



TIME LINES

Tempe Historical
museum

Renovation Designs Taking Shape

The exhibit team is in the midst of the design phase for the new exhibit gallery and architectural renovations of the museum building. Scheduled to continue through January of 2009, this phase will result in the final design drawings for all facets of the renovation. The staff has been working with Gyroscope, Inc., who has been sharing renderings through online presentations from their offices in California. At a face-to-face meeting on August 28, Gyroscope presented more finalized design concepts, incorporating feedback received from the staff and Weddle Gilmore Architects.

In addition to giving feedback on the designs, staff has been busy researching and outlining the exhibit text. Several oral histories have been conducted, with the help of intern **Aaron Monson**, to lend a first-person perspective to the stories being told.

(Continued on page 2)



Conceptual rendering of the exhibit hall by Gyroscope, Inc.

The Chautauquans Are Coming!

The Tempe Historical Society Lunch Talks will feature speakers known as Chautauquans. Wearing period clothing, the Chautauqua scholars assume the role of a historical character. Many people are not familiar with this unique format, nor are they aware of the long history behind it.

Chautauqua was an adult education movement in the United States that was widespread in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. These educational summer camps originated in Chautauqua, New York. Chautauqua assemblies spread throughout rural America, reaching their height of popularity in the mid-1920s. They brought speakers, musicians, preachers and various types of entertainers to small towns.

(Continued on page 2)



Chautauquan **Elena Diaz Bjorkquist** as Teresa Urrea. Photo courtesy of Arizona Humanities Council.

Museum Renovation Update

This is the latest timeline for the upcoming renovation. For online information visit: www.tempe.gov/museum/CIPinfo.htm

- Exhibit hall closed at the end of 2008.
- Construction begins March 2009.
- Exhibit installation begins July 2009.

New Exhibit / City Hall Gallery

Jewel in the Desert: Getting Acquainted with Our Muslim Neighbors

Tempe has a significant Muslim population whose diversity, contributions, and presence enrich the community. To promote cultural appreciation and interfaith respect of Muslim citizens, the museum, in collaboration with Arizona State University, the City of Tempe Diversity Office and the Tempe Muslim community, will present *Jewel in the Desert*. This exhibit is a part of a project that is collecting life stories, oral histories and artifacts that reflect the history and experiences of Arizona Muslims. It opens October 3 in the **City Hall Gallery**, 31 E. Fifth Street.

Continuing Exhibits

A Proud Journey Home: Cambodian, Laotian and Vietnamese Communities in Arizona

This exhibit explores Cambodian, Laotian and Vietnamese refugee experiences in Tempe 30 years after the Vietnam War. Featured are oral histories, photographs and objects from these communities. Funded in part through an Arizona Humanities Council grant.

Tempe Police: Their Own Story

The Tempe Police Department has changed as Tempe has grown. See the technology changes and learn about the new roles of officers. Stand under the 32-foot wingspan of the Tempe Police Department's ultralight that was used in the 1980s. Bring your camera for a photo of you sitting on a real Tempe Police motorcycle.

Both exhibits will be open until the museum closes for renovation.

 **Tempe**

Chautauquans (Continued from page 1)

Initially, independent Chautauquas operated at permanent facilities, usually located a short distance outside an established town with good rail service. Circuit Chautauquas developed as a traveling version of this movement. The program would be presented in tents pitched near a town. After several days, the Chautauqua would fold its tents and move on. At its peak in the mid-1920s, circuit Chautauquas appeared in more than 10,000 communities in 45 states to audiences totaling 45 million people. In 1925, one Chautauqua featuring the May Valentine Opera Company played locally in Globe, Miami, Mesa, Phoenix, Tombstone, Tucson and Yuma.

Lectures were at the heart of the Chautauqua. Topics included current events, travel and stories. Non-denominational Christian instruction, preaching and worship also were a strong part of the Chautauqua experience. Band music was much in demand. Other musical acts included opera, singers of spirituals and popular tunes, and instrumental groups playing popular music.

