



**BULLOCK
TEXAS
STATE HISTORY
MUSEUM**
The STORY of TEXAS.com

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Bullock becoming a Blue Star Museum this summer

Program invites active-duty military and their families to delve into Texas history

May 7, 2013 (Austin, TX) - The Bullock Texas State History Museum's iconic bronze star is metaphorically turning blue this summer as it becomes a Blue Star Museum, participating in a program that allows military families to visit for free from Memorial Day to Labor Day.

The Bullock Museum is one of more than 1,800 museums across America offering free admission to active military personnel and their families this summer in collaboration with the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families and the Department of Defense.

The Bullock Museum will kick off the program Saturday, May 25 with the *Fallen Soldiers* honoring Gold Star families, those families that have lost a soldier within the last two years.

These families and the public are invited to visit the Bullock Museum to view a traveling exhibit, *Remember Our Fallen*, organized by Patriotic Productions. The exhibit pays tribute to all of those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the Iraq and Afghanistan wars while in uniform since Sept. 11, 2001. The exhibit will be on view from 2:30 to 4 p.m. in the Austin Room on the third floor of the museum.

Military families throughout the state are invited to take advantage of the Blue Star Museum program and delve into history at the Bullock Texas State History Museum in downtown Austin. From Memorial Day through Labor Day, the Museum is proud to offer free exhibit admission to active military personnel and their families. Films are not included in this free admission program, but the Museum does provide discounts for active and inactive military, veterans, and military dependents. As part of the Blue Star Museum program, up to five family members of active military personnel can enjoy the Museum all summer, free of charge.

Three floors of exhibits at the Bullock Museum tell the unfolding story of the history, culture and people of Texas. One of the most popular attractions in Central Texas, the Museum has welcomed more than 5 million visitors from all around the world since it opened in 2001. The Museum and IMAX Theatre are located in downtown Austin at 1800 N. Congress Ave. at the intersection of Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. between the State Capital complex and the University of Texas campus.

To learn more about Blue Star Families, please visit BlueStarFam.org. For more information about the Museum or this special program, please call (512) 936-8746.

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About the Bullock Museum

The Bullock Texas State History Museum in downtown Austin tells the unfolding story of the history, culture and people of Texas. One of the most popular attractions in Central Texas, the Bullock Museum has welcomed more than 5 million visitors from all around the world since it opened in 2001. The Museum and IMAX Theatre are located in downtown Austin at 1800 N. Congress Ave. at the intersection of Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. between the State Capital complex and the University of Texas campus. For more, visit www.thestoryoftexas.com or call (512) 936-8746.

About Blue Star Museums

Blue Star Museums is a collaboration among the National Endowment for the Arts, the Department of Defense and Blue Star Families, a national, nonprofit network of military families from all ranks and services, including guard and reserve, dedicated to supporting, connecting and empowering military families. The program runs from Memorial Day, May 27, 2013 through Labor Day, Sept. 2, 2013. The free admission program is available to any bearer of a Geneva Convention common access card (CAC), a DD Form 1173 ID card, or a DD Form 1173-1 ID card, which includes active duty U.S. military - Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, as well as members of the National Guard and Reserve, U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps, NOAA Commissioned Corps - and up to five family members. Some special or limited-time museum exhibits may not be included in this free admission program. For a full list of participating museums, visit www.arts.gov/bluestarmuseums.