

News & Notes

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THE MUSEUM, CHILDREN, AND EDUCATION

*"This, then, I believe to be the museum's greatest value to the child, irrespective of what a museum's content may be: to stimulate his imagination, to arouse his curiosity so that he wishes to penetrate even more deeply the meaning of what he is exposed to in the museum, to give him a chance to admire in his own good time things which are beyond his ken, and most important of all, to give him a feeling of awe for the wonders of the world. Because a world that is not full of wonders is one hardly worth the effort of growing up in."**

The education department of the Oriental Institute has just observed its third anniversary, so the announcement of a grant from the Illinois Humanities Council (see p.6) can be taken as a "vote of confidence" for the many innovative programs already developed within the department. With the appointment of Joan Barghusen as a full-time educational coordinator, the Museum joined the small but growing circle of museums in the Chicago area which have educational personnel whose primary focus is working with teachers and school children. Her appointment was the culmination of the fifteen years of dedicated educational efforts by the volunteer docents. As "gallery teachers" who deal with more than 60,000 visitors each year, the docents are the foundation on which the Institute's education program continues to be built.

Joan Barghusen feels strongly that museums must provide experiences that are both enjoyable and educational to people of all backgrounds and ages. Consequently, a good deal of her initial work as coordinator has been devoted to researching, writing, testing, and producing interesting teaching materials. She works closely with and represents the Museum in two city-wide groups. The first is the Chicago Area Museum Educators Roundtable. The Oriental Institute hosted a meeting of the Roundtable in 1981, and planned a program which brought together Chicago Board of Education curriculum coordinators with the museum educators. The second city-wide group is the newly formed Chicago Coalition for the Arts. This is an advocacy group founded in cooperation with the Arts, Education and Americans, Inc., a national advocacy group which grew out of a panel of the same name, headed by David Rockefeller, Jr. Membership in this Coalition is by invitation only, and was offered to the Oriental Institute



Museum because it had an education department specifically working with schools. Joan has also found that her job as education coordinator brings her into direct contact with many of the other educational and cultural institutions in the city. She has worked with the Chicago Board of Education on various levels, with several other museums in the city, and has participated in classes on museum education given by Professor William D. Pattison at the University of Chicago.

The collections at the Oriental Institute Museum offer an unparalleled educational resource for students and teachers engaged in studies related to the ancient Near East, comments Joan Barghusen. She says that effective use of its potential, however, requires interpretation.

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"With proper interpretation and appropriate adaptations for different age and interest groups, the collection can 'come alive' for people of all ages, from the kindergartner to the adult. This interpretation and adaptation is the business of the Education/Volunteer offices," she explains.

Once the education department was organized three years ago, it was important to develop and implement programs to help educators effectively use the Oriental Institute in their teaching. With the help of three annual grants from the Illinois Arts Council, two Teacher's Kits were designed, slide programs developed, and adventure sheets in a lighter vein were created for children visiting the Museum as individuals or with their families.

The first of the Teacher's Kits has been in use since the fall of 1980, and was designed for upper elementary groups. It enables a nonspecialist teacher, as elementary teachers invariably are, to integrate a field trip to the Oriental Institute into classroom study. Materials included are maps and time-lines with photos of Oriental Institute objects to help prepare students for their visit, informational essays for the teacher, and gallery guide sheets for students to use at the Museum after a tour. The second, an Advanced Level Teacher's Kit, was developed for high school groups. It includes preparatory and follow-up materials as well as gallery guide sheets which are broader in scope and more sophisticated in content than the ones in the first Kit.

The education department also presents teacher's workshops, which give teachers information about specific topics illustrated in the collection to help them see ways to incorporate Museum material into classroom work and projects. To date, two "Teacher's Days" have been given to acquaint teachers with the Museum and two workshops to demonstrate the use of the Teacher's Kit. In addition, special topic workshops have been given in connection with temporary exhibits at the Museum. These include "Books in the Ancient World" along with the Islamic Bookbinding Exhibit; "Alexander in the East" in conjunction with the Art Institute, to coincide with the Alexander exhibit there and the concurrent "Alexander in the East" exhibit here; and a Prehistory workshop, featuring the Braidwoods, whose work at Jarmo formed the core of the Museum's current temporary exhibit "The Quest for Prehistory".

