

EL PASO



MUSEUM of HISTORY

The upcoming school year is going to be exciting because of all the new programs that will be available for school groups starting in the fall.

Self guided tours will still be available, but now teachers will have a chance to book either a docent-led tour with exhibit activity guides or a hands-on program that will focus on a particular area of history. Outreach programs will also be available.

How different were the Spanish colonies from the English? What are the forces of flight? Why do we have a T-38 in the museum and how did we get it in here? Ever hear of Urban Archaeology? How did you live on the frontier? These questions can all be answered by the new programs that are being developed right now for grades K – 12th. All tours and programs will align with TEKS and are designed to either enhance what teachers are doing or teach an area that cannot be covered due to testing schedules.

Programs can be customized to meet your educational goals. Call Senior Education Curator Sue Taylor at 915-351-3588 to find out more.

MUSEUM PROGRAMS

(Each title will have grade specific programming)



History with Al Paso (Grades K – 2)

Who is Al Paso? Al is an adorable alligator (hand puppet that is) who will capture your students' imagination as he talks about El Paso from his perspective living in the fountain on San Jacinto Plaza. Students will have fun as they learn what El Paso looked like in the early years, what happened during the Mexican Revolution, and even why some ladies carry funny things in their hands.

Available either as part of a tour or with a hands on activity.

50 minutes

Living on the Frontier – Being self sufficient (Grades 3 – 6)

If the supply train only comes once a year, how do you live? How do you get your cloth and candles? In this presentation, students will learn what it took to be dependent on yourself for all your daily needs. In a time when going to the store is habit, the idea of producing your own cloth, making your own candles and learning how to get your steak while it's still on the hoof is unheard of. Starting with museum exhibits and activity sheets that illustrate certain skills, students will then go to the

classroom for hands-on in either spinning, weaving, candle dipping and learning to make rope or paper depending on their grade level.

Available only as a classroom program. Special fee.

1 hour and 15 minutes



Cowboys, Chuck Wagons, and the Old West (Grades 3 - 4)

Yippikiay! Mount up for a fun excursion into the world of cowboys. What are the different parts of the saddle and why are they there? How did cook prepare all those wonderful bean meals? Students will learn why cowboys wore what they wore and get to see how a camp was set up in this program that focuses on Cowboys and the real old West. Hands-on includes hefting a dutch oven, grinding coffee, trying on chaps, cuffs, and other cowboy paraphernalia. Students will even get a chance to “ride” in a saddle. Giddy up and let’s go!

Available either as part of a tour or museum classroom program or outreach.

1 hour and 15 minutes

Dressing the Part (Grades 4 - 5)

Why did ladies carry fans? Why did men have to wear boots? Did clothes change over time? With this program students will wear and model 400 years of fashion, looking at the changes, cultural influences, clothes as a badge of rank and clothes as indicative of the work you did. You will even learn a foreign language: that of the fans!

Available either as classroom program or part of a tour or outreach.

1 hour and 15 minutes

Urban Archaeology (Grades 6 – 8)

Did you know that where the museum is there used to be a graveyard? What else was in El Paso that you don’t know about? Archaeology deals not just with pre-historic sites, but with historic also. This program will show how archaeologists try to rediscover the urban landscape. Using artifacts from the study collection that were unearthed by archaeologists when the site was cleared for the new building, students will try to answer the question of what was here before the cemetery and will see why history is just a keyhole on the past. No, we will not be studying the bones - they have been properly re-interred in another cemetery.

Available as a classroom program or outreach.

1 hour and 30 minutes

A Comparison of English and Spanish Colonialism (Grades 4 – 8)

How is this area different from the colonies on the East Coast? What are the major differences in clothes, foods, custom and culture? Grade specific programming will explore these issues and examine differences between the English Colonies of the

East and the Spanish colonies of Florida and the Southwest. Hands-on will include leatherwork, handling a reproduction firearm, clothing, and tools.

Available either as a classroom program, part of a tour or outreach. Special fee.

1 hour and 30 minutes

Astronauts, Rockets and Flight (Grades 4 – 6)

What do astronauts have to do with El Paso? Are rockets the only way to go? What are the forces of flight? Grade specific programs will teach students about the simple forces of flying, investigate propulsion and how to determine trajectory. From simple helicopters and paper airplanes to air rockets and rocket racers, kids won't need Peter Pan to show them how to fly.

Available as a classroom program or outreach. Special fee.

1 hour and 30 minutes

World War II El Paso (Grades 4 – 8)

If you lived in El Paso in the 1940's, what would you have done? Were you an airplane spotter? Did you operate a radio or work a telegraph station? Did you roll bandages for the Red Cross and YWCA? Journey back in time to WWII and find out. Using various hands-on stations including period maps, bandage rolling, telegraph keys for Morse code, airplane spotter cards, historic photos and more, students will learn about the important role civilians played on the home front.

