

IN THE COMMUNITY

A Family Affair

Exhibits at The Sugar Hill Children's Museum

Posted By Don Thomas

The Fall season of exhibitions at The Sugar Hill Children's Museum (TSHCM) located at 898 St. Nicholas Avenue (155th Street) in the Village of Harlem, features traditional works on paper to soft sculptures, to recycled materials inspired by nature. The exhibits currently on display, "Sugar Hill Songbook: Select Work by Faith Ringgold," "Yuken Teruya: Cutting Trees" and "Justin Favela: Recuérdame" address complexities of race and celebrates Mexican culture.

TSHCM is dedicated to art and storytelling for children and their families. Lauren Kelley, director and chief curator says "This fall represents our most ambitious year of programming yet, as all three exhibitions allow us to robustly present a wealth of stories to children and families that assert the importance of respecting for ourselves, living in a diverse nation and collective reverence for our planet."

"Sugar Hill Songbook: Select Work of Faith Ringgold" features a collection of quilts and illustrations inspired by the rich cultural and political heritage of the artist's home of Sugar Hill. The exhibition showcases work attesting to Ringgold's relationship with Jazz, while framing her longstanding commitment to social and political activism.

The exhibit is on display through March 31, 2019 and also is accompanied by intergenerational activities exploring the global impact of Faith Ringgold and how she has sparked the imaginations



Architect David Adjaye's incredible The Sugar Hill Children's Museum

of children through art and storytelling.

New York based Artist Yuken Teruya transforms discarded newspapers, fast food packages and commercial shopping bags into intricate vignettes and lush foliage. In "Yuken Teruya: Cutting Trees" the artist presents dioramas based on the image of an existing tree by meticulously cutting

out and folding individual paper bags.

Teruya's work validates his respect for material craft and the environment, will be on display through March 31, 2019. The exhibition is accompanied by a series of storytelling events and programs that explore the beauty in everyday materials, reverence for the environment and opportunities for the youngest visitors to the museum to create work with paper.

"Justin Favela: Recuérdame," the first ever exhibit in New York by Las Vegas based Artist Justin Favela, is a celebration of Mexican history and culture through the lens of landscape. The murals in the exhibit take visitors on an adventure, rendering the Mexican landscape in piñata-cute tissue paper.

From the imagery found in Jose Maria Velasco's expansive 19th century canvases to Walt Disney's 1944 live-action animation film "The Three Caballeros" and 2017 Pixar animated film "Coco," Favela covers more than 1,000 square feet of the Museum in a full array of chromatic hues, will be on display through September 8, 2019 accompanied by a host of storytelling programs and art making activities inspired by the artist's use of materials, a celebration of Mexican culture and the delight affiliated with piñatas.

The Sugar Hill Children's Museum of Art and Storytelling hours are Thursday – Sunday,

10am until 5pm. Admission is **FREE** for children up to 8 years of age, \$4.00 for children age 9 – 17, students with ID and Seniors (65+) and \$7.00 for adults.

About The Sugar Hill Children's Museum of Art and Storytelling

The Sugar Hill Children's Museum of Art and Storytelling is a contemporary art museum for children rooted in principles of social justice. It strives to strengthen our culturally rich

neighborhood with a space where children and their families grow and learn about Sugar Hill, and the world at large, through dialogue with artists, art and storytelling.

Designed by Architect David Adjaye, the Museum opened in October of 2015 as the cultural capstone of the Sugar Hill Project, a multi-use building developed by Broadway Housing Communities (BHC) which includes permanent affordable housing for individuals and families, and the Sugar Hill Museum Preschool. For more information, visit www.sugarhillmuseum.org.



Patrons attend Art and Storytelling session



Student focuses on large work of art