

BOWERS MUSEUM

PROGRAM GUIDE

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2026



PICASSO IN CLAY, UNCOVERED.

Picasso Ceramics from the Rosenbaum Collection is organized by Landau Traveling Exhibitions, Los Angeles, CA, with contributions from Bowers Museum and guest curator Dr. Salvador Haro González. Image credit: Pablo Picasso (Spanish, 1881–1973), *Face*, 1960. © 2026 Estate of Pablo Picasso / Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York.

FEATURED EXHIBITION

OCT 24, 2026 — FEB 28, 2027



Learn More



Picasso Ceramics from the Rosenbaum Collection is organized by Landau Traveling Exhibitions, Los Angeles, CA, with contributions from Bowers Museum and guest curator Dr. Salvador Haro González. Image credit: Pablo Picasso (Spanish, 1881–1973), *Face*, 1960. © 2026 Estate of Pablo Picasso / Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York.

MEMBERSHIP

Members gain free and early access to 2026 exhibitions including special upcoming featured shows to be announced soon!



NEW! Seniors, Teachers, and Students Discount available at the Individual, Dual Adult, and Family levels of membership! Family level members also now receive the exclusive opportunity for high schoolers to apply for our Junior Ambassadors Program.

Bowers Museum Members Enjoy:

- One year of unlimited free General Admission
- One free ticket (per cardholder) to each Special-Ticketed exhibition
- 30-50% off all public programs (lectures, films, performances, workshops)
- Up to a 20% discount at the Gallery Store and Bowers' restaurant, Ada's Table
- A print subscription to our bi-annual magazine, *Passport*
- Invitations to exclusive member events and more!

Join/Renew/Gift Today

If you would like assistance in registering or want to learn more about our membership levels, please contact us at



714.567.3639 or



membership@bowers.org

EXPLORE WITH BOWERS MUSEUM



Visit the world's finest arts and cultures in person!*

New Zealand | Feb 18 — Mar 1, 2027 **(SOLD OUT!)**

Paris to Burgundy | May 2027 **See Itinerary**

Password: bowersmuseum

Vietnam | Aug 25 — Sep 5, 2027 **See Itinerary**

These excursions fill quickly so please reserve your spot as soon as possible!

For questions or to sign up for a trip, please contact Lesley Ann Hamilton
at lahamilton@bowers.org or **714.567.3602**.

**Must be an active member at the Fellow level or Above to register.
For assistance joining/upgrading, please contact our Membership Department*

at  **714.567.3602** or  membership@bowers.org.

OPENING LECTURE & BOOK SIGNING



Picasso. Passion for Ceramics with Salvador Haro González

SAT | OCT 24 | 1:30 — 3 PM
NORMA KERSHAW AUDITORIUM
OPENING LECTURE & BOOK SIGNING

Although Pablo Picasso is best known for his paintings, he devoted nearly 25 years of his career to creating ceramics, producing more than 4,000 works that remain one of the most overlooked aspects of his artistic legacy. Join *Picasso Ceramics* guest curator Salvador Haro as he places Picasso's ceramic work in context, examining its evolution, artistic significance, and the inspirations that shaped this remarkable body of work. Gain a deeper appreciation for how ceramics became an essential part of Picasso's creative vision.

Book signing information coming soon.

TICKETED EVENT
MEMBERS \$15 | GENERAL \$20

[Get Tickets](#)

Picasso Ceramics from the Rosenbaum Collection is organized by Landau Traveling Exhibitions, Los Angeles, CA, with contributions from Bowers Museum and guest curator Dr. Salvador Haro González. © 2026 Estate of Pablo Picasso / Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York.



Faras, A Nubian Christian Cathedral with Dr. Solange Ashby

SAT | OCT 3 | 1:30 — 2:30 PM

NORMA KERSHAW AUDITORIUM | DISTINGUISHED LECTURE

Presented by Dr. Solange Ashby,

Assistant Professor of Egyptology and Nubian Studies,
Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures, UCLA

Journey into the fascinating world of medieval Christian Nubia, where vibrant cathedral murals reveal the stories of kings, queens, bishops, and saints from a powerful African kingdom that flourished between 500 and 1400 CE. Discover how this little-known civilization forged lasting connections with Egypt and the Byzantine Empire, and explore the remarkable history behind the stunning works featured in the Metropolitan Museum of Art's *Africa and Byzantium* exhibition.

