

THE TRUST FOR GOVERNORS ISLAND

Trust for Governors Island Announces 2017 Public Season

Savor the views from the Hills, ride a free bike, explore visual arts and environmental education in Nolan Park, visit an urban farm, try zip lining, learn about history and relax on Governors Island

Island opens on Monday, May 1, open every day through October 1

April 4, 2017. New York, NY. The Trust for Governors Island (The Trust) today announced its 2017 public season. With an early opening, New Yorkers will be able to experience the spring season for the first time in one of New York City's most beautiful public spaces. Building off an eventful 2016 season with a record-breaking 600,000 visitors, the Island will be activated with more programming and recreational activities than ever. A diverse array of arts, cultural and educational organizations, as well as brand new recreational activities will offer something for visitors of all ages. Governors Island opens to the public on Monday, May 1 and will be open every day through October 1.

“Governors Island is a treasure for the whole city, and an incredible magnet for culture and innovation,” said **Mayor Bill de Blasio**. “We’re excited to kick off another great season and early opening for all New Yorkers to enjoy.”

“A visit to Governors Island is the easiest way to get away, and an extended season is our first step towards year-round activation with more opportunities to relax, play, learn and discover the jewel of the Harbor”, said **Michael Samuelian, president of The Trust for Governors Island**. “I invite every New Yorker to enjoy springtime for the first time on Governors Island. From grilling, cycling and lounging to exploring the arts and learning how to compost, we have something for everyone this year”.

Arts and culture are the heart and soul of Governors Island, and visitors will have the chance to explore more exhibits and programs than ever from both new organizations and familiar faces. Longstanding Island tenant Lower Manhattan Cultural Council (LMCC) returns with an exciting array of arts programming at LMCC's Arts Center at Governors Island, including a solo exhibition with artist Kameelah Janan Rasheed, three Open Studios events showcasing works by their artists-in-residence, and the annual River To River Festival featuring MOAT, a performance and installation by Jodi Melnick and The Set Up: Island Ghost Sleep Princess Time Story Show, a series of performances by lead artists Wally Cardona and Jennifer Lacey.

Island favorites celebrating 10 years of programming include 4heads with their annual art fair and season-long children's education programs in Colonels Row, the African Film Festival Family Fun Day and the Sculptors Guild's *Currently 80*, curated by John Yau, including work by

50 of its present members in wood, clay, steel, stone, bronze, fabric, neon, paper, installations, and digital multi-media.

New art groups include the Staten Island based Labyrinth Arts Collective *Face to Face: Imagine Thyself*, an interactive weekend of mask making, portrait taking and celebration of individuality. The Public Works Department will present *Sanctuary Cities*, a global performance art project linking five cities along 17th century Dutch trade routes and exploring our interconnected histories against the backdrop of contemporary issues.

Education and exploration continues to be a key part of the Governors Island experience. This year, the Billion Oyster Project will showcase the importance of oysters to our local waterways in a season-long exhibition in Nolan Park. The New York Historical Society celebrates *NYC and the Women's Suffrage Movement* through a teen-curated exhibition commemorating the 100-year anniversary of New York State granting women the right to vote. Visitors with a green thumb and a love for animals can visit the Island's Urban Farm on weekends starting on May 27. GrowNYC will showcase the growing, harvesting and cooking of vegetables grown in their teaching garden. Earth Matter will continue to share methods of making compost, including how chickens and goats help ensure that there is no waste wasted on Governors Island.

New special events include the Island's first ever free Holi Hai Spring Color Festival on opening weekend, where attendees will celebrate diversity through playing with colors, dancing and music. The New York Transit Museum will take a trip down memory lane with the Vintage Bus Bash on the Island, no bus fare required. Returning favorites include FIGMENT's weekend of playful participatory art, the iconic Jazz Age Lawn Party, Family Fun Day hosted by the Friends of Governors Island, Pinknic, the Brooklyn Music Festival and City of Water Day.

"Opening day at Governors Island means it's time to visit the center of our Harbor Park -- a Central Park for the center of our city, and this year brings a whole extra month of Governors Island fun," said **State Senator Daniel Squadron**. "This season, visitors can also enjoy the Hills, especially Slide Hill -- the longest slide in the city! Thank you to the Trust for Governors Island for its continued work and the expanded season, another step toward the year round attraction we've all been working for."

"Opening day at Governors Island is near, and I urge New Yorkers from far and wide to visit this wonderful attraction," said **Assemblymember Yuh-Line Niou**. "I am so proud to have Governors Island in my district here in Lower Manhattan and I am equally excited by the great programming and events scheduled for this year at the Island. I look forward to working with the Trust for Governors Island to continually enhance visitors' experience, and I commend them for an early season opening."

"As the weather gets warmer, Governors Island is once again ready to welcome a growing number of City residents and visitors to experience this unique and captivating greenspace," said **Council Member Margaret S. Chin**. "With an expanded season and new programs to capture the imagination of people of all ages, Governors Island is poised to have its most successful year yet. I thank the Trust for Governors Island for their year-round efforts to create a welcoming, accessible, and engaging space for all to enjoy."

"If you haven't been to Governor's Island yet, you really should," said **Manhattan Borough President Gale A. Brewer**. "It's an extraordinary getaway just a ferry ride from Manhattan, and this year's season of arts, culture, and educational events promises to be the best ever."

"Each year seems to be better than the last," said **Manhattan Community Board 1 Chair Anthony Notaro, Jr.** "Everyone in Lower Manhattan now looks forward to not only the opening but the whole season to enjoy this jewel in our community."

Visitors will also once again be able to enjoy guided programs with the National Park Service, explore the rich history of Castle Williams and Fort Jay and experience special youth programs and tours. National Park Service rangers will offer programming seven days a week.

