

CORCORAN

GALLERY OF ART • COLLEGE of ART + DESIGN

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FAMILY
WASHINGTON
M A G A Z I N E

**CORCORAN PRESENTS FREE FAMILY DAY 2012: UP, UP, AND AWAY!
March 3, 2012**

WASHINGTON, D.C. – This spring, get ready for an art adventure that covers a lot of territory—from under the sea to way out in deep space—during the **Corcoran’s Family Day: Up, Up, and Away! on Saturday, March 3, 2012, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.** FREE for the entire family, this celebration will include gravity-defying performances, organic art workshops, out-of-this-world face painting, and eco trivia and prizes.



Don’t miss the gallery-turned-space-capsule featured in the *NOW at the Corcoran* exhibition *Claire Healy and Sean Cordeiro: Are We There Yet?*, a musical performance by award-winning Miss Amy & Her Big Kids Band, Joe Mangrum’s sand art, and special performances of Eric Energy’s “Go Green” Science Spectacular.

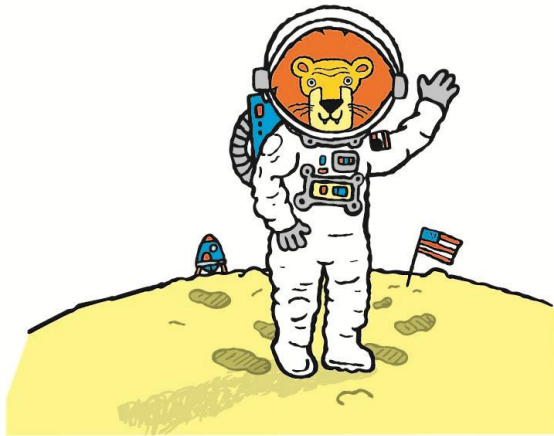
“This year’s space and travel-themed Family Day inspired by our current exhibition *Are We There Yet?* will encourage kids and their families to look at their environment in a whole new way,” said Sarah Durkee, vice president of public education at the Corcoran. “We look forward to this annual event and the opportunity to open our doors for free to the community, while offering a fun and engaging way for children to interact with art.”

Corcoran members at the Family Level and above enjoy early admission at 9:30 a.m. to select workshops and face painting. Admission to the Corcoran during this full day of fun is FREE. The event is open to the public and no registration is required. For more information, please visit www.corcoran.org/familyday.

Family Day is supported in part by the D.C. Commission on the Arts and Humanities, an agency supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts.

Family Day is sponsored by Washington FAMILY Magazine.

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DROP-IN WORKSHOPS – Get creative while you explore our universe and innovative art techniques in these drop-in art workshops!

Sea Creatures

10 a.m.–4 p.m.

Ground Floor, Education Workshop

Imagine you have just discovered a new sea creature in the depths of the ocean. Use a range of media to design and name this aquatic species.

Clay Vessels

10 a.m.–4 p.m.

Ground Floor, Ceramics Studio

For thousands of years people have created functional vessels out of the clay dug from the earth. Sculpt and ornament your own air-drying clay vessel to plant flowers, hold your treasures, and much more.

Out-of-this-World Face Painting

10 a.m.–4 p.m.

Second Floor, Bridge

Get ready for your journey to space by looking the part. From planets and stars to astronauts and aliens you can choose all kinds of space-themed images for yourself.

Martian Masks

10 a.m.–4 p.m.

Second Floor, Gallery 14

You have just landed on Mars, and the Martians are everywhere! Design your own Martian mask with a variety of embellishments so that you blend in on your new planet.

Space Mobiles

10 a.m.–4 p.m.

Second Floor, Gallery 14

Dazzling planets, galaxies, and stars will dance through the sky above you every night when you create a mobile to hang in your room. Your dreams will bring you to far-off universes with magical planets.

Rocket Launch

10 a.m.–4 p.m.

Second Floor, Gallery 21

3...2...1...Blast off! Now you are the rocket scientist with the mission to build a custom rocket to launch you into space. Make sure it is equipped and ready for your long and mysterious adventure.



INTERACTIVE PERFORMANCES – The Gallery is alive with local performers and dancers! Join us for these gravity-defying performances!

Miss Amy and Her Big Kids Band

11–11:45 a.m.; 1–1:45 p.m.

First Floor, North Atrium

Let's rock & roll with Grammy-nominated Miss Amy, whose music gets everyone moving and grooving. Miss Amy will encourage everyone to love our world and ourselves through her energetic and fun music.

Eric Energy's Go Green Science Spectacular

10:30–11 a.m.; 12:30–1 p.m., 2:30–3 p.m.

First Floor, Frances and Armand Hammer Auditorium

A wild and wacky scientist will have you mesmerized by interactive experiments. Eric Energy needs assistants to help discover the best ways to go green, so be sure to raise your hand to volunteer.

Gravity-Defying Dance Workshop

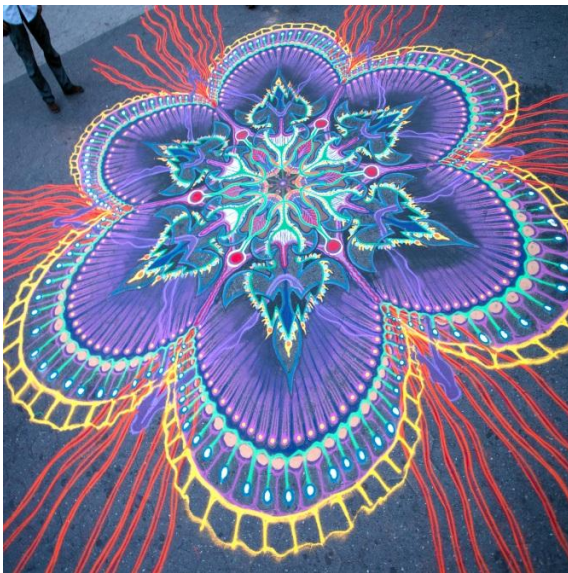
10–10:30 a.m.; 12–12:30 p.m.; 2–2:30 p.m.

