



For Immediate Release
Miriam Taylor
Ogden Museum of Southern Art
504-539-9604
mtaylor@ogdenmuseum.org

**OGDEN MUSEUM OF SOUTHERN ART ANNOUNCES
FREE FAMILY DAY: ART AND ARCHITECTURE**
Saturday, March 11, 2017, 10AM – 2PM

NEW ORLEANS – February 22, 2017

On Saturday, March 11, from 10 AM to 2 PM, the Ogden Museum of Southern Art will present its first Free Family Day of 2017.

From shotguns to Creole cottages to camelbacks and double-gallery Victorians, guests are invited to explore New Orleans' unique architecture through hands-on art activities such as constructing architectural sculpture, creating a collaborative map of New Orleans neighborhoods, and designing historic house facades with the Preservation Resource Center.

The various art activities featured in the free admission day are inspired by the vibrant street scenes found in the Ogden Museum's latest exhibition, *Waltzing the Muse: The Paintings of James Michalopoulos*, on view until July 16. Presenting sponsors for the exhibition are Henry and Pat Shane.

Throughout the morning, Free Family Day will also present performances geared towards children of all ages. Highlights from the entertainment roster include the Delores T. Aaron Brass Band, Funny Bones Improv, and Body//Sonic's Movement and Music Workshop. Frencheeze food truck will also provide both traditional and inventive grilled cheese sandwiches for purchase in front of the museum. Complimentary lemonade and water will be available to all who attend.

"We are excited to present a variety of fun and interactive activities exploring New Orleans' distinctive art and architecture, alongside the vibrant paintings of James Michalopoulos," says Ellen Balkin, Education Manager of the Ogden Museum.

Established in 2008, the free event provides families with an interactive museum experience that blends fun with an engaging exploration of the Museum's current exhibitions and invites the entire community to explore the rich visual culture of the South.

More information can be found by contacting Ellen Balkin, Education Manager, at ebalkin@ogdenmuseum.org, or by visiting www.ogdenmuseum.org.

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Located in the vibrant Warehouse Arts District of downtown New Orleans, Louisiana, the Ogden Museum of Southern Art holds the largest collection of Southern art and is recognized for its original exhibitions, public events, and educational programs which examine the development of visual art alongside Southern traditions of music, literature, and culinary heritage to provide a comprehensive story of the South. Established in 1999 and in Stephen Goldring Hall since 2003, the Museum welcomes almost 80,000 visitors annually, and attracts diverse audiences through its broad range of programming including exhibitions, lectures, film screenings, and concerts which are all part of its mission to broaden the knowledge, understanding, interpretation, and appreciation of the visual arts and culture of the American South.

The Ogden Museum is open daily from 10AM-5PM with extended hours on Thursdays from 6-8PM for Ogden After Hours. Admission is free to Museum Members and \$13.50 for adults, \$11 for seniors 65 and older, \$7.25 for children ages 5-17 and free for children under 5.

The Ogden Museum is free to Louisiana Residents on Thursdays from 10AM-5PM courtesy of The Helis Foundation. The Helis Foundation is a Louisiana private foundation, established by the William Helis Family. The Art Funds of the Helis Foundation advance access to the arts for the community through contributions that sustain operations for, provide free admission to, acquire works of art, and underwrite major exhibitions and projects of institutions within the Greater New Orleans area.

The Museum is closed Lundi Gras and Mardi Gras, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day and New Years Day.

The Museum is located at 925 Camp Street, New Orleans Louisiana 70130. For more information visit ogdenmuseum.org or call [504-539-9650](tel:504-539-9650).