

# Calendar of Events and Activities



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## Planetarium

### Star Shows

#### EVERY SUNDAY (October-December)

- 1 p.m. – *One World, One Sky: Big Bird's Adventure*
- 2 p.m. – *Perfect Little Planet*
- 3 p.m. – *Einstein's Gravity Playlist*
- 4 p.m. – *Distant Worlds: Alien Life? (Season of Light in Dec.)*

#### WEEKDAYS Mon. – Fri.,

**2 p.m., 3 p.m. & 4 p.m.**

See website for schedule.

### Rocky Horror Picture Show

Friday, October 26

7 p.m., 9 p.m. & 11 p.m.

See page 6 for details

### Floyd Final Friday Music Shows

Friday, November 30 & December 28

7 p.m. – *Sonic Vision*

8 p.m. – *Pink Floyd: Dark Side of The Moon*

9 p.m. – *Pink Floyd: The Wall*

10 p.m. – *Pink Floyd: Wish You Were Here*

## Current & Upcoming Exhibitions

### Yuletide Around the World

Through January 6, 2019

### Dinosaurs in Motion

Through January 6, 2019

### Northern Lights: Scandinavian Art

Through January 13, 2019

### Sign of the Times:

**The Great American Political Poster, 1844-2012**

Through January 19, 2019

### Across the Atlantic: American Impressionism through the French Lens

Through January 20, 2019

## Events

### New Member Breakfast

**Saturday, October 7 • 9:30 – 11 a.m.**

Have you joined RPM recently? Take advantage of your Membership with an early morning visit to explore the exhibitions and enjoy breakfast with other Museum Members! RSVP by October 1 to Amanda+

### RPM Business Breakfast

**Oct. 16, Nov. 20, Dec. 18 • 7:30 a.m.**

Members chat and network with John Graydon Smith and other Museum Supporters about what is happening at The Museum while enjoying breakfast.

If you are interested in having your business featured at a marketing spotlight table at an upcoming Business Breakfast contact Lindsay.

Reservations are strongly encouraged. +

Sponsored by Weidenhammer Systems, Inc.

### Dinner Series –

#### A Celebration of Good Taste

**October 25 • 5:30 p.m.**

Celebrating *Across the Atlantic: American Impressionism through the French Lens* and featuring dinner by Gracie's 21st Century Café. Space is limited.

Reservations are strongly encouraged. +

Sponsored by Mark A. Maggs, Maggs & Associates, Wealth Management Advisors – Merrill Lynch

### Trick-or-Treat at The Museum

**October 28 • 12 p.m. – 4 p.m.**

Join us for a fun and safe trick-or-treating experience! Children can enjoy Halloween-themed crafts and trick-or-treat through the galleries! Wear a costume and bring a bag for collecting your treats.

### Pictures with Santa

**December 9 • 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.**

Santa is visiting The Museum! He will listen to Christmas requests and pose for a quick picture in the Auditorium. Be sure to bring a camera or smartphone to take a picture of your little one with Santa. Visits are first come, first served.

### Noon Year's Eve

**December 31 • 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.**

Kids can kick off the New Year with an early opening and count down until noon at The Museum. Registration required. +

## Adult Programs

### Arboretum Education

Join us for a variety of learning opportunities presented by Master Gardeners, avid horticulturists, and other industry specialists. Program begins at 1:30 p.m. FREE for Members / \$5 for Non-Members.

**October 23** - Pumpkins, Pumpkins, Pumpkins

**November 13** - Holiday Decorating

**December 11** - Art of Zentangle

### Senior Series (all are welcome)

Come to The Museum for this senior-friendly program which runs on the 4th Friday of every month beginning at 1:30 p.m., \*unless otherwise noted. Senior Series is FREE for Members and FREE with Museum admission. All documentary screenings are held in The Neag Planetarium. Guests of all ages are welcome.

**October 26** - Documentary – *Understanding Impressionism, Part 1*

**\*November 16** - Documentary – *Understanding Impressionism, Part 2*

**\*December 14** - Sign of the Times

### Uncorked Creativity

Grab some friends (21 and over) and come to The Museum for a night of desserts and handmade art! Feel free to bring a bottle of wine to share with your friends as you create your own unique masterpiece. No experience is necessary! Programs run 6-9 p.m. RESERVATIONS REQUIRED.\*

**October 14** - *Plein air* Painting in the Arboretum

**Cost: \$35 per Member/ \$45 per Non-Member**

### Bus Trip

**November 8** - The Barnes Foundation

*Berthe Morisot: Woman Impressionist*

The day will begin with a guided tour of *Berthe Morisot: Woman Impressionist* followed by an exclusive lunch in The Grand Pavilion at The Barnes. Following lunch, the day will conclude with free time to explore The Barnes before returning to Reading.

