Native American Voices: The People—Here and Now

Leave preconceptions behind and discover a living tapestry of Nations with distinct histories and unexpected identities. In Native American Voices: The People—Here and Now, a new long-term interactive exhibition, visitors will encounter contemporary themes in Native American culture. Highlighting more than 300 traditional and modern objects from the Museum’s expansive collections from the United States and Canada, the exhibition explores the stories of Native American successes as sovereign, self-governing Nations. At multimedia stations, visitors will engage with audio and video clips of contemporary Native American leaders speaking of the many ways in which they maintain their religious, political, linguistic, and artistic independence. Remarkable objects and contemporary perspectives combine to offer visitors a new understanding of the first inhabitants of this land, as told through Native American voices.

OPENS MARCH 1, 2014
Ruth and Earl Scott North America Gallery, Second Floor

The Penn Museum gratefully acknowledges the individuals and institutions who have partnered with us to make the presentation of Native American Voices possible:

PRESENTING UNDERWRITERS
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List complete as of October 2013
NEW PHOTOGRAPHY

Vaults of Heaven: Visions of Byzantium

OPENING APRIL 12, 2014
Merle-Smith Gallery, First Floor

Churches in Istanbul, Turkey, will be highlighted in an expansion of Vaults of Heaven: Visions of Byzantium, a large-scale photography exhibition currently on display on the first floor of the Museum. A strong focus on the Hagia Sophia, a World Heritage Site, will be presented in the additional photographs by renowned Turkish photographer Ahmet Ertug.

RECENT ACQUISITIONS

Vaults of Heaven: Visions of Byzantium

IN THE ARTIFACT LAB: SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT

Since September of 2012, visitors have been invited behind the scenes of Museum conservation in In the Artifact Lab, a public laboratory and exhibition focusing on the conservation of objects from our world-class Egyptian collection. As we prepare for the opening of Native American Voices, our conservators in the Lab are also working on objects from the Museum’s extensive North American collection. See these objects become “exhibition-ready” from now through February.

LAST CHANCE!

Black Bodies in Propaganda: The Art of the War Poster

ON VIEW THROUGH MARCH 2, 2014
Merle-Smith Gallery, First Floor
Ancient Egypt Brought to Life for People with Visual Impairments

In 2012, the Penn Museum began offering a rich and meaningful tactile experience for the blind or visually impaired with its innovative touch tour program. Museum staff and blind and visually impaired advisors identified ancient Egyptian objects for inclusion in the program using criteria such as accessibility, size, and ability to inspire curiosity.

The touch tours drew 200 participants in the first year, and, due to popular demand, “Insights into Ancient Egypt/Touch Tours 2” was offered in late 2013. Several new initiatives were introduced, including classroom sessions with replicas of artifacts used in mummification and ritual, and making art as a response to the artifacts in partnership with schools and art programs for the blind.

Groups or individuals interested in future tours should contact the Museum’s Community Engagement Department by calling 215.746.6774 or emailing education@pennmuseum.org.

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