





# Letter from the Director



I am honored for the opportunity to become the first Jefferson Chapman Executive Director of the McClung Museum of Natural History and Culture at the University of Tennessee. Assuming this position has been challenging in many aspects, and I am very grateful for all the support that my family and I have received from so many people who have eased our transition.

During these two and half months as Executive Director I have had many opportunities to see and experience first-hand the work that we do in areas like outreach, academic programs, collections care, temporary exhibitions and collections-based research, proving how committed our museum is to engaging in relevant activities.

During this time I have also met with different representatives from the University of Tennessee and other cultural, heritage, and community organizations, as well as our own advisory board, donors, and team. This has given me a better understanding of the role our Museum should play in the larger context of educational, cultural, and social needs as well as expectations from different communities. I will continue to meet people and organizations with the same goal in mind. If you want to share your opinions about our museum, please feel free to write me at [claudio.gomez@utk.edu](mailto:claudio.gomez@utk.edu).

Claudio Gómez  
Jefferson Chapman Executive Director

On the front cover: The Martyrdom of Two Saints, c. 1210–1215. Made in Île-de-France or Burgundy, France, pot-metal glass.  
On loan from the Glencairn Museum, 03.SG.112

## New Exhibition: *Visions of the End*

The museum will open the new temporary exhibition, *Visions of the End* on January 30. The exhibition features twenty-six pieces of medieval and Renaissance art from some of the country's finest collecting institutions, including the Free Library of Philadelphia, Glencairn Museum, Metropolitan Museum of Art, Morgan Library and Museum, National Gallery of Art, and the Walters Art Museum.

*Visions of the End* is curated by Associate Professor of Architecture, Gregor Kalas, explores the Book of Revelation, which was written in 100 C.E. and predicted the end of time. The Book of Revelation eventually gained wide acceptance as scripture. Its frightening beasts, dragons, and grim characters inspired painters, sculptors, and other artists to imagine what humanity's fate might look like at the Apocalypse.

From the 15th-century prints from Albrecht Dürer's famous *The Apocalypse*, to enamel work, illuminated manuscripts, and stained glass by anonymous medieval artists, the art dazzles with its splendor, and provides insight into the human quest for salvation and the fear of lasting condemnation. The exhibition provides a rare opportunity to see these works of art, which have never traveled to our region.

These artistic visions of Revelation continue to influence our apocalyptic imagination today, as evidenced by modern and contemporary works in the exhibition by a 19th century Russian artist and the 20th-century Georgia folk artist, Howard Finster.

The museum collaborated with UT's Marco Institute for Medieval and Renaissance Studies on this exhibition and its related programming. The university will hold a "Semester of the Apocalypse" inspired by the exhibition, which will include extensive apocalypse-related coursework and programming across the entire campus. The museum will host family programming on medieval art and artists, and will co-sponsor a lecture on Cold War apocalyptic architecture, and a student-curated exhibition of contemporary art in response to *Visions of the End*.

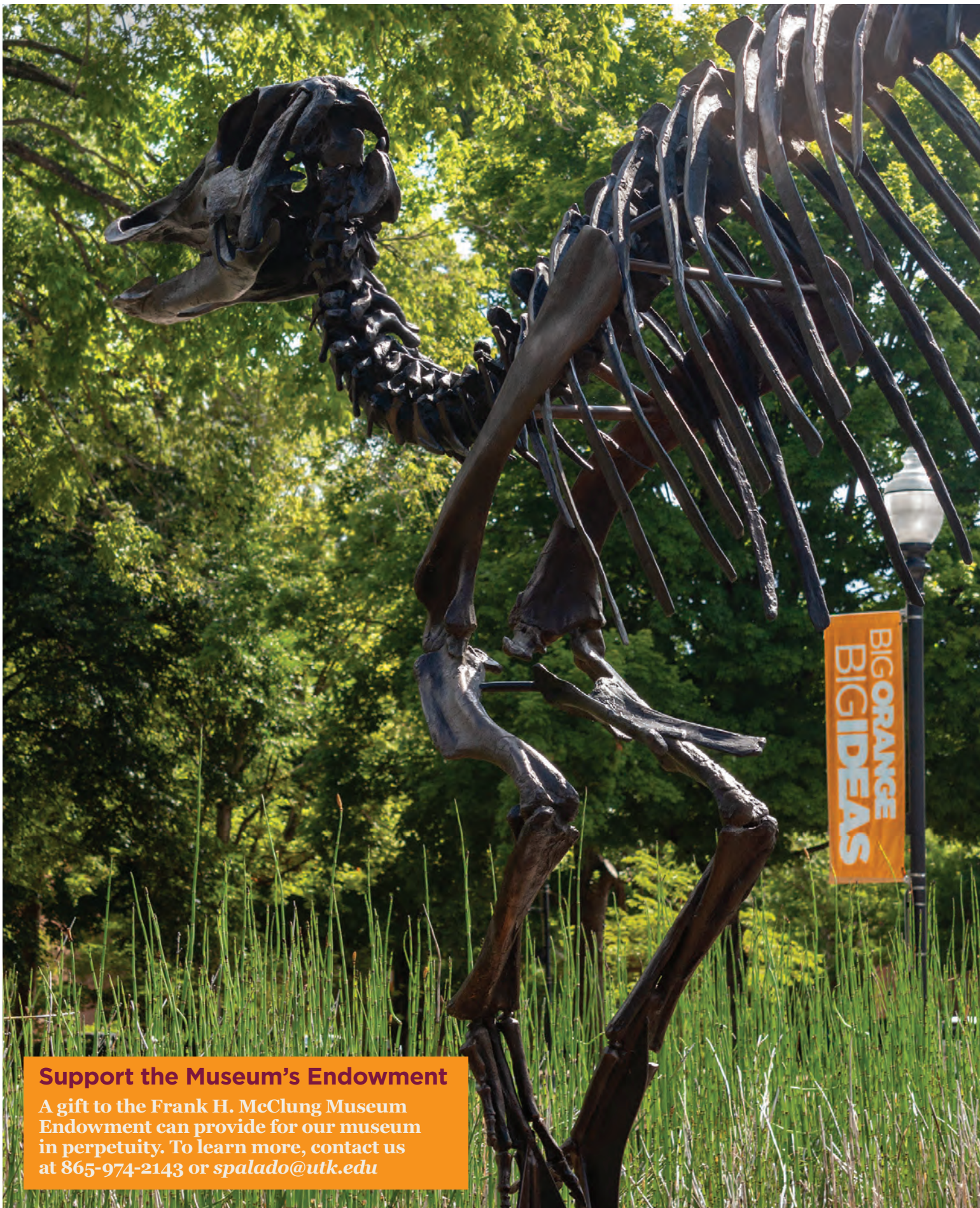
The public is also invited to the Marco symposium on the apocalypse in April. For more details on this and other programming, see [tiny.utk.edu/visions](http://tiny.utk.edu/visions).