Available either as a classroom program, part of a tour or as outreach.

1 hour and 15 minutes

Historic Foodways (Grades 4 to Adult)

We all like to eat. It's a fact of life. So what did they eat back then, how did they prepare it, and how did they preserve it? Did you know that this once was a thriving fruit producing area? This fun program will have you preparing foods using metates, mortars and pestles, butter churns, learning food preservation techniques and more. You may even learn how to use a horno.

Available only as a classroom program. Special fee.

1 hour and 30 minutes

Oñate and the Entrada (Grades 11 – 12)

Through a generous gift from the government of Spain, the museum received a selection of hands-on artifacts that illustrate what the first Entrada into what would become New Spain brought with them. By looking at the Oñate Expedition from the planner's perspective, a new understanding will be gained. In this program, students will be given the problem of planning for a trip to an unknown land, see what was actually brought, and have the opportunity to handle reproduction firearms and other artifacts.

Available only as a classroom or outreach program

1 hour and 15 minutes



The Roaring 20's (College and adult)

When Kate Moore Brown lived in El Paso she was an upstanding member of the community. But she had also been a member of the “Jolly Bachelor Girls Club” and was the first woman to ride a bicycle in town. Listen as Kate comes to life and tells you about her experiences living in El Paso during the Mexican Revolution and about her travels, travails, and her fans. This lively first person presentation will go into third person so a more serious discussion of Mrs. Brown can take place.

Available as a part of a tour, classroom program and outreach.

1 hour

Remember that tours and programs can be customized. If you don't see what you want, or you want to mix and match, please call.

PERMANENT EXHIBITIONS

The Museum of History offers permanent exhibitions

El Paso A to Z (first floor)

This three-dimensional, bilingual dictionary draws you in as you delve into the fabric of El Paso history. This display explores history as people lived it. After September the exhibit will change galleries and become Icons of El Paso, surrounding the T-38 Talon jet. Exhibit activity sheets will be available. Ask when you book your tour.

The Changing Pass (second floor)

Your journey begins with *The Living Pass*; El Paso as a crossroads for Native peoples. Their pathways take on new character as they are joined by Spanish explorers and missionaries in the 16th Century. Continuing on your way *The Border Pass* illuminates how a remote outpost became a rest-stop community (*paraje*). At various times under the control of Spain, Mexico, and the United States, this stopping-off place became a vital connecting point for travelers from all directions. *The Community Pass* presents a tapestry of cultures and a survey of the enormous growth El Paso experienced after the arrival of railroads. Who came here and why? How did they arrive? How did they adapt to — and change — this unique place we call El Paso? Exhibit activity sheets will be available. Ask when you book your tour.

Featured Exhibitions and Traveling Exhibitions

Beginning in 2008, the El Paso Museum of History will present major traveling exhibitions and original featured exhibitions in its 3,000 square-foot featured exhibition gallery. Each temporary exhibit will feature gallery guides, activity sheets, and special hands on section where you are invited “to please touch”

Docent Led Tours

Docent led tours will be available to group visitors (including school groups) Museum guides will take visitors through the permanent exhibits adding exciting background stories, vivid details, and some hands-on activities to the Museum visitors’ experience.

Planning a Visit

To make your tour enjoyable, we ask that the following guidelines be observed:

1) *For Self-Guided tours –*

A. Call 915-351-3588 and make a booking.

B. We request 1 adult per 5 students for grades K – 3rd

Or

1 adult per 10 students for grades 3rd – 12th

C. If your group is 60 or more, we request that you divide the group in half. One half can go upstairs and one half can do the downstairs, switching when you have seen everything. This ensures that teachers and chaperones can keep watch over their students. We ask that you please accompany your students at all times.

D. Exhibit activity sheets are available and can be used to make your visit more enjoyable. Students are encouraged to use the hands on activities in the temporary and permanent exhibit space.

2) *For Docent Led tours-*

Total group size should not exceed 60 students. We can easily split this into groups of 30 or less using two docents. If an entire grade is coming for the day, we can easily do several tours in one day, alternating groups, for up to 180 students. Please see C below for more information.

A. At least 3 weeks before your scheduled visit, please call 915-351-3588 and make a booking requesting a docent. If you must cancel, we request at least 24 hours notice so that we can inform our docents. If you are more than 15 minutes late and have not called, we will consider your group as cancelled.

B. We request 1 adult per 5 students for grades K – 3rd

Or

1 adult per 10 students for grades 3rd – 12th

We ask that you please accompany your students at all times.

