Calendar of Events
Spring 2020 • January - March
Spring 2020 Calendar of Events

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Welcome

The Las Cruces Museum System aims to provide a welcoming environment for the curious so they can gain new insights and experience personal and community enrichment. Visit all four City museums and explore art, culture, history, and science!

Enhance your museum experience with programs and events which are (unless otherwise noted) free and open to the public with no pre-registration required. For information about any of the programs, exhibitions, or events in this booklet, please call 575.541.2137 or email museums_education@las-cruces.org. You can also find the museums on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter @lc museums.

The museum galleries are open:
Tuesday – Friday 10am – 4:30pm
Saturday 9am – 4:30pm

Registration

For programs or classes at any of the four museums in the Las Cruces Museum System that do require pre-registration or payment, visit the atrium desk at the Museum of Nature & Science at 411 N. Main Street. Registrations are processed in person between 10am – 4pm, Tuesday – Saturday. Unfortunately, the Museums are unable to process online or phone registrations.

Classes and programs with insufficient enrollment are subject to cancellation. Registration for all classes and programs closes the Wednesday before the first day of the class.

Branigan Cultural Center
501 N. Main St.
575.541.2154

Museum of Art
491 N. Main St.
575.541.2137

Museum of Nature & Science
411 N. Main St.
575.522.3120

Railroad Museum
351 N. Mesilla St.
575.528.3444

Hours

Tuesday – Friday 10am – 4:30pm
Saturday 9am – 4:30pm

Contact

museums_education@las-cruces.org
museums.las-cruces.org

This booklet is recyclable!
City of Las Cruces • 3 • Spring Schedule 2020
William Wachtel Memorial Scholarship

In memory of William Wachtel, the Foundation for Las Cruces Museums (FLCM) offers a limited number of scholarships for students of all ages to participate in classes at the museums. Scholarships apply to any program at the Las Cruces Museums including classes, camps, and workshops and are intended to provide financial assistance to individuals interested in participating. If awarded, the scholarship covers 100% of the class tuition and required supplies. Awardees are solely responsible for meeting class registration deadlines.

To Apply:

Complete the online scholarship application at http://bit.ly/LCMScholarships. The FLCM does not process requests without proof of assistance or a copy of your latest tax return.

OR

Email supplemental documentation to scholarships@foundationlcm.com.

If you would prefer to send a hard copy, mail it to:
Foundation for Las Cruces Museums
Attn: Scholarships
PO Box 2783
Las Cruces, NM 88004-2783

Documents must be received before the FLCM can award scholarships.

The FLCM awards scholarships on a first-come, first-served basis for qualifying applications. Students applying for a scholarship cannot register for a class in advance. Scholarship applications are accepted on a rolling basis and destroyed after the funding decision.

The scholarship application is separate from the course registration. If you receive a scholarship, you must register for your selected course during the open registration period.

Deadlines to apply: Rolling application periods.

Volunteers and Docent Training

The Network Volunteer Center connects individuals age 18 and older to volunteer opportunities at 20+ sites throughout the City of Las Cruces, including all four City museums!

Volunteer opportunities at the museums include greeters, tour guides and docents, receptionists, and special events volunteers. Volunteers are encouraged to attend the monthly docent training about museum exhibitions or special topics, develop relationships with other volunteers and community members, to attend the annual volunteer recognition event, and know that they have made a meaningful contribution and positive impact on our community. All docent training meetings are held from 10:30am to noon on the second Wednesday of each month, unless otherwise noted:

January 8
Docent training at the Branigan Cultural Center

February 12
Docent training at the Museum of Art

March 11
Docent training at the Branigan Cultural Center

If you are interested in volunteering at the museums, please contact the Volunteer Coordinator, Scott Rodgers, at srodgers@las-cruces.org or 575.528.3035.
Dino Days
Museum of Nature & Science
Thursday, January 2 & Friday, January 3
10am - noon
Walk on the wild side and explore the world of dinosaurs! During this free, family-friendly event, participants will play the dinosaur name game and learn how new species are named. Explore biomechanics and design an imaginary dinosaur to your own specifications. Look at real and replica fossils and learn about the animals that roamed Pangea millions of years ago.

Lunar New Year
Branigan Cultural Center
Saturday, January 25
10am - 1pm
Join the Branigan Cultural Center to celebrate Lunar New Year and the beginning of the “Year of the Rat”.

Plutomania!
Museum of Nature & Science
Saturday, February 8
10am - noon
Local astronomy hero Clyde Tombaugh first observed Pluto in 1930 from the Lowell Observatory in Flagstaff, Arizona. Celebrate his contributions to planetary science and space exploration with hands-on activities for all ages. Look to the stars!

Engineering Expo
Railroad Museum
Saturday, February 22
10am – 1pm
Engineers are everywhere! Explore engineering with hands-on activities and demonstrations for all ages.

Dr. Seuss Day
Museum of Nature & Science
Saturday, March 7
10am - noon
Celebrate the fantastic world of Dr. Seuss through activities inspired by his books. Make Oobleck, plant seeds to help the Lorax save the earth, and stack the cat’s hats. Activities are recommended for ages 2-10.
Spring Break Camp
8am – noon
Grades: 1-2, 3-5, 6-7
Cost: $40 per student

Join the museums for a fun, friendly spring break camp. This year, kids explore the world of lucha libre as they work at all four museums learning about culture, art, science, and history. Participants will get a chance to develop their own lucha libre character, make a signature mask for their character, engage in outdoor team-building activities, explore the physical training required to become a wrestler, and more as they explore this rich cultural tradition. Registration is required.