The popularity of the Chautauqua movement was due to the social and geographic isolation of American farming and ranching communities. People in such areas were eager for education, culture and entertainment that gave them a wider perspective on the world.

The modern humanities Chautauqua movement began in North Dakota during the 1970s. Modern-day humanities scholars took to the stage and breathed life into the words of historical and literary figures through interpretive characterizations. The format has grown under the support and direction of state humanities councils across the country. These Chautauqua scholars, or Chautauquans, assume the roles of significant figures from the past and wear period clothing. They present an unscripted monologue as their historical characters, then field questions from the character's perspective. They end by "stepping out" of character and taking questions, providing scholarly context and insight.

To find out how you can experience one of these unique presentations, refer to the quarterly calendar on page 3. See you at the lunch talks!

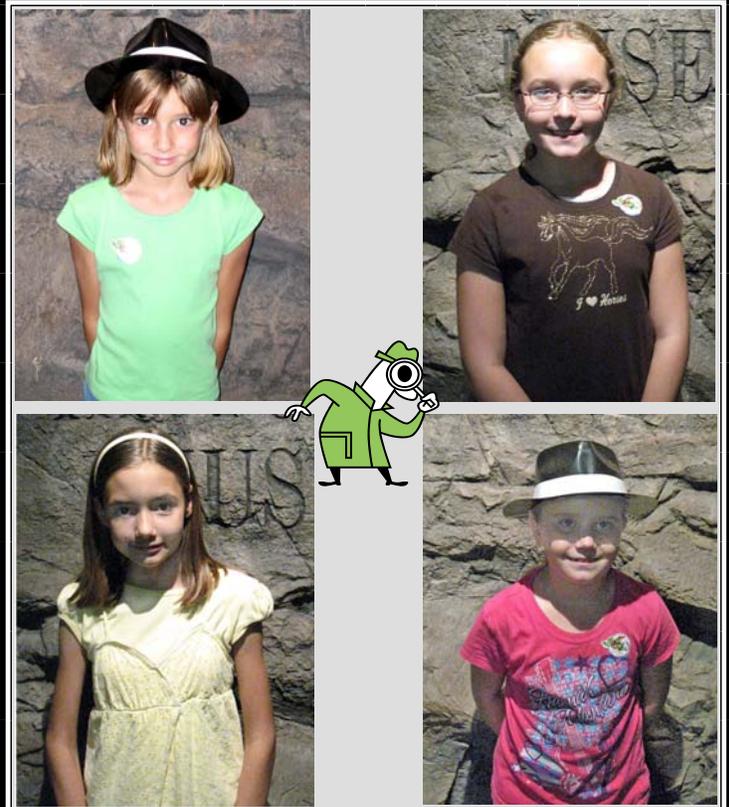
Sources: <http://sdrc.lib.uiowa.edu/traveling-culture/essay.htm>; <http://www.coloradohumanities.org/programs/chautauqua/chautauqua.html>; <http://www.azhumanities.org/speakers3.html>

Thank You!

The museum staff would like to express their sincere appreciation to the Tempe Historical Society for their generous annual donation of \$19,900.

Of that amount, \$18,900 will be used to support the oral history program, research and various other programs at the museum. The remaining \$1,000 was deposited into the Petersen House Endowment Fund. Interest from the endowment is used to support educational programming at the Petersen House.

Tempe History Detectives Program



Congratulations to the museum's newest Tempe History Detectives and Junior History Detectives. **Alyssa Johnson** (upper left) and **Kaitlyn Taylor** (lower right) each earned the rank of Tempe Junior History Detective. **Jessica Johnson** (lower left) and **Ariana Taylor** (upper right) earned the rank of Tempe History Detective. Special recognition also goes to **Dalton Emery** (not pictured) who earned the rank of Junior History Investigator.

