city,” said **Merritt Birnbaum, Executive Director of the Friends of Governors Island**. “We’re thrilled to kick off the season with our first-ever ShinDIG on May 4, a spring celebration that invites New Yorkers of all ages to lend a hand in caring for our shared oasis in the harbor. And this is just the first of so many fun, free activities and events that will engage and delight visitors this year.”

Find a complete list of events on Governors Island below, with more to be announced throughout the season.

## **FOOD & BEVERAGE**

The Trust today also announced new vendors who will expand Governors Island’s culinary offerings this season in Liggett Terrace Food Court. Brooklyn-based **Threes Brewing** will open a new outpost, located in Liggett Terrace that will serve a selection of beer & wine. As part of their involvement this season, they will launch a special beer to serve on the island, Public Property, with 10% of the proceeds donated. **Neapolitan Express**, the Island’s first pizza vendor, will bring its 100% alternative energy powered truck to serve Neapolitan-style pizzas, salads, sandwiches, coffee and pastries seven days per week. **Makina Café** will serve traditional Ethiopian and Eritrean food with a modern twist, including a range of vegan and vegetarian

options. **Perros Y Vainas** will bring traditional “Perros Calientes” (or hot dogs) and other Venezuelan treats. **Joe Coffee, Melt Bakery** and **People’s Pops** will offer ice cream, dessert, coffee and pastries. Caribbean eatery **Fauzia’s Heavenly Delights** and Red Hook-based **Little Eva’s Beer Garden Grill** will return.

Vendors announced today responded to a Call for Proposals for food and beverage establishments issued in early 2019. Waterfront restaurants **Island Oyster** and **Taco Vista** will return this season, located near the Manhattan Ferry Landing. This season, Island Oyster will host live music on the second and last Saturday of each month between June and August.

## **ARTS, CULTURE & LEARNING**

A diverse range of season-long, free exhibitions spanning visual arts, performance, culture and science in the historic houses of Nolan Park and Colonels Row will open between May and June. Over three dozen organizations bring free, public programs to the Island’s historic homes, including returning organizations like the **Climate Museum, NYC Audubon, 4heads** and **the New Art Dealers Alliance**, who will open *NADA House* on May 2, a new program featuring 45 artists from NADA Member galleries and non-profits in an expanded format across 34 rooms in three historic houses.

New cultural programs to Governors Island this year include the **Museum of Contemporary African Diasporan Arts (MoCADA), Pioneer Works, the American Indian Community House, the Climate Reality Project** and the **Human Impacts Institute**, opening in Nolan Park in June. Visitors will be able to peruse a diverse array of free exhibitions, workshops, performances, artist talks and demonstrations every weekend of the season. The **Lower Manhattan Cultural Council’s** newly expanded Arts Center will open its doors in September, with inaugural programming focused on themes of ecology and sustainability including site-specific exhibitions by Yto Barrada and Michael Wang, plus Open Studios and related public events surrounding the Center’s signature Artist Residency programs and work developed in the space.

Beginning May 4 at the Island’s Urban Farm, visitors will have the opportunity to engage first-hand in programs that span environmental stewardship and sustainability, including the return of **GrowNYC’s Teaching Garden** and **Earth Matter NY’s Compost Learning Center** and Soil Start Farm. **The Island Bee Project’s Bee Sanctuary** expands their family to 80,000 honeybees with the addition of a new hive this year in partnership with the Honeybee Conservancy. Artist Mary Mattingly’s food accessibility awareness project, **Swale**, returns with an indoor exhibition in Nolan Park and a new outdoor food forest in the Urban Farm, featuring over 400 edible plants.

Visitors will also once again be able to enjoy guided programs exploring the rich history of the Governors Island National Monument. Fort Jay and Castle Williams will be open throughout the summer. **The National Park Service** will offer frequent ranger-led tours and many exciting programs. Visit [www.nps.gov/GOIS](http://www.nps.gov/GOIS) for more information about upcoming tours and hours.

“Come and join the National Park Service at Governors Island National Monument starting on May 1, 2019,” said **Shirley McKinney, Superintendent of Manhattan Sites for the National Park Service**. “We are excited to welcome visitors to the monument to enjoy the wonderful views to NYC from Castle Williams and Fort Jay. I encourage all to discover more about Governors Island’s magnificent history!”