Spring Break Studio
130pm – 330pm
Ages: 6-8 & 9-12
Cost: $50 per student

Students will get to spend their spring break getting creative and artistic. During this five-day camp, students will tackle something different each day such as drawing, printmaking, clay, painting, and stained glass. Students will create personalized pieces of art while using a variety of techniques and materials. This hands-on class will allow students the freedom to explore and create.
Lucha Libre: Stories From The Ring
March 2 – June 13

Lucha libre has a rich history that dates back over a century in both Mexico and the United States. Although it is characterized for over-the-top performances and supposed macho atmosphere, the theatrical sport is beyond that. Lucha libre combines athleticism, theater, dance, story, and the visual arts.

Lucha libre became a popular sport in the early 1900s, but its origins date back to the late 1800s. At that time, there existed in the United States a form of wrestling that was more theatrical and included a stage. This form of wrestling influenced Salvador Lutterroth - Italian businessman and veteran of the Mexican revolution - to start a company called EMML (Empresa Mexicana de Lucha Libre). After seeing several wrestling matches in El Paso, Texas, Lutteroth took his company to Mexico and began promoting shows through the 1920s and 1930s. These events were held in Mexico City and were classified as the poor man’s sport because they were rudimentary and held in the poorest neighborhoods. The sport became extremely popular in the following decades.

By the 1950s, luchadores began wearing masks. This helped the wrestlers develop their characters; depending on the colors and designs used, the crowd could determine whether they were the técnicos (good guys) or the rudos (bad guys). The luchador mask styles became iconic after the debut of Santo el Enmascarado de Plata, a famous luchador and film actor.

By the 1960s and 1970s, other independent wrestling companies began to rival EMML and helped grow the popularity of lucha libre. In the 1980s, a wave of luchadores activists began to emerge after a devastating earthquake in Mexico City. Many residents were left without a home, many were evicted, and the city had to be rebuilt. The social anxiety and unrest that followed led to marches and rallies for the government to establish and distribute housing credits. Out of this unrest a luchador called Super Barrio emerged and become the staple of the marches and protests. Since the 1980s lucha libre not only stands as a form of entertainment and a cultural staple but also as a symbol used to organize communities and stand for social inequalities. By the 1990s Mexican lucha libre was introduced to the United States, when several luchadores were featured on television. Since then lucha libre has become a transnational phenomenon and recognized for the presentation, athleticism, unique style, elaborate attire, masks, and stories.

Lucha Libre: Voices From The Ring will highlight lucha libre’s cultural, historical, and social political importance while showing the fun, unique, cultural aspect of it.
Exhibitions

Greetings from Las Cruces: Postcard Views of the Mesilla Valley
Postcards courtesy of Leslie Coburn Hudson
Continues through January 25
This exhibit highlights the remarkable record of Las Cruces and the surrounding area as chronicled through postcards from the early 1900s to the 1960s. It examines the stylized tastes and romantic views presented in postcards that were used to appeal to tourists, and addresses themes like agriculture, Main Street views, natural landscapes, and tourism.

Standing in the Light: Queer Culture in Art, Literature, and Music
Continues through February 22
Standing in the Light highlights the widespread presence of LGBTQ people in American and regional art, literature, and music. It features artwork by local LGBTQ artists, a book nook to explore literature, and a disco platform to celebrate dance.

Endangered Monuments
Photographs by Samuel Fee, Ph.D
January 24 - April 4
Samuel Fee’s conservation photographs of national monuments throughout the southwestern U.S. capture the timeless beauty of America’s public lands.

New Eyes on New Mexico
Artwork by Victoria Chick
February 7 - March 21
Victoria Chick’s paintings reflect the frequently overlooked areas of southern New Mexico where people establish a relationship between themselves, the wildlife, and the landscape.
Exhibitions

Museum of Art

Dinosaur Discoveries: Ancient Fossils, New Ideas

January 25 – September 12

Dinosaur Discoveries: Ancient Fossils, New Ideas is an exciting traveling exhibition by the American Museum of Natural History, New York, that showcases the world of modern paleontology by introducing a dynamic vision of dinosaurs and the scientists who study them. The exhibition examines how advanced technologies allow scientists to look at fossils in fresh ways and interpret their findings to the public. Through using realistic models and casts, visitors can experience Cretaceous period dinosaurs in new and intimate ways. The exhibit opens January 25 and runs through September 12 at the Museum of Art.

Have you wondered how these enormous creatures were able to move? Interactive kiosk stations present information about the biomechanics of theropods, like T. Rex, and sauropods, like Apatosaurus. Many Cretaceous-period dinosaurs had horns, frills, and crests on their heads and bodies. Paleontologists have considered what role these features might have played - defensive for protection or reproductive for attracting a mate. Visitors can examine life-size casts and realistic models to see these peculiar features and explore modern theories about their purpose.

For approximately 79 million years the creatures of the Cretaceous period roamed the Earth, until 65.5 million years ago when a massive extinction event occurred that killed off nearly all large vertebrates and many tropical invertebrates. This die off allowed smaller, omnivorous, terrestrial animal populations to explode. Modern theories about this extinction event and its meaning are presented for visitors to consider.