The exhibition is made possible with the generous support of Aletha & Clayton Brodine Endowment, Marco Institute for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, The Samuel H. Kress Foundation, Roswitha Haas, Carla & Anthony Bewley, The Office of Research and Engagement, UTK, Gordon Burghardt & Sandra Twardosz.



[above right] *The Four Horsemen*, from *The Apocalypse of Saint John*, 1498. Albrecht Dürer, woodcut on laid paper. On loan from the National Gallery of Art, Patrons' Permanent Fund and Print Purchase Fund, 2008.109.5





## Support the Museum's Endowment

A gift to the Frank H. McClung Museum Endowment can provide for our museum in perpetuity. To learn more, contact us at 865-974-2143 or [spalado@utk.edu](mailto:spalado@utk.edu)



# The New Laboratory of Environmental Archaeology



Howard Cyr works with graduate student, Stephanie Beach and Ground Penetrating Radar equipment on museum grounds.

The Laboratory of Environmental Archaeology (LEA), managed by Howard Cyr, is a multidisciplinary core facility, that recently opened in the museum's archaeology lab. The LEA will be available to researchers for services starting in January 2020. Core facilities are centralized shared research resources that provide access to analytical services, equipment, training, and laboratory support for academic, governmental, and industry users. The LEA's specialized equipment includes a laser diffraction particle size analyzer, portable x-ray fluorescence spectrometer, and ground penetrating radar system. These tools help archaeologists and other researchers scan, map, and record information about the earth's subsurface and analyze materials.

With its new central location on campus at the museum, LEA will provide a practical mechanism for faculty collaboration, student experiential learning, and continuing education at the McClung. LEA fulfills a unique role for its users by providing guidance and support to a variety of disciplines including archaeology, geoarchaeology, historical ecology, engineering, soil and agricultural sciences, environmental sciences, geology, geomorphology, and botany.

To learn more, visit [tiny.utk.edu/lea](http://tiny.utk.edu/lea).

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## New Acquisition of Cherokee Pottery

The museum recently acquired a complicated stamped bowl made in 2003 by Eastern Band Cherokee Indian artist, Bernadine George.

A generous gift from former museum director, Jeff Chapman, the bowl was purchased from the Museum of the Cherokee Indian.

Bernadine George (1944–2016) was a renowned Cherokee ceramicist who learned to make pots from her mother and sister-in-law. She was particularly known for helping to revive the stamped pottery tradition in which carved wooden paddles are used to imprint decorative designs on clay. George was part of the Cherokee Potters Guild, which continues to teach, research, and create pottery inspired by archaeological finds and ancient pottery methods.

The bowl complements ancient stamped pots in our archaeology collections, and joins several other contemporary pieces by Eastern Band artists that were recently acquired or transferred into the Arts & Culture collections to be more accessible for teaching, learning, and exhibition. The group of pottery exemplifies the museum's current commitment to expanding our contemporary Southeastern Tennessee Native American art collection.



Complicated Stamped Bowl, c. 2003, Bernadine George (Eastern Band Cherokee Indian, 1944–2016), Clay, Gift of Jefferson Chapman, 2019.15.



