

An abstract Northwest Coast art serigraph by Maynard Johnny Jr. The artwork features bold, stylized forms in black, grey, white, and ochre. A large, dark, curved shape dominates the right side, while a sharp, pointed form extends from the center towards the bottom right. The background is a mix of these colors, creating a dynamic, layered effect.

McCLUNG MUSEUM
of Natural History and Culture

QUARTERLY

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Northwest Coast Art: A Community of Tradition remains open until March 4, 2018. *Raven's True Love*, 2015, Maynard Johnny Jr. (Coast Salish, Kwakwaka'wakw, b. 1973), Serigraph on paper, Lent by Steinbrueck Native Gallery.

Letter from the Director



We continue to be excited about our acquisition of the female statue from the Sellars archaeological site in Wilson County and the display with her male counterpart, the Tennessee State Artifact. Thank you again to those who made the acquisition of this national treasure possible. Please join us for a November 3 Homecoming reception in honor of their reunion.

Significant research continues at the museum. Maria Smith is investigating the apparent absence of tuberculosis in the late prehistoric Native American populations in East Tennessee. Research such as this illustrates the importance of museum collections for the generation of data that can have implications for living populations today.

Thanks to Chancellor Beverly Davenport, I am pleased to announce the full-time position of curator of natural history and malacology has been established, and Gerald Dinkins will continue in this role.

Finally, thank you to our supporters. Private money provides 43 percent of our operating budget, enabling quality exhibitions, educational programming, acquisitions, and collections care.

Jefferson Chapman, Director

Artist Profile: Maynard Johnny Jr.

Special exhibition, *Northwest Coast Art: A Community of Tradition*, is on view through March 4, 2018. A key focus of the exhibition is how contemporary artists maintain and honor the artistic traditions of their ancestors while incorporating new ideas and materials in their works.


An interesting example of this is the Northwest Coast artistic tradition of printmaking. While printmaking is a relatively modern innovation dating to the 1950s, there is a long tradition of flattening, reorienting, and/or enlarging decorations found on carved boxes, totem poles, hats, or textiles. In other instances, traditional themes, stories, or relationships are configured in wholly novel arrangements as in Maynard Johnny Jr.'s *Raven's True Love* print featured on this issue's cover.

Primarily a self-taught artist, Johnny (Kwakwaka'wakw and Coast Salish, b. 1973) has been creating art since his teens. He is a descendant of both the Kwakwaka'wakw and Coast Salish Nations and calls upon this to produce a unique blend of traditions in his prints. He has been inspired by many late Northwest Coast artists such as Robert Davidson, Mark Henderson, and Art Thompson.

Johnny works principally within the printmaking medium, though he creates designs in silver and gold as well. Utilizing modern and contemporary media, he depicts traditional stories that capture local knowledge and the complexity of nature.

He elaborates, "I had the privilege of learning stories from my elders, stories that have been with my people for thousands of years. These stories have become an essential of my art, an intimate portrayal of who I am and where I come from."



A woman with brown hair, wearing a grey lab coat over a white shirt and blue nitrile gloves, is carefully examining a small, white ceramic vessel with a blue geometric pattern. She is holding the vessel with both hands. The background shows a metal shelving unit filled with various items, including boxes, bags, and a red tray. The setting appears to be an archaeology lab or storage room.

Recent anthropology MA student Erika Lyle completed research as part of her graduate assistantship in the Archaeology Lab during her studies at UT.

Private Support Provides for 12 Student Assistants Each Year

Student assistants receive hands-on training in archaeological research, collections management, and public engagement that they cannot obtain in the classroom.

Learn more about how you can support the museum at tiny.utk.edu/mcclunggiving.

Research at McClung

The museum was recently contacted by Jon Marcoux, assistant professor of cultural and historic preservation at Salve Regina University in Rhode Island, regarding the discovery of a late 1500s or early 1600s German glass button from the Hiwassee Island site in Meigs County, Tennessee. The button was recovered by the University of Tennessee in the late 1930s from a child's grave along with thousands of Venetian glass beads, but the button's origin was unknown at that time. Marcoux was familiar with this button from his previous research on glass trade beads in the archaeology collections at the McClung.

