

e-Family Time Newsletter, brought to you by [Cool Culture](#)—February 2012

Fun Family Day: Cool Culture Meets You at the [Rubin Museum of Art](#)!



Celebrate Himalayan New Year on Saturday, February 25th from 12-4pm at the Rubin Museum of Art

Join Cool Culture at the [Rubin Museum of Art \(RMA\)](#) for a [Himalayan New Year celebration on Saturday, February 25th](#), featuring live music, storytelling, art projects and more!

Present your [Cool Culture Family Pass](#) to experience live music, storytelling, art projects and more - all for FREE!

Know Before You Go

The New Year (called *Losar*) is celebrated for weeks in some regions of Asia's Himalaya Mountains, with families and friends coming together to join in on the festivities.

"The Himalayan New Year is really about being with your friends and family and being merry together for days and days on end," says Aoife Pacheco, Early Childhood & Family Learning Manager at RMA.

Enjoy all the fun of the Himalayan New Year right here in New York City! Make sure to swing by the [RMA](#) to celebrate this exciting family event from 12 - 4 pm on February 25th.

Awesome Activities

Spend an action-packed afternoon participating in fun,

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Did you know? Learning is as easy as 1-2-3. Young children love to count and it's great for your child's development.

At the [Rubin Museum of Art](#), count the number of animals hiding in the paintings, or the number of steps in the big spiral staircase!



Use your [Parent Starter Kit](#) to learn tips for using your Family Pass, and review a full listing of all Cool Culture partner museums, gardens and zoos! Don't have your Starter Kit? Ask your [Cultural Liaison](#) for a copy or [download it here](#).

[The Family Pass](#) provides free general admission for up to 5 individuals any time the cultural institution is open! Don't forget to bring your ID and to HAVE FUN!

family-friendly activities and performances at this cheery museum filled with bright and beautiful Himalayan art.

Make unique crafts inspired by Himalayan traditions, including tiny flags filled with wishes, unusual rubbings made from traditional woodblocks and more! **Create cool buttons** to wear home and contribute to a giant group art project called a *mandala*.

As if that isn't enough to do, you and your little ones can also search for treasures on a museum scavenger hunt, take an imaginative trip through the galleries on a storytelling adventure and trace your family's real-life journeys on maps created just for this Losar celebration.

Fun Cultural Connections

Join families from all over at this unique party, which brings together different cultures to share the traditions of this joyous celebration. **Mandarin- and Cantonese-speaking volunteers** will be on hand for families who need them.

"We want to connect the culture that we're sharing to all the cultures of the people who come to visit," Ms. Pacheco says.

We'll see you on Saturday, February 25th for this fun family day! For more info, check out the [Rubin Museum of Art](#).

By Erin Cassin

Comments, Feedback?
Contact Cool Culture Staff
Email familytime@coolculture.org.

For a full [list of Cool Culture partners](#), check out the Cool Culture [website](#).

FEBRUARY EVENTS CALENDAR

Keep out the cold with fun family events!

EVENTS CALENDAR KEY:

FP = Free with Cool Culture Family Pass

FREE = Free to all, Cool Culture Family Pass not necessary

Saturday, February 4

LITTLE DRAGON TALES: CHINESE CHILDREN'S SONGS, 1:30pm

Ring in the Year of the Dragon with songs! Join Dave Liang for an afternoon of Chinese children's songs with a modern twist in celebration of the Year of the Dragon and the release of his new CD, Little Dragon Tales: Chinese Children's Songs.

[MUSEUM OF CHINESE IN AMERICA](#), Manhattan. Ages 0-2. FP

Saturday, February 4

CELEBRATING LUNAR NEW YEAR: THE YEAR OF THE DRAGON, 11:00am - 4:00pm

Usher in good fortune and celebrate the Year of the Dragon-the most lucky animal of the Chinese zodiac-with performances, interactive gallery activities, and art-making workshops for all.

[THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF THE ART](#), Manhattan. All Ages. FP

Saturday, February 4

FAMILIES AND FOLK ART, 1:00 - 2:00pm

Get to know folk art through interactive and discussion-based tours in the galleries followed by hands-on art workshops inspired by objects in the museum. Encounter the unexpected with artwork made from feathers, bottle caps, soot and bones!

[AMERICAN FOLK ART MUSEUM](#), Manhattan. Ages 4-12. FREE

Saturday, February 11

FAMILY AFFAIR: WHEN ART MEETS TECH, 1:00 - 4:00pm

Join in on an afternoon of art- and food-making activities with special guests from Start Strong Bronx! You can also check out an exhibition where art and technology are seen hand in hand. Register to attend by calling [718-681-6000 x127](tel:718-681-6000).

[BRONX MUSEUM OF THE ARTS](#), Bronx. Ages 0-12. FREE

Saturday, February 11

FINDING HOME FAMILY WORKSHOP, 1:30 - 2:30pm

Explore the meaning of "home" together by creating artwork, a community poem, and exploring the exhibit The Travelers and The Quartet Project! Discover the diversity and importance of "finding home" through your unique experiences.

[MUSEUM OF CHINESE IN AMERICA](#), Manhattan. Ages 4+. FP

Saturday and Sunday, February 11 - 12

HEARTS AND FLOWERS: FAMILY ART PROJECT, 10:00am - 1:00pm

Breathe in the fragrance of greenhouse blossoms and appreciate their colorful blooms. Use them as inspiration to make lovely, lacy and flowerful Valentine's Day cards.

[WAVE HILL](#), Bronx. All Ages. FP

Friday, February 17

PRESIDENTIAL STORYTIME, 10:30am

Join us for story time in honor of Presidents' Day! Listen to funny stories about George Washington and Abraham Lincoln, and then check out our trunk of men's historic clothing. Afterward make a stovepipe hat to take home. An optional brief tour of the period rooms will follow.

[MOUNT VERNON HOTEL MUSEUM & GARDEN](#), Manhattan. Ages 0-6. FP

Saturday, February 18

GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT, 10:30am

Can you find the red-tailed hawks, robins, and even pheasants? You won't want to miss this half-nature walk, half-scavenger hunt event, where you can count together in a fun and colorful way. Meet at the Visitor & Administration Building lobby.

[QUEENS BOTANICAL GARDEN](#), Queens. Ages 4+. FREE

Saturday and Sunday, February 18 - 19

JUNIOR ENGINEER: DIG IT! 1:30pm

Did you know that archeological treasures are discovered during subway tunnel construction? Work together to dig up artifacts from the Transit Museum's pretend excavation site!

[THE NEW YORK TRANSIT MUSEUM](#), Brooklyn. Ages 4+. FP

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday, February 20 - 21, 23

I HEART NEW YORK: CAPTURING YOUR WORLD, 1:00 - 4:00pm

Travel back in time and have your portrait taken during the February vacation. Then, create a personal photo collage by using images ranging from the Brooklyn Bridge to the Chrysler Building to Central Park to capture your life in NYC!

[THE JEWISH MUSEUM](#), Manhattan. Ages 4+. FP

** Please note: this event was incorrectly listed as "FREE" in the spring issue of Family Time. A Family Pass is required for free entry to this event.

Tuesday through Friday, February 21 - 24

SUBWAY STORYTELLING and CREATE A CITY, 11:00am & 2:30pm

Pick a day or two during February vacation to have fun at The New York Transit Museum. At 11am, make sure to get onboard for transportation tales with Subway Storytelling fun! At 2:30pm, enjoy arts and crafts together while dreaming and building up your very own city.

[THE NEW YORK TRANSIT MUSEUM](#), Brooklyn. Ages 4+. FP

Saturday, February 25

FAMILY DAY: HIMALAYAN NEW YEAR CELEBRATION, NOON - 4:00pm

Celebrate the Himalayan New Year with an amazing day filled with art, crafts, food, music and more at the Rubin Museum of Art! Contribute to a giant collaborative mandala, construct colorful sculptures and explore the galleries on an amazing story drama tour all while enjoying traditional music performances. Cool Culture will be here, too!

