

WINTER/SPRING 2011

in the Field

THE FIELD MUSEUM MEMBER'S MAGAZINE



the Field

WINTER/SPRING 2011

JANUARY-APRIL

VOL. 82, NO. 1

EDITOR

Emily J. Waldren, *The Field Museum*

PHOTO CONTENT SPECIALIST

Nina Cummings, *The Field Museum*

DESIGN

Georgia Bockos, *Bockos Design, Inc*

All images © The Field Museum

unless otherwise specified

IN THE FIELD ISSN #1051-4546

is published three times a year

by The Field Museum. Annual

subscriptions are \$20, \$10 for

schools. Museum membership

includes IN THE FIELD subscription.

Opinions expressed by authors are

their own and do not necessarily

reflect the policy of The Field Museum.

Notification of address change

should include address label and

should be sent to the membership

department.

POSTMASTER

Send address changes to

Membership, The Field Museum

1400 South Lake Shore Drive

Chicago, IL 60605-2496

ON THE COVER

The thoroughbred horse, agile and quick, is best known for its use in horse racing. *The Horse* (Feb. 16–Aug. 14) invites visitors to learn more about these magnificent animals.

by Andrew W. Davis

The Field Museum

1400 South Lake Shore Drive

Chicago, IL 60605-2496

312.922.9410

fieldmuseum.org

The Field Museum salutes the people of Chicago for their long-standing support of the Museum through the Chicago Park District. Programming is partially supported by a CityArts Program 4 Grant from the City of Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency.

dear member

A new year means a new season of exciting exhibitions for you and your family to enjoy. Galloping into the Museum this February is *The Horse*, an in-depth look at the profound relationship between horses and humans. Learn more about this new exhibition on page 4, and be sure to visit opening weekend, when visitors will be able to take a horse-drawn carriage ride around the Museum (see back cover for details).

During your visit, don't miss out on *Travelogues and Technologies*—from *Small Sketches to the Biggest Book* (opposite page). Discover one of the biggest books ever printed, and rarely on display, from the Museum's Library.

This spring, as the ground begins to thaw and you begin to plan your gardens, use our article on page 12 for inspiration. Native landscaping is quickly becoming more and more popular and we've highlighted some of the reasons you may want to incorporate it into your landscaping.

We also want to make sure you save the date for our **60th Annual Members' Nights**—this year they will be held on May 26 and 27. Don't miss out on special Member viewings of *The Horse* and our exciting summer exhibition *Whales: Giants of the Deep*. (Learn more about *Whales* in the next issue of ITF.) Members' Nights are also your opportunity to go behind the scenes and speak with our scientists about our collections and their research. Mark your calendars now, and look for more information later this year.



DIANE ALEXANDER WHITE

As always, we thank you for your continued support and hope to see you soon.

MICHELLE CLAYTON
Director of Membership

Travelogues and Technologies— from Small Sketches to the Biggest Book

By Paola Buccioli and Layne Fargo, Project Developers

FROM THE EARLIEST TECHNIQUES to the latest media applications, technology has always had an impact on how we document and share our explorations of the world around us. *Travelogues and Technologies—from Small Sketches to the Biggest Book* (opening Feb. 11) invites you to discover extraordinary stories of expeditions and to learn how technology helps preserve these stories.



© FRIENDLY PLANET & MIT MEDIA LABORATORY



© FRIENDLY PLANET & MIT MEDIA LABORATORY

Discover how technology has changed to allow scientists to share their expeditions from around the world in *Travelogues and Technologies*.

A highlight of the exhibition is the opportunity to get an up-close look at one of the largest books ever published—*Bhutan: A Visual Odyssey Across the Last Himalayan Kingdom*. Documenting the country's cultural traditions and natural beauty, the book is the result of several MIT expeditions to the isolated Asian nation. Its brightly-colored pages will transport you to the vibrant world of the country of Bhutan. At 5 by 7 feet, *Bhutan* is one of the largest books ever published. (Ironically, Bhutan is one of the world's smallest countries.) Because of its gigantic size, the book is difficult to display, and *Travelogues and Technologies* will give you a rare opportunity to see it.

Books such as this are one of many ways travels and expeditions can be shared with the world. The exhibition will also introduce you to a number of old and new technologies Museum scientists use during their fieldwork. Through unique archival images of Field Museum expeditions, from the 1890s to present day, you'll learn fascinating facts about the development of image-capturing technologies from sketchbooks to digital photography. You'll also learn how these images were, and are, shared—from hand-colored lantern slides to social media applications.



CS255344; WILFRED H. OSGOOD

A technology breakthrough, the Akeley Camera was designed by Carl Akeley, the Field's chief taxidermist from 1896 to 1909. Akeley's camera was the earliest motion picture camera designed for dawn-to-dusk fieldwork. Field Museum scientists used the Akeley camera in many zoology, geology, and anthropology expeditions and many museums, movie studios, and newsreel companies would later adopt it for their own uses.

Today, Field Museum scientists record expeditions digitally with cameras that allow them to document their findings and share them readily with the scientific community and visitors through scientific blogs, social media, or websites like fieldmuseum.org/expeditions.

Travelogues and Technologies—from Small Sketches to the Biggest Book opens on Feb. 11 and runs through 2011, in the T. Kimball and Nancy N. Brooker Gallery. **ITF**

How Nature's Most Majestic Creature

The Horse Opens February 16

By Nancy O'Shea, Public Relations Director

A POWERFUL THOROUGHBRED, ITS MANE FLYING, crosses the finish line in triumph at the Kentucky Derby. A young rodeo rider grabs his saddle horn and holds on tight as a bronco bucks and lurches beneath him. Heavily built draft horses strain hard to pull wagonloads of grain over a rustic landscape. Thrilling, romantic, and nostalgic images such as these often come to mind when we think of horses.