Reservations required\* by October 10. Members \$170; Non-Members \$200.

### RPM READS!

RPM Reads! is an exciting book club for adults themed after one of The Museum's exhibitions. See website for more details. Programs run 6-7:30 p.m. RESERVATIONS REQUIRED.\*

**October 22** - *Mad Enchantment: Claude Monet and the Painting of the Water Lilies*

### YOGA in The Planetarium

Come relax at The Neag Planetarium each week as you participate in RPM's new yoga program. The series is FREE – with a suggested donation of \$5.

RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED.\*

**Series 1** - October 10 – December 12, 2018

**Series 2** - January 9 – March 13, 2019

## Family-Friendly Programs

### Sensory Morning

**Oct. 1 & 7, Nov. 5 & 11, and Dec. 10 & 16**

Geared toward our friends with special needs, this program provides a quieter environment to explore The Museum before it opens to the public. Regular Museum Admission applies. Program runs 9-11 a.m. RESERVATIONS SUGGESTED.\*

### Drop In and Draw

**Oct. 20, Nov. 17 & Dec. 15**

Grab some friends and swing by the galleries for our Drop In and Draw program. We provide the paper and pencils, you do the rest! 11 a.m.-5 p.m., with experienced artist on hand from 1-3 p.m.

### Full Steam Ahead

Enjoy a day of learning while having fun at The Museum with your little one. A variety of STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics) based topics will be explored each month. Programs run 9:30-11:30 a.m. RESERVATIONS REQUIRED.\*

**October 25** - Mythical Creatures

**November 15** - Colorful, Dazzling, LIGHTS

**December 13** - Digging Dinosaurs

### Homeschool Days

Join The Museum for an exciting morning filled with special tours and hands-on projects that the whole family can enjoy! For descriptions and pricing, see website. Programs run 10 a.m.-12 p.m. RESERVATIONS REQUIRED.\*

**October 31** - Potent Potions and Creative Concoctions

**November 28** - Around the World in 2 Hours

**December 19** - What's that Noise?

### Kids' Night Out

Featuring a different topic each month, kids enjoy gallery time, crafts, and more! Pizza dinner and an evening snack are included. Programs run from 6-9:30 p.m. and are for kids ages 6-12. For descriptions and pricing, see website. RESERVATIONS REQUIRED.\*

**October 12** - Dragons, Unicorns, and Scarabs, Oh my!

**November 16** - Cultures of the East

**December 7** - Lights On, Lights Off

Information subject to change, including cancellations and/or new programming added to the schedule. Check [readingpublicmuseum.org](http://readingpublicmuseum.org) for the latest details.

+ Contact Amanda Machik at 610.371.5850 x257 or email [amanda.machik@readingpublicmuseum.org](mailto:amanda.machik@readingpublicmuseum.org)

\* Contact Wendy Koller at 610.371.5850 x223 or email [wendy.koller@readingpublicmuseum.org](mailto:wendy.koller@readingpublicmuseum.org)

# MUSEUM ROAD

FALL 2018

A publication of Reading Public Museum • Planetarium • Arboretum



## Inside this issue:

***DINOSAURS are Back!***

***Exhibition Collaboration with  
The Reading Symphony Orchestra***

***Take a Trip to Historic Asia***

# DINOSAURS are Back at The Museum

***Dinosaurs in Motion*, on display September 21, 2018 – January 6, 2019**, is an interactive, engaging STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) exhibition that is truly for all ages. The exhibition engages and educates visitors by using 12 magnificent, fully interactive, recycled metal dinosaur sculptures with exposed mechanics inspired by actual prehistoric fossils. Visitors can control the machine-like dinosaurs with lever and pulley systems, and remote controls.



*Dinosaurs in Motion* is an amazing blend of art, science, and innovation. The exhibition weaves these themes throughout, focusing on:

- **Art: sketching/drawing/sculpting**
- **Science: kinetics/biomechanics/robotics**
- **Innovation: observing/experimenting**

The visitor is taken on an apprentice's journey to learn about art, science, and innovation that ends in a journeyman's workshop. The narrative is reinforced with experiential learning, as every piece is interactive for visitors to touch and learn. The level of complexity, movement, and interactivity of the sculptures increases as visitors walk through the exhibit. *Dinosaurs in Motion* covers three Mesozoic time periods — Cretaceous, Jurassic, and Triassic — and features sculptures large to small, from Triceratops, Ankylosaurus and Deinonychus, to a whooping crane and American crow.

