Visitor Information

Hours and Admission
Daily: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; closed Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and New Year’s Day.
Admission charge: $9 adults, $7 students and seniors 65 and over, $6 children 3–18. Sunday from 9 a.m. to noon (year-round) and Wednesday from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. (Sept–May). Admission is free to Massachusetts residents, except for commercial groups. Includes admission to the Harvard Museum of Natural History.

Public Education and Family Events
Teacher workshops, interactive programs for children, classes and special events for families, and public lectures are offered. For more information, call 617-495-2269.

Research
The collections and associated documentation are available for teaching, research, publication, exhibition, replication of indigenous techniques, and artistic endeavors. The nature and conditions of use must be consistent with the Museum’s commitment to the care of its collections. Allow at least three-weeks’ advance notice. To schedule an appointment, contact pmresrch@fas.harvard.edu.

Photography in the Museum
Visitors may photograph in the galleries using hand-held cameras or video. Flash photography is not permitted in the galleries. Professional photographs of individual objects may be ordered from Photographic Archives. Ask at the desk for a request form or contact pmresrch@fas.harvard.edu.

Access to the Museum is via Tozzer Library at 21 Divinity Ave.

Enjoy the benefits of membership: pick up a brochure, visit our website, or call 617-495-2269.

Selected spaces in the Museum are available for evening receptions, dinners, and special events. For rental information, please call 617-495-2269.

Visit the faces of 10,000 years

The Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology
Harvard University
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Cambridge MA 02138
617.496.1027
Fax: 617.495.7535

http://www.peabody.harvard.edu
History and Mission

The Peabody contains one of the finest collections of human history in the world, with superb collections from Africa, ancient Europe, North America, Mesoamerica, Oceania, and South America in particular. The Museum’s archives also hold a small, but important collection of paintings, prints, and drawings and a fine collection of over 500,000 photographs.

Founded in 1866 by George Peabody, the Museum’s first exhibition consisted of its entire collection, a small number of prehistoric artifacts from the Merrimack Valley. Over the next ten years the collections grew, and acquisitions from several continents crowded the galleries. Through Peabody-sponsored expeditions and research, the continued generosity of many institutions, and the energy of many individuals, today the Museum houses over five million objects representing tens of thousands of years of human experience.

The Museum is an active member of its international, scholarly, and local communities, with ongoing research, expeditions, exhibitions, and education programs. A world-class collection, the Museum hosts researchers, students, scholars, and Museum professionals from all over the world each year. As part of the Harvard community, the Museum is an essential resource for faculty and students. Through its exhibitions and public programming, the Museum brings new discoveries and scholarship to the visiting public.

Collections

The collections of the Peabody Museum are significant for their range and depth. They include:

- The most comprehensive collections of North American archaeology and ethnohistory in the world. Two and one half million objects, including the only surviving Native American objects collected by Lewis and Clark.

- The finest archaeological documentation of the Maya and the most extensive and varied Mesoamerican collections outside of Mexico.

- A large and valuable collection of Peruvian textiles.

- Early and rare historical collections from the Pacific Islands.

- A rare and well-documented collection of West African masks.

- One of the ten largest photographic archives documenting the cultures of indigenous peoples across the globe.

- Unique personal papers documenting the history of anthropology and archaeology.

On the Cover:

- Hemis Katsina, Hopi, PM 45.25.10/28853
- Metal Knife with carved wooden head, Congo, PM 17.41.50/81565
- “Chief Joseph of the Nez Perce,” drawing, Louis Alvin Turley, PM 65.41.10/4
- Mola with political motif, Panama, PM 971.14.20/23891
- Wooden War Shield, Papua New Guinea, PM 91.6.70/50513
- “Afghan,” oil on canvas, Andre Cheronnet Champollion, PM 31.53.80/D3882
- “Alice C. Fletcher,” charcoal on paper, unsigned, PM 95.37.10/84069
- Maize God, Maya, Honduras, PM 95.42.20/CJ77