**Happenin's 'Round the House**

*by Margi Bertram, Museum Administrator*

As we head into summer, we are looking forward to a busy season up at the Hart Museum, and we want to share with you some of the highlights…

Getty Intern

The Hart Museum staff is delighted to welcome Lilia Jiménez, who joins us for the summer as our Getty Intern. Lilia is a student at Occidental College, graduating in May 2018 with a BA in Sociology. During her time at Occidental, she has been active as a campus tour guide, assisted in the on-campus daycare center, tutored other students, just to mention a few extracurricular activities. She studied abroad in Italy, and speaks Italian. She is also a resident of Newhall, which means she comes to us with a head start, knowing a lot about Mr. Hart and having visited the Hart Museum. Lilia has also been the recipient of a Henry Mayo Foundation Scholarship, and has made the Dean’s List every semester. During the ten weeks of the internship, her project will focus on research, writing, and documenting objects in the permanent collection. One goal of this internship is to provide Lilia the opportunity to learn essential historical research skills and develop a written voice in a museum and curatorial context. She will also be helping out with tours, which our interns often feel is one of the most valuable parts of the internship, as this strengthens their public speaking skills.

Spanish Language Tours

First piloted in May, the Hart will continue to offer Spanish language tours one day each month. These tours are staggered among our regular tours. This project has been a collaborative effort between staff and volunteers, and even some assistance from our security guard, Alex Morales. We are also working on a handout for Spanish speakers on our regular tours that will provide them basic information on William S. Hart, his life and career, his home, and some of the most significant artifacts on display.

Museum Hours

Starting Saturday, July 1 the Museum will be testing out a weekend tour schedule starting every hour, rather than every half hour on Saturdays and Sundays. As we can only have one tour in the house at a time, for security reasons, this will provide those giving tours a degree of flexibility in pacing their tours when they have an especially interested and curious group. We believe this will provide a better experience for our visitors, as well as our volunteers. We will be looking at how this affects tour sizes, total number of guests for the day, and visitor comments. Weekday tours will remain on the every half hour schedule.

Events at the Museum

* Every Saturday – we continue to offer a simple craft activity every Saturday (we call it “Crafterday”), located at a table on the back patio where visitors exit the museum at the end of their tour. Sometimes the craft will tie in to special days, such as Independence Day, National Paper Bag Day (yes, that’s a thing), or Earth Day.
* Wednesday, July 19 – Themed Open House (theme TBD), where visitors enter the museum as they arrive at the house, and once they’ve been given the rules. Then they are free to explore at their own pace, spending as little or as much time as they want. We have staff and volunteers stationed throughout the house to answer questions or talk about particular spaces. There will be some activity stations tied to the theme, both inside and outside the museum.
* Saturday, July 29 - Silents Under the Stars – again this year, we will have the house open from 6:00pm to 6:45pm for those attending this special screening. There will be shuttles transporting guests up the hill, and guests will have a chance to walk through the museum before the show starts down at Hart Hall. We will have staff and volunteers throughout the house to engage visitors.
* Thursday, August 17 – Creative Activity – this event for families will take place down at the Ranch House, and will have several things to do relating to a theme, and with an educational component.
* Saturday and Sunday, September 30 and October 1 – Pow Wow – the Museum will be represented at a table down in the picnic area, and will have an activity suitable for kids (and young-at-heart adults).

With all these great goin's on, we hope to see you up at the Hart Museum this summer!