The story of the artist, sculptor John Payne, runs through the heart of the exhibition. Payne was a trained metalsmith with a passion for learning and discovery. In art, he found the infinite world of expression. Payne devoted his life to creating metal kinetic dinosaurs, inspired by the universally enchanting effect dinosaurs have on people and the many hours he spent with his children admiring the dinosaurs at The Field Museum in Chicago. Recognizing an opportunity for teaching art and science, Payne blended his skills in mechanical science and artistic craftsmanship to create these wonderful dinosaur sculptures until his untimely death in 2008. A detailed look at his process, from sketches and sculptures to biomechanics and robotics, leads visitors to walk away with Payne's inspiring message: *If you can dream it, you can do it.*

The exhibition is produced by Imagine Exhibitions, Inc. Sculptures are the creations of John Payne and Studio Properties LLC.



## DINO DISCOVERY BIRTHDAY PARTIES

Get ready to party prehistoric-style with a Dinosaur Discovery Party at The Museum! Take a thrilling apprentice's journey through our newest exhibition, *Dinosaurs in Motion*, as you explore science, art, and robotics with life-size interactive dinosaur sculptures. Continue the adventure with your fellow paleontologists by competing in dino relays and making your own dinosaur puppet. Book your party today before they become extinct!

Dinosaur Discovery Parties are offered Saturdays and Sundays at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. through 1/6/19. Contact Laura Culp at 610.371.5850 x235 or email [laura.culp@readingpublicmuseum.org](mailto:laura.culp@readingpublicmuseum.org) for details and availability.

# Northern Lights: Scandinavian Art

## Through January 13, 2019



Hans Andreas Dahl, Norwegian, 1849 – 1937, *Norwegian Fjord*, 1890s, oil on canvas, 21 x 16.25 inches, Museum Purchase, 1916.26.1

Pack your scarf and mittens for a journey northward to the land of the midnight sun — Scandinavia. This exhibition highlights works from RPM's collection from Sweden, Denmark, Finland, and Norway. Nearly thirty paintings, sculpture, textiles, etchings, photographs, jewelry, and decorative arts will be featured in the exhibition. Portraits, stunning views of fjords and harbors, and the Aurora Borealis "northern lights" are just some of the subjects of the works of art. Artists such as Frits Thaulow (1847– 1906), Anders Zorn (1860–1920), Frants Didrik Bøe (1820–1891), and Hans Andreas Dahl (1849–1937), among others, will be included in the exhibition, which is on view in the Meinig Family Gallery.

The exhibition is a partnership between The Museum and the Reading Symphony Orchestra, which is presenting *Scandinavian Dreams* in its 2018–2019 Season on Saturday, October 20 at 7:30 at Santander Performing Arts Center in Reading. In that performance, the audience will experience Beethoven's *Egmont Overture*, Sibelius' reflections on his native land through his *Second Symphony*, plus a new arrangement of Joel Puckett's *Short Stories* featuring the RSO String Quartet. Book your seats for the concert and visit The Museum for the full Scandinavian experience!

## Passport to Asia: Works from the Collection Through 2019

This newly installed exhibition in the World Cultures gallery features nearly 100 works including paintings, sculptures, ritual objects, ceramics, manuscripts, carvings, metalwork, and decorative arts that entered The Museum's collection as early as the 19-teens through as recently as the 2000s. Some works were purchased by The Museum while others came as gifts from Katharine and William A. Arnold, Susan Keim Montgomery, and Mrs. M. P.V. R. Biddle, among others.

Highlights of the selection, which spans more than 2,500 years include: a group of twelve Japanese temple guardian figures from the sixteenth century, a rare ritual jade cup with poetic inscription from the reign of Emperor Qianlong (1735-1796), a group of Tang Dynasty tomb figures, a stunning standing Chinese bodhisattva Guanyin from the fourteenth century, a fine Japanese painting of Jizo Bosatsu on Lotus from the early fifteenth century, a bronze tripod ritual wine vessel (jue) from the twelfth century BC, and a group of elaborately carved Chinese rhinoceros horn libation cups.

