



Smithsonian  
***Donald W. Reynolds Center for  
American Art and Portraiture***

***National Portrait Gallery  
Smithsonian American Art Museum***

# News

**Media only:** Laura Baptiste, American Art (202) 633-8494  
Bethany Bentley, Portrait Gallery (202) 633-8293

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## **Friends and Family Festival Highlights Grand Opening of the Smithsonian's Robert and Arlene Kogod Courtyard Nov. 18**

The Smithsonian American Art Museum and National Portrait Gallery's Friends and Family Festival, sponsored by Target, will take place in the museums' new Robert and Arlene Kogod Courtyard Sunday, Nov. 18, from noon to 6 p.m. This festival is free and open to the public. Visitors will enjoy a wide array of programs and entertainment, such as hands-on art workshops, music and dance performances and costumed actors impersonating individuals from the museums' collections that will engage both families and adults. A complete schedule of activities and performances is available at [americanart.si.edu/reynolds\\_center/courtyard.cfm](http://americanart.si.edu/reynolds_center/courtyard.cfm).

The Kogod Courtyard, with its elegant glass canopy designed by world renowned architectural firm Foster + Partners, is a signature element of the renovated National Historic Landmark building that houses the two museums. The enclosed courtyard provides a light-filled, 28,000-square-foot space for the museums' café, public programs and special events.

**Hands-on art making activities** for adults and children featured in the courtyard—while supplies last—include areas designated for designing festive party hats, decorating photo frames, creating postcards from colored scratch pads, stringing beads and coloring signature Bullseye the Target Dog craft bags. In addition, there will be a Lite Brite station and an Andy Warhol-inspired collage activity.

**Musical performances** will include jazz, gospel, big band, bluegrass and rock 'n' roll. Musical groups include the Howard Gospel Choir, Jacques Johnson's Jazz Ensemble, the Doug McKelway Band, Shades of Blue and the Washington Chorus. The Brewery Troupe's Crowtations, a Motown puppet group, and Los Quetzales, a traditional Mexican dance ensemble, also will perform.

**Actors impersonating individuals** featured in the museums' collections, such as Charlie Chaplin, Marilyn Monroe, Andy Warhol and George and Martha Washington will stroll through the courtyard during the festival. Visitors can have their photograph taken with any of these actors or the costume character Bullseye the Target Dog in a special photo-op area. In addition, a juggler, mime and magician will be on hand to entertain children.

The Upper West Side Café, located on the third floor near the Luce Foundation Center for American Art, will be open from 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. on the day of the festival. The café features a seasonal menu using the finest local, organic ingredients. Salads, sandwiches, pastries, as well as beverages, will be sold. Musical performances will be held in the café from 12:45 to 4 p.m.

The museums share a main entrance at Eight and F streets N.W. and are open daily from 11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m., except Dec. 25. Admission is free. Metrorail station: Gallery Place/Chinatown. Smithsonian Information: (202) 633-1000; (202) 633-5285 (TTY). Web site: [reynoldscenter.org](http://reynoldscenter.org).

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