[RUBIN MUSEUM OF ART](#), Manhattan. All Ages. FP

MARCH EVENTS CALENDAR

Start planning for spring adventures!

Saturday, March 3

FAMILY ART WORKSHOP, 10:30am - NOON

In collaboration with The Drawing Center, artist Maria Hupfield and Ada Pilar Cruz will introduce families to the art of Carl Beam. Then, participants will make drawings using Beam's work as inspiration. Please reserve by calling [212-219-2166 ext. 205](tel:212-219-2166). Located in the West Gallery and Education Classroom.

[NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN](#), Manhattan. All Ages. FREE

Saturday, March 3

HANDS-ON ART, 6:30 - 8:30pm

Come explore new materials and ideas at this drop-in art workshop. Your family can enjoy an art-making experience, such as sketching from a live model, creating a sculpture from found objects, or designing a scarf to

wear. Free timed tickets are available at the Visitor Center beginning at 5:30 p.m.
[BROOKLYN MUSEUM](#), Brooklyn. All Ages. FREE

Saturday, March 10

HSBC Family Day at Queens Botanical Garden, 2:00 - 4:00pm

Enjoy this 4th Annual Family Day event and get a taste of the HSBC Children's Garden program as you plant seeds and learn about the environment. Have fun playing in a beautiful garden!

[QUEENS BOTANICAL GARDEN](#), Queens. Ages 5-12. FREE

GREAT ONGOING PROGRAMS
Family fun anytime, all the time!

Ongoing throughout the year

START WITH ART AT THE MET

Sketch, explore, listen to stories, and discover the meaning of art! Meet at Carson Family Hall, Uris Center for Education, ground floor. Visit www.metmuseum.org for dates and times.

[THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART](#), Manhattan. Ages 3-7 FP

Every Sunday

FREE DROP-IN ART WORKSHOPS, 1:30-4:30pm

Come for fun activities that will get you talking about the art on view! These programs are accessible to all families, including those whose children have special needs and those for whom English is a new language.

[QUEENS MUSEUM OF ART](#), Queens. Ages 5-12 FREE

Every 3rd Saturday of the month

SUPER SABADO! 11:00am - 8:30pm

SUPER SABADO! showcases traditions, cultural expressions, and the latest in Latino art. Drop-in for free concerts, gallery tours, art-making workshops and more!

[EL MUSEO DEL BARRIO](#), Manhattan. All Ages FREE

Every Sunday

TARGET FREE SUNDAYS, 12:00 - 4:00pm

Come for free programs and events ranging from family workshops to theater performances. Explore how art and visual communication can ignite the imagination, engage the mind and reflect our human experience - past, present and future!

[THE STUDIO MUSEUM IN HARLEM](#), Manhattan. All Ages FREE

Every Sunday

FAMILY SUNDAYS AT THE JEWISH MUSEUM, 1:00 - 4:00pm

Choose from a variety of family-fun events including their Storybooks & Art session, and their Drop-In Art Workshop to engage in painting, sculpting, drawing or crafting. Every second Sunday from 12:00-3:00pm, they also have an Archaeological Digging Zone, where kids can dress up and explore unusual treasures!

[THE JEWISH MUSEUM](#), Manhattan. All Ages FP

Every Thursday

TRANSIT TOTS, 11:00am

Come by for story telling, games and more that stir the imagination. Enjoy the trains and subway stations from years ago in this weekly program specifically for the little ones in the family.

[THE NEW YORK TRANSIT MUSEUM](#), Brooklyn. Ages 2 - 5. FP

Every Wednesday & Thursday

Yak Packers Early Childhood Art Making, 10:30 - 11:30 am

Enjoy playtime with blocks and games and then head over to story time or visit the gallery together! The fun doesn't stop there- you can come back to the classroom after and enjoy hands-on art making inspired by your discoveries!

[RUBIN MUSEUM OF ART](#), Manhattan. Ages 2-4. FP

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