Many works have not been on public view recently, including a five-panel Japanese screen painting from the seventeenth century, a group of early Chinese paintings, and several illuminated nineteenth-century palm leaf manuscripts from Thailand.



# Across the Atlantic Garnerers National Attention

Earlier this year, RPM was awarded a prestigious grant from the Art Bridges Foundation, an organization founded by Alice Walton, matriarch of the Wal-Mart Stores, and chair of the highly renowned Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art in Bentonville, AR.

This grant will help support educational programming in conjunction with *Across the Atlantic: American Impressionism through the French Lens*, which includes a two-day symposium for the representatives from the six museums that are borrowing the show once it begins its tour early next year. RPM will be welcoming museum executives from Louisiana, Florida, Iowa, Texas, North Carolina, and Arkansas, all eager to not only visit the show while on view in our American and European Art Galleries, but also participate in meaningful discussion about how to uniquely engage their audiences with *Across the Atlantic* while on display at their venues. In addition, each museum will have the opportunity to apply for funding from Art Bridges to support their individual projects and programs related to the exhibition. We are anticipating a fantastic few days, filled with great conversation, learning, and the building of new relationships. And the best part – a gathering like this has been made possible by YOUR museum! The scope of RPM's collection not only earned us this grant, but is also helping us make our mark in the world of American Art. Stay tuned to hear how the symposium went, but until then, please come out and take part in all the wonderful programs made possible by this grant; a speaker series, childrens programming, and a *plein air* painting workshop, just to name a few! Check our website for more details.



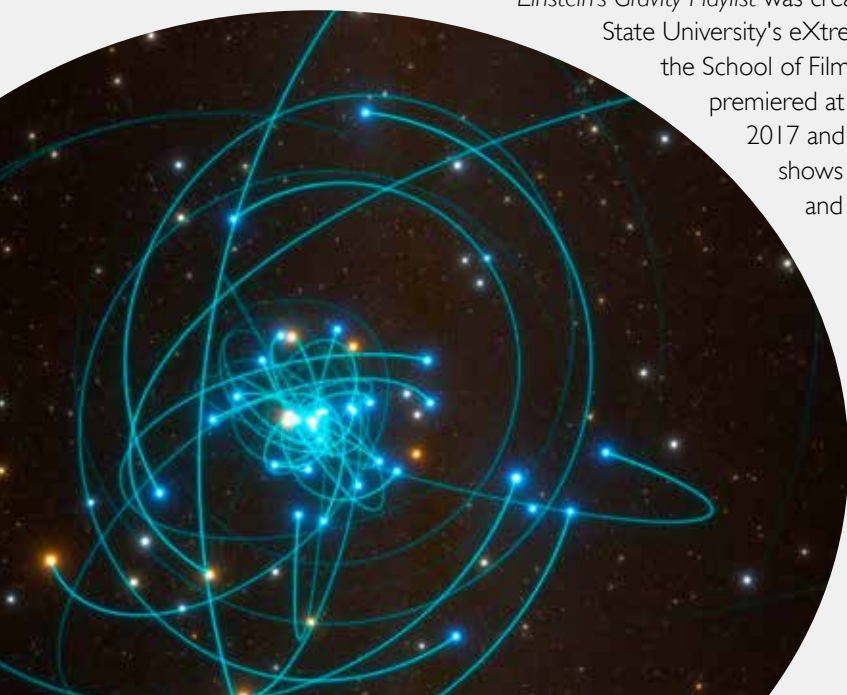
Colin Campbell Cooper; (American 1856 – 1937), *The Lotus Pool, El Encanto, Santa Barbara*, c. 1921-22, oil on canvas, Museum Purchase, 1922.163.1

## Einstein and Gravity

*Einstein's Gravity Playlist*, a new planetarium show, explores the ripples in space-time known as gravitational waves. Albert Einstein first predicted the existence of gravitational waves in 1916, and a century later, scientists detected these waves using incredibly precise laser technology here on Earth. In honor of this long-anticipated detection, the scientists who created the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory (LIGO) won the Nobel Prize in Physics in 2017. Viewers will follow Lucia, a PhD student in physics at Montana State University, on an exploration of how gravitational waves are formed, how they move through the universe, and how scientists like her work to hear them.

*Einstein's Gravity Playlist* was created through a collaboration between Montana State University's eXtreme Gravity Institute, the Department of Physics, the School of Film and Photography, and the School of Music. It premiered at the Museum of the Rockies' Taylor Planetarium in 2017 and is now playing in planetariums across the U.S., with shows scheduled in Colombia, Argentina, Brazil, France, and Germany later this year.