A series of photos (opposite page) ended the debate about a horse's gait while galloping. The horse completely leaves the ground as its hind legs swing in, closest to its front legs.



But The Field Museum's upcoming exhibition *The Horse*, invites you to see horses as much more: the most important animal to ever interact with humans and the machines that helped create the modern world.

The exhibition opens Feb. 16 and runs through Aug. 14, 2011.

About 5,000 years ago, as we began to domesticate and breed horses, the horse started to mold us by changing the scale and scope of what could be carried, traded, fought over, or used to make life better—in short, civilization as we know it.

Highlights of *The Horse* include equipment such as a full suit of armor from 15th century Germany and a horse-drawn fire engine from the 19th century. Visitors can explore new archaeological discoveries concerning the domestication of the horse and examine the role of horses in sport throughout the ages. A computer interactive offers a virtual peek inside a moving, life-size horse, revealing how special adaptations to the horse's legs, digestive system, vision, and hearing gave the horse its unique qualities as a partner for humans.

© AMNH/D. FINNIN



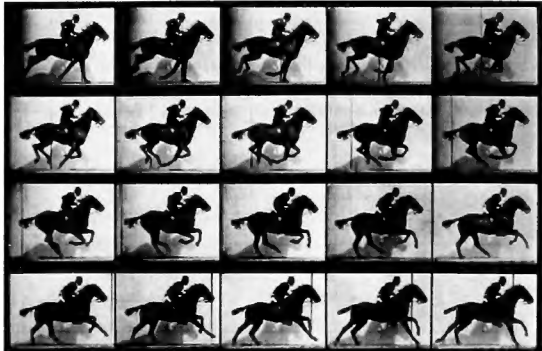
© AMNH/D. FINNIN



© AMNH/D. FINNIN



Shaped Our World



You can also examine the different gaits of a horse by looking through a zoetrope—a precursor to the modern movie projector—and seeing a revolutionary series of images by pioneering British photographer Eadweard Muybridge (1830–1904). His photographs resolved a long-standing debate by showing that all four hooves of a galloping horse leave the ground at the same time.

Today, we do not depend much on horses for warfare, travel, or work. Instead, we value them mainly for recreation and companionship. The exhibition discusses contemporary issues such as racehorse injuries and strategies for preventing them, as well as the difficulties of protecting wild and feral horses around the globe.

A video program presents examples of uplifting horse/human relationships, stressing the unique emotional connection that grows from the daily care, riding, and interaction with these unique animals. With a total of 58.5 million horses in the world today, this bond should remain strong for many years to come. **ITF**

The Horse is organized by the American Museum of Natural History, in collaboration with The Field Museum, the Abu Dhabi Authority for Culture and Heritage, the Canadian Museum of Civilization, Gatineau-Ottawa, and the San Diego Natural History Museum.

Major Sponsor: Harris Bank

© AMNH/D. FINNIN



Horse 101

Compiled by Megan Gaare, Marketing & Museum Enterprises Coordinator

Images of man and horse fill pages of children's stories, advertisements, and movies. But what do you really know about the horse? Brush up on your horse terms and trivia before heading to the Museum to experience *The Horse*.

- A horse's height is measured in **hands**. This goes back to the days when measuring tools were not readily available and using body parts was an easy, relatable way to convey size. Today, each hand equals four inches.
- All Thoroughbred horses, regardless of their actual date of birth, are given an official birthday of January 1.
- A **farrier** is the person who cares for a horse's feet. A horse's hoof is like a person's fingernail. It continues to grow throughout the horse's life and needs to be clipped.
- Horses can move in four ways: walk, trot, canter, and gallop.
- All horses are referred to as **foals** before their first birthdays. A **filly** is a young female horse, and a **mare** is an adult female. Young males are **colts** and adult male horses are **stallions**.
- Any marking on a horse's forehead is called a star, even if it's not shaped like a **star**.
- The phrase "**long in the tooth**" originated because a horse's age can be determined by how long its teeth are. In fact, a horse's teeth take up more space in his head than his brain!
- Horses cannot breathe through their mouths.
- In the Olympics, Equestrian events are the only sport where men and women compete equally against each other.

It Takes a Village (to Make a City): Exploring the Emergence of European Civilization

WHEN YOUR UPSTAIRS NEIGHBOR IS PRACTICING THE DRUMS AT 2AM, OR YOU'RE STUCK IN TRAFFIC ON THE KENNEDY WHILE DRIVING TO WORK, IT'S EASY TO FANTASIZE ABOUT PACKING UP AND MOVING TO THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE, COMPLETELY CUT OFF FROM OTHER PEOPLE.

Dr. Parkinson (below) inspects the remains of a Neolithic house at the site of Szeghalom-Kovácsalom in the Körös Region of the Great Hungarian Plain.