Joan is happy to confer with teachers who are planning a visit, to provide resources and references, even to lend books and materials, as well as to plan any special programming. She encourages classes to come for more than one visit if possible, so that their study both at the Museum and in class, can have more depth. The education department has had several extremely good experiences with multiple-visit programs by elementary age school children. The pilot project was in 1980 with University of Chicago Laboratory School second-graders, which inspired the class teachers to adopt the study of Egyptian culture as their regular social studies curriculum. Even

though these teachers have been transferred to Kindergarten teaching this year, they plan to visit the Museum with their class in a study of pre-urban life styles. There have also been multiple-visit programs with local public schools and a suburban enrichment program for gifted students. One of the most rewarding aspects of the multi-visit programs is that all the teachers who have participated in them plan to repeat them, developing their in-school sections more fully as their own abilities develop through contact with the Museum education program.

During the past year, art projects have been gaining emphasis at the Institute as a way to integrate material into the curriculum. The process of creating an art work based on an object seen at the Museum helps the student to "see" that object with a fuller understanding than is gained by simply looking at it. Creating also offers a way



for the student to make that artifact a part of his own experience in a very personal and memorable way. Most teacher workshops throughout the year, therefore, included an art component: Teachers learned to make cylinder seals using self-hardening clay, a replica of the Megiddo game board, copies of Egyptian amulets, cardboard pyramid models, and a colored paper mosaic lion patterned after the lion from the Processional Way in Nebuchadnezzar's Babylon.

Many basic human concerns are shared across the span of time and space separating modern man from ancient Near East cultures. Arts, sciences, religion, ethics, the study of political systems and change are only a few of the disciplines whose beginnings can be traced by the study of material and written remains of the earliest civilizations that we know.

Nina Jensen in her "Children, Teenagers and Adults in Museums" (May/June 1982 *Museum News*) comments that "Museum programs must relate to the life experiences of the audiences they seek to motivate and engage. As museum members come to understand their audiences in greater depth, they can create programs more directly relevant to them."

Joan Barghusen is getting to know the entire museum audience as she sets up the programs to educate teachers about the body of materials available to them in the Oriental Institute Museum for the study of ancient Near Eastern history. She has discovered that people are fascinated by the topic—Egypt especially has long held a fascination

all its own. The almost universal initial interest in the perceived adventure and romance of archaeology often leads into interest in the investigative aspects. Building a picture of what happened, based on evidence discovered, seems to have a very wide appeal. Joan has also discovered that a growing appreciation of the Biblical events as part of a larger context has aroused growing public interest in archaeology and history of Mesopotamia and Syria/Palestine.

Whether we are teachers, students, or the average public audience with a modicum of curiosity, we have a "home" in the Oriental Institute Museum where we can listen to lectures, pore over bibliographies for further study to augment what we heard in the lectures, and then take off to the Museum galleries where the lecture content can be related to something concrete—for example, if we have become acquainted with Thutmose III through a lecture, how exciting to see his tools in the Museum galleries, or vice versa—if the tools of Thutmose III intrigue us, let us learn more about the man!

Happy birthday to the Oriental Institute Museum education department as its fourth year gets under way in an aura of exciting learning expectations.

—Elda Maynard

*"Children, Curiosity and Museums" by Bruno Bettelheim, in *Roundtable Reports*, a publication of the Museum Education Roundtable, Vol. 5 No. 2, 1980.



ORIENTAL INSTITUTE MUSEUM WINTER WORKSHOPS FOR CHILDREN

Four Saturday workshops combining gallery study with creative and craft activities for children ages 6 through 12. Each workshop includes tour, snack, and hands-on project, which results in a product the child takes home. Advanced registration required. Call 962-9507 to reserve.

Workshop I: Archaeology Workshop

We will look at some especially interesting objects in the Museum, including King Tut statue, Assyrian bull-man, Sumerian statues, and learn about how and where archaeologists found them. After a light snack, we will pretend to be archaeologists and "excavate" pot sherds, sorting and piecing them together. Each participant will reconstruct and take home a pot of his own.

Saturday, January 21 10 a.m.—noon. Fee: \$8.00

Workshop II: Make-A-Book Workshop

After a short tour of the galleries to stimulate ideas, participants will create their own imaginative or artistic work—perhaps a "translation" of an inscription, a drawing of an object, a story or poem—based on some Museum object. After the session, the collected works of the participants will be duplicated and a booklet made containing all of them, with a copy for each person. Books will be available at Feb. 18 workshop or can be picked up at Museum Education Office.