Museum Programming

Branigan Cultural Center

LGBTQ+ in Literature
Saturday, January 4 at 10am
Attend a LGBTQ+ book reading for people of all ages.

“Guilty as Sin: The History of Criminalizing Homosexuality in Texas” by Jecoa Ross
Saturday, January 18 at 1pm
Learn about the history of LGBTQ+ in Texas in this informative discussion by Jecoa Ross.

Considering the Future of Public Lands
Friday, January 24 at 1pm
Dr. Samuel Fee engages in a discussion of the value of public lands.

Standing in the Light Artist Panel
Saturday, February 8 at 2pm
Welcome LGBTQ+ artists from the Standing in the Light exhibition as they discuss their artwork.

Wayfinding
Saturday, February 22 at 11am
Learn about navigation, how to read a map, and how a compass works in this fun, hands-on workshop for people of all ages.

Field Trip to Organ Mountains Desert Peaks National Monument
Saturday, March 7 from 10am-3pm
Join a guided hike at the Organ Mountains Desert Peaks National Monument. Pre-registration is required by Wednesday, March 4. Meet at the monument. Park entrance fees may apply.

Nature Photography Workshop
Saturday, March 21 at 10am
Meet with photography enthusiasts throughout Las Cruces to trade tips for outdoor photography, before traveling to a local park to practice. Pre-registration is required by March 18. The workshop is free, but space is limited. Participants must bring their own equipment.
**Museum Programming**

**Railroad Museum**

**Needle Punch Embroidery**

*Thursdays, January 23 and 30 from 10am – noon*

Needle punch embroidery has been used to embellish clothing and home goods since the time of the ancient Egyptians. Try your hand at this fascinating craft and take home a creation suitable for framing. This two-part class will introduce you to the technique and allow time for practice before you begin your mini masterpiece. The first session on Thursday, January 23, covers the punching technique and provides time to practice on a small swatch of fabric. You will begin creating your mini masterpiece in second session, January 30. Class size is limited to 6 participants, ages 15 and up. Cost: $10. All supplies will be provided, but if you like you may bring your own sewing scissors and a bottle of inexpensive clear nail polish. Registration is required and must be completed by January 22.

**Mandala Painting**

*Wednesday, February 5 from 10am – noon*

Mandalas were originally geometric configurations of symbols in many ancient religions. Today they are a popular art form, found in many mediums. Create your own mandala art on a rock to display in your garden or on your desk. Registration is required and must be completed by January 29. Program cost: $5

**Brown Bag Lecture**

Would you like to learn more about this area? Bring your lunch and listen to a local expert talk about topics related to the railroad or local history. Lectures start at noon.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 14</td>
<td>Bud Russo</td>
<td><em>Six Degrees of Separation – New Mexico Style</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 11</td>
<td>Patricia Kiddney</td>
<td><em>Harvey Girls and their Impact on the Southwest</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 10</td>
<td>David Thomas</td>
<td><em>The History of Mesilla</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Mrs. Prickett’s Story Time**

Mrs. Prickett and her delightful puppets read books and tell stories that are sure to engage children of all ages. A related activity appropriate for pre-school children will follow the story. Story time runs from 11am – 11:30am.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Book Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 16</td>
<td><em>The Napping House,</em> Audrey Wood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 20</td>
<td><em>Buddy Butterfly and His Cousin,</em> Melissa Blackwell Burke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 19</td>
<td><em>Silly Sally,</em> Audrey Wood</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Coloring Club**

It’s OK to color outside the lines! Coloring is a fun way to recapture one of the joys of childhood in a safe and relaxing environment. Bring your own favorite coloring book, or try something new with an assortment of coloring pages and colored pencils provided by the museum. Coloring Club meets 10am – noon on January 10, January 24, February 14, February 28, and March 13.
Rail Reader’s Book Club
After reading a good book, it’s fun to discuss it with friends. Join Rail Readers Book Club and discuss a book about trains or local history. Book club meets from 11am – noon.

January 15  Signal for Vengeance, Edward Marston
February 19  The Circus Train
            Conspiracy, Edward Marston
March 18    The Fourth Perspective, Robert Greer

New Program!
The First 50 Years
Part lecture, part Jeopardy-style game show, this new program will test your knowledge of the first 50 years after the coming of the railroad to Las Cruces. From local happenings to world events, you’ll be amazed to learn of inventions, entertainment, and transportation changes during this significant time period. A different theme will be explored during this monthly program. Meets 11am - noon on January 17 and March 20.

Operation Lifesaver
The Las Cruces Railroad Museum provides a free presentation on highway-rail grade crossing safety and rail trespass prevention to any interested school or community group. If you would like to schedule a presentation about rail safety, contact Joanne Beer, Museum Curator and Operation Lifesaver State Coordinator for New Mexico.
The Museum of Nature & Science kicks off 2020 with “Dino Days” on January 2 and 3 from 10am to noon. The free, family-friendly event is not only fun for all ages but can also help Cub Scouts meet badge requirements for the Digging in the Past Wolf Elective Adventure. Everyone is invited to learn to identify trace fossils from the Paleozoic Trackways National Monument, explore physical traits of carnivorous and herbivorous dinosaurs, design an imaginary dinosaur, and play with dinosaur games and puzzles.