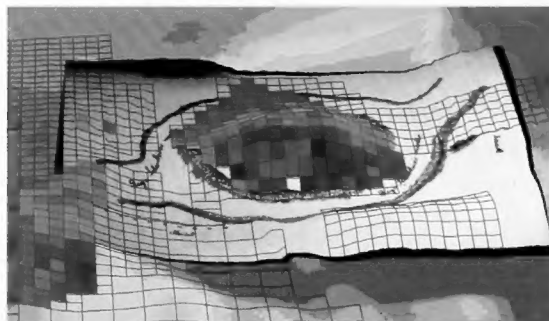
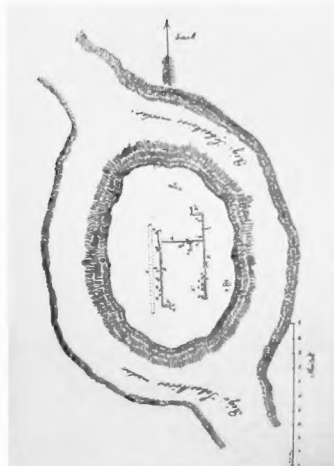
PHOTO BY ATTILA GYUCHA

As of 2008, for the first time ever, half the world's population live in urban settings, and many of them probably share your frustration. But the process of urbanization is an end result of social and environmental processes that began many thousands of years ago in different parts of the world. Once these kinds of societies developed they spread like wildfire. Field Museum curator William Parkinson, PhD, is currently exploring how and why the development of urban settings has been so successful for human beings.

Parkinson has teamed up with colleagues from Hungary, Greece, and Italy to investigate how an incredible social transformation occurred between 6500 and 1000 BC in southeastern Europe and the eastern Mediterranean. By studying how small agricultural villages developed into urban centers within complex state societies, their research is revealing how the various social institutions we associate with modern urban societies came to be. For example, thousands of years ago, different "careers" as we think of them today, did not exist. Everyone made their own living by farming and raising animals. It wasn't until societies became more differentiated that people began to make careers out of the various specialized crafts we associate with modern cities. The butcher, the baker, and the candlestick maker are all relatively new jobs, at least from an archaeological perspective.

Dr. Parkinson directs two multi-disciplinary research projects that explore how small, egalitarian, agricultural villages became larger, and more economically and politically complex in two parts of the European continent.

A 1913 plan map (near right) of excavations at Szeghalom-Kovácsalom, shows the ancient village as an island. To the far right, a composite map shows results of the team's collections. Red and orange squares indicate larger quantities of ceramic fragments.



MAPS BY PAUL DUFFY

IMAGES (LEFT AND OPPOSITE PAGE, TOP). COURTESY OF WILLIAM PARKINSON



Anything to Declare? Attack of the Invasive Species

By Emily Waldren, Editor

One project, the Körös Regional Archaeological Project, investigates how proto-urban centers formed in the Körös Region of the Great Hungarian Plain in the Carpathian Basin at the end of the Neolithic period, about 5300 BC. The other project, The Diros Project, explores similar questions on the Mani Peninsula of southern Greece. The Diros Project is centered around Alepotrypa Cave (Fox Hole Cave), the site of a large settlement complex that was occupied during the Neolithic period (ca. 5700–3000 BC), until the entrance collapsed, trapping individuals (including children) inside.

By studying these processes over thousands of years, and in much smaller societies, Dr. Parkinson and his colleagues can model these changes from a perspective that lets them examine how and why urban settings evolved over the long-term. Much like the current economic woes we face today, which are difficult to understand while we are in the midst of them, it is easier to examine these social processes with the benefit of hindsight. **ITF**

William A. Parkinson, Assistant Curator of Eurasian Anthropology contributed to this article. For more information about Dr. Parkinson's research see fieldmuseum.org/expeditions/parkinson_expedition/about.html.

BRIDGEPORT RESIDENTS HAD A PROBLEM on their hands last summer, and the problem can be traced to William Shakespeare. No, the residents weren't required to write a city-wide book report; instead, they were faced with a huge number of starlings roosting in a small one-block radius.

So why was the Bard to blame for the problem? In the late 1800s, several Shakespeare enthusiasts wanted to bring every bird mentioned in Shakespeare's plays to the United States. Most of the hundreds of species introduced failed to become established, but starlings, mentioned in Shakespeare's *Henry IV Part 1*, succeeded. About 100 starlings were released in New York in 1890–1891.

By 1950 the birds were living coast-to-coast and today about 200 million starlings make their home in this country.



©iStockphoto.com/DAMIAN KUZDAK

While their surge in population is astonishing, it's been bad for our native birds. European starlings are an invasive species, meaning a non-native plant or animal that has an adverse effect on its environment. While the starlings have thrived, they've pushed out local birds. They outcompete other species that nest in holes, such as bluebirds and flickers. They are an agricultural pest, especially on fruit trees. And because starlings flock together in large groups, they've become an annoyance to people, such as the residents of Bridgeport.

Starlings are not the only species brought to America with the best of intentions. Because of its excellence as a dense hedge plant and its hardiness, buckthorn was



COURTESY OF BILL BURGER

brought to the United States in the mid-19th century to be used as an ornamental shrub by Dr. John Kennicott,

a doctor, botanist and naturalist. Unfortunately, the plant was a little too good at its intended job.

Today, buckthorn not only thrives, it threatens prairies, woodlands, and wetlands in Illinois and a large part of the Midwest. Vast swathes of these hardy invaders can quickly shade out native shrubs and ground layer flora. If not controlled by costly mechanical and chemical removal, buckthorn can destroy our precious natural heritage.

