

Killer Whale Mask, 1990, Git'san (Chief
Walter Harris, Tsimshian, 1931–2009),
Wood, ermine fur, animal fur, paint,
Anonymous lender.



McCLUNG MUSEUM
of Natural History and Culture

QUARTERLY

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Letter from the Director



In this climate of continuing threats to arts and cultural funding, I would like to share a statement distributed to attendees at an American Alliance of Museums meeting: “Museums are pillars of healthy communities, inspire us and enrich our lives, and contribute powerfully to creating a more enlightened and empathetic society. Museums play a critical role in affirming cultural diversity and fostering inclusion. There are over 850 million visits to American museums per year—more than attendees of all major sporting events and theme parks combined. Museums directly contribute more than \$21 billion to the national economy. Four hundred thousand people nationwide are employed by museums. Museums invest more than \$2 billion a year in education.”

As we enter another fiscal year, I am confident that with your support, our successful programs, research, and increased visibility will continue to positively impact the University of Tennessee, the community, and the nation.

Jefferson Chapman, Director

Special Exhibition: *Northwest Coast Art: A Community of Tradition*

For hundreds of years, Northwest Coast Indians, including the Coast Salish, Haida, Kwakwaka'wakw, Makah, Nuu-chah-nulth, and Tlingit peoples represented in this exhibition, have made art expressing their cultural norms and values with precision, clarity, and artistic exuberance. Using indigenous and trade materials obtained in their homes along the coast of Oregon and north to Alaska, Northwest Coast peoples mark elaborate ceremonial life, social rank, and prestige through their objects and art.

This exhibition explores Northwest Coast art through more than 60 objects made by known and unknown artists, representing traditional and modern forms of cultural expression. From model totem poles and bentwood boxes, to masks, spoons, prints, and silver bracelets, these objects were created for different purposes—utilitarian, decorative, and ceremonial. What all of them share in common is the desire to preserve and perpetuate Northwest Coast cultural heritage and community.

Contemporary Northwest Coast Indian artists continue these traditions. They form a community that collectively links their artistic expression to modern-day Indian communities.

Gerald F. Schroedl, professor emeritus of the University of Tennessee Department of Anthropology, curated the exhibition. Exhibition support is provided by UT's Ready for the World, Aramark, and Sherry Kirkland Rayson.

Find more information about exhibition-related programming and special events at tiny.utk.edu/nwcoast.



Raven's True Love, 2015, Maynard Johnny Jr. (Coast Salish and Kwakwaka'wakw, 1973–), Serigraph, Edition of 100, courtesy of Steinbrueck Gallery.

Assistant Director and Curator Cat Shteynberg (R) and Curatorial Intern Riley Kliethermes (L) consider an opium pipe for inclusion in the upcoming exhibition *Pick Your Poison: Intoxicating Pleasures & Medical Prescriptions*.



Your Money Brings Innovative Exhibitions to McClung

Your support helps bring our own collections to light and underwrites important traveling exhibitions from major US museums.

Learn more at tiny.utk.edu/mcclunggiving.

Research at McClung



Japanese Researchers Visit Malacology Collections for Upcoming Book Project

On April 20, Gerry Dinkins, curator of natural history and malacology, met with Eriko Morishita Rossano of the Institute of Freshwater Biology in Osaka, Japan. Rossano was accompanied by Ikuko Morishita and Shuichi Ikebuchi.

Together, the trio from Japan traveled from the Northwestern United States to the Knoxville to interview Dinkins in preparation for a book Rossano and her colleagues are writing in Japanese on the Mississippi River. They were particularly interested in learning about the high biodiversity of mussel species in the Tennessee River drainage, which will be featured in their book.

Dinkins provided the group with a tour of the McClung mollusk collection so they could photograph and examine selected species of freshwater mussel specimens, and he provided logistical help so the group of Japanese scholars could visit several local rivers to observe freshwater mussels in their natural environments. Dinkins also coordinated a tour of the new state mussel hatchery in Middle Tennessee operated by the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency.

The McClung's malacology collections continue to be an important resource for regional and international researchers interested in river health and biodiversity.

New Acquisition: *(American eagle; flying near ground)*

The museum recently acquired one of Eadweard Muybridge's photographs from his Animal Locomotion series, *(American eagle; flying near ground)*.

Muybridge (British, 1830–1904) is known for pioneering studies in photography. In the 1880s, he produced more than 100,000 images of humans and animals in motion. By improving the shutter speed on his camera, the artist was able to produce freeze frames revealing separate movements—such as that of a horse's four feet off the ground while trotting—not otherwise distinguishable by the human eye. This work is understood to be the precursor to the modern motion picture and changed public attitudes towards animal physiology and movement.

The photograph was purchased in honor of the museum's upcoming 2019–20 exhibition, *Science in Motion: The Photographic Studies of Eadweard Muybridge, Harold Edgerton, and Berenice Abbott*. The exhibition, which comes to the museum from Bank of America, offers a rich and extensive view of the scientific studies done by three of photography's greats. Though Edgerton, Muybridge, and Abbott arrived at the nexus of photography and science in different ways, they revealed to us that which was previously unseen.



(American eagle; flying near ground), 1887, Eadweard Muybridge, plate number 770 from Animal Locomotion series, museum purchase with the Rynning Museum Fund, 2017.2.4.

