

PRESS RELEASE

The Ministry of Communications and Works (Department of Antiquities) announces that within the framework of the International Museum Day (18th May 2010), the following events will take place:

International Museum Day, 18th May 2010

Free entry to all state Museums on International Museum Day.

Cyprus Museum

(1 Museum Street, Nicosia τηλ: 22865864, www.mcw.gov.cy/da)

The Cyprus Museum will be open from 8 am until 4 pm and entry will be free.

Educational activities will be organised by the staff of the Cyprus Museum for students from Faneromeni Primary School (Educational Priority Zone), Nicosia. These activities will take place in the Museum gardens where students will be able to participate in the process of pottery-making, the making of replicas, pottery conservation as well as the crafting of jewellery inspired by original objects on exhibition in the Cyprus Museum.

In addition, special guided tours will be organised for visitors with impaired vision (for reservations: 22865807).

In Rooms IV, VIII and XII of the Cyprus Museum there will be viewings of documentaries on the history and archaeology of Cyprus.

There will also be a presentation of Cypriot postage stamps and Euro coins that depict Cypriot antiquities.

Limassol District Museum

(Kaningos and Vironos Street, Limassol, tel.: 25305157)

At 7.30 pm the Vice Mayor of Limassol Mr. G. Danielides will inaugurate the exhibition of works of art by Limassol artists. The exhibition is co-organised by the Department of Antiquities, the Limassol Municipality and the Cyprus Chamber of Fine Arts. The duration of the exhibition will be from the 18th – 29th of May 2010 (Tuesday: 8am – 3pm, Wednesday: 8am-5pm, Thursday- Friday: 8am – 3pm, Saturday: 9am – 3pm).

Local Museum of Ancient Idalion (Idalion tel.: 22444818)

The Museum will be open from 8am – 3pm and from 4pm-8pm. During the day, guided tours will be conducted as well as educational activities for children. At 7pm there will be a concert with the choir of the Idalion Municipality.

The theme of International Museum Day this year is ‘Museums for Social Harmony’. With this title the very important role that museums have to play with

regard to the safeguarding of cultural diversity and the common heritage of humanity is highlighted. Thus, the message is passed that museums should be in a position to promote intercultural dialogue and mutual respect amongst all people. Museums therefore should host activities that include multicultural groups of people (especially young ages) as well as groups of people with special needs and abilities.

The Department of Antiquities has been actively participating in the celebrations of International Museum Day and each year more museums organize celebrations. The Department's long term aim is to include as many museum as possible, both district and local, in these events. The Local Museum of Ancient Idalion for example, since 2009 has established the organization of events to celebrate International Museum Day.