Heritage Happenings

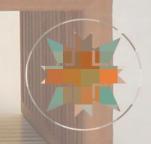
Reshaping Education

A Brief History of Museums

Thank You



Fall 2020



Heritage of the Americas Museum



Heritage of the **Americas Museum**

Board of Directors:

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Board Members:

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Our Mission:

To educate and to promote respect and appreciation for the early cultural heritage of the Americas and natural history of the world.

Tuesday - Friday 10am - 4pm

Adults - \$3 Seniors/Military - \$2 Children 17 & Under/ Students- Free

12110 Cuyamaca College Dr W El Cajon, CA 92019 619-670-5194

Director's Report

2020 can be deemed as an exhausting year to say the least. However, here at the Museum we choose to focus on the positive. For example, we'll be reopening shortly to the public. In addition, we've created a system so we can provide online tours for schools. We're looking forward to implementing these new versions of our tours. 2020 is challenging our society in so many ways this year. However, did you know that



historians have a consensus on the worst year in history? Yes, that award goes to year 536 CE. 536 CE marked a year in which an ominous fog engulfed Europe, Asia, and the Middle East for about 18 months. This fog was caused by a volcanic eruption in the beginning of the year in Iceland, spreading its ash everywhere. The fog altered weather patterns and threw off conditions for farmers to successfully grow their crops, creating a widespread famine. A few years later, the first outbreak of the bubonic plague occurred. On that note, we have a lot to be thankful for with modern science and medicine helping us along the way. In addition, we'll be looking forward to seeing your faces again soon, as we miss our family of members very much.

Brittany Gardner

Museum History

Knows. The Ashmolean Museum in Oxford opened as the first public museum in England in 1683. One of the many artifacts were the remains of a dodo bird.

These remains inspired one of the visitors, Lewis Carroll, to create a character in his novel. Alice's Adventures in Wonderland. based off of the dodo bird in the museum.



A New Frontier

Reshaping the Future of Education

Today's environment is met with trepidation and hesitancy. With COVID-19 looming, it's hard to say what the lasting effects have been in the educational sphere. While many have looked to start bringing online education to the forefront, many organizations wonder where their usual streams of revenue will come from? In order to start now and adapt to this strange new environment, the Heritage of the Americas Museum has initiated virtual tours in addition to working on expanding this with short supplemental videos both teachers and the public can access. Our mission is to educate and we will continue to do so in every manner we can think of. Classes, Museums, and tourism in general are all adapting ways to bring the knowledge and grandeur of what they have to offer to residences in the comfort and safety of their own homes. While we work out the glitches and snafuus, the education industry must continue to bring information to all who wish to learn.

A Brief History of Museums

Nine Muses from the Greeks were the inspiration for the current name Museums. These "Muses" were the protectors and goddesses of arts and sciences. Museion was termed by the Greeks to describe the shrine built for these Muses. Their temples and shrines were filled with art and what was considered scholarly information. Museums today house arts, sciences, and history.

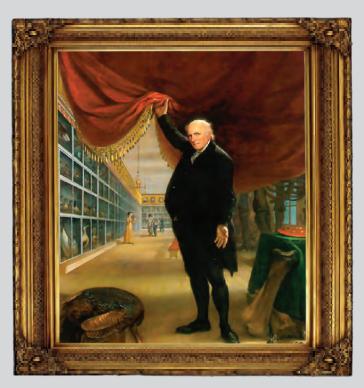
It can be argued that one of the earliest known examples of a museum was created from a collection by Princess Ennigaldi-Nanna, daughter of Neo-Babylonian King Nabonidus, around 530 BCE. This collection of artifacts spanned thousands of years and were from various geographical sources. This nicely assembled "collection" was discovered in 1925 by British Archaeologist, Sir Charles Leonard Woolley, during an excavation at Ur or now Southern Iraq.

From there on, many other "collections" can be cited throughout history. In America, one of the first museums recognized was Charles Willson Peale's Cabinet of Curiosities. This museum in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania was opened in 1786 to educate the massively diverse crowds coming into America. Peale was a talented artist who deeply valued education being inspired by the Age of Enlightenment. His collection charged 25 cents for admission and housed such items as preserved animals, fossils, minerals, elaborate paintings and more. Thousands of people flocked to his museum every year before finally going out of business in the 1840's. Phineas T. Barnum, otherwise known as P.T. Barnum, was one of the many buyers who purchased items from the collection to add to his own travelling show.

Museums continue to display and educate visitors on the historical and/or scientific relevance artifacts hold. In particular, the Heritage of the Americas Museum's mission is to "To educate and to promote respect and appreciation for the early cultural heritage of the Americas and natural history of the world." We continue to strive to uphold our mission to its fullest.



Sir Charles Leonard Woolley (left)



Charles Willson Peale Portrait at his "Cabinet"

Reopening

Tuesday, October 13th

Temporary Hours: Tuesday-Friday 10am - 4pm



Thank you to all of our members and supporters. We are here today because of you and we truly appreciate you.

Please **consider donating** to support our new virtual tours for schools. Your name will appear on our website for one year and in the next newsletter as one of our "Education Champions"*

*See last page for donation form or go online www.HeritageOfTheAmericasMuseum.com

Thank You Museum Members

Below is a list of our new members and renewals!

Benefactor - \$500.00

Michael & Teresa Butera
Samuel and Kris Ciccati
Charles & Beverly Little
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Wayne & Jo Ann Red-Horse
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Patron - \$100.00

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Bobbi Marin
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Lew Parlette
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Family - \$30.00

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Thank You Museum Members

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John Beckman & Barbara

Bender Paul Beiley

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Rusty Bordwell Tricia Bostard

Mark & Karen Bowers

Patricia Brown

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Linda Ferguson Ron & Linda Finnegan

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Consider donating today to have your extra contribution go towards funding more educational programs and projects at the Museum.

All donations are tax-deductible.

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