Though a plant or animal might not be considered a threat in its natural habitat, it can become an invasive species in a new environment. The starlings' and buckthorn's incredible adaptation to this country is one reason there are laws banning certain plants and animals from entering the U.S. (and sometimes even crossing state lines). We can all help prevent these scourges by following the legal guidelines for use of these species. **ITF**

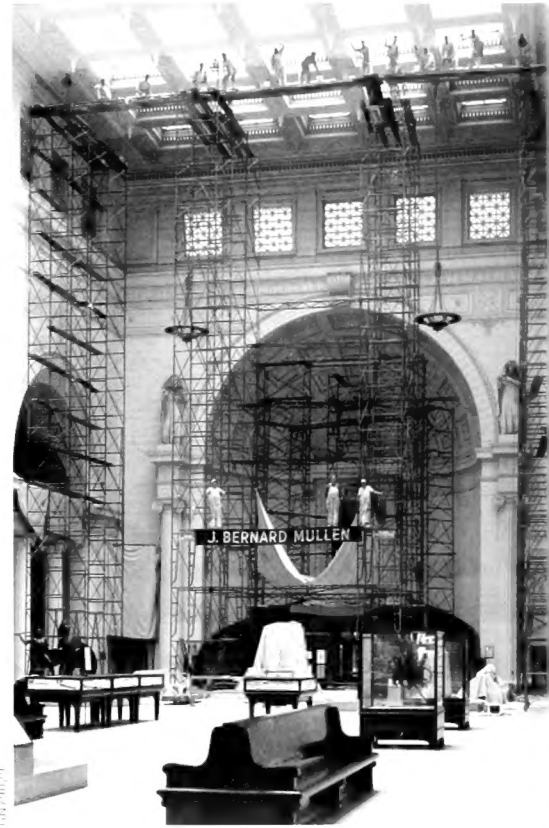
THIS YEAR, THE FIELD MUSEUM IS CELEBRATING its 90th anniversary at our current location.

While the Museum was originally part of the 1893 World Columbian Exposition, we quickly outgrew the space and needed a new home for our collections. Over the last 90 years, Stanley Field Hall has seen a number of exciting changes, celebrities, and events.

Compiled by Nina Cummings, ITF Photo Content Specialist



Lines formed outside the Museum on opening day in the spring of 1921



In the 1950s, the Museum took on the project of cleaning and painting Stanley Field Hall. Scaffolding was constructed to allow access to the ceiling that's over 75 feet high



Stanley Field Hall originally housed artifact cases and a Hippopotamus, seen here in 1929 (above)



In 1977, the Museum opened a King Tutankhamun exhibition, prompting long lines, and even sleepovers outside the Museum, in order to ensure tickets. In four months, the exhibition welcomed over 13 million visitors (left and above).



WINTER/SPRING 2011 January > April

program Calendar

The Field
Museum



IMAGES ARE COURTESY OF THE FIELD MUSEUM

Program Tickets & Info 312.665.7400
General Museum Info 312.922.9410



kicking off the year
with **exciting**
educational programs
for families and adults!

No refunds are permitted for any program. Fees for programs that are cancelled by The Field Museum will be refunded in full.



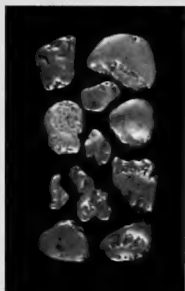
january

Artists and Authors Present* family program
with author & illustrator *Kate Cary*

1.15, 11am-2pm > Meet Kate Cary as she reads from her new book, *IL Animal Alphabet*, and explore some interesting facts about some of the animals that can be found right here in Illinois. You'll also create your very own animal alphabet journal using the animals featured throughout The Field Museum. Books will be available for purchase at this event.

Family Field Day: Gold Rush at the Crown Family PlayLab!* family program

1.15, 11am-2pm > Come lay your claim and pan for treasure alongside your fellow prospectors. Learn all about the properties and history of that soft, yellow, precious metal we call gold.



THE FIELD MUSEUM



THE FIELD MUSEUM

DOZIN' WITH THE DINOS overnight program

for families

January 7, 14, 28; February 4, 11, 18; March 4, 11, 5:45pm-9am > Join SUE the T. rex for a night of family workshops, self-guided tours and fun activities! Then spread your sleeping bag amidst some of our most popular exhibitions. The event includes an evening snack and breakfast in the morning. Prices range from \$51 to \$87.

Tickets for the 2011 season of Dozin' with the Dinosaurs are on sale now! Visit fieldmuseum.org/overnights for pricing and program details.

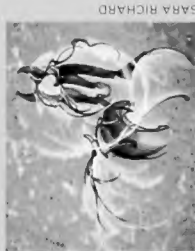
february

Artists and Authors Present* family program
with sculptor & illustrator *Sara Richard*

2.19, 11am-2pm > Sara Richard will lead families through the creative process of illustration by encouraging participants to imagine ways to create a unique vision of the horse.

It will be an exciting opportunity for 2-D and 3-D exploration as families take a blank outline and/or sculpture of a horse and build upon it to construct an imaginative final piece.

Family Field Day: Ride the Carousel* family program
2.19, 11am-2pm > Up and down, round and round, come and ride the carousel! Learn the history of the horse as it relates to art and entertainment. Assemble and decorate your very own cardboard carousel!



SARA RICHARD

What Do You Collect? Your temporary exhibit



Crown Family PlayLab

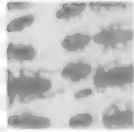
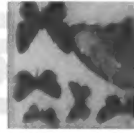
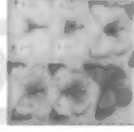


THE FIELD MUSEUM

Collections: What Do You Collect?*

Through February 19 > View special family-focused exhibits that will help you connect your PlayLab explorer to the rest of the museum. These special exhibits feature the collections of our Crown Family PlayLab visitors! People all over the world have collections. Some collect coins, rocks, dolls, and more! Discover what The Field Museum collects, and discover specimens and artifacts collected by families just like yours!

for families



march

Family Field Day: Casting Call* family program

3.19, 11am-2pm > Come learn how to make a 3-D cast of your hand with artist Ian Sherwin. Scientists use field jackets to protect fossils during transportation. Come learn some "tricks of the trade" and use techniques similar to those used by Field Museum scientists when casting fossils.