Catch this show every Sunday at 3 p.m. in October, November, and December at The Neag Planetarium! For the full schedule visit the calendar section of this issue or visit [readingpublicmuseum.org](http://readingpublicmuseum.org).



## Can You Guess the Collection?



1. A scratching noise would be made with this implement. Can you guess what it is, and what it was used for?

2. Not exactly down-filled like the ones in most American houses. What is it?



3. At one time, this 'knife' was very valuable. What is it?

## ANSWERS

1. A seal decoy, formed from a forked wooden handle and seal claws, banded together with sinew. The decoy was used to scratch the ice surface near a seal hole to attract the attention of the animal during hunting. This example was collected in the 1880s from the Inuit peoples of King's Island, Alaska by Dr. Daniel N. Bertolette.

2. A wooden headrest, made and used by the people of the Tamil Islands in the Huon Gulf, Papua New Guinea, c. 1900. The headrest acted as a pillow, lifting the user's head off the ground, protecting the head and its elaborate hairdos and headdresses from touching the Earth.

3. Ancient Chinese knife currency with an inscription of the character "Ming" on one side. It is an example of the most common form of knife currency, used from the fifth to the third century BC. This example was bequeathed to The Museum from the personal collection of our Founder and first Director, Dr. Levi Mengel.

## Workshops Designed for Scouts



Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Cub Scouts have all been to The Museum over the past few years for our awesome workshops and sleepovers that are designed just for scouts.

Programs at The Museum help scouts earn a badge or pin in a fun and exciting way. Scouts can stargaze during the day in The Planetarium, learn about ancient cultures from a real mummy, handle a unique variety of fossils and rocks for a geology lesson, and more. The Museum is a great place for a daytime workshop or a night away from home with our sleepovers.

We are also introducing a new program, **RPM Scouts on the Go!** It isn't always easy to organize a trip to The Museum, so let us come to you! Choose a two hour program from our complete list of scout programs. Contact Coleen Spease-Mikucki at 610.371.5850 x227 to learn more about all the different workshops we offer.

## Gifts of Inspiration

### Museum Gift Shop Artisan Craft Show



Looking for unique gifts for friends and family this holiday season? The Museum Gift Shop will hold its third annual holiday event, **Gifts of Inspiration – Museum Gift Shop Artisan Craft Show, on Sunday, November 25, from 12 – 3 p.m.** Members will enjoy 20% off and Non-Members will receive 10% off all items. The artists featured at the craft show are in our Gift Shop Artist Network. Items for sale include ornaments, decor, handmade artisan goods, children's items, and more! Traditional red, white, and pink poinsettias grown in the Arboretum's greenhouse will also be available for purchase.

Gift wrapping will be available with all purchases. Light refreshments will also be served. See website for additional information.

## ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW

Once again, grab a seat in the most unique theater, the Neag Planetarium, to participate in the viewing of *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* on **Friday, October 26 during one of three show times — 7, 9, or 11 p.m.**

While driving home during a rain filled night, straight-laced lovebirds Brad and Janet, by chance, end up at the castle of one Dr. Frank-N-Furter and his strange and bizarre entourage, and find that he's having a party. This is no ordinary party, no ordinary night. The doctor is unveiling his latest creation—Rocky; A man-made Adonis that will give absolute pleasure. *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* is an exceedingly grand visual and musical camp satire of the golden days of the B-movie horror and science-fiction genres. Projected along with a musical soundtrack to give "audience participation" a new meaning in dimension, time, and space, this shall be a night that Brad, Janet and YOU will remember for a very, very long time.



Tickets are \$15 per person per show. Reservations are suggested due to limited seating under the dome of The Planetarium.

**To reserve your seat in this evening of active viewing, call Amanda at 610.371.5850 x257.**

**\*\*Please keep in mind no WATER, LIGHTERS, WET FOOD, or ANIMALS will be allowed in The Planetarium, in order to keep the projector safe. See website for more details.**

# From the Director



John Graydon Smith-  
Director and CEO

September is traditionally a slow month in the museum world as kids head back to school, parents recover from the summer, and weekends are filled with football and nice weather. Here at the Reading Public Museum however, we've assembled a jam-packed lineup for our visitors to enjoy that might even get you to turn off the game and head over for the day. With *Across the Atlantic: American Impressionism through the French Lens* aweing folks with the beauty and diversity of The Museum's collection, and *Dinosaurs in Motion* impressing kids and adults alike, this fall is sure to please regardless of your interests or age.