This lecture is part of the Archaeology of the Biblical Lands Distinguished Lecture Series, made possible through a generous bequest by Norma Kershaw (1924-2020).

TICKETED EVENT

MEMBERS & STUDENTS (with valid ID) \$15
GENERAL \$20

Get Tickets

Garden Party! Monet's Giverny to the Modern Landscape

presented by Annalee Andres

Art Historian

WEDNESDAYS | OCT 14 — NOV 18 |
11 AM — 12 PM *(unless otherwise noted)*
NORMA KERSHAW AUDITORIUM | 6-PART LECTURE SERIES

Oct 14 | Welcome to the Garden

Explore the history of gardens from ancient sacred spaces to Monet's Giverny, revealing how they reflect changing ideas about nature, beauty, and culture.

Oct 21 | Following the Garden Path to Giverny

Trace Claude Monet's journey from pioneering plein-air painting to creating the iconic gardens that inspired his greatest works.

***Oct 28 | Les Nymphéas: Monet and the Water Garden at Giverny**

Step into Monet's enchanting water garden at Giverny and learn how it inspired his celebrated Water Lilies series.

Nov 4 | The Garden Grows: The Impact of Giverny

Nov 11 | Prairies and Ponds: Experiencing Art within the Modern Landscape

Nov 24 | Blurred Boundaries: Indoor/Outdoor Landscape in the Golden State

**Begins at 11:15 AM*

SERIES PACKAGE:

MEMBERS \$55 | GENERAL \$80 (includes one free lecture!)

SINGLE LECTURE TICKETS:

MEMBERS \$11 | GENERAL \$16

Get Tickets



Timeless Melodies

Take a nostalgic walk down memory lane with music and more presented by Larry Maurer, historian of the Timeless Melodies Foundation for Education, Inc.

From the waltz to *West Side Story*, experience the evolution of American popular dance in this two-part lecture!

The Early Dance Masters

THU | SEP 24 | 1:30 — 3 PM

NORMA KERSHAW AUDITORIUM | LECTURE

Step-ball-change your way through the history of American popular dance as Larry Maurer of Timeless Melodies traces its evolution from vaudeville, minstrel shows, and Broadway revues to the groundbreaking film choreography of Fred Astaire and Busby Berkeley.

[Get Tickets](#)

“Come and Hear Those Dancing Feet”

THU | OCT 29 | 1:30 — 3 PM

NORMA KERSHAW AUDITORIUM | LECTURE

Learn how legendary performers, visionary choreographers, and the influence of Latin dance transformed the Golden Age of movie musicals, as jazz, tap, and ballet became essential storytelling tools that paved the way for classics like *West Side Story*.

[Get Tickets](#)

INDIVIDUAL TICKETS

MEMBERS \$11 | GENERAL \$16

TALKS: *Explore Ancient Egypt with ARCE-OC during our ongoing lecture series*



U-2 Spy Planes and Egypt with Dr. Oren Siegel

SAT | SEP 12 | 1:30 — 3:30 PM

NORMA KERSHAW AUDITORIUM | LECTURE

Presented by Dr. Oren Siegel,
Assistant Professor of Egyptian Archaeology (CLTA),
University of Toronto

Examine how recently declassified U-2 spy plane photographs from 1959 are transforming our understanding of Egypt's ancient past. This illuminating lecture reveals how Cold War-era aerial imagery is helping archaeologists uncover lost sites, document landscapes before modern development, and open new possibilities for exploring one of the world's richest archaeological regions.

Sponsored by Luiza Osorio G. Silva and Harold Plon.



