

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MUSEUM OF WESTERN ART A BLUE STAR MUSEUM PARTICIPANT

The Museum of Western Art is a proud participant of Blue Star Museum this summer. From Memorial Day to Labor Day, active military personnel and their families can visit the museum at no charge.

Acting Chairman Joan Shigekawa and Blue Star Families CEO Kathy Roth-Douquet announced the fifth annual launch of Blue Star Museums, a collaboration among the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, the Department of Defense, and more than 2,000 museums across America to offer free admission to the nation's service members, including National Guard and Reserve, and their families from Memorial Day through Labor Day 2014. Leadership support has been provided by MetLife Foundation through Blue Star Families. The program provides families an opportunity to enjoy the nation's cultural heritage or learn more about their new communities after completing a military move. The complete list of participating museums is available at arts.gov/national/blue-star-museums.

The launch of the program was announced today at a press event at the San Antonio Museum of Art in San Antonio, Texas. Katie Luber, the Kelso Director of the San Antonio Museum of Art, welcomed guests and distinguished speakers including Roth-Douquet, Shigekawa, local military families, and representatives from several San Antonio-area Blue Star Museums. Following the remarks, participants joined a tour, led by the museum's Mellon Chief Curator/Halff Curator of American Art William Keyse Rudolph, of artworks on view in the American Art Gallery at the San Antonio Museum of Art, which has been a Blue Star Museum since 2011.

"As we kick off our fifth year of Blue Star Museums, more museums than ever are part of this military appreciation program," said Shigekawa. "Together with Blue Star Families and more than 2,000 museums, we are proud to help connect military families with the cultural resources in their communities."

"Blue Star Museums has grown into a nationally recognized program that service members and their families look forward to each year," said Roth-Douquet. "It helps bring our local military and civilian communities together, and offers families fun and enriching activities in their home towns. We are thrilled with the continued growth of the program and the unparalleled opportunities it offers."

- See more at: <https://www.arts.gov/news/2014/blue-star-museums-offers-free-admission-military-families-2000-museums-nationwide#sthash.Cu0H9Wgq.dpuf>

For more information, please contact The Museum of Western Art at 830.896.2553.