“Dino Days” is just the start of months of great dinosaur-related programming. The Las Cruces Museum System will be hosting the American Museum of Natural History traveling exhibition Dinosaur Discoveries: Ancient Fossils, New Ideas from January 25 through September 12 in the Museum of Art. This exhibit will introduce visitors to modern paleontology. Visitors will learn how computer simulations are helping scientists discover how these massive prehistoric animals moved around the landscape and interacted with one another. Groups interested in guided tours of the exhibition should call ahead to schedule the tour and ensure a docent is available to guide your visit.

To accompany the exhibition, the Museum of Nature & Science will be hosting a series of Saturday afternoon seminars, “Dig Deeper into Dinosaurs,” with professional paleontologists from around New Mexico. Visitors are encouraged to stop by on Saturday mornings between 10am and noon for “Jaws, Paws, & Claws” in the Museum of Art gallery for a hands-on look at some of the defensive characteristics of dinosaurs found in the fossil record.

Museum of Nature & Science

Nature Center: Animal Feedings
It’s brunch time! Watch and learn how different species of animals eat, and what they eat, with a live demonstration. Feedings start at 11am on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Saturdays of the month.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1st Saturdays</th>
<th>2nd Saturdays</th>
<th>3rd Saturdays</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amphibians and Lizards</td>
<td>Turtles</td>
<td>Snakes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Nature Center: Animal Encounters
Learn about the diverse world of reptiles, amphibians, and invertebrates and get up close to some of the museum’s residents. Explore their families and adaptations with the Nature Center Staff! Encounters start at 11am on the 4th Saturday of the month.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>January 25</th>
<th>February 22</th>
<th>March 28</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reptiles</td>
<td>Amphibians</td>
<td>Invertebrates</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Duct Tape Designs
Explore material science with duct tape. Test the strength of this common adhesive, then get creative designing usable objects. Build on your knowledge and skills in this three-part workshop to create a hammock and wallet. This workshop is for youth ages 11-17. This program is free but registration is required by January 8. Sessions will be held from 2:30pm - 4:30pm on Saturdays noted below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>January 11</th>
<th>January 18</th>
<th>January 25</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Book Bridge and Hammock Build</td>
<td>Tape Hang and Hammock Build</td>
<td>Duct Tape Duck and Wallet Build</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

New Program!
Jaws, Paws, & Claws
Take a closer look at the teeth, claws, and defenses of dinosaurs. Compare hands-on specimens on Saturdays noted below from 10am-noon.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>February 1, February 28, March 28</th>
<th>February 8, March 7</th>
<th>February 15, March 14</th>
<th>February 22, March 21</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Teeth</td>
<td>Claws</td>
<td>Bony Plates</td>
<td>Feathers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
New Program!
Dig Deeper into Dinosaurs
Dig deeper into the world of New Mexico paleontology with experts from around the state on Saturdays as noted at 2pm.

February 22
Permian Fossils in Southern New Mexico, Colin Dunn
Bureau of Land Management

March 28
Coelophysis, the Rise of Dinosaurs, Gretchen Gurtler
Museums at Ghost Ranch

Nature & Science
Discovery Pre-K
Nurture your little one’s love of science! Preschool children and their parent or caregiver are invited to investigate nature and science through hands-on explorations, stories, and arts and crafts. Recommended for ages 2 - 5; Thursdays from 9am - 10am.

Nature & Science Saturday Pre-K
Little learners and their parents or caregivers are invited to investigate nature and science through hands-on explorations, stories, and arts and crafts. Recommended for ages 2-5. Saturday Pre-K meets from 2pm – 3pm on dates as noted.

February 15 Sun Prints
March 21 Cookie Excavation

Saturday Family Science
Bring your curiosity and your family to the museum for a hands-on investigation. Work together and explore a new topic each month on Saturdays as noted from noon - 1pm.

January 4 Chemistry of Color
February 1 Hearts
March 7 Earthquakes

STEAMpunk
Discover the stories behind science’s greatest rebels and explore the modern-day applications of their research through hands-on explorations and discussions. Recommended for ages 7-12. Meets on Saturdays as noted from noon - 1pm.

January 18 Amelia Earhart, Aviator
February 15 George Washington Carver, Agriculturalist
March 21 Patricia Bath, Ophthalmologist

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Museum Programming

Museum of Art

Artist Talk with Victoria Chick
(program takes place at Branigan Cultural Center)
Friday, February 7 at 5:30pm
Artist Victoria Chick presents her solo exhibition *New Eyes on New Mexico* at the Branigan Cultural Center, discussing her inspirations and artistic process. Afterwards, Ms. Chick will lead a tour of the exhibition.

Artist Trading Cards
(program takes place at Branigan Cultural Center)
Saturday, February 15 from 2pm – 4pm
Make artist trading cards, unique pocket-sized works of art that you can collect and trade with other artists! Swiss artist M. Vânci Stirnemann started this collaborative art project in 1997 and since then it has spread around the globe as a fun and engaging social activity. All materials provided by the museum.

Desert Dwellers of the Southwest
(program takes place at Branigan Cultural Center)
Saturday, March 14 from 2pm – 3pm
Join the Nature Center and the Museum of Art for a presentation on the desert dwellers of the Southwest covering an array of animal species.