Get Tickets

TICKETED EVENT

FREE FOR BOWERS & ARCE MEMBERS | GENERAL \$15

RECORDED ONLINE SCREENING

FREE FOR BOWERS & ARCE MEMBERS | GENERAL \$10

Online version will be emailed to ticketholders one week after the onsite event.

TALKS: *Explore Ancient Egypt with ARCE-OC during our ongoing lecture series*



Old Kingdom Ritual Texts and Religious Beliefs with Dr. Brendan Hainline

SAT | OCT 10 | 1:30 — 3:30 PM
NORMA KERSHAW AUDITORIUM | LECTURE

Presented by Dr. Brendan Hainline,
Research Associate, Department of Egyptian Art,
The Metropolitan Museum of Art

Ancient Egyptian religion was far more diverse and dynamic than many people realize. Delve into the origins of Egyptian myths through some of the oldest surviving religious texts and images, and gain insight into how regional traditions and evolving beliefs shaped one of history's most influential civilizations.

Sponsored by Laraine Turk.



[Get Tickets](#)

TICKETED EVENT

FREE FOR BOWERS & ARCE MEMBERS | GENERAL \$15

RECORDED ONLINE SCREENING

FREE FOR BOWERS & ARCE MEMBERS | GENERAL \$10

Online version will be emailed to ticketholders one week after the onsite event.

BSOC: BEAD SOCIETY OF ORANGE COUNTY

An affiliate council of Bowers Museum



Bead Society OC Bead Sale

SAT | SEP 26 | 10 AM — 2 PM

KEY COURTYARD | BEAD SALE

Adornment treasures for your discovery and purchase!

Join members of Bead Society Orange County as they sell/swap/trade their beads and share their findings. All are welcome!

FREE EVENT

Museum admission not included.

[Learn More](#)



FREE

family FESTIVAL

Sponsored by

The
Nicholas
Endowment

Celebrate with Bowers Museum during our free family festivals held every month in the Museum's beautiful Key Courtyard. Enjoy live performances, art making, face painting and complimentary treats at every festival. Free Family Festivals are made possible with generous support from the Nicholas Endowment.

Asian Mid-Autumn Festival

SUN | SEP 13

[Learn More](#)

Experience one of the most cherished holidays in China and many other East and Southeast Asian cultures. The full moon symbolizes unity, harmony, and family reunion, making this a time for loved ones to gather and celebrate together. Bring the whole family to enjoy free art projects, face painting, live music and dance performances, and samples of traditional moon cakes.

Mehregan Festival

SUN | OCT 4

[Learn More](#)

Celebrate Mehregan, one of Iran's oldest festivals, marking the harvest season and the arrival of autumn. Rooted in ancient Zoroastrian tradition, Mehregan honors Mithra, the deity associated with light, friendship, and love. Bring the whole family to enjoy free hands-on art activities, face painting, live music and dance performances, and a taste of a traditional Iranian sweet treat.

This event is also kindly sponsored by the Farhang Foundation.



Bowers’ Books for Kids: Storytime in the Galleries

Held every last Saturday of the month, Storytime in the Galleries includes free copies of each author’s featured book while supplies last and free General Admission to the galleries. Reading in the galleries will be followed by a simple, fun art project that kids will love.

Our Nipa Hut: A Story in the Philippines

SAT | SEP 26 | 10:30 AM — 12 PM
ART OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS EXHIBITION

Just before Filipino Heritage Month begins, join author Rachell Abalos for a reading of her story about the Philippines.

Yelena and Papa take care of their traditional Filipino dwelling – their nipa hut – and it takes care of them. But when a tropical storm roars towards the Philippines, their preparation will be put to the test. The gripping narrative will keep young readers glued to the pages as Yelena, Papa and the nipa hut work together as a family to withstand the storm.



RSVP

Ice Cream Everywhere: Sweet Stories from Around the World

SAT | OCT 31 | 10:30 AM — 12 PM
JOHN M. LEE COURT

Before heading out for trick-or-treating, stop by Bowers Museum for a sweet Halloween Storytime with author Judy Campbell-Smith. Enjoy a reading of *Ice Cream Everywhere: Sweet Stories from Around the World*, a delightful journey through the history, traditions, and flavors of one of the world’s favorite treats that’s sure to satisfy your curiosity—and your sweet tooth!



