



MUSEUM OF EARLY TRADES & CRAFTS



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS
and BLUE STAR FAMILIES present
arts.gov/bluestarmuseums
BLUE STAR MUSEUMS

Date: May 23, 2023

Contact: Amy Reed, Communications Coordinator, Museum of Early Trades & Crafts

9 Main St. Madison, NJ

coordinator@metc.org

973-377-2982

Metc.org

MUSEUM OF EARLY TRADES & CRAFTS IS A 2023 BLUE STAR MUSEUM

METC offers free admission to military personnel and their families this summer

Madison, NJ – The Museum of Early Trades & Crafts is joining museums nationwide in the Blue Star Museums initiative, a program that provides free admission to currently-serving U.S. military personnel and their families this summer. The 2023 program began on Armed Forces Day, Saturday, May 20, 2023, and will end on Labor Day, Monday, September 4, 2023. Find the list of participating museums at arts.gov/bluestarmuseums.

Blue Star Museums is a partnership between the National Endowment for the Arts and Blue Star Families, in collaboration with the Department of Defense and participating museums across America.

“METC is honored to be a part of the Blue Star Museums initiative,” said Deborah Farrar Starker, Director of the Museum of Early Trades & Crafts. “We are honored to welcome service members and their families to visit our museum and make connections with New Jersey’s rich cultural history.”

“We thank the 2023 Blue Star Museums who invite military personnel and their families to experience the many wonders they have to offer, whether it’s a glimpse into the past, an encounter with awe-inspiring art, or a moment of discovery,” said Maria Rosario Jackson, PhD, chair of the National Endowment for the Arts. “The Museum of Early Trades & Crafts is helping to enrich the lives of military families and build meaningful connections between our nation’s military and their local community.”

Blue Star Museums include children’s museums, art, science, and history museums, zoos, gardens, lighthouses, and more, and hail from all 50 states, District of Columbia, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The [current list of participating museums](#) will continue to develop over the summer as organizations are welcome to [register to be a Blue Star Museum](#) throughout the summer.

The free admission program is available for those currently serving in the United States Military—Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, Navy, and Space Force, members of the Reserves, National Guard, U.S. Public Health Commissioned Corps, NOAA Commissioned Corps, and up to five family members. Qualified members must show a [Geneva Convention common access card \(CAC\)](#), [DD Form 1173 ID card \(dependent ID\)](#), [DD Form 1173-1 ID card](#) or the [Next Generation Uniformed Services \(Real\) ID card](#) for entrance into a participating Blue Star Museum.

Follow #bluestarmuseums on Twitter @NEAarts and @BlueStarFamily.



MUSEUM OF EARLY TRADES & CRAFTS



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS
and BLUE STAR FAMILIES present
[arts.gov/bluestarmuseums](https://www.arts.gov/bluestarmuseums)
BLUE STAR MUSEUMS

About the Museum of Early Trades & Crafts

Explore American history with a focus on the life and stories of 18th- and 19th- century craftsmen and artisans. Drawing on its rich collection, METC is connecting the lives of people and their stories, while providing a bridge from the past to the future. Housed in a stunning Richardsonian Romanesque Revival building donated by D. Willis James to the people of Madison, NJ in 1900, METC offers something for visitors of all ages. Regular METC admission is \$5.00 for adults, \$3.00 for seniors, students & children 6 and older, and free for members and children under 6. Family maximum admission \$15.00. METC is open Tuesday – Saturday 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. and Sunday Noon to 5 P.M. Closed Monday & Major Holidays.

For information, please call 973-377-2982 or visit our website at www.metc.org.

About the National Endowment for the Arts

Established by Congress in 1965, the National Endowment for the Arts is the independent federal agency whose funding and support gives Americans the opportunity to participate in the arts, exercise their imaginations, and develop their creative capacities. Through partnerships with state arts agencies, local leaders, other federal agencies, and the philanthropic sector, the Arts Endowment supports arts learning, affirms and celebrates America’s rich and diverse cultural heritage, and extends its work to promote equal access to the arts in every community across America. To learn more, visit [arts.gov](https://www.arts.gov) or follow us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [YouTube](#).

About Blue Star Families

[BlueStar Families \(BSF\)](#) is the nation’s largest chapter-based military and veteran family support organization. Its research-driven approach fosters strong communities with a focus on human centered design and innovative solutions. Since its founding in 2009, BSF has delivered millions of dollars in benefits and impacted more than 1.5 million people each year. For more information, [click here](#) and follow along with Blue Star Families on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#).

###