Among the September 8 open house activities presented by the Parkway Museums District cultural and educational institutions, businesses and residences are (in alphabetical order):

**Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University**

Free general admission, 4:00-9:00 p.m. (With purchase of an $8 Supersaver Ticket, visitors also will gain access to *Backyard Adventures* and *Butterflies!* exhibits.)

**Live Animal Shows at Aviator Park** – 4:00 and 5:00 p.m.

**Dino Dance Party** – with Academy mascot Eddie and friend Trixie, 4:30 p.m., 5:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m., 8:30 p.m., 9:30 p.m. Glow sticks provided for after sunset.

**Live animal encounters inside the museum** – Birds, mammals and reptiles will roam the halls with their handlers throughout the night.

**Backyards Around the World** – Check out Academy specimens and touchable biofacts from around the world.

**Bug Walks in Logan Square** – Academy entomologists will lead walks in search of insects. 4:15 p.m., 5:15 p.m., 6:15 p.m., 7:15 p.m., and 8:15 p.m. (with flashlights)

**100 Years of Dinosaurs** – See one of the earliest animated cartoons of a dinosaur, “Gertie the Dinosaur” (1914), accompanied by a film of modern paleo artists discussing their work as they lend their artistic talents to interpreting *Hadrosaurus foulkii*.

**Backyard Adventures** – Last weekend for the Academy’s special exhibit.

**Dino Drafts: The Academy Beer Garden** will be open from 4:00-10:00 p.m. with drinks and mouth-watering bites.

**Association for Public Art**

Public art ambassadors share stories of the Parkway’s many outdoor sculptures (4:00-7:00 p.m.) and assist public access to the self-guided Museum Without Walls™: AUDIO tour that spotlights the Association for Public Art’s history with the Parkway. Information about *Cai Guo-Qiang: Fireflies* will be available at Sister Cities Park.

**The Barnes Foundation**

Pay-What-You-Wish, 4:00-10:00 p.m. Admission includes access to the Barnes collection and special exhibition, *Mohamed Bourouissa: Urban Riders*.

**Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul**

The Basilica and Cathedral Shop will be open 4:00-10:00 p.m., offering tours every half hour from 4:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m., and at 8:30 p.m.

**Organ Concerts** – 4:00-4:30 p.m. and 9:00-9:30 p.m.

**Presentation** – 7:00-8:00 p.m., Presentation on the Role of the Cathedral in the life of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia and the City of Philadelphia, especially with the visits of Pope Saint John Paul II and Pope Francis

**Cret Park (16th and Benjamin Franklin Parkway)**

Singer and songwriter Ginger Coyle will be performing for the evening. Here, you can also enjoy cocktails while relaxing after work. 4:00-8:00 p.m.

**Dilworth Park (City Hall)**

Join Center City District as they celebrate the kickoff of Parkway 100 with music, food and drink at some of your favorite parks! Dilworth Park will host a special Happy Hour with DJ for you to bring in the evening. Stop by and enjoy selections from Dilworth Café while you mix and mingle after work. 4:00-8:00 p.m.

**Eastern State Penitentiary**

Free general admission, 4:00 – 9:00 p.m. Explore America’s most historic prison at dusk! Free admission includes “The Voices of Eastern State" Audio Tour narrated by actor Steve Buscemi, *Hands-On History* interactive experiences, history exhibits, and artist installations.

**Fairmount Water Works**

**Experience the Mobile Mussel Hatchery** –Explore a living science laboratory in action, get a behind-the-scenes look at the life and times of a freshwater mussel, and enjoy a unique view of the Schuylkill River habitat. The hatchery will demonstrate the ecological benefits of freshwater mussel restoration in improving the health of our waterways. Enjoy this outdoor exhibit, then venture into the Fairmount Water Works to experience a National Historical Landmark full of rich history. 4:00-7:00 p.m.

**A Walk Along the Parkway** –Philadelphia's Parkway references the most beautiful cities of Old Europe. Discover the magnificent buildings along Philadelphia’s own Champs-Élysées and what lies beneath them. Start at the Fairmount Water Works, where wheels once pumped the City’s drinking water, then embark on a mile-long stroll down the picturesque path to Logan Square and back. Ideal for history buffs, cultural connoisseurs and architectural mavens. 4:00 & 6:00 p.m.

