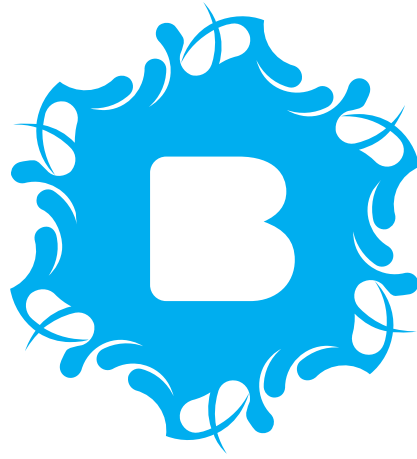


Press Release



June 2009

Free Summer Programs for the Family Events Ranging from Art-Making Classes to *Target First Saturdays* at the Brooklyn Museum this July and August

Whether attending a special family event, an exhibition, or visiting the galleries, museums remain an inexpensive and exciting destination for the whole family. Below is a partial schedule of family friendly-events and exhibitions and families can also enjoy the Brooklyn Museum's world renowned permanent collections like the Egyptian art collection or the newly renovated *Arts of the Islamic World* galleries.

Arty Facts—Two Special Weekday Classes in July

Although the regular weekend *Arty Facts* for children four to seven and their adult friends will be on hiatus from July through September, the Museum will collaborate with the Brooklyn Public Library to present two special weekday *Arty Facts* programs in July. On Wednesday, July 22, from 10 to 11:30 a.m., participants will meet in the Museum's Rubin Lobby, read a story with a librarian, explore the galleries, and create a piece of art in the studios. On Tuesday, July 28, from 10 to 11 a.m., the class will gather at the second floor meeting room of the library's Central Branch at Grand Army Plaza, where participants will share a story with a librarian and create an artwork with an *Arty Facts* instructor. The July 22 *Arty Facts* is free with Museum admission.

Target First Saturdays Summer 09

July—America Remix

On Saturday, July 4, from 5 to 11 p.m., the Brooklyn Museum presents a free night of music, dance, and art-making classes that celebrate our country's independence with a Fourth of July BBQ. Highlights include four diverse musical groups: Alex Battles and the Whisky Rebellion, Samba Nation, Mandingo Ambassadors, and The Shondes. There will also be a screening of the film adaptation of Lahiri's *The Namesake* (PG-13) and the evening will conclude with a dance party hosted by DJ Cosmo Baker of The Rub.

August—Target First Saturday

On Saturday, August 1, from 5 to 11 p.m., visitors are invited to celebrate the spirit of the Caribbean Diaspora. Highlights include the traditional dances of Panama's Conjunto Nuevo Milenio, an art-making class where participants create a carnival costume headdress, and a reggae music performance in the Sculpture Garden by Meta and the Cornerstones.

Brooklyn Museum

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Family-Friendly Special Exhibitions

Light of the Sufis: The Mystical Arts of Islam

Through September 6, 2009. This exhibition features twenty-four objects from the Brooklyn Museum, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, and private collections related to a mystical form of Islam known as Sufism. *Light of the Sufis* focuses on some of the most important Sufi ideas and practices that found expression through the arts of the Islamic world, beginning with light, which symbolizes both God and enlightenment. The range of cultures and media represented in the exhibition reflect the wide appeal and impact of Sufism on the arts— from the early period to the present day.

Yinka Shonibare MBE

Through September 20, 2009. This exhibition is a major midcareer survey of work by the London-based, Nigerian artist Yinka Shonibare MBE. Shonibare's artwork explores contemporary African identity and its relationship to European colonialism through painting, sculpture, installation, and moving image. Shonibare is best known for his work with visual symbols, especially the richly patterned Dutch wax fabric, produced in Europe for a West African market, that he uses in a wide range of applications. His tableaux of headless mannequins costumed in this fabric evoke themes of history and its legacy for future generations. There will also be a site-specific installation created for this presentation featuring figures of small children and titled *Mother and Father Worked Hard So I Can Play* that will be on view in several of the Museum's period rooms.

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GENERAL INFORMATION

Admission:

Contribution \$10; students with valid I.D. and older adults \$6. Free to Members and children under 12 accompanied by an adult. Group tours or visits must be arranged in advance by calling extension 234.

Directions:

Subway: Seventh Avenue express (2 or 3) to Eastern Parkway/Brooklyn Museum stop; Lexington Avenue express (4 or 5) to Nevins Street, cross platform and transfer to the 2 or 3. Bus: B71, B41, B69, B48.

On-site parking available.

Museum Hours:

Wednesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; First Saturday of each month, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.; all other Saturdays, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Closed Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day.