

Press Release

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12 February 2018

Reading Museum half term takeover – courtesy Reading Guild of Artists

Throughout half term, Reading Guild of Artists (RGA) will 'take over' Reading Museum – exhibiting small works by its members and host a series of fun and lively workshops for children and adults, from Monday 18 February to Saturday 23 February. Workshops take place Monday to Friday during the week, between 10.30am and 3.30pm and between 10.30am and 12noon on Saturday 23 February.

The workshops – which are drop in sessions and free of charge – are designed to encourage children and adults to think creatively in three dimensions, within the context of food and the Medieval period. By the end of the week, the plan is to have a constructed banquet laid out on a long table.

Anthony Wilder, chairman of Reading Guild of Artists, said: "We are hosting a number of activities on the theme of Medieval banquet – designed we hope to encourage thinking 'in the round', turning flat (2D) into form (3D) and to raise awareness of types of food eaten now and historically, especially Medieval times. There will be something for all and the sessions look to be fun and lively!

"Last year we offered Medieval-themed activities to tie in with the Abbey Ruins and it was a great success so we decided to build on this and offer activities again with a medieval feel but with a slightly different slant.

"I am sure it will be a hit with children and adults."

Activities on offer during half term, include:

- making food stuffs from paper templates, some already coloured, some for colouring
- making food stuffs using cut and paste (or staple, tape etc.)

- moulding food items using tissue paper or newspaper (to be covered with coloured paper)
- inflating shaped 'bags' of paper into 3D forms.
- making origami food items
- using cardboard and other media, including foil, to make cutlery, drinking vessels and candlesticks
- holding a 'sniff' quiz – using sense of smell to identify
- holding a 'feel' quiz – a number of food related items to feel and identify
- a Medieval food game – try to guess if item on a card was eaten in Medieval times.

Elaine Blake, exhibitions & partnerships curator, Reading Museum, said: "Reading Guild of Artists' (RGA) members have again put their own unique spin on a Medieval theme and I am really looking forward to seeing how the children interpret the activities.

"It will be fascinating to see the Medieval banquet 'come to life' on the long table. I am glad the Museum was once again able to host this RGA event. They are always very popular and I am sure this one will be too,"

Further information on the Reading Guild of Artists, can be found by visiting <http://www.rga-artists.org.uk/> or <https://www.facebook.com/ReadingGuildofArtists/>

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Images attached:

Image of Madjeski Gallery, Reading Museum

Plate of Fish – by artist Lorna Webber, co-ordinator for half term activities

Flyer promoting the event

Photo Opportunity

Reporters and photographers are warmly invited to come along to any of the events during the week. Please call Carole Stephens on 07746 862249 to arrange or by emailing publicity@rga-artists.org.uk

Notes to Editors:

Reporters and photographers are welcome to come along to any of the events – please call Carole Stephens on 07746 862249 to find out more and to arrange.

The Reading Guild of Artists was founded in 1930. It has a membership of over 170 artists and plays an active role in the development of artists in Reading.