



Cleveland Foundation Day on Wade Oval

Saturday, May 24, 2014

- In honor of its centennial year, the Cleveland Foundation is giving monthly “Cleveland Foundation Day” birthday gifts to the community throughout 2014. These gifts are being announced around the second day of each month because January 2 is the birth date of the foundation.
- Each month, the foundation will highlight community assets it has played a role in creating or enhancing throughout its first century, in partnership with its donors.
- May’s gift to the community is Cleveland Foundation Day on Wade Oval on Saturday, May 24. It will be the first free Saturday ever for all four cultural institutions on Wade Oval: Cleveland Botanical Garden, Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland Museum of Natural History and Western Reserve Historical Society.
- While the Cleveland Museum of Art always offers free admission, the Cleveland Foundation has made it possible for the museum to offer a special gift – All available public tickets (for non-members) to the Van Gogh *Repetitions* exhibition will be free to the first 500 visitors on May 24. The exhibition is scheduled to end May 25.
- No tickets are required for admission to any of the institutions, although tickets will be required for entry to the Cleveland Museum of Art’s Van Gogh *Repetitions* exhibition. Also, Cleveland Museum of Natural History

visitors will need to reserve a free ticket when they arrive if they want to see one of the planetarium's shows, which will be held every 45 minutes.

- Each of the cultural institutions is offering special programming in honor of Cleveland Foundation Day:
 - Cleveland Botanical Garden
 - Access to the Nature Connects exhibit, which will debut May 24. It features 14 LEGO brick sculptures depicting plants and animals.
 - Family craft activities in the Hershey Children's Garden and special outdoor tours
 - Cleveland Museum of Art
 - Three musical performances throughout the day in the atrium
 - Family craft activities tying visitors to the art collections (Van Gogh finger puppets, CMA paper dolls, cartoons inspired by the galleries)
 - Cleveland Museum of Natural History
 - For the first time ever, free public admission to the Shafran Planetarium
 - Special programming throughout the day, including live animal shows and craft activities in the Smead Discovery Center
 - Western Reserve Historical Society
 - Extension of the Society's *Dior & More – For the Love of Fashion* exhibit through May 25
 - Curators and other experts will be available in the Crawford Auto Aviation Collection, as well as other exhibits, to answer questions from visitors.
- The Cleveland Foundation has provided nearly \$50 million in grant support to the four cultural institutions over the past century. Highlights of projects that foundation grants have supported include:
 - Cleveland Botanical Garden
 - The Green Corps summer youth training program, Family Learning Project, Eleanor Armstrong Smith Glasshouse, public entry garden
 - Cleveland Museum of Art
 - Contemporary Art, Early Christian and Byzantine galleries; the Fine Arts Garden; audience development and neighborhood engagement efforts
 - Cleveland Museum of Natural History
 - Center for Sustainability, Shafran Planetarium, audience and staff development, educational programming
 - Western Reserve Historical Society

- Charting New Directions project, Film Costumes Traveling exhibit, African-American Archives, Society's Hale Farm & Village and Crawford Auto Aviation Collection
 - The Cleveland Foundation's archives are housed at the WRHS.
- Many Greater Clevelanders have taken advantage of the foundation's initial Cleveland Foundation Day gifts to the community:
 - January's Cleveland Foundation Day on the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority brought a 25 percent increase in ridership.
 - February's North Coast Harbor Weekend brought nearly 25,000 to Great Lakes Science Center and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum
 - March's free day at the Cleveland International Film Festival led to the busiest Monday in the Festival's 37-year history, with 8,000 moviegoers.
 - April's Cleveland Foundation Day at Cleveland Metroparks Zoo drew a record-breaking 35,701 visitors to the Zoo.
- To learn more about Cleveland Foundation Day on Wade Oval, visit www.clevelandfoundation.org/WadeOval.