**Behind the Scenes at Fairmount Water Works** –Walk the same underground paths as a royal family during a behind-the-scenes look at Philadelphia’s first tourist destination. See historic Kelly Pool and hear about the future expansion of the landmark that pioneered engineering, tourism, and environmental awareness in Philadelphia. Note: This is a hard-hat tour and may not be accessible for all of our visitors. Sturdy shoes are strongly recommended.5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

**River Character Temporary Tattoo Station** – 4:00-7:00 p.m.

**Philadelphia Water Ice samples** –4:00-6:00 p.m.

**The Franklin Institute**

The Franklin Institute opens its doors for free from 4:00-9:00 p.m. to explore 11 exhibit galleries, plus an all-new virtual reality experience, live science shows, Fels Planetarium shows, and stargazing from the Joel N. Bloom Observatory. Plus, special programming both inside and outside the museum.

**Science Busking** – 4:00-7:00 p.m.

**“Going ‘Round the Square: A Display from The Franklin Institute’s Collection”** will give guests a rare, unique look at the history of the Parkway. 4:00-9:00 p.m.

Featured **live science shows** at 4:15 p.m., 5:15 p.m., 6:15 p.m., 7:15 p.m. and 8:15 p.m.

**Solar Observing** in the Joel N. Bloom Observatory, 4:00-7:00 p.m.

**Evening Astronomy Observations,** Joel N. Bloom Observatory and 5th floor observation roof deck, with amazing views of the Parkway, skyline and nighttime sky, 7:30-9:00 p.m.

**Exhibit galleries** will have programming to allow guests to explore through immersive, hands-on stations, and interact with educators around activity stations (Stream Table, Spin Ride, Baldwin 60000, Van de Graaff Generator demonstrations, Ultrasound demonstrations), 4:00-9:00 p.m.

The new **Tech Studio** will be open for guests to stop by, see technological innovation at work through experiencing the science of 3D printing, and talk with Franklin Institute exhibit and technology designers about their work.

The **Young Scientists** area will feature programming for families with younger guests to build together, and put their engineering skills to work.

A **Ceremonial Centennial Science Demonstration** will happen at 8:45 p.m. in the Benjamin Franklin National Memorial.

**Friends Select School**

*Parkway as Civic Space* exhibit, 4:00-9:00 p.m.

**The Logan, Philadelphia’s Hotel**

Art tours every hour on the hour, 4:00-8:00 p.m.; chair massages in the Spa at the Logan, 4:00-6:00 p.m.; Outdoor Beer Garden by Urban Farmer, patio, 4:00-6:00 p.m.

**Moore College of Art & Design**

Drew Nugent and The Midnight Society, a 1920s period jazz band, will perform outside the main entrance. Students will participate in coloring the completed giant dot-to-dot puzzles. The Galleries will be open from 4:00-9:00 p.m., and The Art Shop until 8:00 p.m.

**Park Towne Place**

**Mural Dedication and City Proclamation** – Park Towne Place Museum District Residences has partnered with Mural Arts Philadelphia to create a mural by Philadelphia-based artist Miriam Singer depicting the vast cultural and historical impact Park Towne Place has had since 1959 while located at its prominent place along the Benjamin Franklin Parkway. This new work of public art will be located on the East Tower overlooking the city and a tranquil park space at historic Park Towne Place. Mural unveiling with public reception, including music, refreshments, takeaway art activities, and swag giveaways that pertain to the artwork, 4:00-5:00 p.m.

Also view *Configuration: Nicholas Kripal*, opening September 8 through April 29, 2018.

