

BART offers free rides for school field trips Program funded by Monterey Bay Aquarium



Top: A BART car is wrapped with what looks like an octopus engulfing the train. Left: Ann Nyang, an Oakland public school teacher, holds her son, Abdu, as he admires an Octopus puppet.

BART is partnering with Monterey Bay Aquarium to provide free BART rides for school field trips to Bay Area students this coming school year.

Approximately 40,000 students (up to age 18), teachers and chaperones will have the opportunity to ride BART free for educational field trips during the 2014-15 school year.

Five BART cars are wrapped with what looks like an octopus engulfing the train as part of the partnership to help publicize the program. Beginning in August, Bay Area schools may apply online for free BART rides

for educational field trips on a first-come, first-served basis. If you would like to be notified when we begin accepting applications, please fill out the form found online at bart.gov/fieldtrips.

"Partnering on 'Free BART Rides for School Field Trips' is a natural extension of our commitment to making sure children in the region have a rich educational experience," said Mimi Hahn, vice president of marketing and communications for the nonprofit aquarium.

For more information, visit bart.gov/fieldtrips.

FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

Connecting with future BART riders

Summer is in full swing, and while students and teachers are enjoying their time out of the classroom, BART has been busy planning for the upcoming school year. I'm pleased to announce BART and the Monterey Bay Aquarium are partnering to offer Bay Area students free rides for school field trips during the 2014-2015 school year. We understand the value of giving students hands-on learning opportunities outside of the classroom, and thanks to funding from Monterey Bay Aquarium, this unique program comes at no cost to BART. Teachers, principals and school administrators can get more information at bart.gov/fieldtrips.

Taking students to museums, the theater, historical sites and other cultural attractions enriches their learning experience. Having schoolchildren ride BART helps them understand how to use public transportation so they are comfortable riding in the future.

One of my favorite things about working for BART is going out into the community – whether it's talking to riders in stations, speaking at community events or being directly involved through programs like the Free BART Rides for School Field Trips program.

And while you may not be in school, don't forget you can ride BART to many of the exciting, educational sites around the Bay Area, including the Asian Art Museum, Oakland Museum of California, Berkeley Repertory Theatre and Davies Symphony Hall all summer long. For a full list of BARTable sites, pick up a BART Destinations Guide at any one of our 44 stations.

Grace Crunican, General Manager

More BARTable school field trip destinations

DAVIES SYMPHONY HALL

Civic Center BART, walk 3 blocks

ASIAN ART MUSEUM

Civic Center BART, Walk 2 blocks

CALIFORNIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Montgomery Street BART, Walk 2 blocks

CARTOON ART MUSEUM

Montgomery Street BART, Walk 2 blocks

CHILDREN'S CREATIVITY MUSEUM

Powell Street BART, Walk 2 blocks

EXPLORATORIUM

Embarcadero BART, 15 minute walk

YERBA BUENA CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Montgomery Street BART, Walk 3 blocks

Survey results for BART's new rail cars roll in



People line up to see the BART model rail car in San Francisco on April 16. More than 17,000 toured the train car in April and May.

New BART rail cars will be phased into the BART fleet starting in 2017, and public input has been an important part of the design process. Last April and May, more than 17,000 people toured the final model of BART's new train cars, and their feedback was very positive. Customers rated 10 design features, ranging from bike racks to seat comfort to exterior appearance, and 79 percent to 95 percent of respondents rated each of the features excellent or good. To see the full survey results, visit bart.gov/cars.

The new train cars will have "micro-plug" doors to help seal out noise and provide a quieter ride, an improved cooling system that makes it more comfortable for standees on hot days, digital screens that will display next stop information and a dynamic system map,

and padded easy-to-clean seats with lumbar support.

Refinements from the latest round of customer feedback include adding armrests on seats next to doors, increasing the number of hanging straps for people to hold on to, lowering the height of the intercom to make it more accessible for people who use wheelchairs, providing Braille signs for blind customers, reducing glare on the LCD screens, and providing more leg room.

BART has 775 new cars on order with the goal of funding 1,000 cars to relieve crowding on BART during peak hours.

In 2015, Bombardier will deliver 10 test cars that will be used to confirm reliability and safety, and subsequently to test several options related to bicycle parking and floor-to-ceiling poles.

