

PAMA in full bloom in May

The Peel Art Gallery, Museum and Archives (PAMA) has a colourful line-up of fantastic programming, events and exhibitions to share in May.

In celebration of May as Museum Month, PAMA will offer free general admission May 16 and 17.

For those who need a great Mother's Day gift, they can make their own bird feeder with the Toronto and Region Conservation this Saturday (May 9) from 2 to 4 p.m. Learn about spring birds and explore new tricks on how to create amazing birdfeeders using common household items like milk cartons or pop bottles. All materials are provided and pre-registration is required. This event is free with admission.

May is the last month to explore the exhibition *Our Feathered Friends*, on loan from the Canadian Museum of Nature until May 31. See this spectacular interactive exhibition in the museum and ask about the bird scavenger hunt, where visitors can search PAMA for feathered friends and win a prize.

PAMA has announced its new curatorial leaders; introducing Annemarie Hagan as PAMA Supervisor and Curator of Museum Services, and Thomas Smart as PAMA Supervisor and Curator of Art Gallery and Education Services. Join Hagan for a behind-the-scenes tour May 23 from 2 to 3:30 p.m. of PAMA's rich artifact collection. Learn how the museum collection has changed over time, discover some of the intriguing stories behind the artifacts and get a behind-the-scenes peek at PAMA's environmentally controlled Museum Collection Storage. The tour will include coffee and tea at the end, along with the opportunity to chat with PAMA staff. Stay tuned in July as both Hagan and Smart invite people for a talk and tour of both the museum and art gallery.

Sign kids up for fun, hands-on weekend programming in the Museum Detectives program. Starting May 23 and running until June 20 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., kids will explore and learn about art and history as they work their way through PAMA's art and museum exhibitions and create different projects using a variety of mediums and techniques.

Those who are thinking about what to do with their little campers this summer, registration is open for PAMA Summer Kids Camp. Campers will explore, connect and create each week with special themes at PAMA around the neighbourhood (weather permitting). The camps are for youngsters aged six to 12.

The camp themes will be Movie Magic the week of July 6 to 10; Celebrate the Pan Am Games the week of July 13 to 17; and A week at the Museum the week of July 20 to 24. Sessions will run from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Prices are \$185.00 per week (non-members) \$157.25 per week (members).

Don't forget about PAMA's engaging year-round programming.

There are family fun weekend activities each Saturday and Sunday, where visitors of all ages can make and take home a different creative project inspired by PAMA's exhibitions.

Ever want to learn how to knit or are you looking for a great group of knitters to chat with? Join Knit@PAMA Thursday evenings from 6 to 8 p.m.

Every third Thursday of each month, enjoy an evening sharing traditions and songs at the Peel Aboriginal Network drumming circle from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Extra drums and shakers are available. Participation is encouraged.

Inquire about a tour Thursday evenings and weekends. Visitor Services Guides are happy to answer any questions and tailor the tour to fit interests.

PAMA is a place to explore and learn about Peel Region's culture and heritage, as well as use conversation, questions and stories to help make new and fascinating connections to the surrounding community. Operated by the Region of Peel, PAMA is at 9 Wellington St. E. in Brampton.

Visit pama.peelregion.ca to learn more.

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