Renovation (Continued from page 1)

In addition, **Ann Poulos**, Curator of Collections, and **Josh Roffler**, Registrar, have been busy identifying artifacts and photographs to add visual impact to Tempe's history. Ann states, "The best aspect of this new proposed exhibit gallery will be the flexibility to exhibit a more diverse selection of our collection on a rotating basis. What's even more exciting are all the recent donations that have been coming in. These objects are wonderful heirlooms of Tempe's history that have been passed on to all of us!"

A public art firm, UrbanRock Design, has been selected to create an art piece for the project. Artists **Jeanine Centuori** and **Russell Rock** will be working with Weddle Gilmore Architects to integrate the art into the renovation design. According to Centuori, "UrbanRock Design, a public art and urban environments studio, is excited to join the design team for the Tempe Historical Museum. The public art will seek to amplify the dynamic qualities of both the collection and its new home."

To find out more details and view a selection of the design renderings, go to www.tempe.gov/museum/CIPinfo.htm. A public presentation of the latest designs will be given at the 3rd Thirstday Night Café on November 20 (see calendar, page 3).

VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION
 Tuesday, September 30, 9 am
 Museum Board Room / Free
 Come explore all that volunteers can do at the museum.

OCTOBER

JEWEL IN THE DESERT: GETTING TO KNOW OUR MUSLIM NEIGHBORS

Friday, October 3, 5:30 – 8 pm
 City Hall Gallery / Free
 Exhibit opening reception. Prayer accommodations will be provided. (Exhibit information on page 1.)

“GET TO KNOW YOUR MUSLIM NEIGHBORS” FESTIVAL
 Saturday, October 4
 11 am – 3 pm
 Tempe Sixth Street Park (East of Mill Ave. & Sixth Street) / Free
 This first-time event is a rare opportunity to experience Muslim culture and history.

TEMPE HISTORICAL SOCIETY LUNCH TALK
 Wednesday, October 8
 11:30 am – 1 pm
 Tempe Public Library Program Room / Free
 Bring your lunch and hear Chautauquan **Don Garate** as Juan Bautista de Anza. Sponsored by the Arizona Humanities Council. Coffee is provided.

TEMPE TARDEADA
 Sunday, October 12, Noon – 8 pm
 Tempe Community Complex
 Free admission
 Vibrant folklorico dancers and energetic musicians will be featured at the 10th annual festival that recognizes Tempe’s Hispanic roots.



3RD THIRSTDAY NIGHT CAFÉ
 Thursday, October 16
 7 pm
 Connections Café

Tempe Public Library / Free
Bonnie J. Richardson, Project Manager for the Tempe Transportation Center, will present, *Sustainable Strategies: What Can We Learn from the Tempe Transportation Center?* The center features a variety of green building practices.

NOVEMBER

“FROM BAGHDAD WITH LOVE”
 Friday, November 7
 11:30 am – 1:30 pm
 Fiesta Inn / \$50 per person
 This fundraising luncheon features a presentation and book signing by **Marine Lt. Col. Jay Kopelman**, author of “From Baghdad with Love.” www.AVHOF.org

NOVEMBER 11
 Museum closed for Veteran’s Day.

TEMPE HISTORICAL SOCIETY LUNCH TALK
 Wednesday, November 12
 11:30 am – 1 pm
 Tempe Public Library Program Room / Free
 Bring your lunch and experience Chautauquan **Elena Diaz Bjorkquist** as Teresa Urrea. Sponsored by the Arizona Humanities Council. Coffee is provided.



3RD THIRSTDAY NIGHT CAFÉ
 Thursday, November 20, 7 pm
 Connections Café

Tempe Public Library / Free
 Join the museum staff and the pro-

ject consultants as we present preliminary design concepts for the renovation of the museum facility. This is your opportunity to get the most up-to-date information. (See related story, page 1.)