Artventurous
Explore art as a family! Artventurous delves into art history, featuring an individual artist, or highlighting the current artwork in the gallery. Come by and learn with a hands-on art-making experience every Saturday from 10am-noon.

Education Station
(Ages 17 & under)
Join the education staff for a presentation featuring a topic from a current museum exhibition followed by a hands-on activity. All materials provided by the museum. The station meets on days as noted from 2pm – 3pm.

January 11 Vegetable Prints
February 8 Pictorial Landscape Collage

January 25 Fossil Casting
February 22 Pictorial Landscape Collage (takes place at Branigan Cultural Center)
March 21 Desert Felines of the Southwest (takes place at Branigan Cultural Center)

Reading Art Book Club
The Reading Art Book Club explores the connections between art and literature by reading and discussing new art-related books each month. As much as possible, books will relate to the Museum’s exhibitions. Everyone is welcome – join the club even if you haven’t read the book! Book club meets from 2:30pm – 3:30pm on the second Wednesday of the month.

January 8 Concerning the Spiritual in Art by Wassily Kandinsky
February 12 Learning by Heart: Teachings to Free the Creative Spirit by Corita Kent and Jan Steward
March 11 Leonardo da Vinci by Walter Isaacson
Gallery Tours
Walk the gallery, share ideas, exchange opinions, and consider different perspectives about the works of art during guided exhibit tours. Tours start at 1:30pm on the first Saturday of the month.

**January 4**  Desert Triangle Print Carpeta  
(Museum of Art)

**February 1**  Dinosaur Discoveries (Museum of Art)

**March 7**  New Eyes on New Mexico  
(Branigan Cultural Center)

New Program!

Listen to Your Art
The Museum of Art will be hosting its very own art history lecture series called “Listen to Your Art” starting in January 2020. Lectures will be held monthly on the third Friday at 1:30pm. This year the series will focus on influential women artists, past and present. Delve into their contributions and revolutions in the arts. The lectures will be tailored for an adult audience, but all are welcome to attend.

**January 17**  Frida Kahlo
**February 21**  Yayoi Kusama
**March 20**  Maria Longworth Storer

Dino Nights
Join staff at the Museum of Art for an evening with the dinosaurs in *Dinosaur Discoveries*. Enjoy a guided tour before participating in a hands-on arts and crafts activity for the whole family. All materials provided by the museum. Dino Nights will be held the first and third Thursday of each month from 5:30pm - 7:30pm.

**February 6**  Tooth and Nail: Carnivorous Creatures
**February 20**  Flight of Fancy: Flying Creatures
**March 5**  Frolicking Foliage: Herbivorous Creatures
**March 19**  Down to the Bone: Skeletal Structures

Winnie the Pooh Day
(program takes place at Thomas Branigan Memorial Library)  
**Saturday, January 18 from 1:30pm - 2:30pm**
Celebrate Winnie the Pooh Day with the Museum of Art and the Thomas Branigan Memorial Library! Enjoy story time and hands-on crafts featuring the world’s most adorable, honey-loving yellow bear and his pals. It’s not an “oh, bother” kind of day, but a “oh boy!” kind of day for the whole family! All materials are provided.
Studio Programs

The Museum of Art works hard to provide the community of Las Cruces with quality studio art education for all ages and artistic levels. Prioritizing a good arts education is vital to the development of the community, its children, and the overall quality of life. The visual arts teach color, composition, perspective, and balance, but more importantly they teach people to think outside of the box and become creative problem solvers. The visual arts can help in development of motor skills, language skills, social skills, decision-making skills, and inventiveness. The visual arts boost critical thinking and teach students to be more observant. All these skills will follow you outside of the studio into everyday life and even your academics. Plus, the arts can be a great stress reliever and just a lot of fun!

Studio art classes and workshops are held year-round so that adults, teens, and kids can have access to these wonderful resources. All classes are one flat rate, which covers six consecutive classes and all required materials.

The Museum is also offering two special programs. The Painting Party (ages 18+) is a fun, no pressure party where each participant gets to create an easy step-by-step painting guided by an art instructor. If you’re looking for something for your kids to do during spring break, send them over to the museum! The Museum will run a special five-day studio program where kids ages 6-12 can experiment with multiple art mediums and come home each day with a new work of art!

Studio Classes

Session 1:
January 8 – February 15

Adult Classes

Ceramics 1 (ages 18+)
$105

This class is designed for beginning students to learn and practice basic techniques for building functional ceramic forms. Begin by exploring hand building techniques such as coil and slab building, then move on to the potter’s wheel to create forms such as bowls, cups and vessels. Learn glazing techniques and bring home functional pottery.

Saturdays, January 11 – February 15, 1:30pm - 4:30pm

Ceramics 2 (ages 18+)
$105

Whether you prefer throwing on the potter’s wheel or hand building this class will refine your making and decorating skills. This class is designed for students who are ready to expand on their basic ceramic skills and ideas. Starting with a quick overview of the materials and techniques from Ceramics 1, the class then moves on to more advanced instructor-led projects intended to help students expand on their skills. Prerequisite: Ceramics 1 or permission of the Studio Programs Coordinator.

Thursdays, January 9 – February 13, 5:30pm - 8:30pm

Drawing (ages 18+)
$65

Drawing is the most important foundation course of all the visual arts! In this inspiring & informative class, students will learn the essentials of proportion, line, shading, perspective, negative space and composition. Use these drawing techniques to create realistic drawings of everyday objects, still life, and more. Students will work with various media including pencils, charcoal, pen and ink to define their own artistic styles.

