

Whitney Museum of American Art Press Office

99 Gansevoort Street New York, NY 10014

pressoffice@whitney.org (212) 570-3633

KICK OFF FALL AT THE WHITNEY WITH ARTIST-LED PROGRAMS, DJ SETS, DANCE, AND LIVE MUSIC AT FREE FRIDAY NIGHTS AND FREE SECOND SUNDAY



The September lineup includes a free program and tours led by artist Marina Zurkow, DJ sets by April Hunt for Mixtape Vol. 2, dance class with Ailey Extension, live music by Dave Guy, and much more! The new exhibition Sixties Surreal also opens on September 24 at the Whitney.

New York, NY, September 3, 2025 — The Whitney Museum of American Art is offering free admission, live music, artmaking activities, and more throughout September during Free Friday Nights and Free Second Sunday. Continuing the partnership with Mixtape, DJ April Hunt returns with Mixtape Vol. 2 on September 19 to fill the Museum with music and dance for visitors of all ages. This special edition of Free Friday Night will honor artist Renée Cox and features a free pop-up dance class led by Ailey Extension instructors and a guest DJ set. Gather with family and friends this September to enjoy free programs and experience the exhibitions currently on view, including the new show <u>Sixties Surreal</u>, which opens later in the month on September 24. This is the last chance to see <u>Christine Sun Kim: All Day All Night</u> in its entirety before closing on September 21. There's something for everyone this fall season at the Whitney!

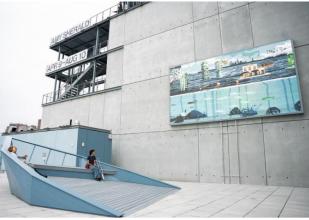
Friday, September 5

<u>DJ Sunny Cheeba</u> will immerse visitors with music from **5–10 pm** as they enter the Whitney's lobby for this Free Friday Night. A Bronx native and founder of Uptown Vinyl Supreme, a DJ collective paying homage to the analog roots of music, party, and dance culture, DJ Sunny Cheeba is an artist and activist deeply invested in her community. From **6–9 pm**, artists **Marina Zurkow and Sarah Rothberg** will host <u>WHAT IF? A Speculative Mixer on the Hudson</u> in the third-floor theater. The program invites visitors to consider alternative visions of the Whitney, its riverside site, and the Hudson itself—all subjects that are featured in Zurkow's work <u>The River is a Circle</u>. Zurkow will lead guided tours of the installation on the fifth floor at 5:30 pm, 6:30 pm, and 7:30 pm.

Friday, September 12

Offering **free admission from 5–10 pm**, the Whitney's Free Friday Nights feature **art**, **special programming**, **and more**, and the latest information on upcoming performances and Friday night programs is always available on whitney.org/visit/free-friday-nights.







Sunday, September 14

On **Sunday, September 14**, the Whitney is offering **free admission** from **10:30 am–6 pm** for all visitors during Free Second Sunday. From **11 am–3 pm**, artists of all ages are invited to contribute to a **collaborative magnetic mosaic** inspired by Dyani White Hawk's *Nourish*, which is a site-specific work made from thousands of handmade ceramic tiles and is on view on the Museum's eighth floor. In her art, White Hawk draws from Lakota traditions of beadwork, painting, and quillwork, a form of embroidery using porcupine quills. From **11 am–4 pm**, visitors can participate in **creating dreamscapes with stamps** in the third-floor theater. This program is inspired by the current exhibition *Shifting Landscapes*, which explores how changing political, environmental, and social issues inspire artists to reimagine the world.

In addition to these programs, there will be an <u>exhibition tour of Shifting Landscapes</u> at **11** am and an <u>exhibition tour of "Untitled" (America)</u> at **12:30 pm.** The full schedule of activities can be found at <u>whitney.org/visit/second-sundays</u>.

Friday, September 19

Following an incredible partnership launch this past spring, **Mixtape is returning** on September 19 to co-host **another special edition** of Free Friday Night! From **5–10 pm**, **Mixtape Vol. 2** will

honor artist Renée Cox with a night of music and community featuring DJ sets by April Hunt and Fade "The Future" in the lobby and a food pop-up with Tosh's Patties, which will be available for purchase in the Studio Bar and Frenchette Bakery. There will also be a dynamic dancehall class for visitors of all ages and skill levels. The class will be taught by Ailey Extension instructors L.A.S Dancers, a dancehall duo made up of Larenzo Campbell (a.k.a. Bigga) and Navarroe Crossman (a.k.a. Bling Evo). This is the last Free Friday Night to catch Christine Sun Kim: All Day All Night in its entirety before the exhibition closes on September 21.





Friday, September 26

In celebration of the **opening weekend** of *Sixties Surreal*, which is on view to the public beginning September 24, visitors can enjoy <u>Sixties Surreal B-Side</u> from **5–10 pm**. Taking inspiration from the Sun Ra sounds of the sixties, **Dave Guy** and **April Hunt** will take over the lobby with an **immersive collaborative performance**, including live, improvised performances on the hour and musical interludes throughout the evening. Known for his work with The Roots and Sharon Jones & the Dap-Kings, trumpeter Dave Guy will play live, intertwined with an Afrofuturist DJ set by Mixtape creator April Hunt.

