

PRESS RELEASE 2020 SUMMER PROGRAMMING

AN HISTORIC SUMMER

An opportunity to rediscover Montreal and Canada

Montreal, June 23, 2020 – The summer of 2020 will make history. Why not take advantage of this time in Quebec to rediscover Montreal and our history at the Stewart Museum? The Museum is reopening on June 25 with rich programming adapted to pandemic health measures. Located in a heritage military arsenal in Parc Jean-Drapeau, the Museum offers a remarkable cultural experience, a stunning view of downtown Montreal and a courtyard picnic site for time with family or friends.

The Museum will feature **captivating exhibitions** from the day it reopens. Immerse yourself in four nocturnal worlds through the stories, artefacts and intriguing theatrical sets of the exhibition *Nights*. You'll also be able to travel through 500 years of history in the exhibition *History and Memory*, which takes you from the discovery of the New World to the birth of a country. In addition, the Museum will offer an outdoor guided tour of the British arsenal, starting July 15.

To mark the reopening, **admission to the Stewart Museum is \$5** until July 4 and free at all times for children 12 and under. Admission is free for all Quebec residents every first Sunday of the month, including Sunday, July 5.

A UNIQUE HERITAGE SITE AND PANORAMIC VIEW



Situated in an outstanding natural setting on St. Helen's Island, the Stewart Museum is **housed in Montreal's largest historic military site**. The Museum also offers a breathtaking view of the city, both from the top of its glass tower and its splendid inner courtyard.

EXHIBITIONS RICH IN HISTORY



History and Memory

The *History and Memory* exhibition immerses visitors in the history of Montreal and Canada. Spread over two floors and showing nearly **500 objects from the Museum's collections**, the exhibition takes visitors across **a span of five centuries, retracing the origins of Quebec**.

Nights

Inspired by four original stories by renowned Quebec authors, the exhibition draws visitors into four distinct nocturnal worlds through a variety of fascinating artefacts from the collections of the Stewart and McCord Museums. Author Eric Dupont's Starry Night features star charts, ancient globes and scientific navigational objects. The toys in the Night of Imagination, created by author Dominique Demers, help to fight off the night monster. The City Night and its rebellious couple, imagined by Heather O'Neill, displays the 1930s clothing her heroine might have worn. Meanwhile, Simon Boulerice's Night of Passion shows us the bedroom the day after an intimate night, with its array of curious objects. The stories come to life through four theatrical sets by Pierre-Étienne Locas. The narrated stories are available on visitors' smartphones and in a booklet offered free of charge.

DISCOVER THE HISTORY OF THE FORT ON ST. HELEN'S ISLAND



Starting July 15, the Museum will offer an outdoor guided tour, *Behind the Walls: The History of the Fort on St. Helen's Island,* from Wednesday to Sunday. The tour is a **wonderful opportunity to discover Montreal's largest military site** and a **little-known part of the city's history**. Since places are limited, visitors are invited to make a reservation online. This tour is included with the purchase of admission to the Museum.

OPENING HOURS AND ADMISSION FEES

Hours: Wednesday to Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Regular admission between \$12 and \$15 per person, \$30 per family. Gives access to all exhibitions and outdoor tours.

Special reopening fee of \$5 per person or \$10 per family from June 25 to July 4. Admission is free at all times for children 12 and under. The Museum is free for all Quebec residents every first Sunday of the month, an initiative of the Quebec Ministère de la Culture et des Communications.

Tickets for the Museum must be reserved online through <u>Evenbrite</u> to maintain a limit on the maximum number of visitors allowed in the halls of the Museum. Tickets are sold in 15-minute slots.

Full details are provided on the Museum's website.

COVID-19: OUR NEW MEASURES FOR A SAFE VISIT

The Museum adheres to strict hygiene measures to ensure visitors have a worry-free experience that doesn't compromise their health. For more information, please see our <u>Visitor's Guide</u>, available online.

ABOUT THE STEWART MUSEUM

The Stewart Museum is a private, non-profit history museum that was founded in 1955 by philanthropist David M. Stewart. It has a unique collection of close to 27,000 artefacts, archival documents and rare books related to the European history of North America, from the establishment of New France up to the present day. The Museum's chief mission is to preserve and showcase these artefacts that bear witness to the voyages of exploration, scientific advances, feats of arms, beliefs and daily lives of our ancestors. The Museum, located in Parc Jean-Drapeau, is housed in the arsenal of the fort on St. Helen's Island, a 19th-century military building that is listed in the Répertoire du patrimoine culturel du Québec.

- 30 -

Possibility of interviews with Suzanne Sauvage, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Stewart Museum.

Press kit with photos on Dropbox.

Contact

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The Stewart Museum wishes to thank the Quebec government, the Conseil des Arts de Montréal and the Société du parc Jean-Drapeau for their invaluable support.