Thursdays, January 9 - February 13, 5:30pm - 8:30pm
**Studio Programs**

**Oil Painting (ages 18+)**  
**$80**  
In this class, students will be using water-based oil paints to learn about the properties and techniques of oil paint. Students will learn techniques such as various application techniques, scrubbing, wet on wet, washes, color mixing and more. Using reference photos and working from life, students will start with material studies and then create multiple finished paintings and leave with a greater confidence in working with oil paint.  
**Saturdays, January 11 – February 15, 9:30am - 12:30pm**

**Printmaking (ages 18+)**  
**$80**  
Students learn basic and safe non-toxic methods of printmaking which incorporate texture, surface, color, and design in works of art while exploring a variation of intaglio, relief, collagraph, and monotype techniques. Projects allow students to explore color, composition, form, and personal imagery. They will learn to develop an original image for prints, engage in creative exercises to build an understanding of the medium, and integrate black and white and color into their graphic works. Build confidence, apply new knowledge, and explore artistic experimentation and discovery while creating a variety of prints!  
**Thursdays, January 9 – February 13, 5:30pm - 8:30pm**

**Painting Party (ages 18+)**  
**$15/$25**  
Participants will get to take a step-by-step painting class, led by an experienced instructor, to learn how to re-create a painting/image of their choice. This is a fun, easy going class designed for even the beginners of beginners to be able to accomplish. Come with family and friends and enjoy some food and drinks and bring home a work of art!  
Registration is required by February 12. Cost is $15/person or $25 a couple.  
**Friday, February 14 from 6pm – 8:30pm**

**Kids & Teen Classes**

**Fantastic Creatures (ages 9-12)**  
**$50**  
Students will spend this class drawing and painting all kinds of animals! They will work in multiple mediums such as charcoal, pastel and paint to create realistic images of animals. This course focuses on developing drawing and painting skills while creating images of horses, lions, dragons, mermaids, dogs and more!  
**Saturdays, January 11 – February 15, 10am - noon**

**Clay for Kids (ages 6-8)**  
**$50**  
Students will get to have fun and get messy with clay in between their fingers. Students will learn about clay and ceramics while being led by the instructor to create ceramic artworks such as ice cream bowls, bird houses, animal faces and more. Each student gets to paint their work at the end and go home with multiple works of art.  
**Saturdays, January 11 – February 15, 10am - noon**
Studio Programs

Watercolor (ages 13-17)
$60
This class focuses on building the foundation skills of watercolor painting. Participants will receive detailed instruction and training for mastering watercolor materials and techniques. Students will practice effective brush handling, working with wet-on-dry and wet-on-wet paper technique, and mixing colors successfully. Throughout the class, students develop paintings of their own design, either from life or photograph, and leave with multiple finished paintings, as well as greater confidence in working with watercolor.

Saturdays, January 11 – February 15, 1:30pm - 4:30 pm

Session 2:
February 19 – March 28

Adult Classes

Ceramics 1 (ages 18+)
$105
This class is designed for beginner students to learn and practice basic techniques for building functional ceramic forms. Begin by exploring hand building techniques such as coil and slab building, then move on to the potter’s wheel creating forms such as bowls, cups and vessels. Learn glazing techniques and bring home functional pottery.

Saturdays, February 22 – March 28, 9:30am - 12:30pm

Ceramics 2 (ages 18+)
$105
Whether you prefer throwing on the potter’s wheel or hand building this class will refine your making and decorating skills. This class is designed for students who are ready to expand on their basic ceramic skills and ideas. Starting with a quick overview of the materials and techniques from Ceramics 1, the class then moves on to more advanced instructor-led projects intended to help students expand on their skills. Prerequisite: Ceramics 1 or permission of the Studio Programs Coordinator.

Saturdays, February 22 – March 28, 1:30pm - 4:30pm

Intro to Acrylic (18+)
$75
Acrylic paint is one of the most versatile mediums and one of the least toxic. This fast-drying medium allows for a lot of forgiveness while working with it, which makes it one of the more popular paint choices. In this class, students will be using acrylic paints and learning about the properties and techniques of them. Students will learn techniques such as application, wet on wet, washes and layers, color mixing and more. Using reference photos and working from life, students will start with material studies and then create multiple finished paintings and leave with a greater confidence in working with acrylic paint.

Saturdays, February 22 – March 28, 1:30pm - 4:30pm

Bookmaking (18+)
$80
In this class, artists will create their own handmade books from cover to cover. Participants are introduced to bookmaking techniques, such as stitch binding and stab binding as well as pop-up and accordion bookmaking. Fill your creations with poems, sketches, recipes, or found materials. The possibilities are endless!