"The National Park Service looks forward to its 15th exciting season welcoming visitors to enjoy the Island's stories," said **Shirley McKinney, Superintendent, Governors Island National Monument**. "We look forward to visitors exploring Fort Jay and Castle Williams and learning about the Island's important role in the history of New York City and beyond."

In addition to exploring Fort Jay and Castle Williams, visitors will be able to wander the Island's peaceful and bucolic park, including the award-winning Hills which will be open for a full season for the first time. Made with recycled fill materials, the Hills rise 25 to 70 feet above the Island, and the summit of the tallest Hill provides visitors with a 360-degree panoramic view of the Harbor. Play fountains in Liggett Terrace will be open to the public, where kids of all ages can splash or watch the fun from movable lounge chairs nearby. In addition to the park, the Island's full 2.5 mile perimeter promenade is now open for cycling, strolling and running.

Opportunities for recreation and play expand in 2017. *Adventures at GI*, operated by New York Carousel, will open a climbing wall, amazing maze and zip lining adventure within the Island's Western Development Zone near Liggett Terrace. Explorers will have the chance to climb, wander and fly through the Island breeze in view of the Statue of Liberty. The Island's play areas near Hammock Grove offer fun for children of all ages, and Slide Hill, featuring New York City's longest slide at 57 feet remains open for all. Kayakers will be able to access the Island's new kayak dock, and free kayaking in the dock's surrounding peaceful cove will be available courtesy of the Downtown Boathouse on weekends starting in June.

Visitors will be able to enjoy miles of car-free biking in the Island's Historic District and in the new park, with the full surrounding promenade open returning for the full season. Visitors can bring their own bikes to the Island or rent one while visiting. Blazing Saddles' Free Bike Mornings allows visitors to borrow a bike for free for one hour between 10 and noon every weekday. Citi Bike kiosks can also be found at both Soissons's Landing and Yankee Pier.

In addition to over two dozen food vendors representing cuisines as diverse as New York City itself, expanded dining options will be available on the Island this year. Slated to open in early summer, Island Oyster, a pop-up oyster bar and beer garden from the crew behind Grand Banks, will bring a sustainable summer fare menu and signature cocktail program to the ferry landing at Governors Island. With sweeping views of New York Harbor, the Lower Manhattan skyline and the Brooklyn Bridge, Island Oyster will remain open into the evening hours (after

the rest of the park closes), enabling guests to experience the best sunsets and nighttime views in New York City.

The Trust also announced today that two pop-up beer gardens will open in Liggett Terrace during the 2017 season. Island favorite Little Eva's will return for its 6th season, serving frozen drinks, sumptuous grilled plates and fresh grain salads featuring local and Island-grown produce in a seated atmosphere in the Eastern corner of Liggett Terrace. In addition, East Village veterans Alphabet City Beer Co. and Edi and the Wolf will bring the best of Avenue C to Governors Island with a season-long pop up, serving sausages, charcuterie, salads and even a beer brewed specially for Governors Island. Alphabet City Beer Co. / Edi and the Wolf will open in the Western corner of Liggett Terrace early summer.

A new special membership program for Governors Island lovers will be available for the first time in 2017. Benefits of membership, starting at \$50 annually, include season-long free ferry rides, special insider access and free member events including a Member Preview Day on April 30, a free bike rental, discounts at select Island vendors and more. Member support will go towards caring for Governors Island's lush landscapes, creating more free public programming and ensuring the Island remains a vibrant shared space for all. Memberships are on sale now at www.govisland.com/membership.

"Governors Island is beloved by thousands of New Yorkers, and our new membership program gives them a tangible way to join our growing community," said **Merritt Birnbaum, Executive Director of the Friends of Governors Island**. "This is an exciting opportunity for people to deepen their relationship with our space and get some great perks, while at the same time supporting critical needs like horticultural care, free public programs, and improved visitor services."

Below is the current calendar of events as well as general information about the Island's public access season. Events will be updated throughout the next several months. The calendar will be updated on www.govisland.com. All events are free unless otherwise noted.

CALENDAR – HIGHLIGHTED EVENTS

ISLAND SPECIAL EVENTS

NYC Holi Hai – Spring Color Festival, Sunday, May 6, 10 AM – 5 PM Ball Fields

NYC Holi Hai is a celebration of the coming of spring, fruitful harvests and renewal of life. Attendees enjoy a free, multi-cultural program on stage with live bands and dance performances, while covering each other in colored powder. Food vendors carrying a variety of delicacies are featured and there is a 'kids area' for children to engage and play in a festive environment. The festival is open admission and celebrates diversity by welcoming people of all backgrounds and all ages to come together in a unique celebration of love and togetherness. For more information, visit <https://www.nycholi.com>.

Rite of Summer, Saturdays, May 27, June 24, July 8 and August 12, 1PM and 3PM

Entering its 7th season on the Island, Rite of Summer is a classical contemporary music festival run by NYC-based pianists Pam Goldberg and Blair McMillen. Rite of Summer showcases the country's finest artists with an emphasis on the cutting-edge. This season's lineup includes John

Cage's prepared-piano masterpiece "Sonatas & Interludes." The festival has commissioned 4 composers to write their own "Interludes," so 4 pianists will each play a portion of the Cage, along with one of the new Interludes. In addition, Rite of Summer will present West Coast vocalist/electronics guru Pamela Z, the brash, young contemporary ensemble Contemporaneous, and an opening day of outdoor percussion music. www.riteofsummer.com

Family Fun Day Festival, Sunday, May 28, 1 PM-4 PM Nolan Park

Family Fun Day celebrates Governors Island's green spaces and its playful, free-range attitude. Held Memorial Day Weekend, this outdoor festival will feature live music, theatrical performances, storytelling, arts and crafts, educational workshops, ice cream, and a build-your-own playground. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, visit www.govisland.com.