THE FIELD MUSEUM

april

Family Field Day:

Feathered Friends* family program

4.16, 11am-2pm > Did you know that the cardinal is the official bird of five states, including Illinois? Come and learn what makes this little red bird so popular as you create your very own "good luck" cardinal from craft feathers.



THE FIELD MUSEUM

Banff Mountain Film Festival adult program

4.18, 4.19, 7pm > These internationally acclaimed films celebrate mountain culture and wildlife, build awareness of environmental issues and create opportunities for people to share and find inspiration in mountain experiences, ideas, and challenges.

These visually stunning films vary in topics from a quest for waterfalls throughout Argentina and the United States, to white-water rafting and river-runners, to reliving the journey of legendary extreme sports pioneers on the roads less traveled. Join us as we celebrate the inspiration and beauty in mountain exploration. \$10, \$8 member Two day pass: \$18, \$14 member



WWW.MORQUEFILE.COM

in the Crown Family PlayLab

*FREE with Museum Admission

fieldmuseum.org
event details are available online!



LUNA LIU



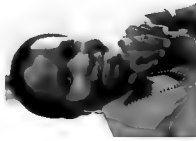
WES SKILES

lectures

National Geographic Live!

A Kenyan Woman's Dream featuring Kakenya Ntaiya, Educator and Community Activist

3.8, 7:30pm > Born into a traditional Maasai family in Kenya, National Geographic Emerging Explorer Kakenya Ntaiya rebelled against tradition and defied her destiny by pursuing an education, eventually attending university in the United States. Learn how she is providing educational opportunities for young girls through a school she has established in her home village—the region's first and only primary school for girls.



SHARON FARMER

This event is brought to you in part by the generous support of The Segal Family Foundation.

National Geographic Live!

Extreme Cave Diving: Exploring the Bahamas' Blue Holes featuring Kenny Broad, Ecological Environmentalist

4.5, 7:30pm > National Geographic Emerging Explorer Kenny Broad, a diver and advocate for freshwater conservation, led a scientific expedition to the dangerous but fascinating flooded caves, or "blue holes" of the Bahamas. Delve into the discoveries Broad is making that have implications for fields as diverse as microbiology, archaeology, and even astrophysics.



MAX WALLACE

Single event tickets are on sale now and begin at \$22; please visit nglive.org/chicago for additional program details or to purchase tickets.

Series Sponsor: Discover

Leakey Lecture: First Out of Africa*

featuring David Lordkipanidze, Anthropologist and Archaeologist

4.9, 1pm > Some of the most controversial issues remaining in paleoanthropology include when and why our ancestors left their motherland and began global colonization. Join us as we discover why the site of Dmanisi, Georgia calls into question whether Homo erectus was the first hominid out of Africa and how the Dmanisi hominid represents the missing link between Africa, Asia and Europe. This program is in partnership with the Leakey Foundation.

Georgian anthropologist and archaeologist David Lordkipanidze is best known for his discovery of 1.8 million year-old human bones at Dmanisi, Georgia in 2007. These bones are thought to be the oldest human remains ever discovered outside of Africa, and evidence of a Eurasian precursor to Homo erectus.



This event is brought to you in part by the generous support of The Segal Family Foundation

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE LEAKEY FOUNDATION

*FREE with Museum Admission



PROGRAMS for TEENS

GET INVOLVED WITH THE FIELD MUSEUM!



Teens @ The Field

Attention all teens! Volunteer at The Field Museum and facilitate hands-on experiences and art activities for families throughout the Museum's exhibitions.

All applications must be received between March 21 and April 4.

Interviews will be held on Saturday, April 9 and Saturday, April 16. Training dates for selected teens will be May 14 and 23. Email teens@fieldmuseum.org to request an application or for more information about the program



Gold
through March 6

The Romance of Ants
through Dec. 31, 2011

Nacimientos: Mexican Nativity Scenes
through Sept. 18

DNA Residency for Students

Chicago-area high school students are invited to apply for a paid opportunity to conduct genetic lab research alongside accomplished Field Museum DNA scientists during a six-week residency next summer.

All participants will be trained in molecular biology laboratory methods and equipment during the first week of their residency. Once trained, teens will form a research team with educators and scientists to contribute to research programs at the Museum. Upon completion of the program, teens will give formal presentations about their residency experiences at a Family Night celebration hosted by the Museum.

Participating teens will receive:

- A stipend
- A CTA pass or parking vouchers
- A one-year family membership to the Museum.

Requirements: Teens must submit a teacher recommendation. Students must also be a Chicago-area high school sophomore or junior, and must be at least 16 years of age upon start of program.

Email dnaprograms@fieldmuseum.org for more information.

now at the museum!

In 1987, we installed "Denny the Dinometer" who was painted purple to track a fundraising campaign for the Museum.



GN88739_A 6C / RON TESTA

SUE's unveiling captured the attention of the world, and led to a visit from President Bill Clinton, and six U.S. senators to the Museum.

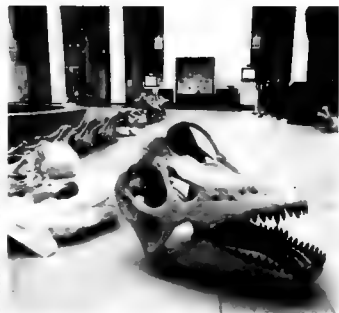


GN69789_34AC / JOHN WEINSTEIN



GN89535_7C / JOHN WEINSTEIN

In 1994, the Brachiosaurus cast was put on display in Stanley Field Hall. In 1999, it was moved to O'Hare International Airport.



