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CROW MUSEUM OF ASIAN ART UNVEILS 2018 FALL SEASON OF EVENTS AND PROGRAMMING, INCLUDING GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION AND THE MYSTICAL ARTS OF TIBET

Newly renovated museum in the Dallas Arts District also debuts street-side arts studio and Center for Contemplative Leadership focused on wellness

DALLAS (Sept. 21, 2018) – The 2018 fall season for the **Crow Museum of Asian Art** kicks off Sept. 25 with an array of popular events along with new programming to accompany the Museum's new name, expanded facility, street-side art studio and a new Center for Contemplative Leadership focused on wellness. Free and open to the public, the Crow Museum of Asian Art is the only museum in Texas dedicated to the arts and cultures of Asia. It is located in the Dallas Arts District at 2010 Flora St., Dallas, Texas 75201.

While the Crow Museum officially unveils its multi-million-dollar expansion to the public on Sept. 28, festivities get rolling a few days earlier at the **Otsukimi Moon Viewing Festival** on Sept. 25, at Klyde Warren Park, followed by a **Grand Opening Family Day celebration** on Oct. 6, marking the Museum's reopening after its recent renovation.

Other highlights include the return of the much-loved **Tibetan Buddhist Monks from Drepug Loseling Monastery** for their weeklong artist residency – **the Mystical Arts of Tibet** – from Saturday, Oct. 6, through Saturday, Oct. 13. The public is invited to watch as the monks construct the Green Tara sand mandala, participate in public tours, meet and play games with the monks at Klyde Warren Park, and experience the closing ceremony as they dismantle the sand mandala (fees apply for some activities).

Also planned are wellness programs and workshops at the **Center for Contemplative Leadership**, family studio time and classes at the new **Pearl Art Studio**, **After Dark** celebrations and the second-annual **Jade Ball** on Nov. 3. A detailed schedule of events, programming and exhibitions can be found **here** (<http://crowcollection.org/hours/events/>).

"Our special events and programming have expanded ten-fold since the museum opened 20 years ago, and we're so proud that our diverse offerings appeal to everyone from toddlers to veterans, to families and art aficionados, to adults seeking wellness and serenity through eastern-inspired practices," said Amy Lewis Hofland, executive director of the Crow Museum of Asian Art. "And our annual events – like the Mystical Arts of Tibet – grow more popular every year, and have become a part of North Texas' cultural fabric."

SPECIAL EVENTS. A wealth of special events dot the calendar. The free **Otsukimi Moon Viewing Festival** will be Tuesday, Sept. 25, from 6:30-9:30 p.m. at Klyde Warren Park (2012 Woodall Rodgers Frwy., Dallas). Guests will enjoy the full autumn moon with an evening of Japanese music and dance performances; demonstrations of calligraphy, tea ceremony, *ikebana*, *moku hanga* and *haiku* poetry; and bento boxes provided by Niwa Japanese BBQ. Otsukimi is presented by the Crow Museum of Asian Art in partnership with the Japan-America Society of Dallas/Fort Worth.

A free **Grand Opening Family Day** will be held Saturday, Oct. 6., offering guests a chance to take tours and explore the newly minted museum, including the Dallas premiere of *Jacob Hashimoto Clouds and Chaos*. The Pearl Art Studio, located across the street, offers art making and the opportunity to "meet a monk" around the community mandala designed by a local artist. In the museum, visitors can experience wellness classes throughout the galleries and spend time watching the Tibetan monks create a sand mandala underneath the new installation by Japanese-American artist Jacob Hashimoto. The day concludes with a visit to the newly redesigned museum gift shop, The Lotus Shop.

Next up is the annual **Mystical Arts of Tibet** with the Buddhist monks in Dallas Oct. 6-13 to conduct the not-to-be-missed opening ceremonies on Saturday, Oct. 6, from 11 a.m.-noon (\$30 per person) and the "Meet A Monk" event on Friday, Oct. 12, from 11– 2 p.m. at Klyde Warren Park where they'll play soccer and other

games (free). The closing ceremonies are Saturday, Oct. 13, from 3-4 p.m. where the monks ceremoniously dismantle the sand mandala they meticulously created over the past week (\$40 per person).

WELLBEING AND THE CENTER FOR CONTEMPLATIVE LEADERSHIP PROGRAMMING. Always working to facilitate greater understanding of Asian cultures, the Museum offers a number of programs for PreK-12 educators, individuals, and veterans and first responders. These include monthly well-being lectures on *The Ayurvedic Way* led by registered culinary dietician and Ayurvedic Wellness Expert Sapna Punjabi-Gupta. A number of weekend workshops are also included, such as *Immersive Mindfulness Training with MasterMind*.

PEARL ART STUDIO ACTIVITIES. Everything from art and well-being workshops for veterans and first responders, to family studio times and artist interactions are offered at the new Pearl Art Studio. These include an opportunity to create a collaborative piece of art inspired by Jacob Hashimoto and a mandala sand painting or weaving with the Buddhist monks. Other activities include Japanese kite-making sessions, toddler and teen programming, family creative-writing workshops, and open studio days with book nooks and play stations for drop-in art making inspired by the Arts of Asia. Art of stress reduction workshops and Hands-on Happy Hours are also planned. Classes will be offered in reductive woodblock printing. (Fees apply for some activities.)

ARTIST TALKS AND BOOK TALKS. A variety of artist talks are available including *A Conversation with Jacob Hashimoto* on Friday, Sept. 28, at 7 p.m.; and a reading and insight with author and leadership consultant Nancy Dorrier on Sept. 29, at 11 a.m.

GALA. On Saturday, Nov. 3, at 6 p.m., the **Jade Ball** returns for a second year at the Crow Museum and the Belo Mansion. The black-tie gala, chaired by Carmen Hancock and produced by event planner Steve Kemble, celebrates 20 years of the Crow Museum. Ticket information and details at crowmuseum.org.

ONGOING ACTIVITIES. The Pearl Art Studio will offer free drop-in activities every Saturday. Additionally, well-being programming includes daily classes, moments or hours of silence, mindful meet-ups, walking meditations at Klyde Warren Park, and guided group meditations in the galleries. Weekly Qigong, slow-flow Vinyasa yoga and Tai Chi classes are also available.

The Crow Museum of Asian Art is open Tuesdays - Sundays (10 a.m. - 5 p.m.) and is closed on Mondays. Extended hours until 9 p.m. on Thursdays begins October 4. Admission is always free but fees apply for some programming and events. The museum is located at 2010 Flora St., Dallas, Texas 75201. For more information, please visit crowcollection.org or call 214-979-6430.

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About the Crow Museum of Asian Art

Founded in 1998, the Crow Museum of Asian Art in Dallas inspires and promotes learning and dialogue about the arts and cultures of Asia through its exhibitions, the research and preservation of its collections, artistic and educational programming, and visitor experience and engagement. The Museum accomplishes this in accordance with the highest professional standards and through collaboration with diverse audiences and community partners within North Texas and throughout the world. Free and open to the public, this museum celebrates the arts and cultures of Asia – from ancient eras to contemporary times – through a variety of permanent and traveling exhibitions that showcase the arts of a multitude of countries. With an array of beautiful spaces and galleries, the Museum offers a serene setting for quiet reflection in the heart of the Dallas Arts District. The Crow Museum of Asian Art is a 501c3 non-profit organization, and is supported, in part, by the generosity of its members and donors. Learn more at crowmuseum.org.

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