FIGMENT, June 3-4, Colonels Row

FIGMENT is a free participatory art event that is 100% volunteer-powered. FIGMENT NYC's summer-long projects include a mini golf course and pavilion entitled "Cast and Place" on Governors Island! For more information and a call for art, visit <http://newyork.figmentproject.org/>.

The Archeology of New Amsterdam and its Environs, June 9, 1:30 PM

The New Amsterdam History Center will present a lecture, The Archeology of New Amsterdam and its Environs, on June 9, 2017 at 1:30. This lecture and tour will be led by archeologists Anne-Marie Cantwell, Emeritus Professor of Anthropology at Rutgers University, and Diana diZerega Wall, an historical archaeologist, and professor of anthropology at City College and at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. Their lecture about the archaeology of New Netherland in the greater New York area, including sites in Manhattan and the 4 boroughs, will be combined with a visit to the site on Governors Island where a Dutch windmill once stood. Over the last century, archaeologists, both professional and avocational, have been fascinated by Dutch sites throughout what is now New York City. In this illustrated talk, the speakers will discuss them, their sites, and their finds. The archaeologists themselves range from school boys digging on their own in Queens to Ph.D.s working in lower Manhattan. Their sites include not only those in the heart of New Amsterdam, but independent traders' houses, a farmhouse in Brooklyn, and English religious settlements as well. <http://newamsterdamhistorycenter.org/>.

The 12th Annual Jazz Age Lawn Party, June 10-11 and August 26-27, Colonels Row

The Jazz Age Lawn Party, now entering its 12th year, is New York City's original prohibition-era inspired gathering. Hosted and conceived by Michael Arenella, the event started as a small gathering of about fifty friends and fans in 2005, who came together on Governors Island to revel in the music of the Jazz Age, as performed by Michael Arenella and His Dreamland Orchestra. This historically sold out event attracts 20,000 fans over two weekends, who come together to discover music and zeitgeist of the 1920s and 1930s, learn the hottest dance steps of the time, frolic in their flapper dresses and glad rags and enjoy sophisticated bites and vintage-inspired cocktails in a romantic, playful setting. For tickets visit: www.JazzAgeLawnParty.com.

Porch Stomp, June 17, Nolan Park

Founded in 2014, Porch Stomp is a folk celebration unlike any other. Set on the beautiful greenery of Governors Island, Porch Stomp invites over 60 bands, artists, and performing arts organizations to utilize the historic porches of Nolan Park as a pulpit for performance and education, highlighting artistry ranging from traditional folk to old-time, blues, roots, bluegrass and Americana. The festival offers all-inclusive jams and educational opportunities for folks learning to play music. Dance is also a major part of Porch Stomp- throughout the afternoon

with several participatory square dances, in addition to workshops where folks can learn basic steps. Porch Stomp has its roots as part of Make Music New York, a city-wide day of free outdoor music on the summer solstice. <http://www.makemusicny.org/>.

PINKNIC, June 24-25, Ball Fields

For a two-day summer affair, Pinknic takes over the beautiful grounds of Governors Island in New York City. There will be rosé wine, rosé champagne, frosé, food from a local celebrity chef, live performances from bands and DJs, a pool, and plenty of surprises. Learn more and purchase tickets here: <http://www.pinknic.com/>.

Vintage Bus Bash, July 8-9, 10:30 AM-4 PM

Over the River and through the Boroughs to Governors Island we go! The New York Transit Museum, in partnership with the Department of Buses, will be bringing vintage buses to Governors Island on the ferry! No bus fare needed – you can explore these transit vehicles of the past for free! <http://www.nytransitmuseum.org/>.

City of Water Day, Saturday, July 15, 10 AM-5 PM

City of Water Day is a free, family-oriented celebration of the world-class potential of the New York and New Jersey waterfront. City of Water Day 2017 will be the ninth year for this event which has grown into the region's biggest harbor festival. The event will be held on Governors Island and dozens of In Your Neighborhood locations in New York and New Jersey and around New York Harbor. The event draws thousands of people to the water for a day of fun. Highlights of the day include free boat tours on all kinds of vessels, from tall ships to tugboats; free rowing, kayaking, paddle-boarding, and the highly anticipated Con Edison Cardboard Kayak Race; and the Waterfront Activity Fair and Disney Children Activities offer something for the whole family. <http://waterfrontalliance.org/what-we-do/city-of-water-day/>.

South'N the City Picnic, July 22, 12 PM-6 PM, Colonels Row

South'N the City Picnic is a gathering of well-dressed urbanites for day of southern inspired music, food, and fashion. This exclusive ticketed event will consist of various vendors and sponsors to enhance this one of a kind celebration of southern culture. Tickets must be purchased in advance and will be available soon.

7th Annual New York City Poetry Festival, July 29-30, 10AM-5PM, Nolan Park

Poetry Society of New York, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting poetry within our culture, will once again invite attendees to come together for this free two-day festival to celebrate New York City's vibrant poetry community. The event will include over 75 poetry organizations and 250 poets on its main stages; a Vendor's Village where local booksellers, artists and craft makers will sell their wares; healthy and delicious food options; a beer and wine garden; poetry-inspired installation art throughout; The Ring of Daisies open mic area; and, of course, the Children's Festival! For more information, please visit www.newyorkcitypoetryfestival.com.

Brooklyn Music Festival, Sunday, August 6, 12 PM-5 PM, Ball Fields

Celebrating their amazing borough and returning to Governors Island for its' 4th year is the Brooklyn Music Festival. These festivities will include live bands ranging from Indie Pop, Hip Hop, Funk, Alternative Rock, House music and much more. In addition to the cold BK beer, food, art and merchandise, BKMF will be donating a portion of the gate donations to their 2017 charity of choice The Center Against Domestic Violence NYC. "Spread Love it's the Brooklyn Way". www.brooklynmusicfestival.nyc.