Saturday, January 28 10 a.m.—noon Fee: \$8.00

Workshop III-a: Make-A-Pot Workshop—session 1

Students will tour the galleries to look at some of the many and varied clay vessels from the Ancient Near East—plain and useful pots, such as milk and wine jugs from Egypt, beautifully painted and decorated pots from Mesopotamia, Iran and Egypt, and Turkey. Special attention will be paid to the shapes of the vessels. Each person will then mold his own vessel from a special ceramic-like substance, making either a reproduction of a gallery object or a creation from his own imagination. Pots will be baked and ready for decoration at the next session.

Saturday, February 18 10—noon. Fee: \$13 (includes materials)

Workshop III-b: Make-A-Pot Workshop—session 2

The gallery tour will concentrate on careful viewing of the decorations on painted pots—simple geometric designs, stylized animals, floral designs. Participants can sketch a design to copy onto their own pot, or use one of their own imagining. Decorated pots will be ready to be taken home.

Saturday, February 25 10—noon Fee: \$8.00

Workshops may be taken as a series or individually. Please note that Workshop III has two sessions. FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO RESERVE, CALL 962-9507.

These workshops are supported in part by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council, an agency of the state of Illinois.



TEACHERS WORKSHOPS

Saturday, February 4, 10-12:30

The Sumerians

Slide talk and gallery tour
by James Armstrong, Mesopotamian Archaeologist

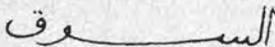
Saturday, March 3, 10-12:30

Art of Ancient Egypt

Slide talk and gallery tour
by John Larson, Egyptologist

Charge of \$10; reservations required

For further information, call
Joan Barghusen, Education Coordinator
962-9507

THE SUQ 

GUIDE BOOK FOR EGYPT

William Golding in *The Guardian* (11/6/83) names *The Penguin Guide to Ancient Egypt* by William J. Murnane (Associate Professor of Egyptology at the Oriental Institute and Assistant Director of the Epigraphic Survey at Chicago House) as *the* guide book to take to Egypt with you. He feels that not only is the descriptive material excellent and sufficient, but that Professor Murnane's condensed essays on all aspects of ancient Egypt are "... what will illuminate the country you are in ...". The guide is available from The Suq at \$12.95 each minus a 10% discount for members. Please add 7% sales tax for shipping in Illinois plus \$1.95 postage and handling for every copy.

JUST PUBLISHED

OIP #105; PREHISTORIC ARCHEOLOGY ALONG THE ZAGROS FLANKS, edited by L. S. Braidwood, R. J. Braidwood, B. Howe, C. A. Reed and P. J. Watson. This volume contains the definitive reports on the Prehistoric Project's excavations at the sites of Karim Shahir and Jarmo, and on the soundings at Banahilk, Gird Ali Agha, al-Khan and M'lefaat. The price is \$100.00 until April 1, 1984 when it will be raised to \$110.00.

THE HITTITE DICTIONARY, fascicle 3/II. This fascicle treats the words *ma*-through *mi(ya)hu(wa)nt-* from this ancient Anatolian language. The price is \$15.00 with students presenting a photocopy of a valid ID eligible to receive a 30% discount.

Members of the Oriental Institute receive a 20% discount on the prices listed above. Please send your request to the Publications Sales office at the Oriental Institute and an invoice detailing the price, discount, and postage and handling fees will be sent to you. Book lists of the current publications of the Oriental Institute are also available from the Publication Sales office upon request.

FREE SUNDAY FILMS JANUARY-MARCH 1984

All films are shown at 2 PM in Breasted Hall, The Oriental Institute

January 8	Iraq: Stairway to the Gods
January 15	Egypt: Gift of the Nile
January 22	Iran: Landmarks in the Desert
January 29	Preserving Egypt's Past
February 5	Megiddo: City of Destruction
February 12	Myth of the Pharaohs; Ancient Mesopotamia (2 short films)
February 19	Rivers of Time
February 26	The Egyptologists
March 4	Turkey: Crossroads of the Ancient World
March 11	Of Time, Tombs and Treasure
March 18	The Big Dig
March 25	Iraq: Stairway to the Gods

ADDED JANUARY LECTURE

Kurt Rudolph from Karl Marx University, Leipzig, East Germany will present an illustrated lecture, *A Visit to the Mandaean in Southern Iraq*, on Wednesday, January 25, 1984 at 8 PM in Breasted Hall. Dr. Rudolph is a Visiting Professor in the History of Religion at The University of Chicago Divinity School which is jointly sponsoring this lecture.

FEBRUARY LECTURE

John L. Foster, Professor of English at Roosevelt University, Chicago, will present an illustrated lecture, *Words Inked on Stone: Recovering the Literature of Egypt in Chicago*, on Wednesday, February 15, 1984, at 8 PM in Breasted Hall.

