

Palo Alto Museum
Teen Advisory Council
Corona Challenges

Looking for something to do while sheltering in place? Wanting to connect with your community while we are apart? The Teen History Council invites you to learn, document, and play with history with these simple and fun challenges. Beyond history, we have partnered with the Junior Museum and Zoo to spark curiosity about science! Be on the lookout for challenges marked with a tree (🌲): If you send us your final product from these challenges, following our instructions, your work could be included in a time capsule for Palo Alto's 200th anniversary in 2094! Other challenges have a chance to be featured on our social media.

For Elementary Students

🌲 **A drawing for the future:** Draw your favorite part about Palo Alto! Use your favorite art supplies. Please include your first name, age, and a description of your drawing. Your parents can either email a picture of your drawing to teencouncil@paloaltomuseum.org, or mail your drawing to ---, addressed to "Teen History Council." All submissions will be included in a time capsule for 2094 (more information below).

Palo Alto Junior Museum and Zoo Presents... Animal Memory and Guessing Games: Download, print, and cut out our [memory game](#) with pictures and fun facts about the familiar and new animals that will be in the zoo after re-opening. Also try the guessing game (instructions included) once you are more familiar with the animals!

Visit us at [@paloaltoteenhistory](#) on Instagram!

Memories of the Past: After learning about the animals, check out this [memory game](#) with pictures of Palo Alto in the past! Do you recognize anything in the pictures?

Color Palo Alto: Download and print some [coloring pages](#) of historic Palo Alto buildings, courtesy of local artist Greg Hood. Re-imagine these buildings with new colors, or color them as close to the real version as possible.

Create your own time capsule: We are living through such an important moment in history, and we need to make sure that people in the future know what is happening and how we are responding. Find an old shoebox, fill it with some of these things, and close it to look back on your social distancing in the future:

- Look for news headlines and articles in a newspaper or online. Paloaltoonline.com or nytimes.com are great places to start. Try to find happy and uplifting articles as well, such as good deeds.
- Take note of what you're thinking when you wake up and right before you go to sleep for a few days. Include your personal mini-journal.
- Take a picture of a fun shelter in place activity that you and your family enjoy. Or take a picture of your family hanging out in your pajamas!
- Write down your schedule for a day. Did you video-chat with your friends? Go to school on the computer? Watch a new TV show?
- Add "artifacts" that represent your favorite activities. For example, if you love drawing, include a colored pencil or other art supply. If you love baking, include a recipe. Include a note that explains why you included this "artifact."
- Add food wrappers and containers after you finish eating a favorite snack or meal.
- Add something that represents the current "culture," like a square of toilet paper or empty hand sanitizer bottle. Include a note that explains why you included it.

Visit us at [@paloaltoteenhistory](#) on Instagram!

For Middle and High School Students

🌲 **Make a meme or TikTok:** about Palo Alto history, responses to coronavirus, or any event from the last few years in Palo Alto that you can put a good satirical spin on! Anything printable (pictures) will be considered for the 2094 time capsule. Multimedia (videos) may be included in an additional time capsule to be opened in 2044 (Palo Alto 150th anniversary, 25 years from now).

🌲 **Go down in history:** (9th-12th grade) complete our survey for “High School Voices in the Time Capsule” at tinyurl.com/timecapsule19!!

Junior Museum and Zoo Presents... Create your own Ball

Machine! Remember the machine in the Junior Museum and Zoo that showcased energy by moving tennis balls up, down, and around? Try and create your own version! Experiment with balls of different sizes and weights (tennis, golf, lacrosse, splash balls...) and send them through a maze. Then try these EXTRA CHALLENGES:

1. If you've taken a physics class or are currently in a physics class, make a list of the concepts that your machine utilizes. The goal is to spark curiosity about these concepts in the young visitors of the museum!
2. Create a machine that completes a certain task (Rube Goldberg) with the ball at the center of action: make a smoothie, ring a bell, pour a glass of water, or anything you can think of!
3. Take notes on how each ball you might use performs differently and decide which is the best.

When you are finished with your ball machine, send it over to us [@paloaltoteenhistory](https://www.instagram.com/paloaltoteenhistory) for a chance to be featured!

Visit us at [@paloaltoteenhistory](https://www.instagram.com/paloaltoteenhistory) on Instagram!

⌆ **Share your thoughts:** Send a quick email to teencouncil@paloaltomuseum.org telling us your thoughts on Palo Alto's response to the coronavirus. Your opinion makes a great future primary source!

⌆ **Get creative:** Capture the Palo Alto community in a photo or video. Send it to us over Instagram ([@paloaltoteenhistory](https://www.instagram.com/paloaltoteenhistory)) for a chance to be featured! Include a short quote about what you captured and why it represents the community to you.

Visit us at [@paloaltoteenhistory](https://www.instagram.com/paloaltoteenhistory) on Instagram!