OAKLAND MUSEUM OF CALIFORNIA ANNOUNCES EVENTS & PROGRAMS FOR JULY & AUGUST 2019

Don’t Miss Special Programs for Major Exhibition Queer California: Untold Stories, Including a Live Performance by Members of the Bay Area American Indian Two-Spirit Community on Saturday, July 13

OMCA’s 15th Annual Summer Reading Celebration is Sunday, August 4, Including Family-Friendly Activities from 11 am to 3 pm

(OAKLAND, CA) May 22, 2019—The Oakland Museum of California (OMCA) announces its lively summer schedule of events and special programs in July and August. Powerful public programs that explore the Bay Area’s LGBTQ+ communities continue throughout the final months of Queer California: Untold Stories, including Celebrating Stories: Two-Spirits Art and Performance on Saturday, July 13. From 2 to 4 pm, experience an afternoon of song, dance, poetry, and live performances with members from the Bay Area American Indian Two-Spirit (BAAITS) and learn more about the Two-Spirit and ally communities of the Bay Area.

Families should also mark their calendars for two special events: the 15th Annual Summer Reading Celebration with the Oakland Public Library on Sunday, August 4, including performances, games, crafts, and more in OMCA’s gardens; and the final OMCA presentation of Drag Family Storytime on Friday, July 5, as part of the Queer California: Untold Stories exhibition programming.

Dive deeper into current exhibitions with special tours including a bike tour of Middle Harbor Shoreline inspired by Pushing West: The Photography of Andrew J. Russell; exhibition tours of Queer California: Untold Stories, and so much more. For more details, visit museumca.org.

CALENDAR EDITOR PLEASE LIST:
FAMILY EVENTS; MUSIC EVENTS; COMMUNITY EVENTS; ART EVENTS; FOOD EVENTS; CHARITY EVENTS; LGBTQ EVENTS

Friday Nights at OMCA
Every Friday from 5 pm to 10 pm
July 5, 12, 19, 26
August 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
Start your weekend off right with Friday Nights at OMCA! Enjoy a picnic in the garden, live music, hands-on art activities, and after-hour gallery access until 10 pm. Grab a bite at the Off the Grid food truck market and enjoy a lineup of live music and dance from local performers. Explore the Museum’s 110,000 square feet of gallery space until 10 pm, including hands-on exhibitions with interactive activities for the whole family. Bring friends and family for a taste of local music, food, and culture at the Oakland Museum of California every Friday Night!

**Friday Nights at OMCA | Queer California Film Series**
*Every Friday at 5 pm*
*July 5, 12, 19, 26, August 2, 9*
Join us for special late-night screenings of rare films exploring untold stories of California’s LGBTQ+ communities, in conjunction with special exhibition [*Queer California: Untold Stories*](#). Check the schedule for showtimes and film descriptions at [museumca.org](http://museumca.org).

**Friday Nights at OMCA | Queer California Drag Storytime**
*Friday, July 5*
*6–7 pm*
Hip-Hop drag troupe Momma’s Boyz Entertainment will be reading a few charming children’s books during this special edition of Family Storytime. Meet inside [*Queer California: Untold Stories*](#) for this fabulous performance and enjoy treats, face painting, and a rainbow flag making workshop. Wrap up the night with a parade through the OMCA gardens.

Tickets are $10 for general admission and $8 for Members. Ticket does not include gallery admission. Tickets available soon.

**First Sundays at OMCA**
*July 7 and August 4*
*10 am–6 pm*
Spend your weekend with us at First Sundays at OMCA! Explore the art and history of California’s LGBTQ+ communities with [*Queer California: Untold Stories*](#) and travel back in time inside [*Pushing West: The Photography of Andrew J. Russell*](#), on view in the California Gallery of Art. Discover [*Mildred Howard’s TAP: Investigation of Memory*](#) and explore how dance and activism intertwine. Experience all that our Galleries of California Art, History, and Natural Sciences have to offer. Pick up a treat for yourself or a loved one in the OMCA Store. Enjoy a lunch or snack in Blue Oak café. Spend a day with us and find out why East Bay Express calls OMCA “the best museum for the people, by the people.”

Suggested donation for general admission: $5 per person. No advance tickets are available for First Sundays. Your contribution helps us provide access to other visitors in the community.

**Celebrating Stories: Two-Spirits Art and Performance**
*Saturday, July 13*
*2–4 pm*
As part of *Queer California: Untold Stories*, join us for an afternoon of song, dance, poetry, and live performances with members from the Bay Area American Indian Two-Spirit (BAAITS), a community-based organization committed to activism and service for the Two-Spirit and ally communities of the Bay Area. Celebrate and learn more about BAAITS’ 20-year commitment to spiritual, cultural, and artistic expression in native and non-native communities.

BAAITS member collaborators include: Roger Kuhn, Amelia Vigil, and Ruth Villaseñor. Tickets are $10 for general admission and $8 for Members. Ticket does not include gallery admission.

**15th Annual Summer Reading Celebration**  
**Sunday, August 4**  
**11 am – 3 pm**

Don’t miss the 15th Annual Summer Reading Celebration with the Oakland Public Library! Meet your friends in the sunny gardens at OMCA and enjoy performances, games, crafts, and more. Bring the whole family for this summer bookstravaganza.

Enjoy thrills with the Circus of Smiles acrobatic performers, face painting, giant chess, and more. Try your hand at art activities, have your caricature drawn, and even get a free book.