In addition to free weekly walking tours, this year the Trust, in collaboration with **Urban Archive**, will launch a free self-guided mobile history tour. Merging technology with archival photographs owned by the Trust, Library of Congress and other institutions, Urban Archive's app will take users on a historical journey around Governors Island. Users will learn details about the Island's history, from its earliest inhabitants, the Lenape to its strategic position as a military installation, to its present-day transformation, while viewing stunning photographs from the Island's past and seeing firsthand how its features have evolved over centuries. This unique self-guided experience will be available beginning in May. For more information, visit [www.urbanarchive.nyc](http://www.urbanarchive.nyc).

A full list of early season programming, activities and visitor information is listed below. For the latest information and a schedule of events, please visit [www.govisland.org](http://www.govisland.org).

### **ISLAND SPECIAL EVENTS**

#### **The Friends of Governors Island's First Annual ShinDIG, May 4, 10am-4:30pm, Colonels Row**

Governors Island will host its 1<sup>st</sup> Annual ShinDIG on Saturday, May 4. Participants will work all over the park on a series of quick, high-impact volunteer projects to help Island gardeners prepare the landscapes for the busy summer ahead. After lending a hand, volunteers will enjoy the rest of the day on the Island with special perks and discounts from our food and recreation vendors and a closing party at 3pm featuring free treats, prizes, music, lawn games and more. [govisland.org/things-to-do/events/governors-islands-1st-annual-shindig](http://govisland.org/things-to-do/events/governors-islands-1st-annual-shindig)

#### **NYCRUNS, May 19, July 4, August 10, 7:30am**

NYCRUNS produces running events that exceed the standards of the biggest events in the world while providing the atmosphere of a true community race. [nycruns.com](http://nycruns.com)

#### **Rite of Summer, June 1, July 6, August 10 and September 7, 1pm & 3pm, Nolan Park**

Rite of Summer produces free outdoor concerts of classical and cutting-edge contemporary music, performed by many of New York City's best-known soloists and ensembles. These musicians, all of whom perform on some of the world's most prestigious concert stages, are excited about reaching a younger and more eclectic audience base on Governors Island. The festival's "concert hall" is Nolan Park— a grassy lawn where listeners are encouraged to sprawl out on blankets or picnic tables and take in the great outdoors. [www.riteofsummer.com](http://www.riteofsummer.com)

#### **New York Harbor Oyster Classic 5K, June 9, 8am**

Grab your running shoes, hop on the ferry and enjoy an early morning run on Governor's Island before it opens to the public for the day! On June 9th the 3rd Annual New York Harbor Oyster Classic 5K (NYHOC5K) participants will take in the sweeping views of New York Harbor. All proceeds support the Urban Assembly New York Harbor School and its programs. [www.oysterclassic5k.com](http://www.oysterclassic5k.com)

#### **The 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Jazz Age Lawn Party, June 15-16 and August 24-25, 12pm-6pm, Colonels Row**

Jazz Age Lawn Party, now celebrating its 14th year, is the world's original and largest prohibition era-inspired gathering. This historically sold out event attracts thousands of time

travelers each year, who come together to discover the music and zeitgeist of the 1920s. Consistently selected by the New York Times as one of the year's most memorable events, Jazz Age Lawn Party offers a unique, interactive opportunity to relive one of the most colorful and formative epochs in American history.

[jazzagelawnparty.com](http://jazzagelawnparty.com)

**Make Music New York Presents: Porch Stomp, June 23, 11am-5pm, Nolan Park**

Porch Stomp is a free, community-led participatory folk festival, where performances take place on the porches of Governors Island's historic Nolan Park. Over 100 small-scale acoustic concerts, jams, and workshops featuring some of NYC's best bluegrass, old-time, blues, roots, and Americana music are showcased during the daylong festivities. Porch Stomp 2019 will take place on Sunday, June 23rd from 11am-5pm.

[www.porchstomp.com](http://www.porchstomp.com)

**The New York City Poetry Festival, July 27-28, Colonels Row**

Every year on the last weekend of July, The Poetry Society of New York invites poetry organizations and collectives to bring their unique formats, aesthetics, and personalities to The New York City Poetry Festival, a free weekend-long event located on the pastoral lawns of Governors Island. This year the festival is honored to welcome two-time poetry laureate Robert Pinsky to the island, along with over 250 other writers. By uniting the largest community of poets in the country in a unique setting for literary activity, the New York City Poetry Festival electrifies arts and literature and brings poetry to new light in the public eye.