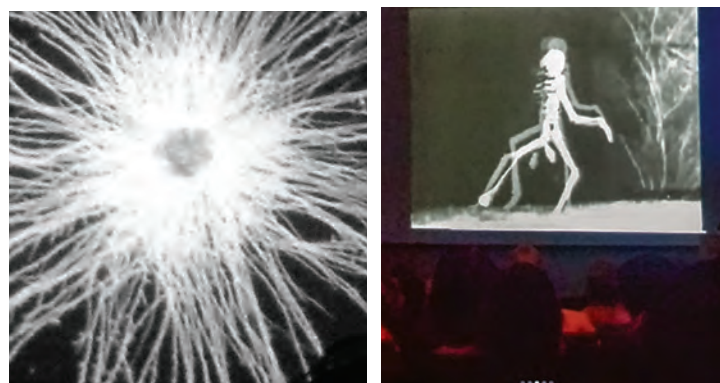
# Community Engagement

## Civil War Lecture Series

Now in its tenth year, the 2020 McClung Museum Civil War Lecture Series will begin on January 26. Lectures are presented on Sundays at 2 pm in the museum auditorium. The McClung Museum's Civil War Curator, Joan Markel, will explore topics of importance to East Tennessee, highlighting the influence that the conflict's four years of social upheaval continues to exert on our cultural identity. This year Joan will examine the lives of the generals whose decisions shaped the course of the war in our region: Unionists Ambrose Burnside and William Sherman, and Confederates James Longstreet and Simon Buckner.



Markel giving lecture as part of the Civil War series.



## A Unique Night of Film: *Silents in Motion*

Last October, the McClung presented a rare program by screening some of the earliest motion pictures ever created in a movie theater to accompany the exhibition *Science in Motion*. The program, called "Silents in Motion", employed both 16mm and digital projectors to show works by innovators like Thomas Edison, Man Ray, Marcel Duchamp, and F. Percy Smith. The series was researched and curated by Louisa Trott, film archivist and UT digital librarian. Cullen Burke, a composition student of Andrew Sigler from UT's School of Music, composed and performed a completely unique score to accompany the films.

## Introduction to Museum Studies at UT

This fall, the McClung partnered with UT's Art History program to offer a comprehensive Museum Studies introduction course. Museum staff members Cat Shtyenberg and Katy Malone served as co-instructors teaching subjects like collections management, museum education, and exhibition development. "Providing this service to students, was incredibly rewarding," states Malone, "We were able to give lectures and readings from the field, while using our own museum as a case study for hands-on activities. It is the type of service a university museum is uniquely positioned to provide." The course was a pilot for a potential minor at UT.



Malone giving lecture for Intro to Museum Studies.

# In the Spotlight: New Student Advisory Board



In 2019, the museum launched the McClung Student Advisory Board (MSAB). MSAB is comprised of sixteen UT undergraduate and graduates from various majors, and is facilitated by Academic Programs' Graduate Assistant, Sadie Counts. The board was founded to promote the museum and develop programs that interest UT's student body. A liaison also serves on the museum's Advisory Board, so students are represented throughout museum leadership. MSAB members are united by the desire to provide input to the McClung from a student perspective. Katie Brown, an anthropology undergraduate and MSAB's Treasurer, says that she serves "to be an active part of the museum and have the opportunity to show other students one of the best things about our campus." One of MSAB's first programs took place during fall's final exams week. The campus community was invited to drop in to relax at the museum with snacks, crafts, and a photo booth.









## People and Events

**A1 [opp. page], A2. Norwood Fossil Festival.** McClung staff joined UT faculty and students at Norwood Elementary for our largest science outreach program for families in recent years.

**B1 [opp. page], B2. Picture Party.** The McClung Student Advisory Board hosts a winter party during finals week for UT students. Claudio Gómez and UT Chancellor Donde Plowman pose with Board members Lia Sans and Sadie Counts during the party.

**C. Provost Visit to Museum.** Provost David Manderscheid toured the museum in early November 2019. [l-r] Stacy Palado, Provost Manderscheid, Claudio Gómez, and Cat Shteynberg.

**D. November 21 Donor Reception.** UT students from the Onyx Saxophone Quartet perform Jazz classics.

## Employee Spotlight: Sandy Cridlin

Sandy Cridlin began work full time at the McClung Museum as an Archaeological Research Associate in October 2019, after serving in a part-time role for several months. Sandy is originally from Richmond, Virginia, and she completed her BSc at Virginia Commonwealth University. While working at the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner in Richmond, she had the opportunity of meeting Dr. Bill Bass who encouraged her to move to Knoxville and pursue her graduate degrees in Anthropology at UT. She volunteered at the McClung on several occasions years ago while working on her Master's.

Sandy says that she is “truly excited to be working at the McClung Museum”, and feels honored to work towards the University’s compliance of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA). She also serves as an active member of the University’s NAGPRA Committee.





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**McClung Museum of  
Natural History & Culture**

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Knoxville, TN 37996

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107%

We exceeded our goal!

## THANK YOU!

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McClung Museum's  
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[mcclungmuseum.  
utk.edu/calendar](http://mcclungmuseum.utk.edu/calendar)



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