

WHITNEY

Whitney Museum
of American Art
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PRESS RELEASE

**EXPERIENCE FREE ADMISSION, MUSIC, DANCE,
ARTMAKING, AND MORE DURING SEPTEMBER
FREE FRIDAY NIGHTS AND FREE SECOND SUNDAY**



September is filled with fun, free programs at the Whitney Museum! Visitors can enjoy dance classes with Ailey Extension, live music at Free Friday Nights, and join artist-led programs during Free Second Sunday.

New York, NY, September 1, 2026 — The Whitney Museum of American Art is offering **free admission, music, dance, special programs, exhibition tours**, and much more during [Free Friday Nights](#) and the September edition of [Free Second Sundays](#). Now on view, visitors can explore [The Lost World: The Art of Minnie Evans](#). Just over fifty years since the Whitney debuted the artist's first museum solo exhibition, this landmark survey celebrates the visionary work of one of America's most revered self-taught artists. Visitors will also have the chance to experience the focused exhibition [Roy Lichtenstein: 1997](#), which opens September 5. This focused exhibition highlights rarely seen works from the last year of the pioneering Pop artist's life. Echoing and expanding on key throughlines from [Roy Lichtenstein: Like New](#), opening October 11, [Roy Lichtenstein: 1997](#) includes prints, photographs, and sculptural maquettes along with drawing and collage studies for a number of unrealized projects.

Friday, September 4

In addition to **free admission from 5–10 pm**, visitors can enjoy **music, art, and city views** during Free Friday Nights at the Whitney. Featured programs include:

6–10 pm, DJ Sets: Whitney Fierce and FIVE ELEVEN

Kick off the long weekend with DJ sets by FIVE ELEVEN, beginning at 6 pm, and Whitney Fierce, who begins at 7:30 pm. FIVE ELEVEN is a New York-based producer-DJ duo consisting of lifelong friends Emmie Nielsen and Cho Seward. Whitney Fierce is an internationally acclaimed DJ, producer, and vocalist who blends disco, house, and leftfield sounds into magnetic, dance floor-fueled sets.

Friday, September 11

From **5–10 pm**, all visitors can enjoy **free admission, art, music, and more** during Free Friday Nights at the Whitney. The latest information about special programs and events can be found at whitney.org/visit/free-admission/free-friday-nights.



Sunday, September 13

On Sunday, September 13, the Whitney is offering **free admission from 10:30 am–6 pm** for all visitors for the July edition of Free Second Sunday. Featured programs include:

11 am, Storytime with Paula Ortiz, co-founder of Barco de Papel

In partnership with Librería Comunitaria Barco de Papel and Centro Cultural, a vibrant community-run bookstore and cultural center, visitors can enjoy listening to art-inspired books that celebrate the beauty of storytelling in both Spanish and English.

11 am–3 pm, All Ages Artmaking: Family Emblems

Inspired by Biennial artist Ash Arder's *Consumables*, on view in the sixth-floor gallery, artists of all ages can use collage and drawing to create their own emblem representing the qualities, traditions, and ideas that make up their family. Visitors are invited to join Arder for a day of artmaking, noisemaking, and close looking.

11 am–3 pm, All Ages Artmaking: Solar Sounders with Alex Nathanson

Using basic circuits and small solar panels, Simple Solar Sounders produce an array of noises that are determined by their relationship to sunlight and their position in space. Participants will learn how to make their own devices and use them to explore different sonic spaces.

4 pm, [Movement and Meaning: Black Artists in the 20th Century guided tour](#)

This guided tour, led by Joan Tisch Teaching Fellow Katherine Cheairs, takes visitors on a journey through the work of 20th-century Black artists featured in the permanent collection exhibition “*Untitled*” (*America*), including Barkley L. Hendricks, Richmond Barthé, Eldzier Cortor, Jean-Michel Basquiat, and Alma Thomas.

Friday, September 18

Offering **free admission** from **5–10 pm**, the Whitney’s Free Friday Nights feature **art, drinks, city views, dance**, and more. Featured programs include:

6 pm, [Queer History Walk](#)

From the Hudson River piers to the clubs, the free walking tours explore the rich queer history of the Whitney’s neighborhood, bringing visitors to select historical sites that once provided a place to find and create queer community.

6:30 pm and 8:30 pm, [Free Afro-Latin Dance Classes with Ailey Extension](#)

Dancers of all ages and experience levels are invited to join a free Afro-Latin dance class led by Ailey Extension instructor Katherine Jimenez.

Friday, September 25

From **5–10 pm**, all visitors can enjoy **free admission, art, music, and city views** during Free Friday Nights at the Whitney. Featured programs include:

6–10 pm, [DJ Set: FKAjazz](#)

Visitors will be welcomed with a DJ set by FKAjazz as they enter the lobby. FKAjazz is a Grammy-nominated, Billboard-charting Jazztronica artist, saxophonist, producer, and DJ who blends live saxophone with electronic finesse, bringing a high level of musicality, creativity, and energy to every performance.

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](https://www.whitney.org/events).

While general admission to the Whitney is free every Friday from 5–10 pm and all day on Sunday, September 13, **tickets are still required, and capacity is limited. Advance booking is strongly recommended, and tickets can be reserved at [whitney.org/admission](https://www.whitney.org/admission).**

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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: Second Sunday, May 10, 2026. Photograph by Filip Wolak

Left to right: Free Second Sunday, July 12, 2026. Photograph by Filip Wolak; Free Friday Night, February 27, 2026. Photograph by Summer Surgent-Gough

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