RSVP

FREE EVENT

This program is made possible through generous donations from Capital Group.

BOWERS
MUSEUM

MUSIC & MOVEMENT

Music and Movement

SAT | SEP 12 & OCT 10 | 10:30 AM — 12 PM
JOHN M. LEE COURT | FAMILY PROGRAM

“Music and movement inspire children to explore, create, and connect with the world around them.”

– Vivian Kusiak, Bowers Museum Docent

Join us on the second Saturday of each month for *Music and Movement*, an interactive family program that inspires learning through music, storytelling, and creative play. Led by a Bowers Museum docent, each session features a lively sing-along and story that connects to the museum’s collections or current exhibitions. “Music and movement inspire children to explore, create, and connect with the world around them.”

FREE EVENT

[Learn More](#)



Creepy Cubist Creations with Erna van Dyk

SUN | OCT 25 | 11 AM — 12 PM

JOHN M. LEE COURT | FAMILY ARTMAKING

Create your own monster masterpiece! Inspired by Cubist art and the iconic Frankenstein, families and artists of all levels are invited to use watercolor paints, colored pencils, and markers to transform geometric shapes into a creepy, colorful creature with art instructor Erna van Dyk.

TICKETED EVENT

MEMBERS \$10 | GENERAL \$15

Get Tickets

ANNE'S TREASURES ART WORKSHOPS

2ND & 4TH THURSDAYS

*Join this very special arts engagement program
for seniors and their community.*

10 AM — 12 PM | JOHN M. LEE COURT

TICKETED EVENTS: \$3 MATERIALS FEE

FREE TICKETS FOR BOWERS MEMBERS AGED 62+ | GENERAL \$7

Questions? Email mlopez@bowers.org or call 714.567.3678.



Painted Tea Towels

THU | SEP 10

Create a one-of-a-kind tea towel using fabric paints and colorful designs. Take home a functional work of art that's perfect for drying dishes, wrapping fresh-baked treats, or adding a handmade touch to your kitchen.



SOLD OUT!

Decorative Wreaths

THU | SEP 24

Design a beautiful wreath using a variety of materials and embellishments. Create a festive decoration for the holidays or craft a personalized piece to celebrate a special occasion.



Get Tickets

Día de los Muertos Art

THU | OCT 8

Choose from several art projects to create in the manner of Mexican folk artisans who use color and design to celebrate the annual return of loved ones.



Get Tickets

No Class on Oct 22



Sacred Realms Sound Immersion with Jody Post Theissen

WED | SEP 2 | 6—7 PM

SACRED REALMS EXHIBIT | SOUND MEDITATION CLASS

Enter a sanctuary for sonic exploration surrounded by vibrant Buddhist paintings. Guided by the expertise of sound alchemist Jody Post Theissen, this transformative practice is designed to cultivate inner peace and overall well-being. Immerse yourself in the resonant vibrations of ancient instruments, including Tibetan and crystal singing bowls, gongs, flutes, drums, mantras, and more.

TICKETED EVENT

MEMBERS \$15 | GENERAL \$20

[Get Tickets](#)

Space is limited and advanced reservations are encouraged. Please bring a yoga mat. A blanket which can be folded for support and/or a cushion is also recommended but not required.



Morning Tai Chi with Melody Zhang

SAT | SEP 19 & OCT 17 | 9 — 10 AM
JOHN M. LEE COURT | TAI CHI CLASS

This new monthly series introduces 八段锦 (Ba Duan Jin, “Eight Pieces of Brocade”), a set of eight gentle movements known to build strength, release tension, improve blood circulation, and support better sleep. Each session opens with guided practice suitable for all ages and fitness levels, followed by a brief reflection on the Eastern philosophy that shaped these movements over a millennium.

No experience is required. No equipment is needed. Wear comfortable clothing and come as you are.

