Dressing the Part: Costume Design at the Old Globe

IMLS Grant Improves Access to Historic American Indian Collection

New Exhibition Celebrates Early 20th-Century Artists

Facebook Fan Day

Event Calendar

Interactive Exhibition to Feature Old Globe Costumes

Dressing the Part: Costume Design at the Old Globe celebrates one of the great costume collections in San Diego, and presents one of the first hands-on, interactive exhibitions at San Diego History Center.

This collaborative exhibition emphasizes the process involved in moving costumes from concept to stage, and will offer visitors special access to the Old Globe and the team of professionals who create and care for the thousands of costumes and props. Visitors will also have the unique opportunity to try on Old Globe costumes including the Who children’s costume from “Dr. Seuss’ How the Grinch Stole Christmas!” and King Lear’s cloak from “King Lear.”

Dressing the Part will use technology to give the visitor behind-the-scenes access to a costume being sketched, patterned, fabricated, fitted, and finally on stage. Visitors will also get to experience how a costume transforms an actor into the character. The exhibition includes a small stage that is theatrically lit by the Old Globe team and when visitors step on stage the house lights dim, stage lights engage, and the house begins to applaud.

Honorary Chairs Karen Cohn, Sheryl White and the Costume Council of San Diego History Center will host a gala opening celebration. Proceeds from this event will support the exhibition. The costume optional event will be held on Thursday, October 14, 2010 and tickets are available now at www.sandiegohistory.org.

• Christianne Penunuri, Public Relations
History Center Turns Attention to Making its Priceless Collections More Accessible

Recent grants received from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Institute of Museum and Library Services are being used to enhance public access to two important collections of photographs: the works of Norman Baynard and Edward Davis.

Now we are setting our sights on making our document archives better known and easier to use. San Diego History Center Library houses hundreds of archival collections that document the history and evolution of America’s ninth largest city as well as the surrounding areas, including Baja California. Unfortunately, the vast majority of those collections are virtually unknown to the general public and scholars because we have not had sufficient staff to properly arrange and describe the materials. To help remedy this situation, we recently submitted a proposal to the Center for Library and Information Resources requesting funding to help us enhance access to 133 collections and to place finding aids for those 133 collections on our website. The materials involved date mostly from the 19th and 20th centuries. Included are collections relating to: Spanish- and Mexican-era land grants; four different filibustering expeditions into Mexico; the E.W. Morse papers 1856-1889 documenting that prominent businessman’s involvement in railroads, aqueduct projects, and mining in Baja California; the Women’s Christian Temperance Union 1866-1960; Richard Stephens’ railroad surveys and other civil engineering projects in Baja California 1885-1915; Edward Fletcher’s water supply projects 1895-1920; distinguished individual women ranging from artist Alice Klauber, who was chair of the Art Department of San Diego’s 1915 Panama-California Exposition, to Charlotte Baker (collection dates 1882-1933), San Diego’s first female physician, noted suffragist, and organizer of the local YWCA; the executive committee of the Panama-California Exposition 1909-1919; the Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom 1922-1985, which supported agricultural strikes in the Imperial Valley during the 1930s as well as the United Farm Workers decades later; and the Trask Family and their relationship with 21 Chinese engineers detailed to a San Diego aircraft plant during WWII to strengthen China’s technical capabilities. Assuming it is funded, the archival access project will be just one of many similar initiatives we hope to undertake in the years to come so that our rich library and museum collections can be better utilized for research and exhibition purposes.

Best wishes,

David M. Kahn, Executive Director
**IMLS Grant Funds Provide Access to Historic American Indian Collection**

San Diego History Center is proud to announce the receipt of a $133,829 grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) to digitize, catalog and make web-accessible 7,118 images (photos and drawings) that document the lives of American Indians from 1903 through the 1940s. The collection is the work of Edward H. Davis (1862-1951) and was donated to the History Center in the 1980s by Davis’ family.

Grant funding will offset costs to hire staff to catalog and scan the images as well as to work with the Indian Community to help identify individuals, ceremonies, places and artifacts that appear in the Davis images. Further, a group of scholars will consult on the project to advance knowledge of Indian traditions and culture. The History Center will partner with Balboa Park Online Collaborative which will assume responsibility for some of the technical aspects of the project including website construction and facilitating social tagging of the catalogued records.

Davis documented, photographed, studied, and wrote about Indian tribes primarily in San Diego but also throughout the Southwest. His work recorded the same communities over time and captured his subjects in situ. No other photographer captured the daily lives of local tribes during the early 1900s in such an intimate and comprehensive manner.

Scholars close to this project have suggested that once properly catalogued the Davis materials will shed new light on Indian culture ranging from economics to Indian astronomy to cultural adaptation. Further, enhanced access to the collection will allow present-day Indians to gain details of their cultural heritage that few other sources can provide.

- Christianne Penunuri, Public Relations
Ways to Engage at San Diego History Center

The quality of the exhibitions at San Diego History Center is dependent on our members and other philanthropists. Make a difference this year by becoming a member or contributing funds to keep the museum’s programs, exhibitions and collections alive and thriving.

By joining our “museum family” you will allow the History Center to continue to inspire a large and diverse audience with links to the past, an understanding of the present and looking into the future for our community now and for generations to come.