[www.newyorkcitypoetryfestival.com](http://www.newyorkcitypoetryfestival.com)

**The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual NYC Unicycle Festival, August 31-September 1, 12pm-5pm, Colonels Row**

On August 31 and September 1, Bindlestiff Family Cirkus brings the 10th Annual NYC Unicycle Festival to Governors Island! This festival has something for everyone, from long-time unicycle enthusiasts to first-time thrill-seekers, from extreme sports adventurers to circus fans, from avid bicyclists to families looking for the best way to spend a summer's day in the Big Apple.

[nycunifest.com](http://nycunifest.com)

**Japan Performing Arts Festival, August 31, 12pm-9pm, Nolan Park**

Japan Performing Arts, Inc. is bringing the Japanese summer experience of Bon Odori dances to Governors Island. During the Obon summer holiday every August, people dance Bon Odori at festivals all over Japan. This Governors Island event is notable for bringing Japan's Big Three Bon Odori dances into one venue, including Nishimonai Bon Odori from Akita, Gujo Odori from Gifu, and Awa Odori from Tokushima. Governors Island visitors will have hands-on Bon Odori dance sessions and more Japanese summer festival experiences here in New York.

[japanperformingarts.org](http://japanperformingarts.org)

**The Vendy Awards, September 21, 11am-5pm, Colonels Row**

The Vendy Awards is an annual street food competition that determines the best street food vendors in New York City. Each year thousands of guests eagerly purchase tickets to sample food from publicly nominated vendors in various categories. The winners are chosen by attendees as well as a panel of celebrity judges that includes chefs, television personalities and city officials. The Vendy Awards serves as a fundraiser for the Street Vendor Project, a membership-based non-profit organization that stands up for vendors' rights while providing legal and small-business services.

[www.vendyawards.streetvendor.org](http://www.vendyawards.streetvendor.org)

## **Longines Global Champions Tour, September 27-29, The Play Lawn**

The spectacular Longines Global Champions Tour and GCL is the world's premier show jumping series, bringing together the top ranked horses and riders in the sport for exhilarating competition in the most breathtaking destinations across the globe.

For the first time Olympic, International and National Champions will compete at the stunning new venue of Governors Island, New York, for the thrilling finals of the 20-event circuit.

Fans can cheer on the GCL home city team, New York Empire - led by Georgina Bloomberg - as the top teams in the world go head to head for a final chance to win the GCL Team Championship title. And individual riders will be competing for glory in the LGCT Championship race and a chance to secure their place at the spectacular GC Playoffs event in Prague in November. [www.gcglobalchampions.com](http://www.gcglobalchampions.com)

***Additional events will be announced in the coming months.***

## **ONGOING**

### **COLONELS ROW SESSION 1 PROGRAMS**

***Saturdays and Sundays, May 4-August 4, 11AM-5PM unless otherwise noted***

#### **4heads Artists in Residency Program**

The 4heads Artists in Residency Program welcomes you inside a historic home on Colonels Row for Open Studio Weekends, select weekends when visitors are invited to step into working art studios where the artists-in-residence are creating new work and discussing their process.

[www.4heads.org](http://www.4heads.org)

#### **Art Force 5**

The Art Force 5 welcomes young and old superheroes-in-training to come make their own superhero action figure and customized cape. A huge comic book exhibit depicting the history of comic books alongside equal rights will delight both comic novices and enthusiasts. Visitors will be invited to paint a tile that, when joining forces with hundreds of others, will make some beautiful public art celebrating the hundredth anniversary of the Harlem Renaissance. All free, all fun, and open to all ages.

[artforce5.squarespace.com](http://artforce5.squarespace.com)

#### **Escaping Time**

*Escaping Time: Art from U.S. Prisons* displays and sells artwork created by currently and formerly incarcerated individuals. While visitors view the various paintings, ceramics and sculptures, they will be able to see the humanity and creativity that exists behind prison walls.

[www.escapingtime.com](http://www.escapingtime.com)

#### **New Art Dealers Alliance (NADA)**

The New Art Dealers Alliance will host *NADA House*, the second edition of its collaborative, public exhibition on Governors Island from May 2-August 4, 2019. Spanning 34 rooms across three historic houses on Colonels Row and featuring 45 artists from NADA Member galleries and non-profits, the exhibition will present works that speak to the Island's changing identity over time. Special programs and activations taking place monthly will be announced in the coming weeks. A free, public opening event will be held on Thursday, May 2, 1-5pm.