Listen to *Kamishibai*, Japanese street theater and storytelling, by the Oakland Public Library and a fabulous storytime by local performers Drag King Vera and Drag Queen Coco Buttah, and enjoy a good read in the sun.

*Presented in partnership with the Oakland Public Library, Our Family Coalition, and the California Historical Society.*

**Bike Tour | Middle Harbor**  
**Sunday, July 21 and Sunday, August 18**  
**10 am – 1 pm**

Explore Oakland’s diverse and rich patchwork of neighborhoods by cycling through them with an experienced OMCA Docent. Inspired by *Pushing West: the Photography of Andrew J. Russell*, bike tour leaders will explore locations in Oakland with significant connections to early railroad history. Join the group as we explore the history of the Southern Pacific railroad, the rich legacy of the Pullman porter profession, and the controversy surrounding the Western Pacific and Southern Pacific railroad companies.

**Queer California: Untold Stories Exhibition Tour**  
**Every Sunday at 12 pm through August 11**  
**July 7, 14, 21, 28**  
**August 4, 11**

Come explore California’s diverse LGBTQ+ history and culture with an OMCA Docent. Hear about connections between important milestones and lesser-known stories, and powerful examples of social activism. Discover stories, contemporary artwork, and historical materials.
that contribute to California’s shared history. Included with Museum special exhibition admission.

**Pushing West: The Photography of Andrew J. Russell Exhibition Tour**
*First and Third Saturdays, 12 pm*
*July 6, 20*
*August 3, 17*
Join an OMCA Docent to travel back in time through Andrew J. Russell’s epic photography of the Transcontinental Railroad’s western expansion, completed 150 years ago in 1869. Learn about Russell's legacy as one of the most important photographers of the 19th century through his documentation of the economic and technological advances of the Railroad and its impact on western lands and Native peoples. Included with Museum admission.

**ABOUT FRIDAY NIGHTS AT OMCA**
The Oakland Museum of California (OMCA) presents *Friday Nights at OMCA*, a weekly evening series every Friday from 5 to 10 pm, in partnership with *Off the Grid: Lake Merritt at OMCA*—the first major food truck market in the East Bay. Friday Nights at OMCA features extended Museum hours, in-gallery programming, a beer garden from Blue Oak café, live music, dancing, hands-on family activities, and more. Outdoor performances are free and accessible to all, including OMCA's Go Local stage, featuring top Bay Area musicians and performers. Gallery admission is free for Members and ages 8 and under. Event parking in the Museum garage is $7. *Friday Nights at OMCA* is presented in partnership with *Off the Grid: Lake Merritt at OMCA*. *Friday Nights at OMCA* is made possible in part by generous support from Bank of America, the Oakland Museum Women's Board, The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, and the Koret Foundation. [museumca.org/fridaysnights](http://museumca.org/fridaysnights)

**ABOUT OMCA FAMILY**
The Oakland Museum of California (OMCA) is committed to being a welcoming and lively place for multi-generational Bay Area families to visit, learn, and engage through OMCA Family, with art activities, storytelling, and hands-on, drop-in projects throughout the Museum. OMCA’s other family-friendly offerings include free Family Guides to the Galleries available at ticketing desks, free activity Books & Blankets available for check-out anytime the Museum is open, and three large annual festivals: Lunar New Year in February, the Summer Reading Celebration in August with the Oakland Public Library, and the Days of the Dead Celebration in October. *OMCA Festivals are made possible in part by generous support from the Oakland Museum Women’s Board and the Koret Foundation. Supporters of the 2019 Summer Reading Program are: Friends of the Oakland Public Library, Fentons Creamery, Hellman Foundation, Kenneth Rainin Foundation, The Bernard Osher Foundation, and the William G. Gilmore Foundation. Free admission for children provided by the Bernard Osher Foundation. The Lunar New Year Community Celebration is made possible in part by generous support from Macy’s and the Oakland Museum Women’s Board*. [museumca.org/family](http://museumca.org/family)

**ABOUT THE OAKLAND MUSEUM OF CALIFORNIA**
The Oakland Museum of California (OMCA) tells the many stories that comprise California, creating the space and context for greater connection, trust, and understanding between people. Through its inclusive exhibitions, public programs, educational initiatives, and cultural events, OMCA brings Californians together and inspires greater understanding about what our state’s art, history, and natural surroundings teach us about ourselves and each other. With more than 1.9 million objects, OMCA brings together its multi-disciplinary collections of art, history, and natural science with the first-person accounts and often untold narratives of California, all within its 110,000 square feet of gallery space and seven-acre campus. The Museum will celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2019 as a leading cultural institution of the Bay Area and a resource for the research and understanding of California’s dynamic cultural and environmental heritage for visitors from the region, the state, and around the world.

VISITOR INFORMATION
The Oakland Museum of California (OMCA) is at 1000 Oak Street, at 10th Street, in Oakland. Beginning April 3, Museum admission will be adjusted to $16 general; $11 seniors and students with valid ID, $7 youth ages 9 to 17, and free for children 8 and under and Museum Members, and there will be a $5 charge in addition to general admission pricing for special exhibitions. OMCA offers onsite underground parking, with validation for Museum visitors, and is conveniently located one block from the Lake Merritt BART station, on the corner of 10th Street and Oak Street. The accessibility ramp is located at the new 1000 Oak Street main entrance. Regular hours are 11 am to 5 pm, Wednesday through Sunday, 11 am to 9 pm Fridays.

museumca.org

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