From the 1400s to the early 1800s, German glass buttons were made from Proterobas, a greenish igneous rock found in northeastern Bavaria. The front was typically decorated in a floral pattern—six white lines represent the flower petals and the yellow dots are the flower's anther, the source of yellow pollen. How historic Native Americans on Hiwassee Island interpreted this decoration is unknown. To them, it may have simply represented a flower, but it may have symbolized white moonbeams with yellow stars. The lunar cycles were used to track the seasons and establish a ritual calendar. The stars of the Milky Way were a pathway to the afterlife. By placing this button in a grave, it may have helped the soul pass into the next world.

The exact story of how this button traveled from Germany to the Hiwassee Island site is still a mystery, but amazing nonetheless. While similar buttons had been identified in the Chesapeake Bay area of Maryland and Virginia, they have never been found in Tennessee or west of the Appalachian mountains. A single button can connect cultures that are a world apart.



Lady of the Fitzwilliam Family, attributed to John Betts, c. 1540–1545. Courtesy of Sir Philip Naylor-Leyland and Milton (Peterborough Estates). Glass button shown inset found at Burle's Town Land site, c. 1660, and identical to the button found at Hiwassee.

New Acquisition: A Group of 17th–18th Century Botanicals

The museum recently acquired a gift of nine 17th–18th century botanicals from Jeffery M. Leving of Chicago. Several are currently on exhibition in the lobby print case.

Eight of the works from the gift are by Basil Besler (German, 1561–1629) from his first (1613) and second (1640) editions of *Hortus Eystettensis* (*The Garden of Eichstätt*). Besler's depictions of plants from the garden of the bishop of Eichstätt in Bavaria was an incredible development in the field of natural history illustration. Previous botanicals were often done in a crude manner and were limited to depictions of medicinal and culinary plants. Besler's work ushered in an era of artistic and scientifically accurate depictions of plants. He employed a team of illustrators and engravers who helped him produce life-size, hand-colored, and detailed depictions of garden flowers, exotic plants, and vegetables.

The final work in the gift is a mid-18th century engraving by N. F. Eisenberger after Elizabeth Blackwell, from the German edition of her groundbreaking work *A Curious Herbal*, originally published in London, 1737–39. Blackwell (British, c. 1707–74) was the artist and engraver for the publication. The *Curious Herbal* was acclaimed for its detailed and accurate illustrations of many newly discovered plants and its contribution to medical knowledge. It is one of the earliest botanical books compiled by a woman, and Blackwell was one of the first women to achieve fame as a natural history illustrator.



Staphylo dendron, 1613, Basil Besler (German, 1561–1629). Hand-colored copperplate engraving, from *Hortus Eystettensis* (*Garden of Eichstätt*), Nuremberg, first edition, Gift of Jeffery M. Leving, 2017.2.2.

Community Engagement

Partnership with Center for Children's and Young Adult Literature

August's family day featured a story-time extravaganza in the galleries. In partnership with the university's Center for Children's and Young Adult Literature (CCYAL), the museum offered an opportunity for visitors to experience the collections through the lens of children's literature.

Families enjoyed craft activities, balloon animals, a face-painting booth run by local artist Terina Gillette, and story time led by UT graduate students. This program is part of a continuing collaboration with CCYAL to underscore the power of words and museum objects to communicate personal and cultural narratives.



Museum Continues Effort to Build Volunteer Corps

Leslie Chang Jantz, curator of education, opened the Klepser Seminar Series at the Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences (EPS) with her talk "Inspiring Future Generations: The Role of Specialized Volunteers at the McClung Museum." The talk encouraged EPS student volunteers to work with K-12 groups touring the museum. Student volunteers, with their unique backgrounds and academic training, facilitate connections between the collection and its scientific content for young visitors. Moreover, their presence and example can inspire young children to pursue scientific endeavors long after they have left the museum.

Museum Collaborates to Guide Freshman Seminar on the Holocaust

Academic Programs at the museum worked with Helene Sinnreich, associate professor in the Department of Religious Studies, on her first-year seminar, "Monkey at the Museum: Curious George and the Holocaust." The class looks at World War II through the lens of Hans and Margret Rey, German-born Jews who fled from Paris by bicycle in 1940 as Nazis prepared to invade, carrying the manuscript of what would become the famous book *Curious George*.

Students visited the museum three times to learn about exhibition design and label writing and to explore objects associated with World War II, African colonialism, and Nazi Germany. The class culminated in a mini-exhibition installed at the University Libraries.

Generous donations from museum members like you support this kind of interdisciplinary and experiential object-based learning.



McCarthy examines dog skeletal remains from the museum's archaeological collections.