*NADA House will be open Fridays through Sundays, May 3-August 4, 11AM-5PM.*

[www.newartdealers.org](http://www.newartdealers.org)

### **Rare Air**

Expanding upon its exhibition of neon artwork in 2018, Rare Air will present a new exhibition, *Green Screen and the Vague Space*, an exploration of the tertiary territory between two defined areas through color, lighting and digital video techniques. Through curated exhibitions, collaborations, visiting artists' lectures and performances, Rare Air will investigate the vastness inside of the Green Screen to amplify the physical space of our shared New York footprint.

[www.rareairongovernorsisland.com](http://www.rareairongovernorsisland.com)

### **Rising Sun Performance Company**

Returning to Governors Island for their third year, Rising Sun Performance Company will continue their curated Theatrical Residency and Laboratory program offering free works on a weekly basis. The selected works will be representative of the diverse nature of the company and network of guest artists from the New York City, national and international theatre communities. The Rising Sun house promises to be a hub for new work development and artistic creation, allowing audiences and creators to meet, merge and share ideas and dialogue.

[www.risingsunnyc.com](http://www.risingsunnyc.com)

### **School of Visual Arts (SVA)**

SVA's globally recognized Fine Arts MFA program works with emerging artists from across the U.S. and the world. This perspective provides rare glimpses into a vast archipelago of art worlds, unique socio-cultural influences and divergent aesthetic and art histories. SVA's program on Governors Island will engage the diverse body of SVA alumni, current students, faculty and partner art schools to make site-specific work through a series of short-term residencies related to the theme of "life on an island," and share this work with the public.

[mfafineart.sva.edu](http://mfafineart.sva.edu)

### **STEM Kids NYC**

Let off some STEAM with STEM Kids NYC! Through fun, engaging, student-centered sessions, engineers from age 5 to 105 will learn the fun physics of making kites and flying them, harness changing states of matter to make polymers (street name: SLIME), code an app and more. STEM Kids NYC invites visitors to tap into their natural abilities for success in the wonderful world of STEM.

[stemkidsnyc.org](http://stemkidsnyc.org)

### **Syracuse University**

Graduate students in the MFA program at Syracuse University's School of Art will move beyond the academic setting as they create work in response to the history, environment, and architecture of Governors Island. With the mission of developing new modes of engaging diverse audiences, the residency on the Island will take the form of an evolving exhibition, workshops emerging from individual research, performances and screenings – all while initiating experimental means of production and opening up these creative practices to the public.

[vpa.syr.edu/academics/art/graduate/studio-arts](http://vpa.syr.edu/academics/art/graduate/studio-arts)

### **NOLAN PARK SEASON-LONG PROGRAMS**

***Saturdays and Sundays, June 1-October 27, 11AM-5PM, unless otherwise noted***

### **American Indian Community House**

The American Indian Community House will host art exhibitions and artists talks with three Native artists from New York City. In addition, AICH will host a Native story teller, a Native American Youth Council visual project about the history of Native Americans in New York City,

Native American musical and theatrical performances and presentations by Native American artisans (jewelry makers, fashion designers and others).

[aich.org](http://aich.org)

### **Billion Oyster Project**

The Billion Oyster Project (BOP) is an effort to restore a sustainable oyster population and to foster awareness, affinity and understanding of the Harbor by engaging New Yorkers directly in the work of restoring one billion oysters. The hands-on science of reef construction and monitoring is executed through in-school, restoration-based STEM learning opportunities, community science and research, restaurant shell collection and volunteer programs. In the BOP exhibit in Nolan Park, visitors will get up close and personal with everyone's favorite bi-valve. Visitors can dive into the work of the Billion Oyster Project and the New York Harbor School, as well as learn about NYC oyster history and the many marine critters that call the Big Apple home.

[billionoysterproject.org](http://billionoysterproject.org)

### **Children's Museum of the Arts**

In CMA's Free Arts Island Outpost, young artists travel to the historic Governors Island for free hands-on art-making workshops and art-viewing experiences! On weekends, the open outdoor space of Free Arts Island Outpost beckons families to become inspired and explore big projects utilizing found objects and traditional mediums. CMA's Free Arts Island Outpost is a space to invent, adapt and transform relationships.

[cmany.org](http://cmany.org)

### **City Volcano Lab**

City Volcano Lab's New York Virtual Volcano Observatory brings the experience of exploring a volcano to Governors Island. Join volcanologists from CUNY and other NYC institutions to discover the complex life of magmas and volcanos – and the rich volcanic history of the New York region – through virtual reality experiences, a volcano sound gallery, guest speakers and kid-friendly activities.