C. For groups over 100 may we suggest the following:

- **Plan on allowing at least 2 hours.**
- **Split your group in half, with half going either to another museum such as the Art or Insights or to the library and the other half coming to the museum. That half will then be split again among 2 docents to allow for a manageable group size and an enjoyable experience.**
- **Plan 45 minutes to an hour for the group(s) in our museum after which they can switch with the group(s) in the other location for a like period of time.**
- **This can be done until all your students cycle through.**
- **Remember that we can do several tours throughout the day for up to 180 students.**

D. Exhibit activity sheets are available and can be used to make your visit more enjoyable. Students are encouraged to use the hands on activities in the temporary and permanent exhibit space.

3) *For Full or Museum Classroom Programs-*

Total group size should not exceed 60 students. We only have 2 classrooms and therefore must limit our size for the hands on activity. We can easily split this into groups of 30 or less. If an entire grade is coming for the day and you want to participate in a special program, allow at least 3 hours as we can easily do 3 groups of 60 split in half for up to 180 students. Please see C below for more information.

- A. At least 3 weeks before your scheduled visit, please call 915-351-3588 and make a booking requesting a full or museum classroom program. If you must cancel, we request at least 24 hours notice so that we can inform our docents. If you are more than 15 minutes late and have not called, we will consider your group as cancelled.**
- B. We request 1 adult per 5 students for grades K – 3rd**

Or

1 adult per 10 students for grades 3rd – 12th

We ask that you please accompany your students at all times.

C. For groups over 100 may we suggest the following:

- **Plan on allowing at least 3 hours.**
- **For those groups that are waiting to do the program, we suggest going either to another museum such as the Art or Insights or to the library.**
- **This can be done until all your students have done the program.**

4) *For all groups-*

Please observe museum rules and regulations.

- **If something is blocked off, please be sure students don't attempt to cross the barriers.**

- **Please do not climb on exhibits and do not touch unless it specifically says to, such as the hands on displays.**
- **Please put all backpacks at the front reception desk.**
- **No food or water is permitted in the galleries.**
- **No gum is permitted. It should be thrown away before entering the galleries.**
- **No running, shoving, pushing, or general horseplay will be permitted.**

Following these guidelines will ensure a pleasant and fun experience for all and we thank you.

5) *Outreach Programs*

To book, please call 915-351-3588 at least 3 weeks before you want a program.

Admission

Free

For those programs marked “Special Fee”, after September, 2009, a \$2.00 per student fee will be charged.

Museum Hours

Museum Hours are normally Tuesday to Saturday, 10 AM to 5 PM and Sunday Noon to 5 PM.

Closed Mondays

School tours can book a tour as early as 9 AM, Tuesday to Friday.

Location

510 N. Santa Fe
El Paso, Texas 79901

Directions

The El Paso Museum of History is located at 510 N. Santa Fe, between Missouri and Franklin. Take I-10 and exit at 19B Downtown – Museums Exit if westbound, and exit at 19 Downtown – Museums Exit if eastbound.

Parking

There is metered street parking available for 25 cents a half hour. Paid Parking is available at the Convention Center Parking Garage (on Santa Fe) for \$4.00 a day or the Union Plaza Transit Terminal parking garage (on San Antonio Ave.) for \$3.00.

Tours

Please contact either Sue Taylor, Senior Education Curator, at taylorst@elpasotexas.gov or Sophia Wilson, Tour Coordinator, at wilsonsc@elpasotexas.gov, 915-351-3588 to arrange a group tour.

Accessibility

The El Paso Museum of History is committed to serving all visitors. If your group has special needs, please contact Sophia Wilson, Tour Coordinator, at wilsonsc@elpasotexas.gov, 915-351-3588.

Visitors in wheelchairs may enter through the main entrance facing Santa Fe. A wheelchair is available free of charge at the Reception Desk.

Store

Our gift shop, “A Step Back in Time” is open:

Friday, Noon to 5 PM

Saturday, 10 Am to 5 PM

Sunday, Noon to 5 Pm

Visiting during the week with your group is no problem. We will open the gift shop upon request.

Events

There are numerous events offered in conjunction with our temporary and permanent exhibits. Please watch the local newspapers or listen to the radio to find out more or better yet, give us your email and we will notify you.

Call for Instructors

If you have developed a workshop or would like to propose a workshop that meets Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills standards, please contact Sue Taylor, Senior Education Curator at taylorssl@elpasotexas.gov or 915-351-3588. The Education Department seeks to present a diverse selection of workshops.

Support the El Paso Museum of History

Membership & Donations

Become a member of the El Paso Museum of History today! Please contact Jim Murphy, Director of Development for information on supporting the Museum at murphyjr@elpasotexas.gov or 915-351-3588.

Volunteer and Internships

The El Paso Museum of History has just started a Docent program and we are looking for people to help us in different areas. Please contact Sue Taylor, Senior Education Curator at 915-351-3588 or taylorssl@elpasotexas.gov for further information.