While the "blockbuster" shows are the ones getting the most attention, we're particularly proud of some of

our smaller offerings, too. *Passport to Asia*, the reinstallation of our World Cultures Gallery, is the brainchild of our talented Curator, Scott Schweigert, and showcases some of the many treasures from around the globe that we're fortunate to have in The Museum's collection. Some of these beauties haven't been on display in decades, while others are new acquisitions making their debut, and all are worthy of some attention during your next visit here. Another gallery that sometimes gets overlooked is on the Atrium Level down near the Auditorium. The Works on Paper Gallery hosts a fascinating collection of historical political posters in a timely exhibition that coincides with this year's mid-term election. *Sign of the Times: The Great American Political Poster, 1842-2012* is a mouthful of a title but a feast for the eyes. The imagery and messaging of this often ignored art form is an amazing tour of the evolution of political history in the U.S., which is clearly a topic of much discussion these days.

Rounding out the line-up of new exhibitions is a show that is the result of a fantastic partnership between two of Berks County's most venerable institutions: the Reading Public Museum and the Reading Symphony Orchestra. As the RSO continues its 2018-19 season next month with a concert themed "Scandinavian Dreams," we've mounted an accompanying exhibition from our collection that will be featured in the First Floor Meinig Family Gallery. *Northern Lights: Scandinavian Art* is an assemblage of works, both 2D and 3D, that the Curatorial Team has selected to help provide inspiration to visitors who might wish to see the exhibition here and then attend the RSO concert in October. To further emphasize the partnership, a quartet of RSO musicians will be performing in the gallery on Saturday, October 6, and tickets to the symphony will also be available for purchase in the Atrium that day. We hope this is just one example of many partnerships between some of the community's treasured organizations, and that our membership will come out in full force to experience the talented RSO musicians in a unique and wonderful setting. Just another great reason to call your friends and family this fall and tell them to "Meet Me at The Museum!"

## See The Reading Symphony Orchestra at The Museum! | October 6, 2018

The Reading Symphony Orchestra will present a string quartet performance at The Museum as part of a collaboration between the two organizations. The collaboration will celebrate each organizations upcoming events featuring art and music from Scandinavian Countries. The quartet performance will begin at 11 a.m. During the performance Peter Brye, Reading Symphony Orchestra cellist and former conductor of the RSO Youth Orchestra will talk about the quartet's performance, the RSO season and the RSO's upcoming concert on October 20, 2018 *Scandinavian Dreams*.

### Join Your Museum Today!

The Reading Public Museum is dynamic and ever-changing, offering diverse exhibitions all year long! Temporary exhibitions featuring science and art combine with our permanent galleries to offer you an engaging experience every time you visit. As a Member, every visit to The Museum and Neag Planetarium is FREE! Plus, there are even more benefits.

Please visit [readingpublicmuseum.org](http://readingpublicmuseum.org) and click on "Join and Support" for complete details and to join securely online.

### The Museum Shop

Looking for a unique gift? You'll find handmade gifts, toys and games for children, exquisite jewelry, and more. Our stock is always changing, so stop in often to see our new items! Open during regular Museum hours (no admission required). Members receive 10% off every day!

### Book a Group Visit

We're thrilled to welcome eager and attentive learners from Pre-K to Seniors on a daily basis. Group rates apply to 10 or more people. For more information or to book a group, contact [wendy.koller@readingpublicmuseum.org](mailto:wendy.koller@readingpublicmuseum.org).

### Book Your Event

The Museum is home to Berks County's most treasured and distinctive wedding and event venues. Among our Fine Art Galleries, Neag Planetarium, and Stone Terrace Tent, we have a venue to accommodate every size and budget. For more information, please contact [stephanie.shaak@readingpublicmuseum.org](mailto:stephanie.shaak@readingpublicmuseum.org).

### Museum Address/Phone

500 Museum Rd., Reading, PA 19611  
610.371.5850

### Museum Hours

Daily: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
For Holiday hours, please check our website.

### Museum Admission

\$10 Adult (18-64); \$6 Seniors/Children/College Students (w/ID); Members and Children 3 and under are free.

### Planetarium Hours

Sun. 1, 2, 3 & 4 p.m. plus Weekday Shows at 2, 3, & 4 p.m. (Mon. - Fri. with some exceptions). Show Prices (for each show): \$8 Adults (18-64); \$6 Seniors/Children/College Students (w/ID); Members and Children 3 and under are free.