[cityvolcano.weebly.com](http://cityvolcano.weebly.com)

### **The Climate Museum**

The Climate Museum will present an exhibition that focuses on steps we can take toward a climate-safe future. At this family-friendly show, visitors will be able to explore and play with a series of interactive installations and learn how clean energy, green design, better food and land management, as well as strong decision-making on fossil fuels can transition us to a carbon-free economy and culture.

[climatemuseum.org](http://climatemuseum.org)

### **The Cooper Union**

House of Poetics is a space for the practice of contemporary poetics through multidisciplinary artistic production. Presented by The Cooper Union, architecture students in an "advanced concepts in phenomenology of space" seminar led by architect Ceren Bingol will reimagine a historical house through mindful and spatial poetics. Curated and realized by Bingol along with poet Simona Blat and artist Seth Carnes, House of Poetics will be a hybrid studio, publisher, lab and gallery for the exploration of poetry's role in society.

[cooper.edu/architecture](http://cooper.edu/architecture)

### **Harvestworks**

Harvestworks will present a dynamic program of residencies, exhibitions and workshops centered on the intersection of art and technology including the 2019 New York Electronic Art Festival, a celebration of 21st-century art and experiences, as well as a participatory environment for artists, scientists and the public.

[www.harvestworks.org](http://www.harvestworks.org)

### **Human Impacts Institute + Climate Reality Project NYC**

The Human Impacts Institute/Climate Reality house combines arts, culture and science-based learning to inspire environmental action. Programs will inspire visitors' engagement and action on local environmental solutions through the ongoing exhibits, workshops and residency programs of the Human Impacts Institute, as well as the weekly presentations from metro-area Climate Reality leaders. Visitors will also be able to engage with diverse leaders from the arts, policy, science and beyond, while connecting with the ways they can make a difference.

[www.humanimpactsinstitute.org](http://www.humanimpactsinstitute.org)

[www.climaterealityproject.org](http://www.climaterealityproject.org)

### **Museum of Contemporary African Diasporan Arts (MoCADA)**

Since 1999, MoCADA has been widely regarded as an incubator for emerging artists and curators of color, having greatly supported and furthered the artistic careers of over 100 groundbreaking artists across 20+ countries to date. To celebrate this longstanding history, specifically 20 years of rich, cultural programming and trailblazing initiatives, MoCADA will invite seven rising creators to participate in its newly expanded residency program in 2019. Selected artists and curators will work with celebrated industry leaders to create public programming that illuminates the histories and futures of the African diaspora and art, in connection to themes of social justice and the upliftment of marginalized communities.

[www.mocada.org](http://www.mocada.org)

### **NYC Audubon**

Visit NYC Audubon's seasonal nature center for family-friendly activities, information on the city's birds and habitats, binoculars to borrow and opportunities to meet avian-inspired artists at work. Bird walks and nature-themed workshops will also be scheduled on weekends throughout the season.

[www.nycaudubon.org](http://www.nycaudubon.org)

### **Pioneer Works**

Pioneer Works is a cultural center and artist residency based in Red Hook, Brooklyn, devoted to building community through the arts and sciences. Pioneer Works hosts a rotating selection of public programs and workshops across the disciplines of visual art, music, narrative arts, science and technology. On Governors Island, Pioneer Works residents will create exciting new work for the public to experience, along with an exhibition and events hosted in the historic house.

[pioneerworks.org](http://pioneerworks.org)

### **play:groundNYC (outdoor)**

play:groundNYC is back for their fourth year on Governors Island, stewarding and operating The Yard – a 50,000 square-foot adventure playground stocked with loose parts, tools and space for kids to play, imagine and dream big! This year, play:groundNYC will be offering an adventure club, school field trips, professional development for educators, a ten-week summer camp program and, of course, free play every weekend all season long.

*play:groundNYC's The Yard opens May 4.*

[play-ground.nyc](http://play-ground.nyc)

### **play:groundNYC + Student Conservation Association**

The SCA and play:groundNYC will co-program a house in Nolan Park for the 2019 season. This exciting collaboration will see the house transformed into an education hub, highlighting the work and shared values of both organizations – primarily environmental stewardship and awareness, youth participation and play advocacy. Programs will be suitable for young people age 5 to 18, with additional resources for adults.