NYC Volkswagen Traffic Jam, August 20, 10 AM-5 PM, Picnic Point

The NYC Volkswagen Traffic Jam is a spectator-judged vintage Volkswagen car show and picnic on Governors Island. With views of New York Harbor and the Statue of Liberty behind a vibrant line-up of nearly 100 Beetles, buses, dune buggies, things and other original VW's circa 1950s-1970s, this car show is a one of a kind event for both the casual spectator and classic VW enthusiast. <http://nycvolkswagentrafficjam.com/>.

Face to Face: Imagine Thyself Presented by Labyrinth Art Collective, August 25-26, 10 AM-5 PM, Nolan Park

An interactive all ages event where participants can create self-portraits and face masks for a wall art, dress up and strike a pose for take home photo. Let's celebrate who we are! <http://www.labyrinthartscollective.org/>.

NYC Unicycle Festival, September 2-3, Castle Williams Parking Lot

On September 2 and 3, Bindlestiff Family Cirkus brings the 8th 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. Activities include races, competitions, exhibitions, and a variety of unicycle sports including basketball, hockey and sumo. For fans of extreme riding, the Hell on Wheel trials course challenges riders throughout the day. World-famous riders display their skills, and members of the public have the opportunity to try one-wheel riding in the learn-to-ride area. DJ Sky King, famous for DJing New York's disco roller skaters, lays down the uni groove. All ages and abilities are welcome. Find out more at www.nycunifest.com.

African Film Festival, Inc.'s 10th Annual Family Day Celebration, September 10, 11 AM-6 PM, Colonels Row

Come out for an enchanting day of music, film, and dance as African Film Festival Inc.'s Family Day Celebration returns to Governors Island. Fun-seeking individuals of all ages are invited to join African Film Festival, Inc. for a day of FREE activities including story-telling, double-dutch, dance and drum, needlepoint and short films — all celebrating Africa and the diaspora. www.africanfilmny.org.

PopUp Dinner Governors Island, September 9, 4 PM

The PopUp Dinner Governors Island, like others hosted in cities across the country including Brooklyn, Los Angeles and San Francisco, promises to draw a large crowd ready for the ultimate "flash mob picnic." Proceeds from the dinner this year will benefit the Friends of Governors Island. Guests are instructed to come dressed chic in white as they execute their own lavish table designs, and bring inspired cuisine and beverages to enjoy a beautiful evening with friends and family. The PopUp Dinner Governors Island will also feature entertainment throughout the event! Adding to the magic of the afternoon is the mysterious location - the exact destination on the Island will be revealed to ticket holders via email just two hours before the start of the event. Guests are invited at 4 pm to begin set-up, the meal will begin at 6pm with entertainment and dancing afterwards. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit <https://popupgovernorsisland2017.eventbrite.com/>.

WWI History Weekend, September 16-17, 10 AM - 5 PM

Join the World War I Centennial Committee for New York City for WWI History Weekend. This two-day event is free and open to the public as we honor the centennial of U.S. entry into World War One in 1917. Come see dozens of reenactors in vintage uniforms, both men and women, and learn the history of the Great War. There will be vintage Army vehicles, ambulances, equipment

displays, a tent encampment, author talks, and demonstrations. Meet General John J. Pershing and the Ebony Doughboys reenactors who represent the famous Harlem Hellfighters regiment. Events are held in conjunction with the National Park Service in Castle Williams and the Parade Ground. Talks and lectures inside Pershing Hall. The event is open to all ages, kids and families welcome. <http://www.worldwar1centennial.org/index.php/nyc-committee-web-site.html>.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE PROGRAMS

Monday - Thursday

Castle Williams Courtyard open 10 AM -4:30 PM

Going Around Castle Williams – A 30-minute roof tour

12:30PM & 2:30 PM

Meet the ranger in the Castle Williams courtyard

Fridays, Saturdays, & Sundays

Fort Jay open 10 AM-4 PM

Castle Williams Courtyard open 10 AM-4 PM

Going Around Castle Williams – A 30-minute roof tour

11:30 AM, 1:30 PM, 3:30 PM

Meet the ranger in the Castle Williams courtyard

The Big Walk Around the Island – Approximately 90-minute walking tour. See the whole history of the island in one go. This ranger program examines most of the older buildings on the island. We'll tell you the back stories on some of them. No tickets or reservations required.

Visitors should be prepared to stand for a full 90 minutes and walk a distance of about 1.5 miles. No tickets or reservations required.

2:30pm – 4:00pm

Meet the ranger at the top of the hill from Soissons Landing

ONGOING EXHIBITIONS

VISUAL ARTS

A.I.R. Gallery, Daily May 1-October 1, Nolan Park

A.I.R. is a cooperative, women's gallery that has operated in NYC since 1974. The exhibition at Governors Island includes work by the New York gallery artists, by national affiliates and by gallery fellows as well. <https://www.airgallery.org/>.

The Sculptors Guild Presents: *Currently 80*, Weekends, May 6-July 16, 12 PM-5 PM, Nolan Park

This year marks the 80th anniversary of the founding of the Sculptors Guild as well as the Guild's 10th year on Governor's Island. *Currently 80*, curated by John Yau, was originally installed at the historic Westbeth Gallery, NYC, earlier this year and includes work by 50 of its'

present members in wood, clay, steel, stone, bronze, fabric, neon, paper, installations, and digital multi-media. <http://www.sculptorsguild.org/>.

HoloCenter Summer Museum, Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays, May 1-October 1, 11 AM-5 PM and Holidays 2 PM-4PM, Colonels Row

The HoloCenter transforms the post commander quarters in Colonels Row with light based installations. This season three major exhibitions of art holograms from around the world will push the visual senses. The first a group show 'Ripple Effect' explores resonance and the proration of ideas from May 5 to July 30, with a preview May 1, 2-4pm. Upstairs, artists create installations with experimental visual technology. Additional workshops and tours during the week. Sign up online to Make your own Hologram or for a Light Play family adventure. www.holocenter.org.

