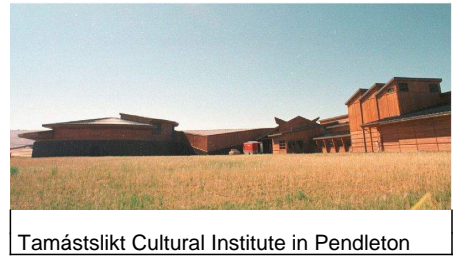


Museums free for active military

By Barbara Curtin

Statesman Journal



June 12, 2011

Five Mid-Valley museums are participating in the national Blue Star Museums program, which gives free entry to active duty military personnel and their families through Labor Day, Sept. 5.

The local participants are Heritage Museum Society in Independence and Willamette University's Hallie Ford Museum of Art, Historic Deepwood Estate, Willamette Heritage Center at The Mill and World Beat Gallery in Salem.

"This is a great way to recognize and thank our military families for all they are doing for our country," said Peter Booth, executive director of Willamette Heritage Center at The Mill.

The initiative is a partnership among Blue Star Families, the National Endowment for the Arts and the museums, some of which offer free admission to everyone.

More than 1,300 museums in all 50 states and the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and American Samoa are participating. For a list, see www.arts.gov/national/bluestarmuseums.

Other Oregon museums taking part are:

Heritage Station Museum and Umatilla County Historical Society in Pendleton, High Desert Museum in Bend, The History Museum of Hood River County in Hood River, Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art in Eugene, Lane County Historical Society and Museum in Eugene, The Museum At Warm Springs in Warm Springs, the Portland Art Museum, Schneider Museum of Art at Southern Oregon University in Ashland, Science Factory Children's Museum and Exploration Dome in Eugene, ScienceWorks Hands-on Museum in Ashland, Shelton McMurphey Johnson House in Eugene, Sherman County Historical Museum in Moro, Tamástslikt Cultural Institute in Pendleton, Tillamook County Pioneer Museum in Tillamook, the University of Oregon Museum of Natural and Cultural History in Eugene and Washington County Museum in Portland.