NOVEMBER 27 & 28
 Museum closed for Thanksgiving.

DECEMBER

PETERSEN HOUSE CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY DECORATING
 Tuesday, December 2 – Friday, December 5



HOLIDAY FANTASIA
 Saturday, December 6
 1 – 4 pm
 Vihel Center for the Arts / Free

The whole family will enjoy these free holiday festivities. There will be “make and take” activities, cookies and punch. Bring your camera for pictures with Santa.

DANISH CHRISTMAS AT THE PETERSEN HOUSE
 Sunday, December 7 through Saturday, January 3
 Free admission
 Ongoing on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 10 am to 2 pm. Sundays, December 7, 14 and 21, from 12:30 to 3:30 pm. See related article below.

DECEMBER 25
 Museum closed for Christmas.

Honor or Remember Someone Special

The 7th annual “Larry Campbell Tree of Lights” will shine again this holiday season. Presented by the Tempe Historical Society, this fundraiser is named in memory of **Larry Campbell**, a past president of the Society. He originally suggested the project and made it a success. The money raised supports the museum’s oral history program. You may donate \$5 to place a light or \$10 to place a light and ornament, on one of two trees. One of the trees is exclusively for veterans and armed services personnel. A notification will be sent to the person being honored or the family of the person being remembered. They will also be invited to a special reception on December 14. Call (480) 350-5100 or visit tempehistoricalsociety.org for more information.

A Danish Christmas at the Petersen House

Once again, the Petersen House Museum will be filled with Danish Christmas decorations and traditions for the holiday season. This year, the Danish Christmas will feature fairy tales by Denmark’s famous storyteller **Hans Christian Andersen**. On three consecutive Sundays, actors from the **East Valley Children’s Theater** will present short dramatizations of four fairy tales: *The Princess and the Pea*, *The Steadfast Tin Soldier*, *The Little Match Girl*, and *The Ugly Duckling*. Other activities will include demonstrations of *papir klip* art and traditional Danish songs. See the calendar above for more details.



STEP INTO HISTORY

Our "Thanks" to Our Summer Volunteers

Time Lines is a quarterly newsletter for museum supporters and volunteers.

Editors:

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Comments, suggestions?
Call 480-350-5100.

MUSEUM HOURS

Monday - Thursday and Saturday
10 am - 5 pm
Sunday 1 - 5 pm

PETERSEN HOUSE HOURS

Tuesday - Thursday and Saturday
10 am - 2 pm

Visit the museum's website at
www.tempe.gov/museum

Summer is a busy time at the museum with families and hundreds of children from day camps all over the Valley coming to participate in *Wild Wednesdays*. In fact, more than 3,000 individuals attended the six *Wild Wednesday* programs. In addition, the curators were especially busy this summer as they worked to prepare for the closing of the exhibit hall and upcoming museum renovation. Thank goodness for the assistance of a corps of student volunteers!

One group helped present *Wild Wednesdays* to the public. This group of volunteers included **Shelby Branson, Gabrielle Chen-Dickens, Cameron Cross, Eddie Diaz, Charley Doire, Meera Doshi, Megan Hays, Briana Hegle, Rosa Martinez, Malik Nelson, Isabella Roig, Lindsay Samuell, Lynn Vu** and **Jasmine Warner**. Another group worked behind the scenes with the Curators of Collections and History and included **Maria Amezquita, James Anderson, Shota Austin, Gabrielle Chen-Dickens, Bradley Clark, Jonathan Didde-Esteban, Paula Ibeta, Katelyn Keberle, Minwoo Lee, Jonathan McLoughlin, Laura Vargas** and **William Xu**.

These volunteers served a total of 750 hours during June and July and provided untold assistance to the museum. Staff wishes to express their thanks and gratitude to these fine young people. Keep up the good work!

The Tempe Historical Museum is a center where the community comes together to celebrate Tempe's past and ponder the future.