



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 19, 2021

### GET OUTDOORS WITH MAY HAPPENINGS AT CHEEKWOOD

*Celebrate Springtime with the Worldwide Debut of Sean Kenney's Nature POP! and Exciting New Outdoor Programs for All Ages*



**NASHVILLE, Tenn.** – Cheekwood has plenty of reasons to celebrate springtime in Nashville and get outside next month with new outdoor happenings for all ages. The beloved botanical garden, arboretum and museum is also continuing programming for its newest health and wellness initiative, *Wellness 360*, in partnership with Vanderbilt Health. The program invites guests to take advantage of Cheekwood's 55 acres through outdoor classes led by local instructors to rejuvenate the mind, body and spirit, including yoga, mindfulness walks, forest bathing and sound bath meditation. Learn more and register for classes [here](#).

#### **Sean Kenney's Nature POP! Made with LEGO® Bricks (May 1 – Sept. 5, 2021)**

From acclaimed artist Sean Kenney and produced by Imagine Exhibitions, this exhibition makes its worldwide debut at Cheekwood and will feature 38 sculptures made from more than 800,000 LEGO® Bricks. Inspired by the Pop art movement, Kenney's work blurs the boundaries between the austere and the everyday, drawing from a belief that everything is interconnected. *Sean Kenney's Nature POP! Made with LEGO® Bricks* explores the beauty of nature through highly stylized, colorful displays that stand in striking contrast with their surroundings. Presenting a playful spin on traditional sculptural art, this outdoor exhibition is an accessible experience for all ages designed to inspire visitors to create something wonderful.

#### **Art al Fresco (May 1 – 30, 2021)**

Cheekwood is taking the arts outside throughout the month of May with programs combining art and nature in this new month-long happening. As a part of this event, local artist, Herb Williams, will create sculptural installations using his favorite medium, crayons. And throughout the month, Plein Air Painters, including Nashville's Chestnut Group, will be painting in the gardens and offering demonstrations. Also featured throughout the month are outdoor frames showcasing some of Cheekwood's most beautiful vistas to document picture perfect moments, takeaway art activity totes for children, the opportunity to create your own LEGO® tile for our Community LEGO® Mural, and self-guided audio tours of the Ann & Monroe Carell Jr. Family Sculpture Trail. Eric Orr's *Cheekwood Prime Matter* sculpture, featuring water and fire, will be active from 12 – 2 pm daily. Visitors can see a full schedule of activities at [cheekwood.org](http://cheekwood.org).

#### **Thursday Night Out (May 6 – Oct. 28, 2021)**

Beginning in May, join Cheekwood on Thursday evenings for live music and programming combining art and nature! Grab a drink from one of the bar stations, enjoy wellness classes, and stroll through the Ann & Monroe Carell Jr. Family Sculpture Trail for a relaxing experience after a long day. Walk through the grounds to see the fantastic art of *Sean Kenney's Nature POP! Made with LEGO® Bricks* and the crayon creations of Herb Williams. *Hours: 5 – 9 pm.*

Admission must be purchased in advance online. For tickets and more information about Cheekwood's exhibitions, visit [cheekwood.org](http://cheekwood.org).



### **About Cheekwood**

Cheekwood is considered one of the finest American Country Place Era estates in the nation. Formerly the family home of Mabel and Leslie Cheek, the extraordinary 1930s estate, with its 30,000 square foot Mansion and 55 acres of cultivated gardens and expansive vistas, today serves the public as a botanical garden, arboretum, and museum with period rooms and art galleries, showcasing works from its permanent collection as well as traveling exhibitions. The property includes 12 distinct gardens and a 1.5-mile woodland trail featuring modern and contemporary outdoor sculpture. Cheekwood is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, accredited by the American Alliance of Museums, and is a *USA Today* Top 10 Botanical Garden. In 2020, the grounds were awarded a Level II National Arboretum Accreditation by The ArbNet Arboretum Accreditation Program and The Morton Arboretum. Cheekwood is located just 8 miles southwest of downtown Nashville at 1200 Forrest Park Drive. Daily hours of operation: Tuesday through Sunday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Admission to Cheekwood must be purchased in advance at [cheekwood.org](http://cheekwood.org). For further information, call 615-356-8000 or visit [cheekwood.org](http://cheekwood.org).

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### **Link to Images**

[show.pics.io/press-release-images](http://show.pics.io/press-release-images)

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