



For Immediate Release
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**ARTS DISTRICT Liberty Station Welcomes Mingei International Museum
Gift Shop and Café to Enhance Creative Campus
*October 5th Grand Opening Planned***

San Diego – August 23, 2018 – When **Mingei International Museum** closes its doors in Balboa Park for a transformational renovation this fall, it won't entirely disappear from sight. In addition to various exhibitions and community programs, Mingei is finding a temporary home at ARTS DISTRICT Liberty Station for *Shop Mingei*, the Museum's unique gift shop; *Café Mingei*, a destination for coffee and treats; and office space for 14 employees.

"We look forward to having Mingei as a tenant and creative partner," said Alan Ziter, Executive Director of the NTC Foundation, which oversees 26 buildings in the ARTS DISTRICT. "Not only will they help enliven the Dick Laub NTC Command Center, but they will provide additional creative programming and activities."

In addition to hosting their own events, the Mingei team will participate in ARTS DISTRICT programs including *Friday Night Liberty* and *Holiday Gifts with a Creative Twist*. *Café Mingei* will also be the onsite café for Rady Children's Ice Rink benefiting Rady Children's Hospital.

"We couldn't think of a better place to be while our building is being upgraded," explained Rob Sidner, Mingei Executive Director. "As the largest collection of arts organizations outside of Balboa Park, the ARTS DISTRICT is a natural choice for our temporary home. We look forward to introducing Mingei to new audiences and being part of this growing arts district."

With the major transformation of its facility in Balboa Park, Mingei International will increase accessibility to its collection, exhibition and educational programs for all ages. Mingei presents "Art of the People" and this significant renovation will allow the Museum to share that art *with* the people – as many as possible, regardless of income, experience or ability.

Formerly The Collectors' Gallery, ***Shop Mingei*** will welcome visitors in the Command Center and will feature a unique selection of ethically made items from both local and international artists. Browse fresh and vibrant items to liven up home and wardrobe and attend store events including special sales, trunk shows and demonstrations highlighting craft and design from all cultures of the world.

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Café Mingei will be a destination for coffee, tea and treats in the heart of the ARTS DISTRICT. The café will serve hot and iced espresso drinks made with coffee from local roaster West Bean, plus a selection of vibrant teas, gourmet hot chocolate and other refreshing beverages. Fresh, daily pastry selections are provided by a variety of local bakeries including Cardamom and Point Loma's own, The Cravory. Guest can enjoy their treats on the Point Loma Nazarene Friendship Terrace, overlooking the Sybil Stockdale Rose Garden or stroll through beautifully landscaped grounds and enjoy the several new art installations by local artists.

All purchases at *Shop Mingei* and *Café Mingei* support the exhibition and educational programs at Mingei International Museum. Mingei Members, Friends of NTC and ARTS DISTRICT employees receive a 10% discount at the store and a 20% discount at the café. Shop and Café Hours to be announced. Grand opening: Friday October 5.

The Mingei staff will move into office space in Building 201, at 2820 Roosevelt Road, currently home to the Expressive Arts Institute and Martha Pace Swift Gallery, Solare Ristorante, Pinot's Palette, Pachis Arts Studio for Kids and the NTC Foundation.

Currently scheduled Mingei International Museum events and programs

Visit mingei.org/calendar for more information.

All workshops and events are held at **Shop Mingei**
ARTS DISTRICT Liberty Station
Dick Laub NTC Command Center, Building 200
2640 Historic Decatur Road, San Diego, CA 92106

Mingei Makers Workshop Series

Designed for adults of all skill levels, join Mingei Museum staff to discover and cultivate your creative side.

Saturday, October 20 - 10am

Piñatas and Nichos

Honor the traditions of Dia de los Muertos and create two Mexican folk art-inspired projects.

Participants will create a nicho (shadow box) as well as their own piñatas using various mixed media materials.

\$30 members / \$35 adults

Saturday, November 10 - 10am

Stamp Carving and Print Blocking

Carve your own stamp and create a set of two block printed tea towels.

\$30 members / \$35 adults

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Biweekly, Friday Mornings @ 10:30am

Mini Mingei Story Time

Join us for story time at Liberty Station! Held biweekly, look, discuss and listen during this interactive story time intended for art-loving children and families of all ages. Free

Shop Mingei Opening Day

Friday, October 5, 2018

10 am – 8:30pm

Join us for our first day of Shop Mingei at ARTS DISTRICT Liberty Station! We are kicking off the year in our new space with Mini Mingei at 10:30am and ending with **Friday Night Liberty** at 5:00pm! Come check out our new store and shop your favorites and fun new products.

Shop Mingei Member Reception

Thursday, October 18, 2018

5-7:30pm

Celebrate the store's new space at a special member's only gathering! Enjoy shopping, mingling and goodies as we toast to an exciting year of change for the Museum. Double your member discount on all items in the Shop! Join as a member at mingei.org/join and support Mingei during its transformation. *Mingei International Museum members only.*

Holiday Market

Friday, December 7, 2018

5-8pm

Shop Mingei is bringing you another year of festive merry making at our annual Holiday Market hosted at the new store and café space. Sip, mingle and shop with our selection of local artists! Artist line-up and more event details to come.

ABOUT THE NTC FOUNDATION & ARTS DISTRICT LIBERTY STATION



The NTC Foundation was established in 2000 as a 501(c)3 nonprofit foundation to enrich the lives of San Diegans by renovating 26 historic buildings at the former Naval Training Center to create, facilitate and operate a broad-based complex focused on experiencing the arts, culture, and creativity that are the hallmark of the San Diego region. The NTC Foundation has oversight over 26 buildings in the ARTS DISTRICT. www.ntcfoundation.org

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ARTS DISTRICT

LIBERTY STATION

ARTS DISTRICT Liberty Station is San Diego's largest Arts & Cultural District located in historic buildings at the former Naval Training Center at Liberty Station near Downtown on San Diego Bay. With 100 park-like acres, the ARTS DISTRICT is home to nearly 120 museums and galleries, artist studios, dance companies, educational groups, multidisciplinary arts, fine dining, creative retail and other organizations that showcase San Diego's creative community and provide innovative experiences for the public. The campus also features venues for indoor or outdoor events, festivals, seminars, retreats and meetings. www.artsdistrictlibertystation.com



ABOUT MINGEI INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM

Located in San Diego's Balboa Park, Mingei International Museum collects, preserves and exhibits "art of the world, art of the people," including folk art, craft and design from all eras and cultures of the world. A non-profit institution funded by admission, individuals, and community support, the Museum offers inspiring exhibitions and diverse educational programs to more than 100,000 visitors a year. www.mingei.org

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