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## **The Newark Museum of Art's March Schedule Sees New Twist on Virtual Events**

***Institution that "Doesn't Always Behave Like a Museum" Plans  
Murder Mystery, Cooking Lessons and Happy Hour  
– All in March***

**Newark, NJ- March 4, 2021** – While the campus of The Newark Museum of Art remains physically closed, it does not mean the institution is sitting idle. The Museum believes that what the public wants now is even more access, even if it looks a little different than what they had come to expect from a museum.

So, The Newark Museum of Art is lending a twist to its virtual schedule of events in March, presenting, a murder mystery, a happy hour program, an art competition between museums, cooking classes and even a virtual zoo. All this from a *Museum? Really?*.

“We know that lively programming that offers people something different, even virtually, can help them escape Zoom and quarantine fatigue,” says Silvia Filippini Fantoni, Deputy Director of Learning and Engagement at The Newark Museum of Art. “We are excited that we are reshaping audiences’ expectations regarding their experiences with us.”

Here are a few highlights in The Newark Museum of Art's March schedule:

### **Video Drop: Art Bites – March 9, 7 p.m.**

Food and Art are both communal activities that have been known to draw a crowd. So we're bringing the two together. In celebration of Women's History Month, we are marveling at the stylish and fierce Kesh Angels by Hassan Hajjaj, while we whip up the rich, Moroccan classic Mujadara.

***Video drops are available on the following channels at the specified date and time:***

Instagram Live, Facebook Live, YouTube Live, Twitter Live and Twitch

### **Art Olympics: March Madness, March 2, 4, 16, 23, 8 p.m.**

A battle between museums! Vote for your favorite works of art in this quick-fire competition, where there can only be one winner. In this special March Madness edition, each round has a fun basketball twist.

March 2nd: Brooklyn Museum vs. The Newark Museum of Art

March 4th: Milwaukee Art Museum vs. Columbus Museum of Art

March 16th: The two runners-up from the first round will compete for Bronze.

March 23rd: The two winners from the first round will compete for Gold.

Register [here](#).

### **Saturday, March 13, 11:30 a.m. – Community Day: Zoopalooza**

A wild celebration for the whole family! See live animals and learn about the amazing variety of creatures in the world through fun and interactive virtual activities and demonstrations. These programs will be captioned by CART.

For more information and registration links, visit [here](#).

### **Tuesday, March 30, 7 p.m. – Murder Mystery: Who Killed Cynthia Conner?**

Can you solve this cold case mystery? The morning after her big art exhibition opening at The Newark Museum of Art, Cynthia Conner is found dead. Search the museum, interview suspects, and use forensic science to determine whether her death was an accident or something more.

Recommended for families and individuals 14+. You will need a computer with Internet connection to play this game. This game is played in small teams, assigned at random. Reserve only one ticket per household, if you are using the same device. Online ticket reservations close one hour before the program begins.

Register [here](#).

As for why The Newark Museum of Art is taking some chances with online programming, Fantoni says the timing is right. “It has been a very stressful, very emotionally taxing year for many people,” Fantoni said. “If we can add some fun and positivity into people’s lives by creating a new kind of virtual programming, I think we will forge an even deeper relationship with our audiences. That is the feedback we have been receiving, to date, and that is very gratifying for all of us.”

For more information on any of the day's activities or to learn more, visit <https://www.newarkmuseumart.org/nmoaathome>.

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Founded in 1909, The Newark Museum of Art is the largest art and education institution in New Jersey and one of the most influential museums in the United States. Its renowned global art collections, supported by significant holdings of science, technology and natural history, rank 12th among North America's art museums. The Museum is dedicated to artistic excellence, education and community engagement with an overarching commitment to broadening and diversifying arts participation. As it has for over a century, the Museum responds to the evolving needs and interests of the diverse audiences it serves by providing exhibitions, programming and resources designed to improve and enrich people's lives.

The Museum also encompasses the 1885 Ballantine House mansion, the Victoria Hall of Science, the Alice and Leonard Dreyfuss Planetarium, the MakerSPACE, the Billy Johnson Auditorium, the Alice Ransom Dreyfuss Memorial Garden, an authentic 1784 Schoolhouse, and the Newark Fire Museum.

The Newark Museum of Art, a not-for-profit museum of art and science, receives operating support from the City of Newark, the State of New Jersey, the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State (a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts), the New Jersey Cultural Trust, the Prudential Foundation, the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, the Victoria Foundation, the Estate of Phyllis and Sanford Bolton, the Wallace Foundation, and other corporations, foundations, and individuals. Funds for acquisitions and activities other than operations are provided by members and other contributors.