GN66609_4C / JOHN WEINSTEIN



GN91365_32D / JOHN WEINSTEIN

2010 marked the 10th anniversary of the unveiling of SUE. In celebration, a "walk around SUE" entertained visitors throughout the summer (above).

Secrets of Collections

By Krystal Villanosa, Communications and Digital Learning Manager and David Willard, Collection Manager of Bird Division

THIS PAST FALL, THE CROWN FAMILY PLAYLAB UNVEILED A NEW PROGRAM entitled *Collections: What Do You Collect?* Through this program, families with young children will get an opportunity to bring their personal collections of rocks, dolls, coins, and more to the Museum to share with others. Selected collections will be displayed as family-friendly temporary exhibitions in the *Crown Family PlayLab*. Why has the Museum decided to engage families and their little explorers in the process of collecting? For the simple reason that people from all over the world collect items that mean something to them and The Field Museum is no different.



The Field Museum has about 25 million specimens and artifacts in its collection—of which less than one percent are on public display—and over 800 new specimens are collected daily. Our unique objects form the core of our exhibitions, education, and research activities. The entire collection is kept on-site under lock and key in storage areas throughout the building. In 2006, the Museum opened its underground Collections Resource Center—a 180,000-square-foot facility that houses approximately two million specimens and artifacts in a climate-controlled environment and provides state-of-the-art space for research.

The Field Museum's collections fill room after room of specimens from all over the world



If you're interested in having your family's collection on display in the Crown Family PlayLab, email playlab@fieldmuseum.org for application materials.

The Museum's specimens and artifacts come from a variety of sources. We have scientists conducting fieldwork in 70 countries on six continents who bring back objects to add to our collection. Universities often donate their collections when they no longer have the staff to study and care for them. In looking at our bird collection specifically, birds that die in zoos, are hit by cars, or crash into glass windows all help to augment the Museum's bird collection and contribute to our research in that area.

We sort and group our collections into four main areas of scientific study: people (anthropology), plants (botany), rocks and fossils (geology), and animals (zoology).

Visitors that come to the Museum will encounter a range of objects from each scientific area. Walk through our public exhibitions halls and you will see everything from aardvarks to Bengal tigers from our zoology collection, and orchids and algae from our botany collection.



COURTESY OF MORGUEFILE.COM

If you come to Members' Night in the spring (May 26 and 27) and go behind the scenes, you might catch a glimpse of Chinese stone lions and life-size bronze sculptures from our anthropology collection as well as billions-of-years-old meteorites and fossilized sea stars from our geology collection.

The Museum's collection comes from all over the globe and is one of the largest and most important natural history and cultural collections in the world. The reach of our objects is not limited to the Museum's employees or its visitors. Faculty, researchers, scientists, graduate students, and artists from across the United States and other countries come to the Museum to do their work. Having hands-on and up-close access to our collection allows them to add details to their work, whether their work is a drawing or a dissertation, which would otherwise be impossible to capture.

Each additional specimen and artifact we add to the collection allows us to ask and answer questions and understand the biological and cultural world in greater detail. If we maintain these collections well and build upon them, they will continue to expand our current knowledge and help those that come after us—our little explorers—to answer questions we haven't even thought to ask. **ITF**



© 2009 M. 0470 / JOHN W. FINESTEIN

Rediscovering The Ancient Americas

By Allison Funk, Writer

WALKING DOWN TODAY'S MODERN STREETS, you might wonder what America looked like before the age of skyscrapers and interstates. What animals roamed the landscape? What did this world look like to ancient peoples?

Covering the span of 13,000 years, *The Ancient Americas* takes you back in time to give you a comprehensive understanding of how people arrived and adapted to what is now North and South America. As Museum members, many of you have already visited this permanent exhibition, but with 19,000 square feet filled with 2,200 artifacts, interactive displays, and informative videos, there is always more to discover about *The Ancient Americas*!

At least 85 percent of what is now Illinois was covered in ice during the last Ice Age; as the ice melted a new land emerged. Discover Chicago as it might have looked 13,000 years ago, as you're immersed in a full-scale animation of mammoths wandering through a snowy landscape of tall spruce trees, swaying grasses, and wetlands.

As you travel forward in time, you'll learn about the hunter-gatherers in the Eastern United States from 2500–500 BC. Through interactive displays that are fun for the entire family, discover how the food innovations of these hunter-gatherers still

influence our diets today. Walk through the full-scale replica of a pueblo dwelling as it would have looked in early settlements of the North American Southwest and experience how people cooked, stored food, and slept. Here, little ones can practice grinding corn with the replica of a stone *metate* the way early pueblo farming villagers did.

The Ancient Americas allows you to walk in the shoes of those who came before you, from hunter-gatherers of the past to today's native peoples. Make sure you visit—and even revisit—this exhibition and uncover the roots of the Americas! **ITF**

The Ancient Americas is made possible by the McCormick Foundation.



© 2009 M. 0040 / JOHN W. FINESTEIN

Native Landscaping Takes Root in Chicago

By Rebecca Schillo, Conservation Ecologist, ECCo

DURING WORLD WAR II, AMERICANS WERE encouraged to grow victory gardens to aid the war effort. Today, while we don't need gardens to support troops, a new type of gardening has proven popular and important—native landscaping. You may have noticed more and more municipalities, businesses, and homeowners are incorporating native plants into their gardens. So what's the buzz really about?



