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BOWERS MUSEUM LOOKS AHEAD TO A BRIGHTER 2021



Bowers' Free Meal Delivery Program Provided More than 23 thousand Meals in 2020

December 1, 2020 (Santa Ana, California) – Despite being closed for more than half the year due to COVID-19, Bowers Museum looks back at 2020 with pride and hope for 2021. Having been named best museum in Orange County by both the Los Angeles Times and the OC Register this year, Bowers is humbled and grateful by the outpouring of support that has allowed the museum to adapt and continue serve the community, despite what sometimes seemed insurmountable obstacles.

Looking Back

Free Meals and Art Projects

Thanks to our donors and members, the Bowers has been able to provide important services for our community in 2020, including:

- 23,193 free meals for front line medical and emergency services workers, low-income children, families, and seniors, and the homeless
- 1,527 art kits for low-income children and seniors
- 1,148 bags of groceries for low-income children and seniors

Bowers is proud to continue these projects into 2021, now shifting our former afterschool program to offer free groceries to those low-income Santa Ana families.

AAM Accreditation

After a rigorous process of review and inspection by the Accreditation Commission, the Bowers Museum has been reaccredited by the American Alliance of Museums, an award

given to only 41% of art museums. “Reaccreditation means the museum continues to meet National Standards and Best Practices for U.S. Museums and remains a member of a community of institutions that have chosen to hold themselves publicly accountable to excellence.” – AAM

Establishing Free Virtual Programs

BOWERS AT HOME portal is a one-stop webpage at bowers.org/athome with easily accessible links to all the Museum’s current online offerings. From videos and audio of past lecturers and exhibitions on Youtube, to new launches like Kidseum at Home and *Inside the Walt Disney Archives* Digital Guide, the portal includes past audience favorites like the Bowers Blog which focuses its weekly articles and images on pieces from the Museum’s permanent collection not on view. Bowers’ monthly free virtual Family Festival is also accessible in archive on the BAH portal, along with the downloadable art projects and food recipes that accompany them. #bowersathome #bowersfestival

Bowers now also offers a variety of ticketed programs featuring premiere virtual lecturers, artist talks, panel discussions, and gallery tours as well as art kits for pick-up and more. Details and tickets at bowers.org/programs.

Looking Ahead

Treasures in Jade and Gold

Running through May 30, 2021 in Bowers’ stunning East West Bank Gallery, *Treasures in Gold & Jade: Masterworks from Taiwan* features the outstanding sculptures of two of Taiwan’s **premier artists**: Wu Ching, a sculptor who creates intricate carvings which he translates to pure gold using a classic lost wax technique; and Huang Fu-shou, whose skill for jade carving allows him to create impossibly delicate forms. Because of the supremely delicate nature of the artworks, a special expert team is being flown in from Taiwan to handle installation of the masterful pieces.

Though the exhibition opening slated for December 12 has been shifted to [virtual offerings](#), the masterworks on display are ready for viewing in person as soon as Bowers Museum is able to, once more, reopen its doors. #goldandjadeatbowers

First Annual Chocolate Week

January 26 - 31: Bowers’ inaugural annual Chocolate Week kicks off Tuesday, January 26, 2021 with daily virtual programs offered through the weekend and culminating in a chocolate-themed virtual family festival. Chocolate week will be hosted by Bowers in partnership with UCLA professor and ‘LA’s Chocolate Guru,’ Dr. Lee Theisen, and feature premiere chocolate-makers from around the world. Programs will include lectures, discussions, behind-the-scenes facility walkthroughs and at-home tastings that are sure to start the year off sweet. Details and tickets at bowers.org/programs. #bowerschocolateweek

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Disney Exhibition at Bowers Museum

In response to an overwhelming demand for more time with this blockbuster exhibition, *Inside the Walt Disney Archives: 50 Years of Preserving the Magic* has been extended for a second time and will now run through February 28, 2021!

With robust health and safety precautions in place, guests are invited to step into the Walt Disney Archives as they walk through a 10,000-square-foot traveling exhibit featuring a dazzling display of 465 objects, including 50 pieces original artwork, 15 original screen-worn costumes, 3 cars and other props that tell the story of the Archives, The Walt Disney Company, and Walt Disney himself. #disneyatbowers