In the Spotlight: Donna McCarthy

Donna McCarthy, the museum's postdoctoral fellow in physical anthropology, has worked for the museum in various positions since 2012. She started her work as a collections volunteer, helping to recatalog and renumber thousands of objects.

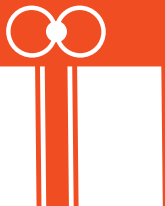
McCarthy took an interest in the museum's decorative arts collections, researching our more than 2,000-object pitcher collection and writing the online publication, *The Hensley Pitchers...An introduction to the collection of late 19th-early 20th century pitchers at the McClung*. McCarthy says, "Working in the museum over the last five-and-a-half years, I've realized how much I enjoy research—even outside my chosen field—and how I can still learn something new every day."

Much of her work is on our extensive archaeology collections. McCarthy researched the use of the bioarchaeology collections, compiling detailed reports, and is now analyzing skeletal material using field notes and maps to address issues of burial commingling, while collecting standardized data for future research.

	<p>HANDMADE WARES</p>		<p>STOCKING STUFFERS</p>	
<p>Museum Store <i>Holiday Sale</i> DECEMBER 1-23, 2017</p> <p>Gifts that Give Back: Give a gift that helps support free K-12 educational programming.</p>		<p>GAMES AND TOYS</p>		<p>ARTISAN JEWELRY</p>
	<p>HOLIDAY DECOR</p>		<p>UNIQUE GIFT ITEMS</p>	

Museum Member Holiday Shopping Event

Tuesday, December 12, 2017, 9 a.m-5 p.m.



Enjoy your holiday shopping with a complimentary beverage, shopping assistance, and free gift wrap with purchase in Museum Store. Members always receive 10 percent off!



People and Events

A. ¡Vamos al museo! Participants in the inaugural Spanish program at the McClung Museum gather at Lonsdale Elementary before the excursion.

B. Northwest Coast Art Exhibition Opening. Marketing manager and exhibition supporter Courtney Potts of First Tennessee Bank views a bentwood box on display.

C. Can You Dig It? Archaeology & Fossil Day. More than 500 visitors participated in activities and research demonstrations, including mini archaeological “dig boxes.”

D. Eclipse at McClung. Young visitors and community members joined the museum for special activities for August’s great solar eclipse.

E. All That Glitters Cocktail Party. Museum members and guests enjoy cocktails by Libacious Cocktail Catering at the Gilded Age-themed event.



THANK YOU

During this season of Thanksgiving, we would like to take a moment to thank each of you for your generous support throughout the year.





BIG ORANGE. BIG IDEAS.

**McClung Museum of
Natural History & Culture**

1327 Circle Park Drive
Knoxville, TN 37996

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Event Calendar

November

11/1-11/30: Toys for Tots Gift Drive
11/3: Homecoming Celebration at McClung Museum
11/11: Family Fun Day: Celebrate Native American Heritage
11/13: Stroller Tour: Harvest Time

December

12/1-12/23: Museum Store Holiday Sale
12/2: Family Fun Day: A Global Community
12/2: Geology Bus Tour, alumni.utk.edu/geotour
12/11: Stroller Tour: Row Your Boat
12/12: Member Appreciation Holiday Shopping Event

January

1/20: Family Fun Day: Curtain Call
1/22: Stroller Tour: The Wild West

Upcoming Museum Closures

A reminder that the museum will be closed
on Thanksgiving Day, December 24–25, and
January 1.

Shop at Kroger and Help Raise Money for McClung Museum!

Enroll today—it's easy!
Visit krogercommunityrewards.com.



All qualified applicants will receive equal consideration for employment and admissions without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, pregnancy, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, physical or mental disability, genetic information, veteran status, and parental status. In accordance with the requirements of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, The University of Tennessee affirmatively states that it does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, or disability in its education programs and activities, and this policy extends to employment by the University. Inquiries and charges of violation of Title VI (race, color, and national origin), Title IX (sex), Section 504 (disability), ADA (disability), Age Discrimination in Employment Act (age), sexual orientation, or veteran status should be directed to the Office of Equity and Diversity (OED), 1840 Melrose Avenue, Knoxville, TN 37996-3560, telephone (865)974-2498. Requests for accommodation of a disability should be directed to the ADA Coordinator at the Office of Equity and Diversity. A project of the McClung Museum of Natural History and Culture with assistance from the UT Office of Communications and Marketing. PAN E01-1006-053-002-17. Job 328897.