Community Engagement

Museum Wins Grant to Reach Out to Lonsdale Community

The McClung will host educational programs in Spanish for families from Lonsdale Elementary School starting this fall. The school serves a significant number of first-generation Hispanic children. *¡Vamos al museo!* will offer shared learning experiences for families in their native language and promote the museum as an accessible and welcoming space. Thanks to a grant by the Cornerstone Foundation of Knoxville, the program will subsidize the cost of transportation, didactic materials, and part-time education staff contributing to this project. This grant will fund four sessions during the next academic year. *¡Muchas gracias!*



Museum to Host Panel of Female Scientists

In connection to the statewide Tennessee STEAM Festival, the McClung Museum will host a panel of local female scientists on October 15. The festival is a celebration of science, technology, engineering, art, and math (STEAM), and the panel will bring together female representatives to share their experience in these fields. The program specifically targets high school seniors and undergraduate women considering advancing their academic paths. The goal is to promote the diversity of career options within the STEAM branches and highlight the support available through mentorships and professional networks. More information is available at tennesseesteamfestival.org.

Alliance of Women Philanthropists Supports Academic Programs

UT's Alliance of Women Philanthropists provided the museum's academic programs department with a \$4,000 grant at their February 24 symposium. Grant funds will be used to provide support for the museum's recent collaboration with UT's School of Nursing.

The goal of this collaboration is to sharpen student observation, diagnostic, and communication skills by implementing visual analysis skills used in art and art history. Workshops teach nursing students to slow down and focus, improving their diagnostic acumen by encouraging them to observe and articulate fully before making a conclusion about what they see, making them better clinicians.



In the Spotlight

Please welcome Adriane Tafoya as the McClung Museum's new registrar and collections manager.

Tafoya comes to the McClung from the Computer History Museum in Silicon Valley and brings more than a decade of experience in registrarial and collections manager positions at some of the nation's foremost arts and culture museums, including the Oakland Museum of California; the Phoebe Hearst Museum of Anthropology at the University of California, Berkeley; the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, de Young, and Legion of Honor; and the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art.

Tafoya holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in art history from California State University, Chico, and a Master of Arts in museum studies from John F. Kennedy University in Berkeley, California. She serves as an advisory committee member for the California Indian Heritage Center.

BECOME A DOCENT at McClung Museum!



For more information, visit: tiny.utk.edu/mcclungdocent

New Membership Levels

Student: \$15
Individual: \$30
Couple/Family: \$50
Contributing: \$100
Sustaining: \$250
Supporting: \$500

Director's Circle:
Patron: \$1,000
Benefactor: \$2,500
Grand Benefactor:
\$5,000

New benefits for Director's Circle-level members include event rental discounts, individual membership for a friend or family member, and invitations to exclusive Director's Circle events. For more details or to join, visit mcclungmuseum.utk.edu/membership.

People and Events



A.



B.

A. Civil War Bus Tour. Attendees of April's Civil War Bus Tour listen as McClung Civil War Curator Joan Markel points out Civil War landmarks.

B. Fish Forks & Fine Furnishings Exhibition Opening. Museum graphic design intern and UT graduate student Paris Whalon stands alongside one of the graphics she designed for the exhibition.



C.

C. K-12 Teacher Workshop. K-12 teachers attend a workshop on ancient Egypt at the museum.

D. Day of Clay Family Fun Day. A young visitor engages with Knoxville artist Daniel Huxtable as he demonstrates a pottery wheel.



D.



E.

E. McClung Summer Camp. Two- and three-year-olds gather with their caregivers for circle time during the museum's June Jurassic Kids camp.

Back to School at the Museum Store



The McClung Museum Store has been busy this summer bringing in new work by a variety of regional artists and searching for beautiful new merchandise with affordable prices.

Start out your school year (and football season) by stopping by the store to check out everything from football tailgating supplies to unique artisan items celebrating Vol pride, such as photographs by local artist, Brian McDaniel. (McDaniel's work, *Blueberry at UT*, 2015, pictured at left).



BIG ORANGE. BIG IDEAS.

**McClung Museum of
Natural History & Culture**

1327 Circle Park Drive
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mcclungmuseum.utk.edu

Event Calendar

August

- 8/4: First Friday Open House
- 8/14: Stroller Tour: Once Upon a Time...
- 8/17: All That Glitters, Gilded Age Cocktail Party
- 8/21–8/31: Museum Store Summer Sale
- 8/26: Family Fun Day: Storytelling Extravaganza

September

- 9/7: Members Opening: *Northwest Coast Art*
- 9/12: Lecture on Native American Rhetoric, Lisa King, English Department
- 9/16: Family Fun Day: Northwest Coast Art
- 9/18: Stroller Tour: Toddlers and Totems
- 9/26: Grade 5–12 Teacher Workshop: Civil War and Mapping Technologies

October

- 10/15: Can You Dig It? Archaeology and Fossil Day
- 10/23: Stroller Tour: Chomp, Chomp!

Upcoming Museum Closures

A reminder that the museum will be closed Monday, September 4, for Labor Day.

SAVE
THE
DATE:

**Archaeology/
Fossil ID Day is
October 15**

Visitors can bring artifacts, rocks, and fossils for identification by our experts.