[www.thesca.org](http://www.thesca.org)

### **Swale**

Collaborating with organizations including the NYC Urban Field Station, Space HL and the Urban Soils Institute, Swale will present a variety of environmental arts programming exploring the intersections of soil, water and food. Visitors will be invited to participate in walk-in workshops for a New York Soil Library, an archive of soil samples from across NYC, and join free classes about local soils, international seas, as well as edible and medicinal plants. In addition, exhibitions and multimedia installations will explore processes of environmental decay and transformation, from everyday found objects to massive coral reefs and imagined dystopian landscapes.

[www.swaleny.org](http://www.swaleny.org)

### **Triangle Arts Association**

Triangle Arts Association is an artist-founded non-profit art institution in New York City, working locally and globally since 1982, with programs that emphasize research, dialogue and experimentation through residencies and public programs. On Governors Island, Triangle will host ongoing residencies for artists across disciplines, including sculpture, painting, performance and video. An evolving exhibition will provide visitors with a first-hand view of in-process artwork.

[www.triangle-arts-association.org](http://www.triangle-arts-association.org)

### **West Harlem Art Fund**

The West Harlem Art Fund returns to Governors Island in 2019 with a two-part exhibition, public programming and an educational tasting room for the season. *Traces* is a pan-Asian art show that opens our season in May featuring eight artists in partnership with the Eli Klein and Aicon Contemporary Galleries. In late July, West Harlem Art Fund will present *Crossing the Sands*, a contemporary art show with individual artists representing the Caribbean, Africa and the MENA (Middle East and North Africa) region. Public programming will spotlight dance, music and cuisines from South Asia and Africa.

[westharlem.art](http://westharlem.art)

### **Works on Water**

Works on Water will host a residency for artists, writers, designers and researchers working on, in and with water. Studios will be open to the public on the weekends with rotating interactive projects and exhibitions in the main space. The work exhibited aims to deepen the experience of visiting the Island by connecting visitors to the waterways that surround us.

[www.worksonwater.org](http://www.worksonwater.org)

### **COLONELS ROW SESSION 2 PROGRAMS**

***Saturdays and Sundays, August 31-October 27, 11AM-5PM unless otherwise noted***

### **4heads Presents Portal: Governors Island**

*Portal: Governors Island* is the free, large-scale, independent art fair you have known and loved for the past 11 years as Governors Island Art Fair. Now with a fresh moniker and even more

exciting exhibitions than ever, 4heads brings you over 80 full solo exhibits, side-by-side throughout the historic buildings and green spaces of Colonels Row, every weekend in September. Don't miss the best, newly discovered emerging artists in what the *New York Times* has dubbed, "The Art Fair for the 99%."

*Portal: Governors Island will be open from August 31-September 29.*

[www.4heads.org/governors-island-art-fair-2018](http://www.4heads.org/governors-island-art-fair-2018)

### **Dysfunctional Collective**

The Dysfunctional Collective turns a historic house on Colonels Row into a grab box of art, theater, music and dance. Stop by to hear a song, write a poem, see a play, learn to dance, solve a mystery and make something new – or just come and explore the house.

[dysfunctionaltheatre.org/dysfunctional-collective](http://dysfunctionaltheatre.org/dysfunctional-collective)

### **Exquisite Corpse Company**

In Exquisite Corpse Company's performative exhibition *Water, Water, Everywhere*, the lampshade remembers lullabies, and the teacup can tell you a secret. It is up to you to listen. Four overlapping storylines unfold in an immersive, interdisciplinary experience inspired by Governors Island's history inside a historic house that was once a home. The show invites visitors to explore the exhumation of memory, what makes a home and how water connects us all.

[www.exquisitecorpsecompany.com](http://www.exquisitecorpsecompany.com)

### **HoloCenter**

*Holographic Embodiment* is an exhibition of art holograms and holographic media that explore physicality at the confluence of the real and virtual. Perceptions and sensations are augmented as our bodies extend into and enfold virtual engagement. Explore installations and artworks and create in the mixed reality studio for collaborative drawing.

[www.holocenter.org](http://www.holocenter.org)

### **Linked Dance Theatre**

*Remembrance* is the story of a woman who is suffering from Alzheimer's. Part free, educational art installation and part ticketed, immersive show, the program will explore the fracturing memories of Margaret. Come discover her mind on your own time or help celebrate Margaret's 65th birthday as one of her close friends or family members – either way, visitors will unearth things forgotten and witness what happens when our minds are no longer our own.