1984 MEMBERSHIP LECTURE SCHEDULE

January 25	Kurt Rudolph, Karl Marx University, Leipzig, East Germany: <i>A Visit to the Mandaean in Southern Iraq</i> . A joint lecture with the Divinity School.
February 15	John L. Foster, Roosevelt University, Chicago: <i>Words Inked on Stone: Recovering the Literature of Egypt in Chicago</i> .
March 27	Peter I. Kuniholm, a joint lecture with the A.I.A.; <i>The Aegean Dendrochronology Project</i> .
April	John D. Ray, Cambridge University
May 2	Harry A. Hoffner, The Oriental Institute; <i>Adventures in a World of Words: How We Write a Dictionary of the Hittite Language</i> .
May 20	Members' Day
May 23	Elizabeth F. Carter, University of California, Los Angeles

GRANT AWARDED TO INSTITUTE'S EDUCATION PROGRAM

The Illinois Humanities Council has just announced a grant to the Oriental Institute's education department to plan a three-week summer institute in 1984 for secondary school teachers, entitled "Before the Greeks: Origins of Civilization in the Ancient Near East."

This topic is particularly important to teachers because the usual starting point of history, as it is presently taught in secondary schools, is the Greek civilization—with sometimes a nod in the direction of the Persian empire. Ancient Near Eastern Civilizations are less well known because the archaeological disciplines which are the main source of information about these civilizations are relative newcomers to the academic world.

The format of the Institute will include thirty hours of lecture/discussion given by a Middle Eastern archaeologist, establishing a broad framework of knowledge for the participants; eighteen hours of seminars led by experts in their fields on topics of more limited scope, offering an opportunity for more in-depth material; study in the Museum galleries; and a choice of learning opportunities which can provide more archives or gallery study, audio-visual learning, and informal question-and-answer sessions with instructors.

The initial three-week period at the Oriental Institute will be followed by a month-long period off-site, during which participants will write a paper on a topic of their choice, using the archives and other resources of the Oriental Institute as needed. These papers will, in turn, determine the focus of the day-long seminar to be held at the end of October 1984, in which participants will serve as members of panels, to discuss topics to which their personal research is relevant, thus taking their own research one step further into a larger context, and at the same time sharing it with others in the programs.

While research over the recent decades has greatly augmented knowledge of the ancient Near Eastern cultures, underscoring their connections with ideas and patterns of behavior of modern man, assimilation of this knowledge into the greater academic community has been slow. Consequently, many teachers have not had an opportunity to incorporate this material into their teaching. Indeed, in many cases, they may not even be aware that it is accessible.

The Oriental Institute is very well known for its outstanding and extensive source material on Egypt, Assyria, Babylonia, Syria-Palestine, and Persia, both in its museum galleries and archives. Its scholars not only provide lectures and seminars in their respective disciplines of archaeology, Egyptology, ancient history, and languages, but are also experts actively working at field excavations, languages, study, and interpretive research. The summer institute will indeed expose the registrants in all areas of learning about the near East, as well as provide techniques for teaching it to others.

WINTER MEMBERS' COURSES

"Ancient Egyptian Literature"

Lecturer: Richard Jasnow

"Ebla in the Syro-Mesopotamian World"

Lecturer: Lorenzo Vigano

See November-December 1983 issue of *News & Notes* for the description of the above courses

"People of the Book"

The "people of the Book" did not live in cultural isolation. The Israelites made frequent and prolonged contacts with four major civilizations, and thus, four major sources of cultural influence—Egypt, Anatolia, Mesopotamia and Canaan. This course will examine the literary and historical character of that influence. Specifically, we will be searching for mythical, poetical, sociopolitical and legal parallels of the Old Testament in such texts as *The Epic of Gilgamesh*, *The Enuma Elish* (The Babylonian Genesis), the Canaanite poem *Baal and Anath*, the laws of Hammurabi and Eshnunna, and selections from the corpus of Egyptian and Babylonian wisdom literature.

The required texts for the course are: James Pritchard, *The Ancient Near East, A New Anthology of Texts and Pictures Vol. I & II*, and a Bible. Lecturer: Mary Wright

Courses will begin Saturday, January 28 and continue for 8 weeks, through March 17. Class meets at the Oriental Institute. Tuition is \$50 for members. For more information call Education Office, 962-9507.

