



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 7/30/2018

Ashley H Pollock, Public Relations & Information Coordinator
College of Performing and Visual Arts
Southern Utah University

Office: (435) 865-8667
Cell: (435) 590-0961
pollocka@suu.edu

Southern Utah University Museums to Offer K-12 Educational Tours
Written by Brooke Vlasich

Southern Utah Museum of Art, Cedar City, Utah: From October 16 to December 14, the Southern Utah Museum of Art (SUMA) and the Garth and Jerri Frehner Museum of Natural History are offering K-12 educational tours. These tours, led by Southern Utah University student volunteers, include a visit to both museums and educational activities that reinforce creative learning through art and science. Tours are available Tuesday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and Tuesday and Thursday from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

“The collaboration between these two museums is unique because it pairs art and science,” Museum Director of the Garth and Jerri Frehner Museum of Natural History, Dr. Jacqueline Grant added. “At the Frehner Museum we love the challenge of finding the science hook that links our programming to SUMA’s. This challenge keeps each year’s programming fresh and stimulating to our staff. These tours are important to students and teachers in southern Utah because they expand our awareness and our ways of thinking about science, art, and Utah’s amazing natural resources.”

Two types of educational tours are available. For grades K-5, the Art & Science Museum Tour teaches students about the connections between art and the natural world. Afterwards, they create artwork based on their visit. The Museum Practices Tour, for grades 6-12, features a behind-the-scenes tour of both museums to show students the best practices and tools to run their own museum. Upon completing the tour, students will work in groups to design their own museums and curate an exhibit from their museum design.

“We want teachers to view these museums as community resources that can enhance educational experiences. Our K-12 tours are another way for teachers to encourage more experiential learning for their students while still connecting to curriculum content and standards,” said Community Engagement Associate, Arielle Altenburg.

Tours have been offered since September 2016 and are available during both the fall and spring semesters. This past year, tours served over 2,800 students in Iron, Washington, and Kane County. Teachers who have reviewed the tours find them to be beneficial resources for their classrooms.

“It was great to show students some of the wonderful things that are in our community while being able to reinforce core curriculum,” said Becca Esplin, a teacher from Fiddlers Canyon

Elementary. “I loved how easy it was for me to connect what was being taught in the class to what was being taught by the museum guides.”

Teachers can sign up their classes for tours starting now. Tours are Tuesday through Friday 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and Tuesday and Thursday 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. and run from October 16 through December 14, 2018. Spring tours will run January 22 through April 12. To sign up for tours or for more information, please visit www.suu.edu/pva/suma/education/k12-programs.html.

Schools are also eligible to apply for transportation waiver to SUMA. Only one application per teacher will be funded for each school year (September-May). Applications are due one month before a tour visit. For more information on transportation funding, please visit www.suu.edu/pva/suma/education/bus-fund.html.

Show your students the worlds of art and science with educational tours from the Southern Utah Museum of Art and the Garth and Jerri Frehner Museum of Natural History.

About Southern Utah Museum of Art (SUMA)

The Southern Utah Museum of Art, on the campus of Southern Utah University, features the artwork of regional artists known for their landscapes, faculty and student artists from the SUU Department of Art & Design, as well as emerging and distinguished artists from around the country. Strengths of the nearly 2,000-object permanent collection include the body of work by Jimmie Jones that exemplifies his notable career in the regions, as well as a robust collection of prints featuring well-known artists such as Pierre-Auguste Renoir, Salvador Dalí, Thomas Hart Benton, and others. Part of the Beverley Taylor Sorenson Center for the Arts, which also includes the Utah Shakespeare Festival, SUMA is free and open to the public. For more information about SUMA, visit suu.edu/suma.

About the Garth and Jerri Frehner Museum of Natural History

The Garth and Jerri Frehner Museum of Natural History is housed on the Southern Utah University campus in Cedar City, Utah. The museum houses taxidermy specimens, shells, plants, minerals, dinosaur tracks, and fossils. The museum opened to the public on April 2, 2012, and is free and open to the public. For more information about the Garth and Jerri Frehner Museum of Natural History, visit: www.suu.edu/cose/museum/.

For Calendar Editors:

SUMA and Frehner Museum of Natural History K-12 Education Tours

What: The Southern Utah Museum of Art (SUMA) and the Garth and Jerri Frehner Museum of Natural History will begin tours for K-12 students on October 16. Two tour options are available. The Art & Science Museum Tour for K-5 students shows the connection between art and sciences. The Museum Practices tour for 6-12 students teaches best practices for running a museum and curating exhibits. All tours are free and transportation funding is available.

Who: Southern Utah Museum of Art and the Garth and Jerri Frehner Museum of Natural History

When: October 16 through December 14 and January 22 through April 12

Time: Tuesday through Saturday 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and Tuesday and Thursday 1

p.m. to 3 p.m.

Where: Southern Utah Museum of Art, 13 S. 300 W., and the Garth and Jerri Frehner Museum of Natural History, 351 W. University Blvd., Cedar City, Utah

Tickets: Free admission

Info: Visit www.suu.edu/pva/suma/education/k12-programs.html for more info.
To learn about bus funding visit www.suu.edu/pva/suma/education/bus-fund.html

###