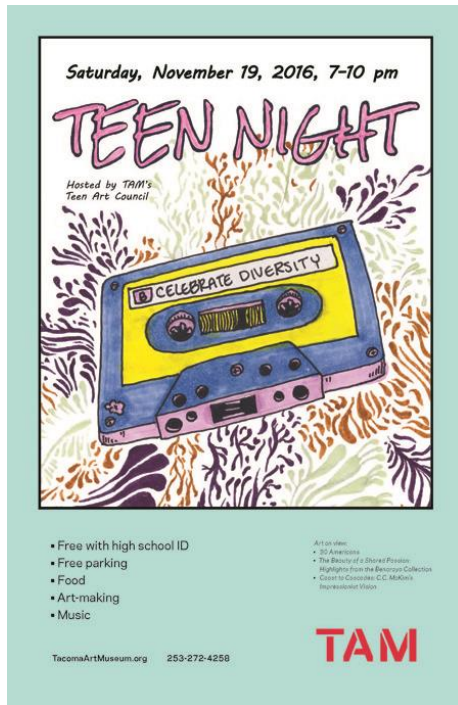


# TACOMA ART MUSEUM

MEDIA RELEASE

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## Teens join in the first ever Teen Night at Tacoma Art Museum: Live music, artmaking, and a focus on diversity

Tacoma, WA – Tacoma Art Museum ([TAM](#)) has a brand new program full of dynamic arts enthusiasts: the [Teen Art Council](#). It is a place for teens to connect through art. As 12<sup>th</sup> grader Lindsey Shaw described, “I [am] surrounded by a group of people who share my passion for art and who are similarly-minded in that they believe in the power and importance of art in communities.”

Teen Art Council members work with TAM staff to craft museum events for their peers, and the council is excited to present their inaugural [Teen Night](#) on Saturday, November 19, 7 – 10 pm. Teens will take over TAM for an evening filled with art-making, live music, performances, games and more! The activities were inspired by the exhibition [30 Americans](#) and celebrate the essential contributions of contemporary African American artists.

Struck by the large scale of many of the works in *30 Americans*, and the thought-provoking ways in which the artists connected with social injustices, council members will bring these ideas to life for their peers through a group mural project and button-making. This not-to-be-missed event is free and open to all teens with high school identification; teens in alternative programs or who are homeschooled and do not have high school identification can fill out a form for entry.

As 11<sup>th</sup> grader Brandon Galaz shared, “too many teenagers think art is a dead person's painting, but it is alive!” Come to Teen Night and find out how lively museums can be!

### Teen Night Schedule of Events

- 7 pm doors open at TAM  
[1701 Pacific Avenue, Tacoma, WA, 98402](#)  
Free admission for teens with high school ID  
Parking in the TAM lot is free for this special event!

- Ongoing activities from 7 – 10 pm:
  - DIY Identity Face Painting
  - Collaborative Mural
  - Button Making
  - Gallery Game
  - Caricatures
  - Photo Booth
  - Popcorn Bar
- 9 pm – Starla performs
- 10 pm – Say goodbye, until next time! Museum closes.

### About Teen Art Council

Teen Art Council creates a space for young people to share their voices, opinions and suggestions with TAM. Eleven dedicated students from high schools across the Tacoma metro area meet twice a month to immerse themselves in exhibitions, plan programs for teens, cultivate Tacoma’s creative community, and exercise TAM’s mission of connecting people through art. And they do all of this in between school, studying for the SAT, and practicing the tuba!

Selected through a competitive application process, these teens described how “art is a lifeline,” yet as young people, they often feel “shut out from the arts” in their community.

Christina Westpheling, Educator for Youth Learning at TAM, said “The Teen Art Council advances TAM’s goals around engaging middle and high school students, and builds on the museum’s successful youth programs such as Art After School and Youth Connect. It provides high school students with mentorship and leadership opportunities.” In addition, she explained, “Programs like this support increased high school graduation rates, expose students to careers in museums, and help to encourage young people from traditionally underrepresented backgrounds to enter the museum field. It is our hope that the Teen Art Council changes the way teens think about museums - and how museums think about teens.”

For more information about Teen Art Council or Teen Night, please contact Christina Westpheling, Educator for Youth Learning, at [CWestpheling@TacomaArtMuseum.org](mailto:CWestpheling@TacomaArtMuseum.org).

Teen Art Council is generously supported by KeyBank and Russell Investments.



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**Teen Night poster** designed by the Teen Art Council, Tacoma Art Museum.

**2016-17 Teen Art Council, Tacoma Art Museum.** Photos by Michael J. Wilkins.

**About Tacoma Art Museum**

Tacoma Art Museum is an anchor in the city's downtown and a gathering space for connecting people through art. TAM's collection contains nearly 5,000 works, with an emphasis on the art and artists of the Northwest and broader western region. The collection includes the largest retrospective museum collection of glass art by Tacoma native Dale Chihuly on continuous view; the most significant museum collection of jewelry by Northwest artists; key holdings in 19th century European and 20th century American art; and one of the finest collections of Japanese woodblock prints on the West Coast. In 2014, TAM welcomed a gift of 295 works of western American art in the Haub Family Collection, one of the premier collections in the nation and the first major western American art museum collection in the Northwest. The Haub gift included \$20 million for new galleries and endowed funds. The Haub Family Galleries opened in 2014. In January 2016, TAM announced the gift of the Benaroya Collection, including 225 works of art. The donation also includes nearly \$14 million in funding for new gallery space to showcase the collection and an endowment for a dedicated curator and care for the collection. The Benaroya wing is expected to open in fall 2018.

**HOURS** – Tuesdays–Sundays 10 am–5 pm, Third Thursdays 10 am–8 pm;  
Third Thursdays free from 5-8 pm.

**ADMISSION** – Adult \$15, Student/Military/Senior (65+) \$13, Family \$40 (2 adults and up to 4 children under 18). Children 5 and under free. Members always free.

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