Entertainment:
Take the 3-day weekend art challenge
By Emily Hulme
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It's a holiday weekend, which means that you could spend three whole days lollygagging around.

Or you could take our Columbus Day Art Tour and introduce a bit of culture to your life. It won't hurt (unless you wear uncomfortable shoes), and it'll give you an interesting answer on Tuesday when your co-workers ask you what you did with your bad self all weekend.

Saturday

Start out at Re:Form School (10 a.m.-6 p.m., 233 Mott St., reformat.scom.letsredy.com), a star-studded pop-up exhibit aiming to raise awareness of the need for arts education in school. The show features work by Shepard Fairey, APAK, Ron English, BASK and many others.

When you've had your fill of neo-pop art, cross the East River and head to the Brooklyn Museum (11 a.m.-6 p.m., 200 Eastern Pkwy, brooklynmuseum.org). Its new exhibition of Fred Tomaselli's psychedelic photo collages has been attracting a lot of buzz. If you're curious, “Work of Art: Abdi Farah” is still up — but if you weren't a fan of the Bravo reality show, you will probably leave unimpressed.

Bonus! If you've got the energy, hit up the screening of Sam Green and Dave Cerf's: “Utopia in Four Movements” at The Kitchen (8 p.m., $15, 512 W. 19th St., thekitchen.org). The “live documentary” is accompanied by music by The Quavers.

Sunday

Choose your own adventure today.

Path A will take you to a performance art festival.

Path B promises arty fun in Long Island City.

Bonus! Try Path A AND Path B

Path A: The Conflux Festival is spread out all over the Village, with a home base at NYU's Bamey Building, aka The Conflux Café (34 Stuyvesant St., confluxfestival.org). Café events include discussions, workshops and performances, and there are outdoor installations throughout the neighborhood. Your self-guided tour can be as long as you want to make it.

Path B: It's been labeled up-and-coming for nearly a decade, but as far as we're concerned, Long Island City is already there. Sculpture Center (11 a.m.-6 p.m., 44-19 Purves St., sculpture-center.org) is currently hosting “In Practice Projects, Fall 2010,” which features ambitious installations by fourtalented artists.

Continue your exploration of the new at “Greater New York” at the nearby PS 1 (noon-6 p.m., 22-25 Jackson Ave., Long Island City, ps1.org). It's a neat little survey of contemporary art by young New York artists.

Since you don't have to work the next day, revel in some Sunday night drinking at Dominie's Hoek (48-17 Vernon Blvd., LIC). Enjoy the local art on the walls as you mingle with the neighborhood cool kids.

Monday

The Met (9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., 1000 Fifth Ave., metmuseum.org) is usually closed Mondays, but in honor of Christopher Columbus (and his day off), the institution is throwing open its doors. Met highlights include “Big Bambu” (remember to wear rubber-soled shoes) and “Miró: The Dutch Interiors.”

Meanwhile MoMA (10:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., 11 W. 53rd St., moma.org) is also open. “Contemporary Art From the Collection” may have a boring title, but the treasures within are spectacular. Also, it's your very last chance to see “Matisse: Radical Invention, 1913–1917.”

Bonus! On your way from one museum to the other, make a detour to the Neue Galerie’s (11 a.m.-6 p.m., 1048 Fifth Ave., neuagalerie.org) Café Sabarsky for some delicious Viennese cuisine.

Bonus bonus! After eating, pop upstairs to the galleries to see the “character head” sculptures of “Franz Xaver Messerschmidt.”

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