

PRESS RELEASE

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THE McCORD MUSEUM PROMISES A WEEK RICH WITH DISCOVERIES FOR ITS SPRING BREAK!

Treasure hunts, Story Hour, fanzine workshops, and video games on the program

Montreal, February 11, 2016 – From Sunday, February 28, to Sunday, March 6, 2016, the McCord Museum will not take a break! For this school holiday week, the Museum will offer a program filled with entertaining activities. Families are invited to go on treasure hunts, attend Story Hour, make fanzines in a creative workshop and take part in special events featuring retro video games. These activities, free for children 12 and under, will be held in both French and English and are sure to please the whole family.

“Our varied, fun-filled program will enable parents and children to share wonderful moments together and to explore our history in a new light. The McCord Museum will inarguably be the best place to come have fun during spring break!” declared Suzanne Sauvage, President and Chief Executive Officer of the McCord Museum.

Time for the *Montréal joue* festival

From Wednesday, March 2, to Saturday, March 5, 2016, the McCord Museum will host the *Montréal joue* festival, the largest festival of games in Montreal, organized by Bibliothèques de Montréal. The Museum welcomes the public to join in the many activities offered:

- From Wednesday, March 2, to Saturday, March 5, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. (continuously):** Young and old alike are invited to come play with retro games, which are sure to dazzle the children and rekindle sweet childhood memories for their parents;
- Wednesday, March 2, as of 6 p.m. (continuously):** Throughout the evening, visitors will discover or rediscover retro board games. A board game historian will test the public’s knowledge, and participants are encouraged to bring their own vintage games!
- Wednesday, March 2, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. (continuously) and Saturday, March 5, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. (continuously):** Visitors are invited to try out retro video games, such as Atari, NES and Commodore.

The Museum is the place for adventure!

For some years, the McCord Museum has also offered families *The Adventure at the Museum*, an annual program of diverse, free activities presented by Hydro-Québec and in collaboration with Motherforlife.com. *The Adventure at the Museum* offers families a fantastic journey through the very heart of the Museum. On arrival, each family receives a backpack containing everything they’ll need to explore many current exhibitions from a child’s perspective!

Mister Rabbit’s Circus Until April 17, 2016

A made-to-measure mystery for children aged 3 to 9

Children will not want to miss *Mr. Rabbit’s Circus* during spring break. Featured at the Museum until April 17, 2016, this exhibition offers a circuit that takes children on a quest to solve a mystery. For its 6th annual exhibition of toys, the Museum is partnering with éditions Les 400 coups – on the occasion of the publishing house’s 20th anniversary – and with the popular *Monsieur Lapin* series of books by author Pascal Héroult and



Fanzine workshop © Elias Touil



Wearing our Identity – The First Peoples Collection: Walking in Thomas’s footsteps © Delphine Delair Photographes



Audio game on iPad for the *Montreal – Points of View* exhibition © Elias Touil

illustrator Geneviève Després. Mister Rabbit invites all of his friends to attend a circus performance, but on the evening of the big premiere some of the circus props are missing and must be found in time for the show! Mister Rabbit leads an investigation to unmask the culprits. Why and how did the items disappear? Financial support for this program is provided by Tourisme Montréal.

Wearing our Identity – The First Peoples Collection: Walking in Thomas's footsteps

Always available

Circuit suggested for children aged 6 and up

During spring break, it will also be possible to explore the exhibition *Wearing our Identity – The First Peoples Collection* via a second circuit that invites families to come to the aid of Thomas, an engaging boy searching for his identity. This circuit enables visitors to admire a wide array of artefacts while learning about the complex heritage of First Peoples through their clothing.

Audio game on iPad for the *Montreal – Points of View* exhibition

Suggested for children aged 10 and up

An audio game for iPad is available as part of the permanent exhibition *Montreal – Points of View*. A first in this field, the game offers a new way to visit the city during different historical periods. The game was designed by the McCord Museum through a financial contribution from the Telus Community Board.

Tell me a story

Story Hour for children aged 3 to 9

Every day, at 11:15 a.m., 1:15 p.m. and 3:15 p.m. (in French), as well as at 11:45 a.m., 1:45 p.m. and 3:45 p.m. (in English), it's time for Story Hour with the adventures of Mister Rabbit!

Creating as a family

Workshop for children aged 3 to 9 accompanied by their parents

Inspired by the theme of the *Mister Rabbit's Circus* exhibition, a collage and drawing workshop to create fanzines (artisanal magazines) will be offered to families. This workshop will take place **every day, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (continuously)**.

Special Easter Program

Sunday, March 27, 2016, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Mr. Rabbit is transforming himself into the Easter Bunny for a day! He has a plan to surprise and entertain his friends by hiding 10 colourful eggs here and there in his circus. Where could they be? Families are invited to find out by making their way through *Mr. Rabbit's Circus* and hunting for the hidden eggs!

For a cozy stay in Montreal

For families from outside of Montreal who want to spend a few days in the city, Tourisme Montréal offers its Winter Sweet Deal 2016. This deal proposes a stay at selected Montreal hotels for as little as \$95,* plus a second night at 50% off with the Sweet Deal Package. A coupon booklet worth up to \$390 will also be given to clients when they check in at the hotel. It's an original way to discover Montreal and take advantage of its many attractions and activities!

For full details: <http://m.tourisme-montreal.org/Offers/winter>

*Starting from. Offer valid until May 15, 2016.

Note that the Museum will be open on an exceptional basis on Monday, February 29, 2016, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Reservations are not required to take part in the spring break activities. For admission fees, hours, and location: www.mccord-museum.qc.ca.

About the McCord Museum

The McCord Museum is dedicated to the preservation, study and appreciation of Montreal's history, as recounted by its people, artists and communities living in the city's past and present. The McCord Museum is home to one of the largest historical collections in North America, consisting of First Peoples objects, costumes and textiles, photographs, decorative and visual artworks, and textual archives, totalling more than 1,451,000 million artefacts. The McCord Museum produces exciting exhibitions that engage visitors from Montreal, Canada, and beyond by offering them a contemporary look at the world. The McCord Museum also offers educational and cultural activities, as well as innovative projects on the Internet. ***McCord Museum: Our People, Our Stories.***

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Interviews possible with Suzanne Sauvage, President and Chief Executive Officer of the McCord Museum and Dominique Trudeau, Head, Education Programs.

Photographs available at <http://ow.ly/XBzRp>

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The McCord Museum is grateful for the support of the Ministère de la Culture et des Communications du Québec, the Conseil des arts de Montréal, Accès Montréal, CAA, and its media partners, *24 Heures*, *The Gazette* and *La Vitrine culturelle*.



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