WHITNEY

PRESS RELEASE

Whitney Museum of American Art
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EXPERIENCE FREE ADMISSION, LIVE PERFORMANCES, ARTMAKING, AND NEW EXHIBITIONS DURING NOVEMBER FREE FRIDAY NIGHTS AND FREE SECOND SUNDAY



There's something for visitors of all ages at the Whitney throughout November, including Ailey Extension dance classes during Free Friday Nights and the return of Jazz at Lincoln Center and the Children's Museum of Manhattan at Free Second Sunday!

New York, NY, November 5, 2026 — The Whitney Museum of American Art is offering **free admission, music, dance, special programs, exhibition tours,** and more during Free Friday Nights and the November edition of Free Second Sundays. Kicking off the month on and coinciding with the November 6 Free Friday Night, ***Why We Play: Sport, Art, and Youth Identity*** is an evening celebrating the intersection of sport, art, and self-expression in partnership with the Aspen Institute's Sports & Society Program and the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA). On November 21, the new exhibition ***artport: A History of Internet Art*** opens on the Museum's sixth floor and marks the twenty-fifth anniversary of artport, the Whitney's online gallery space for commissions of net art, which launched in 2001. Taking place online and in the gallery, the exhibition tells a history of the evolution of net art over a quarter century and features more than 100 works commissioned specifically for artport.

Friday, November 6

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:

4–6 pm, Open Studio for Teens

Open Studio invites teens to the third floor Artspace to join contemporary artists and educators to learn innovative techniques through hands-on projects which draw inspiration from the themes and artists featured in the Whitney's collection and exhibitions. This program is free for those 18 and under; registration is required.

5–8:15 pm, DJ Set by Ty-Michelle

Born and raised New Yorker Ty-Michelle will be mixing beats throughout the night; the perfect backdrop for wandering through the galleries, partaking in the artmaking programs, and exploring the Museum.

5:30 pm, Art + You

Join a conversation about current exhibition *The Lost World: The Art of Minnie Evans* led by teaching artist Jacqueline Cedar, in which younger adults are welcome to share thoughts on artworks through close looking and dialogue. The group will consider how artists utilize different sources of inspiration through the use of automatic drawing. While this event is free for all, advanced registration is strongly encouraged.

6:30–7:30 pm, *Why We Play: Sport, Art, and Youth Identity*

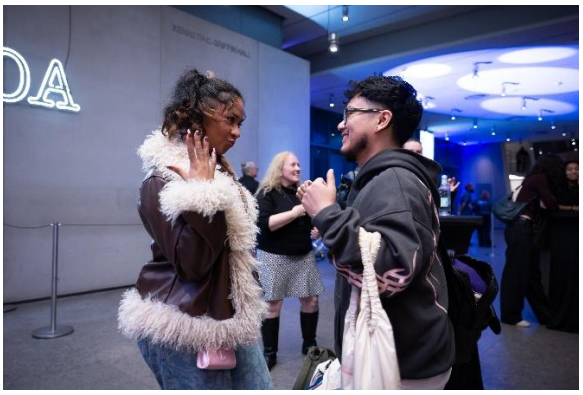
Celebrating the intersection of sport, art, and self-expression, *Why We Play: Sport, Art, and Youth Identity* features a conversation between Michael Bennett, Super Bowl champion and founder of creative studio Studio Kër, Ashley Teamer, a contemporary artist and former athlete, and Constance Stamatiou, professional dancer with Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. The talk will explore what is possible when sport and creativity are both embraced. While this event is free for all, registration is required.

7–9 pm, Collagraph Printing with Robert Blackburn Workshop

Inspired by *Why We Play* and Roy Lichtenstein's imagery related to the dynamism and pleasure of athletics, the Robert Blackburn Printmaking Workshop will offer a hands-on printmaking session exploring the intersection of art and sports. Using found and recycled materials, participants will create their own printing plates, experimenting with textures, shapes, and surfaces to produce unique visual effects.

8:30–9:30 pm, Free Hip-Hop Dance Class with Ailey Extension

Taking place on select Free Friday Nights in the first-floor lobby, Ailey Extension offers free dance classes for all ages and skill levels. Ailey Extension instructor Aaron Thomas will guide the group through a fun and dynamic hip-hop sequence.





Sunday, November 8

On Sunday, November 8, the Whitney is offering **free admission** from **10:30 am–6 pm** for all visitors for Free Second Sunday. Featured programs include:

11 am, Musical Notes and Brush Strokes: Jazz at Lincoln Center Presents a Family Concert

Jazz at Lincoln Center joins the Whitney to honor the late saxophone-playing Roy Lichtenstein on the occasion of *Roy Lichtenstein: Like New.* During the special family concert, the band will respond to and interpret works on view in the exhibition, bringing art and jazz together in fresh and unexpected ways.

11 am–2pm, All Ages Artmaking: Sky Sketches

Artists of all ages can join Whitney Educators in the fifth-floor gallery to create their own drawing inspired by *Super Sunset Billboard*, currently on view in *Roy Lichtenstein: Like New*. Participants will consider what it means to use a space usually meant for commercial advertisements for art, while experimenting with shape, line, and pattern.

11 am–3 pm, CMOM Pop-Up Play Lounge

Families with young children are invited to explore an engaging pop-up play lounge featuring sand, lightboards, structure-building, bubble parties, dancing, and movement circles. Created and led by the Children's Museum of Manhattan (CMOM)'s early childhood education team, the lounge makes for the perfect place to spend a Sunday with your little ones.

1:30–5 pm, All Ages Printmaking: Roy Lichtenstein with Blackburn Printshop

Master printers from the Robert Blackburn Printmaking Workshop will be in the third-floor theater to lead a printmaking workshop inspired by *Roy Lichtenstein: Like New*, inviting guests to create their own Lichtenstein-inspired tote bag using screen printing and pochoir techniques.

Friday, November 13

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

6:30 pm and 8 pm, Live Music by Emily A. Sprague and Leya

Co-presented by Brooklyn-based performance venue and community space Public Records as part of DURATIONS 2026, American harpist and vocalist/violinist duo **LEYA** and synthesist and composer **Emily A. Sprague** will perform in the first-floor lobby throughout the evening. The two musical acts tell stories and create worlds through their music, creating an immersive

experience for visitors.

Friday, November 20
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:

8:30 pm, Free Dance Classes with Ailey Extension
Taking place on select Free Friday Nights in the first-floor lobby, Ailey Extension offers free dance classes for all ages and skill levels. Join former Ailey dancer Lisa Johnson-Willingham for a dance class featuring choreography from Alvin Ailey and Duke Ellington's 1974 masterpiece *Night Creature*.

Friday, November 27
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.

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, November 8, **tickets are still required, and capacity is limited. Advance booking is strongly recommended, and tickets can be reserved at whitney.org/admission.**

PRESS CONTACT

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Art Bridges Foundation | 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: Free Friday Night, October 16, 2026. Photograph by Filip Wolak

Left to right: Free Friday Night, October 16, 2026. Photograph by Filip Wolak; Installation view of *Roy Lichtenstein: Like New* (Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, Oct 11, 2026–May 10, 2027). Artwork © Estate of Roy Lichtenstein. Free Friday Night, October 16, 2026. Photograph by Filip Wolak

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