

MAH

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SANTA CRUZ MAH CONTINUES TO BREATHE LIFE INTO HISTORIC EVERGREEN CEMETERY

**Fall highlights include a new ADA pathway and a short film in the Santa Cruz Film Festival,
plus a slate of community activities in October**



IMAGE CREDITS (FROM LEFT): EVERGREEN AT DUSK TOURS, PHOTO BY LIBBY KASTLE; EVERGREEN VOLUNTEERS, COURTESY TRACI BLISS; BEYOND THE GRAVE PERFORMANCE SERIES, PHOTO BY RR JONES; DIA DE LOS MUERTOS, COURTESY KATE CLARK.

SANTA CRUZ, CA (September 26, 2022) — The Santa Cruz Museum of Art & History (MAH) which owns and operates **Evergreen**, the city's pioneer historic cemetery, is pleased to announce a major new addition to the property and a series of related events.

A welcoming and safe pathway, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant, was just installed across the Evergreen Cemetery grounds. Funded by **California Natural Resources Agency, Community Foundation Santa Cruz County** and local donors, this creation of a convenient, inclusive walkway is one of several additions and restorations to the beloved and bucolic area since 2015.

Experience the inspiring commitment to Evergreen, which features this and other significant projects, as part of the 2022 Santa Cruz Film Festival. ***The Restoration of Evergreen Cemetery*** directed by author **Dr. Traci Bliss** and produced by **Andrew O'Keefe / Amotion**, captures the spirit of community and volunteerism at its best. A focus of the short film is the Chinese Gate made possible by the philanthropy and vision of **George Ow Jr.**, the expertise of historians **Sandy Lydon** and **Geoffrey Dunn**, and the artistry of **Tom Ralston** of Tom Ralston Concrete who also created the new ADA pathway. A free public screening of the Evergreen film (in the *Untold Truths: Local Shorts* category) will be held on **Sunday, October 9, 2022** at 4:45pm at Veterans Memorial Hall in Santa Cruz. [Tickets available here.](#)

The MAH will also host a ribbon-cutting ceremony at Evergreen on **Friday, October 28, 2022** at 10:00am for the community to celebrate the new pathway. “We continue to redefine and reimagine the beautiful and hallowed grounds of Evergreen Cemetery as it once was—one of our community’s finest public spaces,” said Robb Woulfe, MAH’s executive director. “Citizens frequently ask for improvements in the cemetery to ensure that the space is accessible for wheelchairs and other mobility aids, thereby enhancing the safety and enjoyment of all visitors. We look forward to sharing our latest upgrade with the community.”

Other Related Upcoming Events

Evergreen At Dusk: Cemetery History Tours

Dates: Thursday, October 13, 20, 27, 2022; 4-7pm

Cost: Self-Guided Group Tour \$5 General/ Free MAH Members; Private Group Tour \$40 General/ \$30 MAH Members

Dia de los Muertos

Date: Saturday, October 29, 2022; 1-4pm

Cost: FREE

A community celebration of traditional music, dance, and art at Evergreen Cemetery. Co-presented with Senderos.

ABOUT EVERGREEN CEMETERY

Established in 1858, Evergreen Cemetery is one of the oldest cemeteries in California, and it is the final home to many of Santa Cruz County's early pioneers, leaders, and makers of history. Tucked into a forested hillside adjacent to Harvey West Park in Santa Cruz, the property is owned and managed by the MAH and tended to by an active committee of volunteers. The cemetery is open to the public and free to visit from sunrise to sundown, seven days a week.

ABOUT THE SANTA CRUZ FILM FESTIVAL

Since its founding 20 years ago, the Santa Cruz Film Festival has provided a first-rate platform for independent filmmakers in Santa Cruz and on the West Coast and brought Santa Cruz audiences into conversation with independent filmmakers worldwide. Its films in 2022 include local and international works from 10 countries. Selections include social and environmental documentaries, dramas, comedies, suspense, and thrillers.

ABOUT THE MAH

The MAH is a thriving community gathering place that offers a full slate of art and history exhibitions, visual and performing artworks, public festivals, education and outreach programs, and cultural celebrations in collaboration with its many partners. It maintains a permanent collection of regionally significant art and artifacts, a research library, a historical archive, and historic sites including the Evergreen Cemetery, Octagon Building, and Davenport Jail. It is also home to Abbott Square, a vibrant public plaza on the museum’s doorstep that offers food, social events, and year-round creative happenings.

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