Parking fees to increase in July

There will be a \$0.50 daily parking fee increase at many BART stations starting this month. On July 14, the following changes go into effect: Bay Fair (\$2), Fremont (\$2.50), Fruitvale (\$2.50), Lafayette (\$2.50), Lake Merritt (\$2.50), Orinda (\$2.50), Pittsburg/Bay Point (\$2.50), Pleasant Hill (\$2.50), Rockridge (\$2.50), San Leandro (\$2.50), Union City (\$2.50) and Walnut Creek (\$2.50).

On July 28, the following changes go into effect: Ashby (\$2.50), Castro Valley (\$2.50), Dublin/Pleasanton (\$2.50), El Cerrito del Norte (\$2.50), El Cerrito Plaza (\$2.50), Glen Park (\$2.50), MacArthur (\$2.50), North Berkeley (\$2.50), San Bruno (\$2.50), West Dublin/Pleasanton (\$2.50) and West Oakland (\$6.50).

For details about parking at BART, visit bart.gov/parking.

bartable calendar

OFF THE GRID FOOD TRUCK PARTY

Fridays, 5-9pm
Oakland Museum of California, Oakland
museumca.org
> **BART: Lake Merritt, walk 1 block**
Join OMCA and Off the Grid on 10th Street every Friday (except July 4) for a family-friendly take on a festive night market.

SF OPERA PRESENTS "LA TRAVIATA"

July 5, 8pm
AT&T Park, San Francisco
sfopera.com/simulcast
> **BART: Embarcadero, 15 minute walk**
San Francisco Opera invites you to Opera at the Ballpark for a free, live video simulcast on the big screen. A 15 minute walk from Embarcadero, or transfer to Muni N or T line.

BILL PICKETT RODEO

July 12 and 13, 2:30pm
Rowell Ranch Rodeo Grounds, Hayward
billpickettrodeo.com
> **BART: West Dublin/Pleasanton + Free Shuttle**
Take BART to the greatest show on dirt. This year marks the 30th anniversary! Catch a free shuttle from West Dublin/Pleasanton BART to the rodeo grounds. The shuttle will run every 20 minutes from noon to 3:45pm and 5 to 7:30pm. Show your BART ticket and receive a discount at the gate! \$17-\$23.



The Bill Pickett Rodeo celebrates its 30th year! Take BART to West Dublin/Pleasanton and hop on the FREE shuttle.

BILL COSBY 77

July 12, 4 and 7:30pm
SFJAZZ Center, Miner Auditorium
sfjazz.org
> **BART: Civic Center/UN Plaza, 10 minute walk**
Bill Cosby returns to the SFJAZZ center to tape his next concert special. \$75-\$125.

MEROLA OPERA'S SCHWABACHER SUMMER CONCERT

July 19, 2 to 4:30pm
Yerba Buena Gardens, San Francisco
ybgfestival.org
> **BART: Montgomery or Powell St.**
Opera lovers and novices alike are invited

to listen to Merola artists in an outdoor setting. Part of the Yerba Buena Gardens Festival. Free.

AURORA THEATRE PRESENTS "AMERICAN BUFFALO"

Through July 13
Aurora Theatre, Berkeley
auroratheatre.org

> BART: Downtown Berkeley, walk 1 block

Set in an urban junk shop, three small-time crooks make plans to rob a man of his coin collection, but as the night goes on, motivations change. 2 hours. \$32-\$50.

CAL SHAKES PRESENTS "THE COMEDY OF ERRORS"

Through July 20
Bruns Amphitheatre, Orinda
calshakes.org

> BART: Orinda + Free Shuttle

Two sets of twins, ten tons of trouble – "The Comedy of Errors" is the ultimate in mistaken identity. \$45-\$66.

KAISER CENTER 2014 ROOF GARDEN CONCERTS

Fridays, noon to 1pm
Kaiser Center Roof Garden, 300 Lakeside Dr., Oakland
kaisercenterroofgarden.com

> BART: 19th St/

Oakland, walk 2 blocks

See Fely Tchaco on July 11; Terrence Brewer Group on July 18; and William Robert Trio on July 25. Free, and open to the public. Take any elevator located in the Kaiser garage to "RG" level to access the Roof Garden.

WORLD CUP SEMIFINALS AND FINALS

July 9 and 13
San Francisco Civic Center
worldcupsf.com
> **BART: Civic Center/UN Plaza, walk 1 block**
Catch a live broadcast of the World Cup semifinals and finals at Civic Center in San Francisco. The semifinals start at 1pm July 9, and the finals start at noon July 13. This is a free event.