R-EX (Repurposed Exoskeleton) Pavilion, May 1-October 1, Ball Fields

Humanity is now generating more waste than ever before - the average person creates 4.3 pounds of waste per day, which is 1.6 pounds more than what most produced back in 1960. There now is an unprecedented need to find ways to re-use and recycle the waste humanity generates, and R-EX explores how architecture can minimize the amount of waste we put into the ground by discovering ways to repurpose discarded and unwanted materials for the purpose of creating a pavilion for Governor's Island. The resulting structure, designed by Columbia GSAPP students in architecture, will provide a significant amount of shade for the sunbaked island, and will stand the test of time due to the resiliency of the selected materials.

Lower Manhattan Cultural Council Arts Center at Governors Island, Weekends, May 27-October 1

During Governors Island's public season, LMCC and artists-in-residence welcome visitors into the Gallery to enjoy an annual exhibition and, during Open Studios events, into the studios to meet the artists and learn about the work taking place there. Hours for the 2017 season and exhibitions will be announced in the coming days. <http://lmcc.net/program/arts-center-governors-island/>.

4heads Artists in Residence Program, Weekends, May 27-October 1, Colonels Row

4heads will be hosting its annual Artists in Residence and open studios program in the summer months, encouraging the public to engage with active art-making and the creative process. The summer season will also feature 4heads Arts Education Programs, which bring kids groups from NYC organizations such as Lower Eastside Girls Club, The Chinatown Y, and Two Bridges Neighborhood Council to Governors Island for a wide variety of programs ranging from dancing and drumming, to painting and puppet-making. <http://www.4heads.org/>.

New York Electronic Art Festival, Weekends and Holidays May 26 – July 22, 12 PM-5 PM, Nolan Park

Harvestworks will present The 2017 New York Electronic Art Festival, a summer series of concerts, workshops, and exhibitions centered on cutting-edge work being done at the intersection of art and technology. The festival focuses on the ways that technology can alter, expand and exhilarate our experiences through the creative energies of the artist. www.harvestworks.org.

Escaping Time: Art from U.S. Prisons, Thursday- Sunday June 29 – September 24, Nolan Park

Escaping Time is pleased to present its 3rd annual exhibition; featuring over 200 artworks created by currently and formerly incarcerated artists nationwide. While much of the art is on

canvas, there is also art improvised because of the individual's limited access to traditional resources, creating canvases from bed sheets, brown paint from cafeteria coffee, and primer from toothpaste.

PERFORMANCES

The Dysfunctional Collective, Weekends May 7-October 1, 10 AM -5 PM, Nolan Park

The Dysfunctional Collective turns House 8B on Nolan Park into a grab box of art, theater, music and dance. Stop by any weekend between 12-5 to hear a song, write a poem, see a play, learn to dance, solve a mystery, to make something new or just explore the house with us. For details on specific programming for each week, visit www.dysfunctionaltheatre.org or stop by the house and pick up a program guide for more information.

Sanctuary City, Weekends May 6-September 24, Nolan Park

The Public Works Department presents Sanctuary City; a multi-disciplinary offering of theater, music and installation-based performance. Join us for a wide array of immersive programming including: public workshops with street artists, the showing of new work from nine exciting New York City ensemble driven companies, monthly concerts on the grass and innovative site based performance art. Contribute towards our library of empty books, come play in our interactive light installations, or come join us on the grass with a cup of tea.

HERE Artist Residency Program, June-September, Colonels Row

Through the HERE Artist Residency Program, HERE commissions and develops new hybrid works over a 1- to 3-year period. The projects include Stairway to Stardom by Amanda Szeglowksi / cakeface; Assembled Identity by Purva Bedi, Kristin Marting & Mariana Newhard; Miranda by Yara Travieso & Sam Crawford; The Black History Museum According to the United States of America by Zoey Martinson/Abdul Latif /Smoke & Mirrors Collaborative; and Ding Dong It's the Ocean by RADY&BLOOM. For more information on HERE's Resident Artists and their projects please visit www.here.org/resident-artists/current.

The Woolgatherers Present: Genesis 22, Weekends July 1-July 30, 12 PM-7 PM, Colonels Row

Adapted from the Biblical story of Abraham and Isaac, *Genesis 22* is an immersive performance that twists forms and bends boundaries. The second production of NYC-based company The Woolgatherers, *Genesis 22* tells the classic tale of humanity and faith in a new and surprising way. Is Abraham, the father who nearly sacrifices his child, a man of faith or a brutal killer? Sometimes meaning is found only at the intersection of form, and *Genesis 22* seeks answers by dismantling traditional storytelling. With familiar text and unexpected turns, *Genesis 22* tells a new story about an old story, and re-defines what it means to have faith—and what it costs to get it.

Brave New World Repertory Theatre Presents: *The Plantation*, Weekends August 31-September 24, 1 PM and 3 PM, Commanding Officer's Quarters

A bold new adaptation of Anton Chekhov's *The Cherry Orchard*, is set in 1870 Virginia after emancipation, but before the onset of Jim Crow. *The Plantation* re-imagines *The Cherry Orchard* to tell a post-Civil War story about tectonic shifts in social status of black and white Americans during the period after the war when Southern aristocracy was brought to its knees. Chekhov's Russian serfs become American freed men and women in this immersive and emotionally charged production. 10 performances of the fully staged, indoor/outdoor site-specific production will take place in The Commanding Officer's House in the historic Nolan Park section of Governors Island. <http://bravenewworldrep.org/>.

Barton Booth Presents: *MAKE ROOM*, Weekends July 31-September 11, 12 PM-4 PM, Nolan Park

From July 31 through September 11, Barton Booth will invite artists to work in residence on Governor's Island. The aim is to provide space for directors and creators to explore and practice their craft; emphasizing devising, choreographic, and physical storytelling. These artist residencies are for emerging artists and ensembles working in dance, physical theater, devised theater, director-driven projects, and participatory work. Each artist will enjoy a week-long residency, leading to open houses and work-in-process showings every Saturday and Sunday. <http://bartonbooth.com/makeroom>.