**Parkway Central Library of the Free Library of Philadelphia**

**Tours – Rare Book Department, 3rd floor, 4:00-9:00 p.m.**

**Exhibitions – *Corridor of Culture: 100 Years of the Benjamin Franklin Parkway,* (West Gallery, 1st floor); *A Tale of Two Sister Cities: Philadelphia and Tianjin (*West Gallery, 2nd floor); *Becoming the Detective: The Making of a Genre (*Rare Book Department, 3rd floor); Special Mural Arts Monument Lab Sound Installation by Emeka Ogboh (4th floor Skyline Terrace); Virtual Worlds: The Parkway Central Library rebuilt in Minecraft, debut of this enhancement to the popular video game (Grand Lobby, 1st floor). All exhibits, 4:00-9:00 p.m.**

**Pennsylvania Horticultural Society**

Garden docents talk about plantings at the Rodin Museum and Logan Square, 4:00-7:00 p.m.

**Philadelphia Museum of Art**

Pay-What-You-Wish Friday Night, 4:00-8:45 p.m.

**Performances** – Two performances of a specially commissioned work by Ross Bellenoit, *100 Years in Philly Music* (5:45-6:30 p.m. and 7:15-8:00 p.m.).

**Public Symposium Keynote Address** – The 9th annual Anne d’Harnoncourt Symposium: *The Museum and The City*, is a two-day public symposium hosted by the Philadelphia Museum of Art and the University of Pennsylvania. To launch the symposium, Tod Williams and Billie Tsien, the architects of the Barnes Foundation in Philadelphia and the visionary Obama Presidential Center in Chicago will talk about the role that museums can play in defining civic life in the 21st century.Their keynote address, *An Architect’s Responsibility: A Search for the Durable when Everything is Changing*, will take place in the Perelman Auditorium of the Philadelphia Museum of Art (6:30 p.m., $20, $16 for Philadelphia Museum of Art members, free for Penn students and faculty).

**Tours** – Visitors will also be able to take part in a architecture tour, tours of the collection, and will have an opportunity to interact with curators in the galleries.

**Dining** – The Museum will also offer indoor and outdoor food and beverage service.

**Philadelphia Mormon Temple**

**Meetinghouse Open House** – Visit The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and explore how we are all connected through family history. Search your roots with family history specialists, tour the Temple grounds and learn their purpose, enjoy light refreshments and relaxing music, 4:00-8:00 p.m.

**Rodin Museum**

Pay-What-You-Wish, 4:00-9:00 p.m.

**Sister Cities Park (18th and Benjamin Franklin Parkway)**

Enjoy music from local talent Matt Santry (4:00-8:00 p.m.), along with a delicious menu served by the Logan Square Café (until 10:00 p.m.), and don’t forget to pick up some Parkway 100 merchandise when you stop by.

**About the Benjamin Franklin Parkway**

The development of the Parkway took place over decades, from the first proposal and signed petition received by City Council in 1891, to groundbreaking in 1907, and finally construction in 1917. *The Philadelphia Inquirer* reported the Parkway’s October 26, 1918 completion in its story, “Parkway is Open From Hall to Park” (October 27, 1918, pg. 3). Philadelphia’s *Evening Public Ledger* also announced the completion of the Parkway, reporting: "Uninterrupted Parkway at last leads from City Hall to Fairmount's entrance," (November 16, 1918).

The one-mile Benjamin Franklin Parkway stretches to the Philadelphia Museum of Art, connecting the city’s business district to Fairmount Park, one of the largest urban green spaces in the United States. Known as the Parkway Museums District, the cultural destination is home to some of the city’s most treasured museums, including The Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University, The Barnes Foundation, The Franklin Institute, the Philadelphia Museum of Art, and Rodin Museum.

The picturesque *Swann Memorial Fountain* at Logan Square is among the Parkway’s most scenic spaces and an example of the Parkway’s abundant public art, with a unique interpretive program by the Association for Public Art (aPA). Locals and visitors like to gather at the Parkway’s pocket parks, including Dilworth Park, Love Park, Cret Park, Sister Cities Park, and The Oval, or run the steps *“Rocky”* made famous. Trees and international flags line the boulevard, which is also known for its exceptional architecture. The Cathedral Basilica of SS Peter & Paul, Friends Select School, Moore College of Art & Design, and the newly completed Philadelphia Mormon Temple are also here.