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First Sundays start July 7

Hours expanded for free exhibits and kids' activities

JUNE 23, 2013 (AUSTIN, TX) - The Bullock Texas State History Museum is opening its exhibits free of charge on the first Sunday of every month, expanding the time during which families can explore Texas history and participate in educational activities.

The museum formerly marked the first *Saturday* of each month with free admission for four hours in the afternoon. Moving to "Free First Sunday" of each month provides family activities on a day in Austin that typically has fewer choices of things to do. The revamped *First Sundays* program also allows visitors to spend an extra two hours in the exhibits, free of charge, noon to 6pm.

Sunday, July 7, 2013 will kick off the First Sundays program, with children's activities, including story time and crafts projects, taking place from 2 to 3pm. The program is designed to allow Texans to experience the museum at no cost, or to visit every month to enjoy a new family activity.

Since it opened in 2001, the Bullock Texas State History Museum in downtown Austin has been engaging audiences to interpret for themselves the continually unfolding *Story of Texas*. One of the most popular attractions in Central Texas, the Museum has been visited by over 5 million people coming from every state in the United States and every continent on Earth.

Guests can explore the *Story of Texas* through three floors of exhibits that showcase artifacts from around the state; watch films on history and culture in the Texas Spirit Theater; and experience riveting documentaries in Austin's premier IMAX Theatre, which boasts the biggest screen in Texas.

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From the 35-foot-tall bronze star sculpture that greets visitors as they arrive, to the terrazzo floor in the entryway that features a campfire scene with enduring themes from Texas's past, every corner of the Bullock Museum proclaims the Story of Texas.

Through the First Sundays program, the museum hopes to increase the number of people who experience firsthand the rich heritage of Texas.

For more, visit www.TheStoryofTexas.com or 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 Museum has welcomed over 5 million visitors since it opened in 2001. The Museum and IMAX Theatre are located at 1800 N. Congress Avenue, between the State Capital complex and the University of Texas campus, and is open Monday through Saturday, 9am to 6pm, and Sunday from noon to 6pm. For more, visit www.TheStoryofTexas.com or call (512) 936-8746.