Rising Sun Performance Company Artist Residency and Open Studios, Weekends July 31- September 24, Colonels Row

The Rising Sun Performance Company (RSP) will be programming an 8 Week Multi-Purpose Theatrical Artist Retreat & Residency. Over the course of the residency RSP's Ensemble Company will host a different playwright and/or director to develop new play scripts and works in progress as well as site specific devised works. Projects and Events will also include Full and Partial Segments of New work, RSP's "Laboratorium" Reading Series, Theatre Workshops for the public, A Writers Room, RSP's devised piece "Henry's Wives" and the final weekend will culminate in a Mini-Festival presenting segments of all of the work developed over the 8 weeks. Every Saturday & Sunday RSP will be present 30-60 Minute presentations of the work developed to the public for free. <http://www.risingsunnyc.com/index.html>.

***Courage*, Presented by NACL, September 22-24, Colonels Row**

NACL's "Courage" will have its New York City premiere on Governors Island, September 20-22 at 2 PM. This spectacular theatre performance, set in an imagined refugee camp and unfolding as a walking journey, is inspired by Bertolt Brecht's anti-war play, "Mother Courage and Her Children," written in 1939 Fascist Germany. It advocates for compassion in an era of fear and war. Conceived and directed by Tannis Kowalchuk, with music composed by Rima Fand, text by Mark Dunau and Melissa Bell, and actress Debra Winger in a featured role, the immersive play has a remarkable cast of 25 actors, stilt walkers and singers. Reservations are highly encouraged and can be made at www.NACL.org or by calling 845-557-0694.

EDUCATION

Billion Oyster Project Exhibit, Thursday-Sunday, May 1-October 1, Nolan Park

Be a Harbor Steward! Come learn about the Billion Oyster Project & New York Harbor School's efforts to restore NY Harbor. Dive into our estuary and enjoy interactive activities, build your own oyster reef and find out how you can be a part of oyster restoration efforts in your neighborhood! Billion Oyster Project also hosts public and corporate volunteer days Thursdays & Fridays throughout the summer. Come experience hands on oyster restoration activities and learn more about BOP and Harbor School's effort to restore NY Harbor. For more information and to sign up, visit <http://www.billionoysterproject.org/>.

NYC Audubon Summer Residency, Daily May 1-October 1, Nolan Park

NYC Audubon is excited to be on Governors Island all summer long, not only providing free bird walks but also family friendly nature programming. This will include crafts for kids, a story time nook, and even bird related art! All are welcome to stop by for information about the wildlife around us in NYC and to learn how to create bird friendly space in our city. And don't miss our celebration of some of Governors Island's most exciting residents during the Tern Festival in July. <http://nycaudubon.org/>.

The Empire State Center for the Book, Weekends May 6-October 1, 10 AM-7 PM, Nolan Park

The center will host various literary events including more than ten weekends celebrating authors such as Dorothy Parker, F. Scott Fitzgerald and Kurt Vonnegut. In addition there will be activities including a KidLitTV and Children's Book Weekends. An exhibit honoring the members of the NYS Writers Hall of Fame will be on display at the Empire State Center for the Book house on Governors Island.

<http://www.nyla.org/max/4dcgi/CFTB.html?menukey=CFTB>.

GrowNYC Teaching Garden, Weekends May 27-October 1, 12 PM-4 PM, Urban Farm

GrowNYC's Teaching Garden is a 21,000 square foot urban farm that aims to engage, excite, and educate its visitors in all aspects of urban farming and environmental sustainability. The garden features over 65 vegetable beds made from recycled plastic lumber, a 1/4 acre small-scale vegetable farm, an aquaponics system, an outdoor kitchen, a large solar oven, a high tunnel greenhouse, fruit trees, several rainwater harvesting systems, a rain garden, and much more. Visitors can take a self-guided tour of the space or drop in on a rotating offering of gardening activities, including garden maintenance, a scavenger hunt, and cooking demonstrations.

<https://www.grownyc.org/gardens/manhattan/governors-island-teaching-garden>

Earth Matter NY's Compost Learning Center, Weekends May 27-October 1, 12 PM-4 PM

Earth Matter NY's Compost Learning Center is our sustainable home base on Governors Island. At the Center, we showcase numerous devices and methods for making compost and care for upwards of 60 animals (50,000 if you count the worms and bees!). Earth Matter also compost yard waste from Governors Island and 28,000 pounds of food scraps from Governors Island and NYC community members each month! The Compost Learning Center is a place where you can learn about composting, dig your hands in the earth, and help us ensure that there is "no waste wasted" on Governors Island. Earth Matter NY also hosts community compost builds on select Sundays during the season with pre-registration. For more information, visit

<https://earthmatter.org/compost-learning-center/>.

Cristodora: Nature, Learning & Leadership, June 1-October 1, Nolan Park

Christodora helps NYC youth to grow as students, leaders and citizens through environmental awareness and experience in the natural world. Founded in 1897 as a settlement house on Avenue B, we celebrate 120 years of impact in underserved communities. Through scientific inquiry, critical thinking, self-discovery, collaboration and environmental stewardship, Christodora students develop the skills and values needed to meet today's challenges and to envision a better future. Activities on Governors Island will include: citizen science such as tracking the growth and health of the broad diversity of both newly planted and "legacy" trees; stewardship projects including invasive species tracking and removal; outdoor education including leave no trace and camping/hiking skills; hands-on projects to explore the natural history of the island and of NYC; and team-building and lawn games for all to enjoy. Weekly schedules will be available on Christodora's website: www.christodora.org.