Ongoing Exhibition Tours

A variety of free exhibition tours led by Whitney educators, ranging from family-focused to 15-minute tours, are offered during Free Friday Nights and Free Second Sundays. For further details on upcoming tours, please visit whitney.org/events.

While general admission to the Whitney is free every Friday from 5–10 pm and all day on Sunday, September 14, tickets are still required, and capacity is limited. Advance booking is strongly recommended, and tickets can be reserved at whitney.org/admission.

New Free Admission Offerings at the Whitney

The Whitney Museum offers free admission to all visitors 25 years of age and younger. The new Free 25 and Under program builds on the Museum's popular Free Friday Nights and Free Second Sundays initiatives. With the addition of free admission for visitors 25 and under, the Whitney—already a leader in the field, providing free admission for visitors 18 and under for over a decade—offers one of the broadest and most comprehensive free admissions programs among museums in New York and the United States, affirming the Whitney's commitment to broadening access to American contemporary art and culture, and to reaching new audiences.

Free 25 and Under is made possible with the generous support of two three-year gifts from Whitney Museum Board members, longtime supporter Susan Hess, and artist Julie Mehretu.

Free Second Sundays at the Whitney help connect more people to the Museum and its mission of celebrating contemporary American art and artists. Second Sundays is made possible by a generous three-year grant from the Art Bridges Foundation's Access for All Program, which supports increased access to museums across the country and fosters engagement with local communities by focusing on common barriers to access. The program and another Whitney initiative, Free Friday Nights, both aim to reduce barriers to access, removing admission fees and offering programs that are entry points for anyone interested in visiting.

Photo and video assets from previous Free Friday Nights and Second Sundays at the Whitney can be found at whitney.org/press/free-days-and-nights.

PRESS CONTACT

For press materials and image requests, please visit our press site at <u>whitney.org/press</u> or contact:

Meghan Ferrucci, Senior Publicist (212) 671-8346

Meghan Ferrucci@whitney.org

Whitney Press Office whitney.org/press (212) 570-3633 pressoffice@whitney.org

PROGRAM SUPPORT

Free Friday Nights are generously supported by Jen Rubio and Stewart Butterfield and Paul Arnhold and Wes Gordon.

Generous support for Second Sundays is provided by Art Bridges Foundation's Access for All program.



ACCESS FOR ALL

ABOUT THE WHITNEY

The Whitney Museum of American Art, founded in 1930 by the artist and philanthropist Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney (1875–1942), houses the foremost collection of American art from the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. Mrs. Whitney, an early and ardent supporter of modern American art, nurtured groundbreaking artists when audiences were still largely preoccupied

with the Old Masters. From her vision arose the Whitney Museum of American Art, which has been championing the most innovative art of the United States for ninety years. The core of the Whitney's mission is to collect, preserve, interpret, and exhibit American art of our time and serve a wide variety of audiences in celebration of the complexity and diversity of art and culture in the United States. Through this mission and a steadfast commitment to artists, the Whitney has long been a powerful force in support of modern and contemporary art and continues to help define what is innovative and influential in American art today.

Whitney Museum Land Acknowledgment

The Whitney is located in Lenapehoking, the ancestral homeland of the Lenape. The name Manhattan comes from their word Mannahatta, meaning "island of many hills." The Museum's current site is close to land that was a Lenape fishing and planting site called Sapponckanikan ("tobacco field"). The Whitney acknowledges the displacement of this region's original inhabitants and the Lenape diaspora that exists today.

As a museum of American art in a city with vital and diverse communities of Indigenous people, the Whitney recognizes the historical exclusion of Indigenous artists from its collection and program. The Museum is committed to addressing these erasures and honoring the perspectives of Indigenous artists and communities as we work for a more equitable future. To read more about the Museum's Land Acknowledgment, visit the Museum's website.

VISITOR INFORMATION

The Whitney Museum of American Art is located at 99 Gansevoort Street between Washington and West Streets, New York City. Public hours are Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 10:30 am–6 pm; Friday, 10:30 am–10 pm; and Saturday and Sunday, 10:30 am–6 pm. Closed Tuesday. Visitors twenty-five years and under and Whitney members: FREE. The Museum offers FREE admission and special programming for visitors of all ages every Friday evening from 5–10 pm and on the second Sunday of every month.

Image credit:

Lead image: Mixtape Vol. 1. at Free Friday Night. Photograph by Trevor Felder

Left to right: Member Night at the Whitney Museum of American Art, June 6, 2024. Photograph by Filip Wolak; Installation view of *Hyundai Terrace Commission: Marina Zurkow* (Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, April 9, 2025-January 11, 2026). Marina Zurkow, *The River is a Circle,* 2025. Photograph by Summer Surgent-Gough; Free Second Sunday, July 13, 2025. Photograph by Filip Wolak

Left to right: Installation view of *Christine Sun Kim: All Day All Night* (Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, February 8-September 21, 2025). Christine Sun Kim and Thomas Mader, *ATTENTION*, 2022. Photograph by Matthew Carasella; Mixtape Vol. 1. at Free Friday Night. Photograph by Trevor Felder

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