

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**BOWERS
MUSEUM**

ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF CHOCOLATE RETURNS TO BOWERS MUSEUM



December 7, 2023 (Santa Ana, California) – Join us for the Bowers Museum's Fifth Annual International Festival of Chocolate, a delightful part of our Free Family Festival series, held every first Sunday of the month and generously sponsored by the Nicholas Endowment and an anonymous donor. This year, the festival kicks off at 11 am with an engaging presentation by Dr. Lee Scott Theisen, fondly known as the Chocolate Guru. His session, titled 'A Brief History of Chocolate,' will be followed by an enticing chocolate tasting experience.

The festival is designed to offer fun for the entire family, featuring complimentary art activities, face painting, and dynamic cultural performances from Mexico and Hawaii. Additionally, guests will have the opportunity to indulge in gourmet chocolates from a selection of esteemed vendors and to admire an inspiring student art exhibition, proudly presented by the Santa Ana Unified School District. Join us for a day of chocolate, culture, and community celebration at the Bowers Museum! The International Chocolate Festival will be hosted by Bowers in partnership with UCLA Lecturer and 'California's Chocolate Guru,' Dr. Lee Scott Theisen [@chocolate_guru](https://twitter.com/chocolate_guru), and feature premiere chocolate-makers from around the world including TAWDI, SWEETDUET, Open Road Candy Co., Zise Chocolate, and Kona Bar.

Additionally, this year the Chocolate Festival will overlap with closing day of *Beyond the Great Wave: Works by Hokusai from the British Museum* and special programming including docent-led tours throughout the day. Details and tickets now available at [bowers.org/programs](https://www.bowers.org/programs). #bowerschocolatefestival #bowersfestival



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2002 NORTH MAIN STREET, SANTA ANA, CALIFORNIA 92706
BOWERS.ORG | TEL 714.567.3600 | FAX 714.567.3603

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Schedule of Events

Sunday, January 7 | 11 am – 3 pm | Key Courtyard

Free Family Festival: International Festival of Chocolate

Join us at 11 am with Dr. Lee Scott Theisen, the Chocolate Guru, for 'A Brief History of Chocolate' and a chocolate tasting session. The festival promises fun for the whole family with free art activities, face painting, and vibrant performances from Mexico and Hawaii. Savor gourmet chocolates from various vendors and admire the student art exhibition from Santa Ana Unified School District.

Sunday, January 7 | 11 am, 1 pm, 2 pm | Hokusai Exhibition

Closing Day Gallery Tours

On the closing day of *Beyond the Great Wave: Works by Hokusai from the British Museum*, join Bowers docents for a gallery tour in the exhibit to learn about the connection between Hokusai's The Great Wave painting and Debussy's orchestral composition, La Mer, plus many more iconic facts!

Free with admission to *Beyond the Great Wave: Works by Hokusai from the British Museum*

Sunday, January 7 | 3 - 4 pm | John M. Lee Court

Marsatta Chocolate Tasting Experience

Embark on a delectable journey into the world of chocolate with a 45-minute tasting experience! Join the Marsatta Chocolate team as they unveil the secrets behind the scenes, showcasing their innovative approach to crafting artisanal delights. Immerse yourself in a sensory adventure, savoring unique flavors while discovering the Marsatta brand's captivating story.

This tasting includes real cacao nibs and pieces of 2 chocolate bars and 4 different handcrafted bonbons.

Ticketed Onsite Event: Member \$40 | General \$50



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