



Public Programs

Handmade Fun: The Art of Calligraphy

June 1 to August 30

Daily 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Thursdays until 7 p.m.

Studio

Long before email, text messaging and mass-produced books, medieval scribes practiced calligraphy, the graceful art of decorative hand-lettering. Discover the impressive craftsmanship of historical writing and printing techniques, and learn how the Gutenberg printing press transformed Europe and helped usher in the Renaissance. Children ages 3 to 12 are invited to perfect their penmanship and learn how to fold their beautiful written message into an envelope. Your calligraphy creation is yours to take home and share with your family or friends.

Opening Weekend: Medieval Europe – Power and Splendour

June 9 and 10

10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Resource Centre and Canadian Children's Museum

On Saturday, join curators from the British Museum as they shine a light on some of the priceless artifacts in the exhibition **Medieval Europe – Power and Splendour**. Insightful tours illuminate power and politics, kingdoms and chivalry, crusades and conquests. All weekend long in the Children's Museum, families can build their own castles in the Medieval Imagination space, while learning more about the age of moats and drawbridges. In the Studio, children and their parents can also try their hand at medieval calligraphy using quill and ink. There's something for everyone this opening weekend!

Illuminating the Dark Ages

Saturday, June 9

1 to 2 p.m.

Resource Centre

What do the brilliant treasures in the exhibition **Medieval Europe – Power and Splendour** tell us about life during the so-called Dark Ages? Curator Dr. Michael Lewis of the British Museum shines a light on what was, in fact, an era of great artistic skill and

cultural development — experienced by the ruling elite and less affluent alike. Explore the splendour of a royal court, the expansion of urban centres and the importance of the Church to everyday life in Europe, as revealed through rare artifacts from the British Museum. Dr. Lewis will share fascinating insights into material culture and art history, in a time of major social, political, religious and economic change.

Medieval (K)night at the Museum

Thursday, June 14

5 to 8 p.m.

Haida Gwaii Mezzanine

Straight from the vaults of the British Museum, the exhibition **Medieval Europe – Power and Splendour** is unique and comprehensive, featuring many rare artifacts never before seen in North America. Learn how major international exhibitions are created from the team that put it together. Join curator Bianca Gendreau for exclusive tours, meet members of the exhibition team, and discover the stories behind several one-of-a-kind objects. Mingle with other museum enthusiasts, enjoy cocktails and sample medieval-themed treats, as you travel back several centuries to Europe in the Middle Ages.

A Knight's Life

June 14, 2018 to January 20, 2019

Daily 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Thursdays until 6 p.m.

Medieval Europe exhibition

Join us for an engaging live interpretation of the role and lives of medieval knights in the exhibition **Medieval Europe – Power and Splendour**. Volunteers will have essential pieces of a knight's armour on hand, and will encourage visitors to handle them and try them on. Can you imagine wearing a full suit of armour? Volunteers will also help visitors understand how armour evolved during the medieval era, including the shift from chain mail to plate armour. In addition, visitors will learn more about the people chosen to serve as knights, the personal emblems that distinguished them, heraldry, and how this period continues to reverberate today.

Awesome Medieval

Sunday, August 26

10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Museum grounds

Alternate location: Grand Hall

How did rural people live in medieval times? What did they eat? What pastimes did they enjoy? Find out during this exciting day of family activities, suitable for all ages, in honour of our exhibition **Medieval Europe – Power and Splendour**. Compete in friendly games of skill, take a dance lesson and help cook some medieval bread. Create your own mini-shield and decorate an embossed tin piece to take home.

Taste of the Middle Ages With Véronique Rivest

Saturday, September 14

5:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Medieval Europe exhibition and Haida Gwaii Salon

What did the nobility and peasants eat during the Middle Ages? Get a taste of how their lifestyles and dining habits differed during this evening of history, food and wine, inspired by our exhibition **Medieval Europe – Power and Splendour**. Join curator Bianca Gendreau on a tour of the exhibition's highlights. Take in the spectacular views from the Haida Gwaii Salon as you nosh on medieval canapés prepared by chef Michael Lasalle, and sip wines selected by world-renowned, locally based sommelier Véronique Rivest. The curator and sommelier will be on hand to answer questions during this historical, multi-sensory experience.

Tickets: \$95; \$90 for Members. Get your tickets online or by phone at 819-776-7000. Tickets must be purchased in advance. Participants must be at least 18 years of age to attend. Seats are available on a first-come, first-served basis.