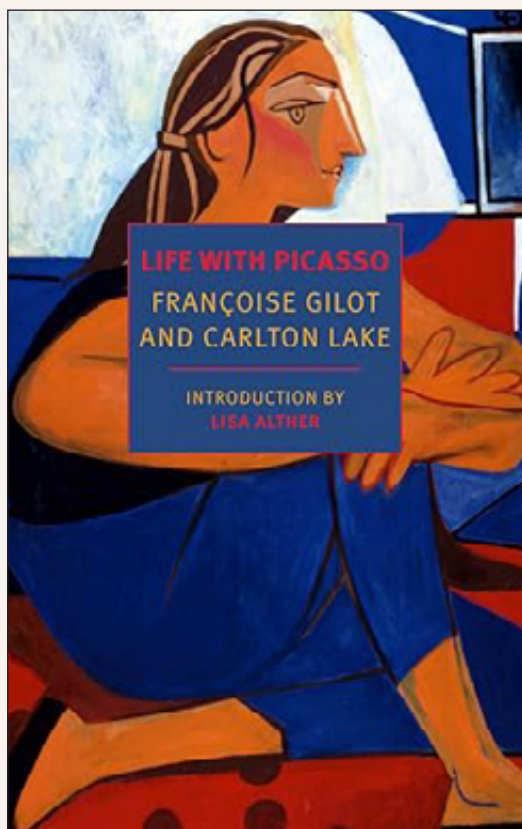
Melody Zhang trained in Kung Fu and Tai Chi under her mother, Jingmei Feng, National Kung Fu Champion of China and Olympic Torch Bearer of the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games. Her training spans more than fourteen years across Tai Chi, sword, and traditional Chinese martial forms.

TICKETED EVENT

MEMBERS \$10 | GENERAL \$15

[Get Tickets](#)

Books at Bowers: Touring Through the Pages



THU | OCT 15

1 — 2 PM

NORMA KERSHAW AUDITORIUM

ONSITE BOOK DISCUSSION

RSVP

SAT | OCT 17

10:30 — 11:30 AM

NORMA KERSHAW AUDITORIUM

ONSITE BOOK DISCUSSION

RSVP

For Members Only: A Book Club Experience

Books at Bowers: Touring Through the Pages is a Bowers Docent Guild sponsored book club for Bowers Museum members.

Join fellow Bowers Museum members for a lively discussion of *Life with Picasso*, an engaging memoir by artist Françoise Gilot, written with journalist and art critic Carlton Lake. Gilot offers a fascinating firsthand look at her decade with Pablo Picasso, sharing insights into his creative process, artistic vision, and life as one of the 20th century's most influential artists. Come explore the world of Picasso through Gilot's unique perspective and enjoy a thoughtful conversation with fellow art and book lovers. Published in 1964, 358 pages; available in audio and paperback editions.

The book discussion is paired with Bowers' featured exhibition, *Picasso Ceramics*, opening October 24.

Free Event

RSVP at [bowers.org](https://www.bowers.org). Space is limited to 50 Bowers Museum members. A confirmation email will be sent to participants prior to the event.



Haunted OC presents Spirits & Legends of Bowers Museum

THU | OCT 8, 15, 22, 29

FRI | OCT 30

7:30 — 9 PM | MUSEUM GALLERIES | AFTER HOURS TOUR

First opened in 1936, Bowers Museum has educated and enchanted people from all over with its exhibitions on local and world history as well as preeminent presentations on culture and art from around the globe. And for decades, many of the employees and guests have told stories of paranormal encounters they have experienced at the museum. Join Haunted Orange County's Christian Seiter for an exclusive after-hours tour as you explore the spirits and legends of Bowers Museum.