The Battle for the Ballot: The Centennial of Women's Suffrage in New York, Weekends July 8-October 1, 12 PM-6 PM, Nolan Park

The New-York Historical Society is thrilled to announce a brand new teen-curated satellite exhibition on historic Governors Island to mark the 100th anniversary of women gaining the right to vote in New York State--The Battle for the Ballot: The Centennial of Women's Suffrage

in New York. Through reproductions of works of art and historic artifacts, visitors will learn how the women's suffrage movement developed from the monumental Seneca Falls Convention in 1848 to the parades, protests, and coalition building that won women the vote in 1917 and continues to influence political organizing today. <http://nyhistory.org/>.

WORKSHOPS & ACTIVITIES

play:groundNYC, Weekends May 6-October 1, South Battery

play:groundNYC operates a 50,000 square foot junkyard playground on Governors Island. The playground is free and open to the public every weekend. We also offer a summer day camp running from June 26 to September 1, school visits during May, June and September and birthday and private parties from May through October. Our trained staff provides materials and supervision so that young adventurers may have the chance to work with tools and building materials and explore physical, social and emotional problem solving. With the provided support, space and materials, young people can take control, construct, create and establish their own agendas. Learn more at <http://play-ground.nyc>.

Writing On It All, Weekends May 27-June 24, 12 PM-5 PM, Nolan Park

Writing On It All is a participatory writing project open to all interested members of the public throughout June. In our fifth season, we continue to invite New York City to write on the walls of our Nolan Park house! Each session will feature a guest artist-facilitator who will lead experiments dealing with diverse topics, using all kinds of materials, including music and projection, charcoal and chalk, pencil and paint. We feature poets, street artists, choreographers, domestic workers, professional writers, and you! Everything counts as writing.

Children's Museum of the Arts' Free Arts Island Outpost, Weekends May 27-October 1, 11 AM-3 PM, Nolan Park

Visit Children's Museum of the Arts' Free Arts Island Outpost on Governors Island every Saturday & Sunday this summer for free hands-on art making workshops and art-viewing experiences! The open outdoor space of the Free Arts Island Outpost beckons you to come collaboratively create! Young artists will be inspired and challenged to explore big projects utilizing found objects and traditional mediums. www.cmany.org.

Meditation Summer, Friday, Saturday and Sunday June 1-July 9, 11 AM-5 PM, Colonels Row

Meditation Summer looks to demystify the practice of meditation. Rather than promoting a certain path or specific teaching, the emphasis of the project is on the multitude of techniques and the scientific evidence that come to support the benefits of meditation. Visitors enjoy an open meditation room, meditation sessions, speakers program and a science exhibit about the impact of meditation on the human brain. This year visitors will also appreciate an opportunity to view the world-renowned exhibit The F word: Stories of Forgiveness. All programs are offered for free and run by volunteers. <https://www.meditationsummer.com/>.

Free Kayaking from the Downtown Boathouse, Saturdays June 17-September 16, 11 AM-4 PM, Pier 101

The Downtown Boathouse will once again be offering our free walk up kayaking program at Pier 101 this year. All participants must be able to swim. We provide life jackets, instruction and all safety equipment for a fun paddle in the protected area near the pier. We have both single and double kayaks. The Downtown Boathouse is family friendly and children accompanied by a

parent or guardian are welcome. Lockers, locks and sunscreen are also available. <http://www.downtownboathouse.org/>.

Adventures at Governors Island, Opening Memorial Day Weekend, Western Development Zone

Adventures at Governors Island is an experience that brings interactive recreation and healthy family fun to visitors of all ages. New York City's first outdoor Amazing Maze that will challenge you to find your way out and beat the clock. You may compete in a race against time or wander at your own pace to find the way out. The 3D Climb stands 24' tall and presents three unique climbing challenges. Soaring near Lady Liberty has never been more possible than it is on the Flywire double zip line. Providing the ultimate rush when zipping 300 feet across the sky while hanging free, the Flywire delivers an unforgettable experience. Feel the speed of 21 mph the length of an entire football field. *Adventures at Governors Island* is operated by New York Carousel. Hours of operation will be announced in the coming weeks. <http://nycarousel.com/>.

General Information about Governors Island's 2017 Public Season

Operating Hours

Governors Island is open every day from May 1 through October 1. On weekdays, the Island is open from 10 AM to 6 PM. On weekends, Memorial Day and Labor Day, the Island is open from 10 AM to 7 PM. The Island will be open on July 4th from 10 AM to 6 PM.

Ferries

Ferries will run from Lower Manhattan every day from the Battery Maritime Building at 10 South Street and will also run from Brooklyn Bridge Park on Saturdays, Sundays, Memorial Day and Labor Day. **Due to ongoing construction at Brooklyn Bridge Park Pier 6, all Brooklyn ferries will depart from Brooklyn Bridge Park Pier 1 for the month of May only.** Brooklyn service from Pier 6 is scheduled to resume in June.

All weekday and weekend afternoon ferries from Brooklyn and Manhattan are \$2 round trip for adults. Children under 12, NYCID holders and Governors Island members ride for free at all times and senior citizens' fares are half price. Morning ferries (10 AM and 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.

Visitors will be able to purchase ferry tickets at the Battery Maritime Building in Lower Manhattan or at Pier 6 in Brooklyn. Tickets will also be available for purchase online in advance. A season pass will also be available for purchase online through the NY Waterways website in April.

A full ferry schedule is available at <http://www.govisland.com>.

Citywide Ferry Service will begin this summer, with weekend service to Governors Island. The launch date and schedule will be announced shortly. For more information visit <http://www.citywideferry.nyc/>.

Biking

Every day, visitors can bring their own bikes, or rent one while visiting. Free Bike Mornings allows visitors to borrow a bike from Blazing Saddles for free for up to one hour every weekday between 10 AM and noon. Citi Bike kiosks can be found at both Soissons Landing and Yankee Pier.