Second Floor, Gallery 20

You are dancing on the moon during this energetic dance workshop with local breakdancing b-boys led by acclaimed dancer and choreographer Holly Bass.



GALLERY ADVENTURES – Journey throughout the museum to find inspiration in art and space!



Joe Mangrum, Sand Painter

All day

Rotunda

You have never seen sand quite like this before! Joe Mangrum will “paint” on the floor with sand throughout the day to create an awe-inspiring work of art celebrating our earth.

Space Capsule

All day

Second Floor, Gallery 15

What would you bring with you on your trip to Mars? Don't miss the gallery-turned-space-capsule as part of the special exhibition *Healy and Cordeiro: Are We There Yet?* to discover what these artists chose.

**ABOUT NOW AT THE CORCORAN
CLAIRE HEALY AND SEAN CORDEIRO
ARE WE THERE YET?
Through March 12, 2012**

For their first exhibition in the United States, Australian artists Claire Healy and Sean Cordeiro explore the aspiration of space travel with the necessity of food consumption in *Claire Healy and Sean Cordeiro: Are We There Yet?* Working with statistics related to food, beverages, and household goods, the artistic duo physically illustrate what an astronaut—consuming only the goods of the “everyman”—would require on a journey to Mars. At the conclusion of the exhibition, the contents of the display will be given away, creating an event to highlight existing cycles of production, consumption, and distribution.



Healy and Cordeiro use everyday objects as their primary materials for making sculptures and installations. Often incorporating locally sourced, prefabricated structures—such as abandoned trailers, domestic furniture, and household goods—Healy and Cordeiro’s art explores ideas related to home, history, permanency, destruction, and revitalization. As co-creators of a single body of work, their collaborations survey a space where individual points of view intersect, presenting familiar objects in unexpected contexts, and challenging patterns of behavior and interpretation.

A number of new works based on satellite and aerial photographs are included in the exhibition. Constructed from Lego blocks, these large scale wall-works are an adaption of iconic and unfamiliar images, and a continuation of earlier work from the series *Where We’ve Been, Where We’re Going, Why*, 2010. Adapting images from the 1986 Space Shuttle *Challenger* disaster, the works from this series are pixelated, abstracted arrangements of lurid color and shiny surfaces, and a disquieting reminder of human loss in the pursuit of knowledge. Unsettling, humbling, ambitious, and yet playful, these works illustrate the crux of Healy and Cordeiro’s practice—an investigation into the paradox of human behavior. It is a scrutiny of our aspirations, needs, emotions, and pursuits, as well as our relationship with the planet we occupy.

For more information on *Claire Healy and Sean Cordeiro: Are We There Yet?* please visit http://www.corcoran.org/now/healy_cordeiro/index.php.

YOUTH AND FAMILY PROGRAMS AT THE CORCORAN

In addition to the Family Festival, the Corcoran offers a wide array of fun and educational activities for young people and their families: monthly family workshops introduce children and their parents to exhibition themes through interactive tours and hands-on activities; weekend Aspiring Artists classes provide formal instruction that focuses on skill development and opens dialogues about broader art concepts; and Camp Creativity in the summer offers young people new avenues of self-expression and understanding of their creative potential. For more information about Youth and Family Programs at the Corcoran, please visit www.corcoran.org/family.

ABOUT THE CORCORAN

The Corcoran Gallery of Art, a privately funded institution, was founded in 1869. It was America's first dedicated art museum and today is Washington's largest nonfederal museum of art. It is known internationally for its distinguished collection of historical and modern American art as well as contemporary art, photography, European painting, sculpture, and the decorative arts. In addition, a dynamic schedule of special exhibitions is complemented and enhanced by a range of educational programming, which together seek to enrich perspectives, support the local arts community, and encourage interpretation. **The Corcoran College of Art + Design** was founded in 1890 and stands as Washington's only four-year college of art and design, offering BFA degrees in Digital Media Design, Fine Art, Fine Art Photography, Graphic Design, Interior Design, and Photojournalism; a BA in Art Studies; a five-year Bachelor of Fine Arts/Master of Arts in Teaching (BFA/MAT); an AFA in Digital Media Design, Fine Art, Graphic Design, and Photography; and MA degrees in Art and the Book, Art Education, Exhibition Design, Interior Design, Master of Arts in Teaching, and New Media Photojournalism. The College's Continuing Education program offers part-time credit and non-credit classes for children and adults and draws more than 2,500 participants each year. For more information about the **Corcoran Gallery of Art and College of Art + Design**, visit www.corcoran.org.



Images:

Page one: Claire Healy and Sean Cordeiro, *Are We There Yet?* (installation detail), 2011. Mixed media, 239 x 732 x 312 inches. Courtesy of the artists, Gallery Barry Keldoulis, Sydney, and Frey Norris Contemporary & Modern, San Francisco. Photo: Tony Brown.

Page two: Illustration by Tad Carpenter.

Page two: Photo by Denny Henry.

Page three: Photo by Ed Livernoche.

Page three: Photo by Joe Mangrum

Page four: Claire Healy and Sean Cordeiro, *Are We There Yet?* (installation detail), 2011. Mixed media, 239 x 732 x 312 inches. Courtesy of the artists, Gallery Barry Keldoulis, Sydney, and Frey Norris Contemporary & Modern, San Francisco. Photo: Tony Brown.

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