



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** August 27, 2020

Washington State Historical Society, Tacoma Art Museum, Museum of Glass, LeMay – America’s Car Museum, Children’s Museum of Tacoma, Foss Waterway Seaport Museum.

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## **When will Tacoma Museum District reopen?**

**TACOMA, Wash** -- The museums in the Tacoma Museum District are pleased that cultural institutions around the state have been given the option of reopening in Phase 2 or 3, under specific protocols. The directors of the Tacoma Museum District entities (Washington State Historical Society, Tacoma Art Museum, Museum of Glass, Foss Waterway Seaport, Children’s Museum of Tacoma, and LeMay – America’s Car Museum), who have held weekly remote meetings throughout the pandemic, recently met with Dr. Anthony Chen, Director of the Tacoma Pierce County Health Department to hear his agency’s perspective on our local COVID-19 transmission rates and trends.

Tacoma remains a hot spot in Washington, but is headed in the right direction, with new COVID-19 cases declining. As community partners, we recognize our role in helping to reduce transmission of this virus through thoughtful decision-making when it comes to reopening our buildings to the public. For now, we have chosen to stay “paused” as we continue to monitor local conditions on a daily basis. While the buildings are closed, many staff are working remotely to provide enriching online presentations and activities, as well as providing extensive downloadable learning materials to engage with history, arts and culture from home. We encourage you to check each museum’s website for remote events, apps, curriculum and other online activities.

We are also preparing to reopen. We are eager to welcome our community back into our museums for uplifting connection, learning, and creative experiences. The reopening timeline will be different for each museum based on the layout of our individual buildings, staffing configurations, financial models, and exhibition styles. For example, due to the highly interactive nature of the playscapes at Children’s Museum of Tacoma, it will not reopen until next year, while museums with fewer touchable exhibitions

or activities will reopen sooner. Each museum will post updates on their website and their social media platforms to alert the public to individual opening timelines.

When the museums do reopen, visitors will find that we have planned for both their safety and their enjoyment. Through universal mask-wearing, hand-sanitizing stations throughout our facilities, one-way routes through our galleries, and enhanced cleaning schedules we will do our part to reduce the spread of COVID-19. And through the new exhibits we have planned, we look forward to doing what we do best – entertaining and educating our visitors through world-class museum experiences.

You can find more information at the Tacoma Museum District's Facebook page ([@TacomaMuseums](#)) and each museum's website ([www.WashingtonHistory.org](http://www.WashingtonHistory.org), [www.TacomaArtMuseum.org](http://www.TacomaArtMuseum.org), [www.MuseumofGlass.org](http://www.MuseumofGlass.org), [www.AmericasCarMuseum.org](http://www.AmericasCarMuseum.org), <https://fosswaterwayseaport.org/>, and <https://playtacoma.org>). We look forward to seeing you again.

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#### **About The Washington State Historical Society**

The Washington State Historical Society partners with our communities to explore how history connects us all. The Washington State History Museum is located in Tacoma's downtown core along Pacific Avenue. The museum features permanent exhibitions, unique rotating exhibitions, and dynamic traveling exhibitions. WSHM is one of six museums in the thriving Tacoma Museum District.

**Address:** 1911 Pacific Avenue, Tacoma, WA 98402

**Hours:** \*Currently closed in response to the COVID 19 pandemic. Normal operating hours: 10:00 AM–5:00 PM Tuesday through Sunday. Third Thursdays, 10:00 AM–8:00 PM.

**Admission:** [Free for members](#); Adults \$14; seniors (age 65+), students (age 6-17), retired and active duty and military (with ID) \$11; free for children 5 and under; family rate \$40 (up to two adults and four children under age 18). Patrons with a [Washington Quest card](#) or Washington Foster Care license can attend for \$1 per person or \$2 per family. Admission is free for everyone from 3:00 – 8:00 PM on the Third Thursday of each month.