Please register me for the course

- "Ancient Egyptian Literature" 10 AM-NOON
 "Ebla in the Syro-Mesopotamian World" 10 AM-NOON
 "People of the Book" 1 PM-3 PM
 I am a member and enclose a check for \$50.
 I am not a member, but enclose a SEPARATE check for \$20 to cover a one year Oriental Institute membership.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Daytime telephone _____

Please make all checks payable to THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE. Please register by Wednesday, January 25. Mail to: EDUCATION OFFICE, The Oriental Institute, 1155 East 58th Street, Chicago, IL 60637.

ORIENTAL INSTITUTE 1984 ARCHAEOLOGICAL TOURS

EGYPT March 7–March 22, 1984

Our tour of Egypt will be led by Ann Macy Roth, a PhD candidate in Egyptology at the Oriental Institute, and will provide a fascinating look at the art, history, and culture which originated in the Nile Valley over 5,000 years ago. The trip will feature a five-day Nile cruise on a Sheraton ship. A complete itinerary is available from the Membership Office. The cost of the trip from Chicago is:

Land arrangements	\$2295.00
Round trip air fare from Chicago (APEX)	\$917.00
Single supplement, hotels only	\$390.00
Single supplement, hotels and ship	\$915.00

plus a \$350 tax-deductible contribution to the Oriental Institute. This includes deluxe accommodations, Nile cruise, all land arrangements and all but three meals. A \$300 deposit is required at the time of booking.

EGYPT June 29–July 15, 1984

Bruce Williams, Research Associate at the Oriental Institute, will be the lecturer for a 17-day summer tour to Egypt. Designed for people who cannot travel in the winter months, touring will be in an air-conditioned motor coach. Egypt is extremely hot in the summer months and this tour should not be undertaken by people who are not in excellent physical condition. A complete itinerary is available from the Membership Office. Cost of the trip from Chicago is:

Land arrangements	\$1915.00
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Round trip air fare from Chicago (APEX) \$1167.00
 Single supplement \$400.00
 plus a \$350 tax-deductible contribution to the Oriental Institute. This includes deluxe accommodations, all land arrangements and all but eleven meals. A \$300 deposit is required at time of booking.

TURKEY October 12–November 2, 1984

A tour of Turkey, highlighted by visits to two of the Oriental Institute's Turkish excavations of Anatolia, Harran and Çayönü, will be led by Institute professor Robert J. Braidwood and Linda Braidwood. A complete itinerary for this 22-day tour is available from the Membership Office. Cost of the trip from Chicago is:

Land arrangements	\$1795.00
Round trip air fare from Chicago (APEX)	\$1062.00
Single supplement	\$300

plus a \$350 tax-deductible contribution to the Oriental Institute. This includes hotels, all land arrangements and all but four meals. A \$300 deposit is required at time of booking.

On each of these tours arrangements may be made beforehand with the travel agent (Archaeological Tours) to travel in Europe or the Near East before or after the tour. Archaeological Tours will be glad to help you with these arrangements but you will be responsible for any additional travel costs or surcharges.

Information on all tours is available from the Membership Office, The Oriental Institute, 1155 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois, 60637. (312) 962-9513.

Please enroll me/us in the Institute's 1984 Archaeological Tour to:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Egypt, March 7-March 22 | <input type="checkbox"/> Share room (with?) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Egypt, June 29-July 15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Single room |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Turkey, October 12-November 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> Send detailed itinerary for _____ |

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Daytime telephone _____ Home telephone _____

Enclosed is \$ _____ (\$300 per person) as a deposit to hold my/our place, payable to

ARCHAEOLOGICAL TOURS, INC.

Mail to: Membership Office, The Oriental Institute, 1155 East 58th St., Chicago, IL 60637 (312) 962-9513.

RUG SHOW AT NORTHWESTERN

Two Oriental Institute faculty members, working on behalf of the Chicago Rug Society, have helped put together the spectacular exhibit "Discoveries from Kurdish Looms," open now through February 19, 1984 at the Block Gallery, Northwestern University. Featuring rugs, bags, and other weavings made by Kurdish women in the Kurdish areas of Iran, Iraq, and Turkey, this is the first time that an exhibition has been devoted entirely to Kurdish weaving. McGuire Gibson was chairman of the coordinating committee and the catalogue of the exhibition was edited by Robert Biggs. This fully illustrated catalogue includes essays by several specialists in Kurdish weaving scholarship as well as an historical essay by John Perry of The University of Chicago. The catalogue is available in the Suq for \$18. Don't miss this show!

Turkish Kurdish flat-woven bag, early 20th century. Photo courtesy Mary and Leigh Block Gallery, Northwestern University.



The Oriental Institute

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