[www.linkeddancetheatre.com](http://www.linkeddancetheatre.com)

### **URBAN FARM PROGRAMS**

***Saturdays and Sundays beginning May 4, 11AM-4PM***

#### **Earth Matter NY's Compost Learning Center, Soil Start Farm & Lavender Field**

Get your hands dirty at the Compost Learning Center! This facility processes over 60,000lbs of food scraps into compost each month, much of which is used here on Governors Island. Visitors can learn about composting and might even meet some goats and chickens.

Urban composting has dual purposes: diverting organic waste from the landfill and amending existing soil. The Soil Start Farm demonstrates how gardeners can use readily-available materials to create compost to grow plants in urban soil conditions.

The Lavender Field Project on Governors Island is a healing space for the community, the bees, and the earth. Join Earth Matter NY Sundays at 2:30pm from May 13 – August 5 for [special activities](#) that promote creativity, reflection, and relaxation at the Lavender Field. [earthmatter.org](http://earthmatter.org)

### **GrowNYC's Teaching Garden**

GrowNYC's Teaching Garden is a one-acre urban farm that aims to engage, excite, and educate its visitors in all aspects of urban farming. On weekends, GrowNYC opens the garden to the public and provides free tours, garden and nutrition related workshops, and self-guided activities for families including a worm bin, seasonal scavenger hunts, garden story time, and our popular kid-friendly watering station. GrowNYC will host over two dozen different free workshops at the Teaching Garden in 2019, including ones on indigo dyeing, making flower bouquets, aquaponics, and hot pepper drying.

[www.grownyc.org](http://www.grownyc.org)

### **Island Bee Project & The Honeybee Conservancy Bee Sanctuary**

Island Bee Project and The Honeybee Conservancy's Bee Sanctuary is home to dozens of bee species. Join Island Bee Project and The Honeybee Conservancy on an extraordinary look into the fascinating world of bees, the super pollinators responsible for nearly one in every three bites of food you eat.

[www.thehoneybeeconservancy.org/](http://www.thehoneybeeconservancy.org/)

### **Swale**

Swale's plant community is made up of perennial native fruit trees and shrubs and leafy self-seeding annuals. Swale utilizes permaculture and edible forestry techniques that mimic natural ecosystems and require less human maintenance over time. In 2019 visitors are welcome to explore Swale in the Urban Farm on weekends and pick from the perennial food forest for free. Swale is working towards making their space in the Urban Farm a "living sculpture" for food forestry, including color field pollinator gardens, apothecary gardens and gardens for climate change.

[www.swaleny.org](http://www.swaleny.org)

## **ADDITIONAL ONGOING PROGRAMS**

### **Shandaken: Governors Island**

This summer, Shandaken Projects will present new projects by the inaugural residents of Shandaken: Governors Island. These projects will be free and open to the public, taking place one Saturday per month between May and September. The culmination of months of immersion in Island life, the projects will allow the public a glimpse into residents' studio experiences, realms of interests, and unique perspective on a site of rich historical significance and complex present-day circumstances.

[www.shandakenprojects.org](http://www.shandakenprojects.org)

### **LMCC's Arts Center at Governors Island**

This September, the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council's Arts Center at Governors Island will open its doors, welcoming 40,000sq ft of dedicated arts space to Soissons Landing. LMCC's Arts Center at Governors Island will feature **Artist Residency Programs** with studio and presenting space for artists to develop their work, and a **broad range of events** to convene artists and the public in an exchange of ideas and creative practices. Programming in the inaugural season will focus on themes related to **ecology, sustainability** and **resilience**. Opening programs in 2019 include site-specific exhibitions by **Yto Barrada** and **Michael**

**Wang, plus Open Studios** and related public events surrounding the Center's signature Artist Residency programs and work developed in the space.

[lmcc.net](http://lmcc.net)

## **GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT GOVERNORS ISLAND'S 2019 SEASON**

### ***Operating Hours***

Governors Island is open every day from May 1 through October 31. On weekdays, the Island is open from 10 AM to 6 PM. On weekends and holidays, the Island is open from 10 AM to 7 PM. On Friday and Saturday evenings between Memorial Day weekend and Labor Day weekend, the Island will be open until 10 PM.

### ***Ferries***

Ferries will run from Lower Manhattan every day from the Battery Maritime Building at 10 South Street. Direct service from Brooklyn will run from Pier 6, Brooklyn Bridge Park on Saturdays, Sundays, Memorial Day and Labor Day.