Thursdays, February 20 – March 26, 5:30pm - 8:30pm
Portrait Drawing (ages 18+)
$65
Drawing is the most important foundation course of all the visual arts! In this fun and informative class, students will expand on their drawing skills and focus on portraiture! This class will focus on tricks and techniques to make portraiture simple and easy using the grid technique, color blocking, and line transfer. Students will work from photos and mirrors and may bring in photos of personal family members or friends to create meaningful gifts. Participants will use various mediums such as graphite, pen, ink, markers, and pastels.
Thursdays, February 20 – March 26, 5:30pm - 8:30pm

Kids & Teens Classes

Drawing and Painting (ages 9-12)
$50
Students will get creative and messy creating works of art using a variety of skills techniques and mediums. This hands-on class will allow students the freedom to explore and create while also developing drawing and painting skills. Learning about color, value, proportion, line, and process students will leave the class with multiple finished works of art and a deeper knowledge of the arts.
Saturdays, February 22 - March 28, 10am - noon

Messy Mixed Media (ages 6-8)
$50
Students will get to create personalized pieces of art using a variety of techniques and materials. This hands-on class will allow students freedom to explore, blend color and texture and play with action art. Be prepared to get messy and have fun while learning a newfound appreciation for art. Fun projects will combine collage, acrylic painting, layering and found object to create masterpieces! Come ready to paint, draw, sketch, splatter, sculpt and more!
Saturdays, February 22 - March 28, 10am- noon

Through the Wheel (ages 13-17)
$60
Learn the ancient art of wheel-throwing pottery. In this class, teens are introduced to the potter’s wheel to learn the tricky yet extremely fun and tactile skill of wheel throwing. Students will learn how to create bowls, plates, mugs and more, which will then be glazed and taken home at the end of class.
Thursdays, February 20 – March 26, 5:30pm - 7:30pm
Children’s Programs
For information call 575.528.4225 or email library.childrens@las-cruces.org.

Read To Me
Who: Children ages 3-7 with caregivers
What: Come enjoy books, songs, rhymes, and fingerplays.
When: Tuesdays at 10:30am

Toddler Time
Who: Children ages 1-3 with caregivers
What: Get ready for story time! Come and listen to stories, sing songs, and do fingerplays.
When: Wednesdays & Thursdays at 10am

Mother Goose
Who: Infants (birth to walking) with caregivers
What: It is time to join in! In this active lapsit program you will enjoy songs, nursery rhymes, and play.
When: Wednesdays at 11am

Rhythm RoundUp
Who: Children ages 2-5 with caregivers
What: Let’s get moving! Come and enjoy music with singing, dancing, and movement.
When: Fridays at 10:30am
Library Lab
Who: Children ages 6-10; caregivers are welcome
What: Explore art, science, engineering, or games through stories and activities.
When: Fridays at 3:30pm
Where: Craft Room in the Children’s Department

Sound Sessions
(Teen program)
1st and 3rd Friday of the month from 4pm - 5pm in the Kiva Room
2nd, 4th, and 5th Saturday of the month from 1 - 2pm in the Kiva Room
Teens are invited to come learn or improve their guitar skills. In January sessions focus on chords for Hotel California by the Eagles, pentatonic scale, and finger exercises.

Teen Game Night
Every Tuesday and Thursday night from 4pm – 6pm in the Maker Space Room.
Teens can enjoy video games on the X-Box One, PS4, or old school style board games, or just socialize.

1st Wednesday Programming
Wednesday, January 8 at 2 pm
“Matter of Balance”: This program is designed to help older adults avoid slips, trips, and falls, as well as maintain a healthy balance throughout life.

Wednesday, February 5 at 2 pm
“Hats and Fashions of the 1950s”: This program will put the hats and fashions of the 1950s into a wider cultural context, with actual hats from the time period.

Wednesday, March 4 at 2 pm
“Beekeeping”: Bees have been declared the most important living beings on earth. Come celebrate bees and honey.

Design & Create Workshops
The following workshops are free of charge; all materials will be provided. Registration is required in order to have sufficient supplies for everyone. Please register by calling 575.528.4005 or emailing library.reference@las-cruces.org

Wednesday, January 15 at 2pm
“Art Journaling”: An art journal is a book kept as a visual, and sometimes verbal, record of a person’s thoughts and ideas. Art journals generally combine visual journaling and writing to create finished pages.

Wednesday, February 19 at 2pm
“Painted Rocks”: Rock painting can be the perfect hand-made gift for someone you care about. They can create joy and promote generosity and kindness.

Wednesday, March 18 at 2pm
“Fabric Pots”: Give clay pots new life with a coat of Mod Podge and fabric! It’s the perfect way to use up scrap fabric and add a splash of color to your home for spring!

“Blossoming Books”
Adult Reading Challenge
Monday, February 3 through Friday, April 24
Looking to welcome in the new reading year, or to get a head start on the summer bestsellers? Then the Thomas Branigan Memorial Library invites you to participate in the “Blossoming Books” Adult Reading Challenge! Read five books across a variety of topics and genres; complete all five books and receive an exciting prize!
Computer Classes

Basic Computer Skills
Tuesday, January 7 at 2pm
Tuesday, February 4 at 2pm
A class for the absolute beginner. Students will learn the parts of the computer, mouse skills, the Windows environment, and how to navigate Windows-based programs.

Windows 10
Tuesday, January 14 at 5:30pm
Tuesday, February 11 at 2pm
Thursday, March 12 at 10am
This class will teach students how to navigate the most recent Windows operating system, including the new Start Menu, Cortana, and how to customize the desktop. Basic computer skills are required.

iPad Basics
Thursday, January 23 at 10am
Wednesday, February 26 at 5:30pm
This class will cover the basics such as how to navigate beyond the Home Screen, how to use the touch keypad, setting up and using bookmarks in Safari, and how to use your iPad as an e-reader. Students must have their own iPad to attend. iPads will not be provided.