[www.WashingtonHistory.org](http://www.WashingtonHistory.org)

#### **About Tacoma Art Museum**

Tacoma Art Museum is an anchor in Tacoma's downtown with a mission of connecting people through art. TAM's collection contains more than 5,000 works, with an emphasis on the art and artists of the Northwest and broader Western region. The collection includes the largest retrospective museum collection of glass art by Tacoma native Dale Chihuly on permanent view; the most significant collection of studio art jewelry by Northwest artists; key holdings in 19th century European and 20th century American art; one of the finest collections of Japanese woodblock prints on the West Coast; the Haub Collection of Western American Art; and the Benaroya Collection.

**Hours** – \*Currently closed in response to the COVID 19 pandemic. Normal operating hours: Tues–Sun 10 am–5 pm; FREE Neighborhood Nights every Thursday 5–8 pm

**Admission** – \$18 Adult, \$15 Student/Senior (65+), \$40 Family (2 adults and up to four children age 6-18), Children 5 and under free every day. Children 18 and under free every Saturday. TAM Members; active duty military, reservists, veterans, and their families always free.

[www.tacomaartmuseum.org](http://www.tacomaartmuseum.org)

#### **About Museum of Glass**

Located in Tacoma, Washington, Museum of Glass is a premier contemporary art museum dedicated to glass and glassmaking in the West Coast's largest and most active museum glass studio. Opened in 2002, the Museum has established a reputation for hosting impactful and engaging artist residencies, organizing nationally traveling exhibitions, and creating unique programs for visitors while building a growing permanent collection chronicling the development of modern and contemporary glass. Museum of Glass provides an environment for artists and the public to ignite creativity, fuel discovery, and enrich their lives through glass and glassmaking.

Info Line 253.284.4750 | 1.866.4MUSEUM

Museum of Glass, 1801 Dock Street, Tacoma, WA 98402

[www.museumofglass.org](http://www.museumofglass.org)

### **About Foss Waterway Seaport**

Founded in 1996, the Foss Waterway Seaport celebrates Tacoma's rich maritime heritage – past, present, and future. The museum is located on the historic Thea Foss waterfront in the century-old Balfour Dock Building, a rehabilitated warehouse that is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Educational and cultural programs are centered around the historic building and public moorage on the historic Thea Foss Waterway. Activities include Maritime Heritage exhibits, land- and boat-based science education programs, a Heritage Boat Building Shop, and meeting and event rental space and moorage.

**Hours** – \*Currently closed in response to the COVID 19 pandemic. Normal operating hours: Thu – Sat 10 am – 4 pm; and Sun 12 pm – 4 pm.

**Admission** – \$10 Adults, \$8 Seniors (62+), \$8 Students and Children (5+), \$8 Military, Free Children 5 and under, \$25 Family (up to 2 adults and 4 children), Free for Friends of the Seaport.

### **About LeMay – America's Car Museum**

LeMay - America's Car Museum is an international destination for families and auto enthusiasts to experience the past, present, and future of the automobile and learn how it shapes our society. Based in Tacoma, Wash., the stunning 165,000-sq.-ft. facility has been recognized as one of *MSN's* 10 Best Automotive Museums worldwide, *USA Today's* 10 Best Museums in Seattle and *KING5's* Best Museum in Western Washington. It is known for its educational outreach serving more than 30,000 students annually, spectacular rotating exhibits, stunning event spaces, and a show field for hosting community events. LeMay – America's Car Museum is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) and partner organization of America's Automotive Trust, TechForce Foundation, and RPM Foundation. For more information, visit [www.americascarmuseum.org](http://www.americascarmuseum.org). Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

### **About the Children's Museum of Tacoma**

At the Children's Museum of Tacoma, our mission is to honor children and champion play. Everything we do begins with our image of the child. We believe children are compassionate, capable, inquisitive, creative, valuable, contributing, and dreamers. Our vision is to be a leader in our community in using play to learn, to grow, and to thrive. The mission comes to life in the Children's Museum of Tacoma, Play to Learn, Preschool Powered by Play, The Muse: A Children's Center, and coming soon the Children's Museum of Tacoma at JBLM.

**Hours:** The Children's Museum of Tacoma is currently closed in response to the COVID 19 pandemic.

**Address:** 1501 Pacific Avenue, Tacoma, WA 98402

**Website:** <https://playtacoma.org/>