



GALVESTON
RAILROAD MUSEUM



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Forgotten Gateway: Coming to America Through Galveston Island

GALVESTON, TX - Beginning June 1, 2024, The Galveston Railroad Museum, 2602 Santa Fe Place, will present *Forgotten Gateway: Coming to America Through Galveston Island*, based on the major exhibition of the same name developed by the Bullock Texas State History Museum and guest-curated by Dr. Suzanne Sheriff, independent museum curator and senior lecturer of anthropology at The University of Texas at Austin. *Forgotten Gateway* is presented in partnership with Humanities Texas, the state affiliate for the National Endowment for the Humanities.

As a major gateway for immigration, Galveston Island was the port of entry for hundreds of thousands of people coming to America from 1845 to 1924. *Forgotten Gateway* considers the importance of place in the immigrant experience tracing the history of Galveston Island as it changed from a small harborage for sailing vessels, to a major cosmopolitan steamship and railroad hub, and back to a nearly abandoned immigrant station—and explores universal themes of immigration including leaving home, encountering danger, confronting discrimination, and navigating bureaucracy.

The exhibition will be on exhibit at the museum from June 1 to August 31, 10 am – 5 pm daily. For more information about the exhibit or to arrange group visits, contact David Robertson, Executive Director at (409) 765-5700 or david@galvestonrrmuseum.org. Galveston Railroad Museum members are invited to an exhibit preview, Friday, May 31, 3 – 5 pm.

The Galveston Railroad Museum is dedicated to the restoration, observation, and re-use of its historic facilities and equipment for the development of educational and interactive programs, which support railroading and transportation initiatives serving our regional community. The museum provides an immersive learning experience by way of exhibits beginning in the fully restored 1931 Train Depot, and visual and tactile exhibits that include a post office railcar, dining cars, sleep cars, baggage cars, model trains, 100 year old Steam locomotive, Static exhibits: *The Orphan Train*, *Dining in Style: Railroad Porcelain China and Silver*, and “*Traveling on a City at Sea: The Story of the Battleship Texas*”, Santa Fe Calendars Collection of Harry Briscoe, and Santa Fe Travel Posters for the 1950 and 1960’s. Harborside Express Train rides are available weekly weather permitting.

In partnership with the Galveston Independent School District, *Powerful Learning Innovators Program*, the museum provides STEM curriculum and lesson plans for teachers, student field trips, and sensory tours and materials for autistic individuals. Group tours are encouraged, and docents are available upon request.

The Galveston Railroad Museum, a nonprofit organization, is supported by grants, contributions, membership, admission, and special events. Member benefits are enjoyed year-round and interested parties may join online or at the museum.

The Galveston Railroad Museum is proud to collaborate with Humanities Texas and supports their efforts to develop and support diverse programs across the state, including lectures, oral history projects, teacher institutes, museum exhibitions and documentary films. For more information, please visit Humanities Texas online at <http://www.humanitiestexas.org> or call 512.440.1991.

The museum is open daily 10 – 5 and offers complimentary parking with museum admission at 2602 Santa Fe Place. Admission is Members Free; Adults, \$12, Seniors, \$9, Kids 3 – 12 yrs. \$6; 2 & Under Free. Train Rides are \$8 per person. For group rates, please contact the museum.

www.GalvestonRRmuseum.org