TICKETED EVENT

MEMBERS \$40 *(Plus service fee)* | **GENERAL \$50** *(Plus service fee)*

Get Tickets

MUSICAL PERFORMANCE

CRESCENDO CHAPTER OF THE GUILDS OF SEGERSTROM CENTER FOR THE ARTS:
CELEBRITY SPEAKER SERIES 2026



RAINBOW CABARET

with Garland and Minnelli Tribute Singers

THU | SEP 17 | 10:30 AM — 12 PM

NORMA KERSHAW AUDITORIUM | MUSICAL PERFORMANCE

Straight from Las Vegas, Denise Rose and Suzanne Goulet bring the legendary mother-daughter duo of Judy Garland and Liza Minnelli to life with dazzling vocals, captivating choreography, and plenty of humor. Enjoy beloved classics including “Over the Rainbow” and “All That Jazz” in this unforgettable tribute to two entertainment icons.

TICKETED EVENT

GENERAL ADMISSION \$45

[Learn More](#)

*Bowers Museum members may buy one discounted ticket for \$35.
For information about tickets contact Barbara Hagen at (714) 272-1134
or CrescendoTicketsBowers@gmail.com*



*Inspired by genius.
Made to wear everyday.*

Picasso Ceramics from the Rosenbaum Collection is organized by Landau Traveling Exhibitions, Los Angeles, CA, with contributions from Bowers Museum and guest curator Dr. Salvador Haro González. Image Credit: Pablo Picasso (Spanish, 1881–1973), *Face n° 202*, 1963 © 2026 Estate of Pablo Picasso / Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York.

Coming soon to
shop.bowers.org

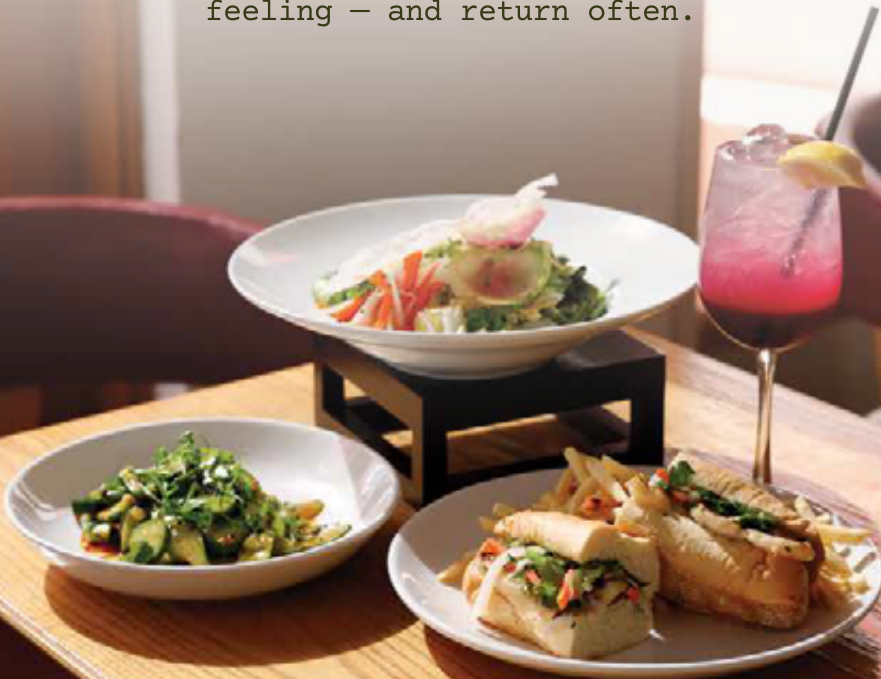


ADA'S TABLE

Santa Ana, Ca

**ROOTED IN THE LEGACY OF ADA BOWERS
AND THE VIBRANT FLAVORS OF CALIFORNIA,**

Ada's Table is a welcoming café experience designed to complement your visit to the Bowers Museum. Whether you're picking up something quick between exhibits or settling in for a leisurely lunch, Ada's Table is a place where California's culinary spirit meets the warmth of community. Come for the food, stay for the feeling — and return often.



Tap Here
to learn more about
dining at Bowers Museum.

CONSTELLATION

**BOWERS
MUSEUM**

EXPLORE MORE



Scan or Click on the QR Code
to see Upcoming Events at
Bowers Museum!

