

**FREE ADMISSION MAY 18 AT MEADOWS MUSEUM
IN CELEBRATION OF AAMD ART MUSEUM DAY**

VISITORS ENCOURAGED TO SHARE THEIR MUSEUM EXPERIENCES
THROUGHOUT THE CELEBRATIONS VIA SOCIAL MEDIA

Dallas, May 15, 2014—The Meadows Museum announces that it will offer free admission on Sunday, May 18, 2014 as part of the Association of Art Museum Directors’ (AAMD) Art Museum Day, held in conjunction with the International Council of Museums’ (ICOM) International Museum Day. Art Museum Day emphasizes the essential role that art museums play in their communities, highlights the value of the visual arts in society, and provides new opportunities for audiences to participate in the wide-ranging programs offered by AAMD member museums.

Additional free programs offered that day include:

1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

Drawing from the Masters

Enjoy informal drawing instruction with guest artist Ian O’Brien in the Meadows Museum’s galleries. Explore a variety of techniques and improve drawing skills. Designed for adults and students ages 15 and older, and open to all levels of experience. Attendance is limited to 20 on a first-come, first-served basis. Drawing materials will be available, but participants are encouraged to bring their own sketchpads and pencils.

2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Docent-led Tour of the Permanent Collection

Journey through Spain without leaving Dallas! Examine Spanish masters from the 10th-21st centuries, including works by El Greco, Velázquez, Murillo, Goya, and Picasso.

In 2012, AAMD launched an initiative encouraging visitors of all ages to share their experiences of Art Museum Day through social media. Last year’s event prompted an outpouring of responses with tweets, “check-ins,” and personal responses from across North America. The Meadows Museum invites visitors

to continue the conversation this year by sharing their perspectives via social media with the hashtag #artmuseumday.

“Art museums play a long-standing and critical role as educational institutions,” said Mark A. Roglán, The Linda P. and William A. Custard Director of the Meadows Museum and Centennial Chair in the Meadows School of the Arts. “This event perfectly aligns with our mission of advancing knowledge and understanding of art, and reminds everyone of the importance of arts education in our community.”

About the Meadows Museum

The Meadows Museum is the leading institution in the U.S. focused on the study and presentation of the art of Spain. In 1962, Dallas businessman and philanthropist Algur H. Meadows donated his private collection of Spanish paintings, as well as funds to start a museum, to Southern Methodist University. The museum opened to the public in 1965 and today is home to one of the largest and most comprehensive collections of Spanish art outside of Spain. The collection includes medieval objects, Renaissance and Baroque sculptures, and major paintings by Golden Age and modern masters. The 50th anniversary of the Meadows Museum in 2015 will be marked by a series of private and public events April 16-18 as part of SMU’s annual Founders’ Day Weekend celebration, which celebrates the centennial of SMU’s founding in 1911 and its opening in 1915, and highlights the achievements of SMU students, faculty and alumni. The Meadows Museum's 50th anniversary celebration will include a special exhibition, which will be followed by additional anniversary-related programming and events the remainder of the year.

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