Menu Items

Membership For those who are already members, we thank you! With your membership you can experience the exhibitions, programs, research opportunities and events all year long. Beginning this year we will have Saturday morning receptions for new and renewing members. The first of these quarterly receptions will be November 20. Come join us for a light breakfast and a guided tour. Invitations will be sent soon.

Donation Did you know that membership dues only account for a small portion of our income? In order to maintain our programs, collections and exhibitions we must rely on your donations. We have great news! An anonymous donor has given us a $250,000 challenge grant of which we are close to reaching our goal. Any donation made will be matched dollar for dollar. Please help us make this challenge a success. Also, don’t forget about matching funds from your employer!

Corporate Partnership We love connecting with corporations interested in giving back to their community. Sponsorship benefits are customized to fit the needs of the corporate member and allows the corporation to extend good will and partner in a tax deductible way.

Heritage Circle What will your legacy be? Heritage Circle honors individuals who have included us in their estate plan or have made a direct contribution to our endowment fund. These funds support the History Center’s mission in perpetuity. There are many ways to make a planned gift. Please call Christine Deardorff for more information.

Events San Diego History Center’s gala will honor History Maker Sol Price on March 26, 2011. And don’t forget about the opening celebration of Dressing the Part on October 14.

For more detailed information on the list above please contact:
(619) 232-6203 or development@sandiegohistory.org
Christine Deardorff, Director of Development, ext. 148
Jessica Schmidt, Development and Donor Relations Associate, ext. 102
* Christine Deardorff, Director of Development
Remembering Art Peinado

San Diego History Center is sad to announce the loss of a supporter and member, Art Peinado. A long time Point Loma resident, Art practiced law in San Diego for 38 years. He served as Past President of the Collectors Club, San Diego Museum of Man, and was serving as a Board Trustee at San Diego History Center at the time of his death. SDHC would like to thank the Peinado family for asking that gifts be made to the History Center in memory of Art.
Contributions to San Diego History Center

San Diego History Center gratefully acknowledges the following organizations and individuals for their support. Gifts and memberships are from the 2010 Fiscal Year (July 2009 to June 2010).

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New Exhibition Celebrates Early 20th-Century Artists

Creating an Artistic Basis features 36 oil paintings from San Diego History Center’s permanent fine art collection.

Diverse in style and subject matter, this exhibition features a collection of selected works from four unique artist groups, all of which undoubtedly helped shape San Diego’s artistic identity during the first half of the 20th century.

At the turn of the 20th century, San Diego continued to experience tremendous growth. This development, further supported by international attention from the 1915 and 1935 Expositions, helped to encourage the makings of a legitimate cultural movement within the region. Artists were often influenced by religious philosophies, the diverse topography of the area, prominent local citizens, and government-sponsored programs. Local schools of thought began to surface, and through their continued efforts, these groups helped to establish a well regarded reputation and created a foundation for other local artists from which to build.

• Nicholas V. Vega, Director of Exhibitions

Call For Docents

Do you like working with children?

San Diego History Center is currently accepting applications for a new class of volunteer docents to guide school groups through its museums in Balboa Park and Presidio Park. Docents play a vital role in offering student visitors a memorable experience at our museums and form an essential part of the Education Department. By facilitating interactive tours, docents spark students’ imaginations, stimulate their curiosity, and make history come alive! No experience needed, and full training will be provided.

To apply, or for further information, please contact:
Marinta Skupin
(619) 232-6203 ext. 128
marinta.skupin@sandiegohistory.org

• Marinta Skupin, Director of Education

History Store News

Decoupage has a long history that can be traced back to many countries. Over the centuries, it boasts many famous practitioners including Marie Antoinette, Lord Byron, Matisse and Picasso, and more recently, The History Store. Designer Paul Silvera brings our collection of historic ephemera to life and into your home. Come visit The History Store and see our new collection of historic San Diego decoupage glass trays.

Facebook Fan Day

Are you following us on Facebook?

We’re posting daily and featuring “This Day in San Diego History” as well as history trivia, special articles and photos. Facebook is just one of the new ways San Diego History Center is sharing our vast historical resources with the community and we want you to join us! You can stay connected to what’s happening at the History Center with updates about exhibitions, collections and programs.

We are excited to launch our Facebook Free Admission Day Challenge from now until October 31, 2010. Ask your friends to “Like” San Diego History Center and when we reach our goal of 2,000 fans, we’ll have a FREE ADMISSION DAY for our Facebook fans. You and your friends can be a part of our online community so join us today!

More information is at www.facebook.com/sandiegohistorycenter.

• Gabe Selak,
  Public Programs Manager
### Events That Go Down in History

San Diego History Center and the Serra Museum are two of San Diego’s best locations to host elegant wedding ceremonies and receptions. The Special Events department has boasted phenomenal growth this year, doubling site rentals from 2009 to 2010. Congratulations to all our wonderful couples who celebrated their special day with us! To book your special event, email events@sandiegohistory.org.

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<td>Park-wide Halloween Family Day</td>
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For more information about our events or to make a reservation, call (619) 232-6203 ext. 129 or visit us online at [www.sandiegohistory.org/calendar](http://www.sandiegohistory.org/calendar). All locations are San Diego History Center in Balboa Park unless otherwise noted. Programs are subject to change or cancellation.