All weekday and weekend afternoon ferries from Brooklyn and Manhattan are \$3 round trip for adults. Children under 12, IDNYC holders and Governors Island Members ride for free at all times and senior citizens' fares are \$1.

Morning ferries (10 AM, 11 AM and 11:30 AM from Manhattan and 11 AM and 11:30 AM from Brooklyn) on Saturdays and Sundays are free for all. There is no surcharge for bicycles at any time.

Visitors will be able to purchase ferry tickets at the Battery Maritime Building in Lower Manhattan or at Pier 6 in Brooklyn. Only cash is accepted.

Ferries will be free for all visitors during the first week of the season, from May 1-May 5.

A full ferry schedule is available at [www.govisland.org](http://www.govisland.org).

Beginning Memorial Day weekend, the city's NYC Ferry service will offer additional connections to Governors Island's Yankee Pier via a dedicated service from Wall Street/Pier 11. For ticketing information and for a full schedule, please visit [www.ferry.nyc](http://www.ferry.nyc).

### ***Visitor Services***

Welcome Centers are located at both Soissons Landing and Yankee Pier on Governors Island. Visitors can pick up an information guide, receive personalized assistance on the day's activities from our friendly Visitor Services team, purchase souvenirs and Island essentials like sunscreen and cold drinks and learn about membership and volunteer programs.

Soissons Landing Welcome Center hours:

Wednesday-Friday 10AM-4PM

Saturday-Sunday 10AM-5PM

Yankee Pier Welcome Center hours:

Saturday-Sunday 10AM-5PM

### ***Biking***

Every day, visitors can bring their own bikes, or rent one while visiting. Blazing Saddles offers visitors over 500 bikes and 60 surreys for rental, and on weekday mornings offers an hour of free cruiser bike rentals. For the 2019 season, Blazing Saddles will expand to include pedal cars, scooters, and balance bikes for families with small children. Citi Bike kiosks can be found at Soissons Landing, Yankee Pier and Picnic Point. Visit [govisland.org](http://govisland.org) for more information.

### ***Free Kayaking***

Kayakers can access the Island's kayak dock at Pier 101. The Downtown Boathouse will also offer free kayaking sessions to visitors of all skill levels on Saturdays from June 15 to September 14, 11am-4pm. For more information, visit [www.downtownboathouse.org](http://www.downtownboathouse.org).

### ***Gatherings and Grills***

Visitors may reserve grills for gatherings, parties, reunions or any celebration when the Island is open to the public. Reservations must be made at least two weeks in advance and are booked on a first come, first served basis. All applicants will be charged a \$26 non-refundable fee. For more information and to apply visit [www.govisland.org/permits](http://www.govisland.org/permits).

### ***Adventures at Governors Island***

Adventures at Governors Island is New York City's premiere summer destination for thrill-seekers and adventure enthusiasts of all ages, open daily. This unique "pop-up" amusement park currently features four exciting amusements, including a zipline, climbing challenge, maze and mini-golf course. For more information, visit [www.adventuresgovisland.com](http://www.adventuresgovisland.com).

### ***Collective Governors Island***

Collective Retreats offers unique, seasonal lodging on Governors Island, offering both full hotel-style service and premium select service accommodations as well as experiential dining. The retreat offers a full-service restaurant and bar open to the public as well as public lawn space featuring yoga classes available on the weekends and lawn games. For more information on class times, accommodation booking and other events visit [www.collectiveretreats.com](http://www.collectiveretreats.com).

### **About The Trust for Governors Island**

The Trust for Governors Island is the nonprofit corporation created by the City of New York that is responsible for the redevelopment and operation of 150 acres of Governors Island. The Trust's mission is to transform Governors Island into a vibrant resource for New York City, making this island at the center of New York Harbor a destination with extraordinary public open space, as well as educational, not-for-profit and commercial facilities.

For more information, visit [www.govisland.org](http://www.govisland.org).

### **About Governors Island National Monument**

The National Park Service manages Governors Island National Monument, which consists of twenty-two acres, including the historic fortifications Castle Williams and Fort Jay. The Monument is one of twenty-two sites operated by the National Park Service in the New York City area. Its purpose is to preserve and protect Castle Williams and Fort Jay, and to interpret them and the harbor's rich history and ecology for the public. For more information, visit [www.nps.gov/gois](http://www.nps.gov/gois).

Contact: Sarah Krautheim/646.413.1547/[skrautheim@govisland.org](mailto:skrautheim@govisland.org)