Gatherings and Grills

Visitors may reserve picnic tables and grills for gatherings, parties, reunions or any celebration when the Island is open to the public. This year, additional grills will be added at Picnic Point. Reservations must be made at least two weeks in advance and are booked on a first come, first served basis. Individuals or groups may reserve up to 5 picnic tables. All applicants will be charged a \$26 non-refundable. For more information and to apply visit <https://govisland.com/permits/gi-gatherings>

Food

Visitors are welcome to bring their own food while visiting and can also purchase food on the Island. Visitors are not permitted to bring alcohol on the Island but alcohol can be purchased and consumed in permitted areas. Grilling is permitted in designated areas only. All grills must be reserved two weeks in advance.

Water fountains, including bottle filling stations, are located at Soissons Landing and in the new park.

There is a wide range of food options available seven days a week on the Island. Vendors can be found at the Liggett Terrace food court and along Kings Avenue, unless otherwise noted. Additional vendors will be added throughout the season and the latest listing can be found at www.govisland.com . Vendors include:

BEER GARDENS

Little Eva's, Liggett Terrace (open Tuesday to Friday 10am – 5pm, Weekends and Holidays 10am-6pm)

Little Eva's Beer Garden Grill is back for their 6th year with frozen drinks, sumptuous grilled plates and fresh grain salads featuring local and Island-grown produce. Popular items include Mahi Taco, Classic Bratwurst, Sesame Noodles, Red Hook Cuban, Kimchi Dumplings and Shrimp Avocado Mango Roll. Stumptown Coffee and house desserts are served daily, with a seasonal Margarita always available. A preferred Governors Island caterer, Little Eva's is hosting parties and planning events both on and offsite all summer long.

Alphabet City Beer Co. / Edi & the Wolf, Liggett Terrace (opening early summer)

A comfortable beer garden that highlights the best of both Alphabet City Beer Co. and Edi & the Wolf: a selection of the best beers exclusively made in New York City, world class wines, and refreshing summer cocktails alongside a menu prepared by Edi Frauneder himself, a Michelin-starred chef who won his season on Esquire Network's Knife Fight. The team is working with local breweries to create a specially crafted beer exclusively for Governor's Island.

Island Oyster, Soissons Landing (opening early summer)

A pop-up oyster bar and beer garden from the crew behind Grand Banks, bringing a sustainable summer fare menu and signature cocktail program to the Manhattan ferry landing at Governors Island. An opening date and hours of operation will be announced in the coming weeks.

FOOD TRUCKS

Brooklyn Popcorn (open Friday-Sunday, May 1-October 1)

Brooklyn Popcorn started out as an idea tossed around by friends who are native New Yorkers. Through a love of popcorn and a yearning for a fast, fresh and delicious health food that had a twist of gourmet flavor added to it, Brooklyn Popcorn became what is the first gourmet popcorn truck in the world. <https://www.brooklynpopcorn.com/>

Mister Softee (open daily May 1-October 1)

Mister Softee has been bringing the very best ice cream and frozen treats to kids and families since 1956. Mister Softee is the largest franchiser of soft ice cream trucks in the United States. <https://mistersoftee.com/>

Blue Marble Ice Cream (open weekends May 1-October 1)

Blue Marble Ice Cream is Brooklyn born and proudly woman owned. As New York City's only certified organic ice cream, Blue Marble sources super-premium, certified organic dairy and the best ingredients we can find to create the perfect scoop. <http://www.bluemarbleicecream.com/>

Red Olive Food Truck (open weekends May 1-October 1)

Fusion Greek-American cuisine inspired from classic ancient Greek recipes with combination of American comfort food. Fabulous heroes, hearty sandwiches and burgers, Red Olive is a true favorite truck in the streets of Midtown and Downtown.

The Pocketful (open weekends May 1-October 1)

THE POCKETFUL is a fresh, fast, health smart, mobile restaurant serving falafel sandwiches, hummus bowls and more. <http://thepocketful.com/>

El Carrito Rojo (open weekends May 1-October 1)

Tex-Mex food truck serving tacos and more.

Cheech A Cini's Trattoria (open weekends May 1-October 1)

Cheech A Cini's is home of the Pastacini, a combination of different pastas and cheeses blended together, balled and fried. Different varieties of the Pastacini are offered as well as the option to "Parm It Up". Gourmet Italian sandwiches, salads and pasta dishes are also offered.

Yankee Doodle Dandy's (open weekends May 1-October 1)

NYC's all American food truck serving up modern authentic American cuisine.

The Half Shell Fish Fry & Clam Bake (open Friday-Sunday May 1-October 1)

Serving street based, reasonably priced, easy to eat seafood and delicious seafood options including oysters, clams on the half shell, shrimp cocktail, grilled shrimp skewers and fried options. Veteran owned and operated.

Fro-Yo (open Friday-Sunday May 1-October 1)

Fauzia's Heavenly Delights (weekends May 5-September 30)

Fauzia's Heavenly Delights, a family run food vendor, has served Jamaican fusion food to the New York City community for 26 years. Owner Fauzia prepares every meal fresh daily with flavor, comfort and health in mind.

Meatoss Street Grill (weekends May 6-September 3)

Meatoss represents a dream coming true of Chef Daniel who was born in Russia, raised in Israel and moved to New York. After 15 years of experience he decided to introduce his true passion and love of serving the best quality meat to customers. He uses a professional Brazilian churrasco grill where hear, smoke and meat come together. <http://www.meatosstruck.com/>

Everything About Crêpes (weekends May 28-August 20)

Everything About Crêpes is a family-owned and operated mobile crêperie and catering company specializing in various crêpe services, offering sweet and savory gourmet crêpes. <http://www.everythingaboutcrepes.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.com.

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. More information can be found at www.nps.gov/gois.

Contact: Sarah Krautheim/646.413.1547/skrautheim@govisland.nyc.gov