Android Basics
Thursday, January 30 at 10am
Wednesday, March 18 at 5:30pm
This class will cover the basics such as how to navigate, how to use the touch keypad, using the internet, and how to use your device as an e-reader. Students must have their own Android device to attend. Mobile devices will not be provided.

Internet for Beginners
Thursday, February 20 at 2pm
A class for those who want to learn how to go online and move around the internet with ease. Students will learn how to access websites, how to navigate, web addresses, basic searching, and web safety.

File Management
Thursday, March 5 at 2pm
This class is a basic class where students will learn how to manage files by uploading files from removable drives and moving files into folders.

Microsoft Word Basics
Tuesday, March 24 at 2pm
A class for those who are beginning to use Microsoft Word. Students will learn how to create and format basic documents. Basic computer skills are required.

Microsoft Excel Basics
Tuesday, March 31 at 2pm
A class for those who are beginning to use Microsoft Excel. Students will learn how to create and format basic spreadsheets. Basic computer skills are required.

GED/HiSet Informational Meetings
Tuesday, January 7 at 4pm
Monday, February 10 at 10am
Wednesday, March 4 at 5:30pm
If you have questions about which test to take, where to go for test preparation, what the costs associated with these tests are, or any other aspect of getting a high school equivalency diploma, you will want to attend one of these meetings. Library staff can help you make sense of the many options available.

GED/HiSet Classes
Every Tuesday and Thursday from 9am – 11am (excluding holidays)
Is it time to take the next step to your life and career goals? Library staff are here to help! You do not need to register in advance; simply come to class when you are ready. Study materials and coaching are provided free of charge. Call the Outreach Librarian, Cindy Flynn, at 575.528.4012 for more information on high school equivalency classes and/or meetings.
Read Aloud for Adults
Saturday, February 8 from 2pm – 4pm
Love is in the air with Valentine’s Day right around the corner, and luckily, we are never too old to hear stories read (or told) out loud. Hear some of the most beautiful, romantic love stories ever written. Staff will select some of the texts, but participants are invited and encouraged to bring their own favorite love stories and poems to share. Please ensure that passages are tasteful and non-explicit for a wide audience to enjoy.

Farmer’s Market Quality of Life Booth
Look for the Quality of Life Booth at the Farmer’s Market one Saturday each month. This is a great way to find out what is happening in and around the City of Las Cruces. Museums, Thomas Branigan Memorial Library, Senior Programs, and RoadRunner Transit will have information to share about activities for you and your family. Stop by and say hello!

Digital Branch
Be sure to check out our Digital Branch—resources available online 24/7/365!

Thomas Branigan Memorial Library subscribes to several databases - think of these as online treasures of information about many different topics. There is a wealth of information available to users with just a few clicks, and the best part is it’s all available for free!

Are you searching for old newspaper articles? Chronicling America has newspaper pages dating back to the 1800s. Imagine reading the news as it happened during wars, elections, and other life changing events in the United States.

Maybe your child has homework and needs your help, but you’ve forgotten how ... Brainfuse HelpNow offers free online tutoring to assist you and your child. There is also test prep, flash cards, and so much more! Available in English and Spanish.

Many of our databases support multiple languages by offering translation of information. There is even one that teaches multiple languages — Transparent Language is a great resource for learning to speak a new language. Whether you are planning for travel and want a few phrases, or you are wanting to become fluent for your career and family, Transparent Language can help you reach your learning goals.

Perhaps your car broke down and you want to fix it, but you really need to see some diagrams of the parts you’re working on. Chilton’s Car Repair Library likely has exactly what you need to get your car up and running again.

These databases are just the tip of the iceberg—there is so much more to explore: Ancestry & Genealogy, Business Resources, Book Lovers, Home Improvement, Academic Research ... Yes, there is a database for that! Call or stop by the library to learn more about these powerful e-tools that will change your life!

If you are paying for e-Books, you should probably stop because the Thomas Branigan Memorial Library has thousands of e-Books, audio e-Books, and even e-Magazines for you to enjoy. Using the RB Digital platform, you can download many new releases and your classic favorites too. Stop by the Media or Reference desk to find out more about how you can start using these free resources today!
Senior Programs

Munson Senior Center
975 S. Mesquite St.
Las Cruces, NM 88001
575.528.3000
M-F, 8am - 5pm

Eastside Community Center
310 N. Tornillo St
Las Cruces, NM 88001
575.528.3012
M-F, 8am - 2pm

Frank O’Brien Papen Center
304 W. Bell
Las Cruces, NM 88001
575.528.3000
M-F, 10:30am - 1pm

Henry Benavidez Community Center
1045 McClure Road
Las Cruces, NM 88005
575.541.2005
M-F, 10:30am - 1pm

Sage Café Senior Center
6121 Reynolds Drive
Las Cruces, NM 88011
575.528.3151
T-F, 9am - 2pm

las-cruces.org/1688/Senior-Programs

RoadRUNNER Transit

300 W. Lohman Ave.
Las Cruces, NM 88001
575.541.2500
roadrunner.las-cruces.org

Bus Service Hours
M-F, 6:30am - 10:30pm
Sa, 9:30am - 6pm
Su, No Service