PHOTO: JEFFREY M. HARRIS



PHOTO: JEFFREY M. HARRIS

One of the best things about native plants is that they are low maintenance. Because they've lived in an area for thousands of years, they're well-adapted to local soil and climate conditions. This means little to no watering, fertilization, or mowing. Native plants also provide food and shelter for birds and insects. By planting native plants in yards and parks we can create a network of small sanctuaries for our local animals.

Native plants also store carbon and manage our stormwater. Plants take carbon from the atmosphere and use it to produce stems, leaves, and roots. Many native prairie plants have deep, complex root systems that can reach up to 6 feet below ground, deeper than shallow-rooted plants like turf grass, allowing them to store more carbon. Deep root systems also create many pathways in the soil that allow rainwater to filter into the ground instead to running into the nearest sewer or waterway. This puts less stress on our water-treatment infrastructure, naturally recharges groundwater, and protects our lakes and streams.

Native plants can also establish a sense of place. The Chicago Region has a colorful and fascinating natural history. While you're planning your garden this spring, keep native landscaping in mind. The plants on the opposite page will not only make your garden beautiful, but will also help birds, insects, and the environment as a whole. **ITF**

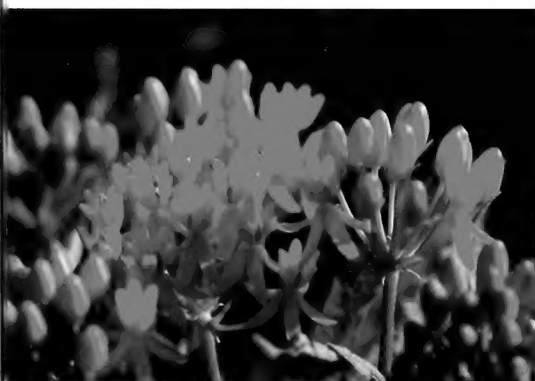


©iStockphoto.com/APAINTER

PRAIRIE SMOKE

(*Geum triflorum*)

Prairie smoke takes its descriptive name from its unusual feathery mauve seed heads that resemble plumes of smoke. A native to our region's dry prairies, prairie smoke's low stature (6–12 inches) and interesting flowers make it a nice addition to a prairie garden, perennial border, or as low-maintenance groundcover.



©iStockphoto.com/EPANTHA

BUTTERFLY MILKWEED

(*Asclepias tuberosa*)

This orange-flowering native perennial is native to Midwestern prairies, barrens, and savannas. The bright color and interesting shape of the flowers draw attention to any home garden. It will grow 1–3 feet in full sun to light shade. As the name suggests, this plant will attract butterflies, hummingbirds, bees, and other insects.



©iStockphoto.com/RIVENNORTHPHOTOGRAPHY

BLACK EYED-SUSAN

(*Rudbeckia hirta*)

Already a favorite landscape plant, Black-eyed Susan's bright yellow button-like flowers make it easy to love. You will find Black-eyed Susan naturally scattered across Midwestern prairies but it also looks great planted in clumps in a garden setting. Not only do these groupings make for a tidy garden, butterflies are attracted to these large color-masses.

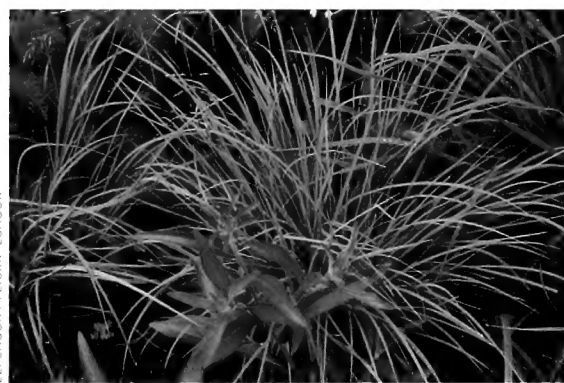


©iStockphoto.com/HNDYKB

JUNEBERRY, SERVICEBERRY

(*Amelanchier arborea*)

Juneberry is a shrub or small tree of inland dunes, savannas, and barrens. The plant's smooth bluish-gray bark, early white spring blooms, and deep red fall color make it a striking shrub for landscaping. Additionally, its fruits provide an excellent food source for birds.



ELLISAGOR / FLICKR ESAGOR

LITTLE BLUESTEM

(*Schizachyrium scoparium*)

This prairie grass is an all-around winner. The plant naturally grows in clumps, making it a well-behaved accent plant for landscape purposes. The plant has a bluish tint in the spring and summer, hence its name, but its fluffy seed heads and reddish hues make it a true fall beauty. The plant prefers well-drained sunny sites.

Witness Climate Change Through the Lens of Teenagers in Portraits of Resilience

By Emily Scherker, Writer

THE FIELD MUSEUM INVITES YOU TO TRAVEL TO DISTANT CORNERS OF THE GLOBE TO DISCOVER THE FRAGILE BEAUTY OF FOUR ISOLATED ARCTIC TOWNS. THESE TOWNS ARE AMONG THE FIRST TO EXPERIENCE THE POWERFUL EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE.

Young teens from these communities have documented these changes to create The Field Museum's newest exhibition, *Portraits of Resilience*, on display through April 3. Through their photographs, you can marvel at the magnificence of: Shishmaref, Alaska; Pangnirtung, Nunavut (Canada); Uummannaq, Greenland; and Nesseby, Norway.

Through spectacular seascapes and landscapes, visitors can see firsthand the beauty of these Arctic towns, which may soon be altered forever by climate change. Teen photographers share, not only the aesthetic splendor of their hometowns, but also the stories of their personal experiences with global warming. Discover poignant and heartwarming tales of adjustment to changes both big and small: from the people of Shishmaref, Alaska, losing their homes because of the ocean coastal erosion, to the story of the hockey team of Pangnirtung, Canada, unable to practice for the winter tournament because the ice rink doesn't freeze in time.

Discover the beauty of these far-off communities and appreciate the interconnectedness of our relationship with their residents as they witness first-hand the effects of climate change. The exhibition demonstrates that climate change ultimately is not an individual, generational, or political issue, but a global one. And these young adults are taking action, through original photography and frank dialogue.

MSV thanks the following organizations for their assistance and support: The Nordic Council of Ministers, and Communities of Shishmaref, Pangnirtung, Uummannaq and Ungårgga/Nesseby, Constant Arts Society, The Embassy of Canada in Denmark, First Air, Government of Nunavut, GoNorth, Land is Life, The Saami Council, and The Uummannaq Polar Institute

The Many Strong Voices programme is coordinated by UNEP/GRID-Arendal and the Center for International Climate and Environmental Research - Oslo (CICERO).

Sponsored by Baker & McKenzie



CHRISTINE GERMANO/UNEP/GRID-ARENDAAL



ANNE LAILA SMUK/UNEP/GRID-ARENDAAL



JEMMA KILABUK/UNEP/GRID-ARENDAAL

In the Spotlight: The Fighting African Elephants

When first entering The Field Museum, most visitors are immediately attracted to *SUE*. But the iconic African elephants who keep her company have an impressive history of their own. Check out these interesting facts about the African elephants' journey to their current home in Stanley Field Hall:

- The African elephants were mounted by the well-known **taxidermist Carl Akeley**, who made his name in 1886 when he mounted P.T. Barnum's famous elephant, Jumbo.
- In 1906, Akeley and **his wife, Delia**, collected the pair of bull elephants in Kenya. Delia Akeley not only accompanied her husband, but took down the larger of these two huge mammals!
- The African elephants have graced Stanley Field Hall since 1921, when they were **transported by rail car** from the Field Columbian Museum in Jackson Park to The Field Museum's current location.

- Since the two are permanently **frozen in battle**, they are sometimes called, "The fighting African elephants." Akeley's studies of living elephants inspired their placement, and their silhouettes were once a part of The Field Museum's icon.
- In 1989, 115 countries **banned the international trade of ivory** to help reduce poaching and conserve remaining African elephant populations. Field Museum scientists work in Africa to document the natural history of elephant habitats, and develop methods for conserving these and other unique African organisms.

always be discovering.

The Field
Museum



ENR090997 002D / JOHRI WEINSTEIN



GNR4630 / HERBERT P. BURTICH

Field Museum Memberships

Time to renew your membership?

Call 312.665.7700 • Mon. – Fri., 8:30am–4:30pm

Visit fieldmuseum.org/membership

Field memberships also make great gifts!

Getting to The Field Museum

Many buses and rail lines provide access to The Field Museum. For more information, call 888.YOURCTA or visit www.transitchicago.com. Visit www.rtachicago.com for regional transit information.

What do you think about In The Field?

For questions about the magazine, call 312.665.7107, email ewaldren@fieldmuseum.org or write Emily Waldren, Editor. For general membership inquiries, including address changes, call 866.312.2781.

**museum
campus** neighbors

ADLER PLANETARIUM

Climb, crawl and fly through **Planet Explorers**, a modern-day space adventure for kids and families. The permanent exhibition lets future space explorers enter a world where they can play and learn what it takes to be part of a mission to outer space. And don't miss **Journey to the Stars**, a new space show that takes visitors on a stunning voyage through space and time to experience the life and death of stars.

Visit www.adlerplanetarium.org for details.

SHEDD AQUARIUM

Shake off the winter blahs with our new penguin encounter program—get face-to-face with one of Shedd's rockhopper or Magellanic penguins. Try the beluga encounter for a one-on-one experience with a beluga whale, or try the Trainer for a Day program, and assist with daily routines, including feeding and training sessions with the marine mammals.

For more information, visit www.sheddaquarium.org, and click on Plan a Visit and Extraordinary Experiences.

Take a Carriage Ride Opening Weekend of The Horse!

IF YOU'RE PLANNING ON SEEING *The Horse*, you don't want to miss opening weekend. To get you into the spirit of the exhibition, the Museum is offering carriage rides to our visitors on **Saturday, Feb. 19** and **Sunday, Feb. 20** from **10am to 3pm**. Horse-drawn carriages from Chicago's Noble Horse Theatre will be at the Museum's south entrance and will give visitors rides around the Museum Campus. Don't miss your chance to get up close and personal to these beautiful animals.



GN91442_054D / KAREN BEAN



GN91442_024D / KAREN BEAN

Round Up Some Horse Mementos

AFTER EXPLORING THE RICH RELATIONSHIP between horses and humans, visit the exhibition Store—we've shopped around the world to bring you cultural treasures like this impressive hand-carved one-of-a-kind stallion by Oaxacan artist Elivis Castillo. You'll find jewelry from the four corners of the globe, toys to excite your little ones, a trove of books for the whole family, and so much more. As always, you can shop 24 hours a day at fieldmuseum.org/store.

All proceeds from the Stores directly support the Museum's public and scientific programs, and all Field Museum members receive 10 percent off their purchases in the Museum Stores.



LINDSAY KREMENAK