General Information

About the Peabody Museum
The Peabody Museum is among the oldest archaeological and ethnographic museums in the world with one of the finest collections of human cultural history found anywhere. It is home to superb materials from Africa, ancient Europe, North America, Mesoamerica, Oceania, and South America in particular. In addition to its archaeological and ethnographic holdings, the Museum’s photographic archives, one of the largest of its kind, hold more than 500,000 historical photographs, dating from the mid-19th century to the present and chronicling anthropology, archaeology, and world culture.

Location: The Peabody Museum is located at 11 Divinity Avenue in Cambridge. The Museum is a short walk from the Harvard Square MBTA station on the Red Line.

Hours: 9 A.M. to 5 P.M., seven days a week. The Museum is closed on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and New Year’s Day.

Admission: Admission is $9 for adults, $7 for students and seniors, $6 for children, 3–18. Free with Harvard ID or Museum membership. The Museum is free to Massachusetts residents Sundays, 9 A.M. to noon, year round, and Wednesdays from 3 P.M. to 5 P.M. (September to May). Admission includes admission to the Harvard Museum of Natural History.

Public Information: 617-496-1027 or www.peabody.harvard.edu.

Media Contact: Faith Sutter, Communications Coordinator
Peabody Museum
11 Divinity Ave.
Cambridge, MA 02138
Tel: (617)495-3397; Fax: (617)495-7535, sutter@fas.harvard.edu
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: $9.00 adults, $7.00 students and seniors 65 and over, $6.00 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) 495-2341 or (617) 496-5402.

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.

Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology
Harvard University
11 Divinity Ave.
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 the their range and depth. They include

- The most comprehensive collections of North American archaeology and ethnology 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 Cherbonnet Champoillon, PM 31-53-60/D3882
- “Alice C. Fletcher,” charcoal on paper, unsigned, PM 95-37-10/84069
- Maize God, Maya, Honduras, PM 95-42-20/C157
The Collections

The collections of the Peabody Museum span the globe and cover millions of years of human cultural, social, and biological history. Few collections in the world can match its breadth and depth. Strongest in the cultures of North, Central, and South America, the Peabody is also caretaker to important collections from Africa, Europe, the Pacific Islands, and Asia.

North America
The Peabody’s holdings from North America form more than a quarter of its collections, represent every corner of the continent, and span 10,000 years. From the earliest excavations in the Southeast and Mimbres pottery from the Southwest to the Grace Nicholson Collection of California baskets and the Lewis and Clark artifacts, the Peabody boasts a collection that is second to none.

Central America
The Museum hosts an almost unprecedented collection of Maya material culture and monuments from Copán, Holmul, Labna, Piedras Negras, and Uaxactun, fine Aztec artifacts from the Sacred Cenote of Chichén Itza, and more than 700 plaster casts of monuments at important Central American sites. Ethnographic collections include the Alice P. Melvin Mexican Folk Art Collection and important collections of textiles and masks.

South America
Some of the Peabody’s earliest accessions—collected by Louis Agassiz and his son Alexander—form the backbone to Peabody’s South American ethnographic collections. Particularly noteworthy are the collection of nineteenth- and twentieth-century featherwork headdresses and ornaments from the Amazon Basin and the William Farabee collection of Bolivian and Peruvian ceremonial and domestic objects. Important archaeological collections include Chimú, Nazca, and Moche pottery; Inca and Chimú metalwork; and an exceptional collection of prehistoric Andean textiles.

Asia
The Museum’s Asian holdings are very fine, with one of the earliest collections of objects made and used by the Ainu, Japan’s indigenous people; Japanese ceramics; colorful textiles made by the Kachin, tribal peoples of northeastern Myanmar, and by the Shan, a people related to the Thai; Siberian hide costumes and carved wooden household items; and the Owen Lattimore Collection from Mongolia and the Quentin Roosevelt Collection from Tibet. Archaeological materials dominate the Asia collections with an extensive collection of excavated artifacts from Tepe Yahya (Iran), Tarsus (Turkey), and Vietnam.
Africa
The Museum’s holdings include over 20,000 items in four significant collections. The three principal collections, gathered from Liberia, southern Cameroon, and Uganda during the first half of the twentieth century, include a diverse range of objects used in daily or ritual life. The fourth collection contains more than 200 musical instruments ranging from drums to hand pianos. Archaeological collections are represented by George Reisner and Oris Bates’s excavations in Egypt and Nubia.

Oceania
Collected by eighteenth-century Boston merchants, traders, and researchers during their Pacific voyages, the 23,000 items of this collection include many rare and exceptional pieces. Highlights include Easter Island tapa figures and carved wooden statues; Hawaiian feather capes and helmets; Maori carved door panels, bowls, and human figures; Javanese shadow puppets; and Micronesian canoes and shell jewelry.

Europe
In addition to extensive Paleolithic collections from France, especially from the site of Abri Pataud where Cro Magnon man once lived, there are materials from Neolithic through Iron Age Europe, with the notable collection of the Duchess of Mecklenburg excavations in Slovenia. The European collection also includes a portion of the French archaeologist/political activist Gabriel de Mortillet’s collections from Central Europe, a “Venus” figurine from the Grimaldi Cave in Italy, and Neolithic stone tools from northwestern Europe.

Paintings & Drawings
Numbering nearly 200 paintings and 950 works on paper, the Peabody’s collection of artwork is an important and complementary addition to the object collections. About half, representing the David I. Bushnell, Jr. Collection of American Art, contains works by Alexander de Batz, George Catlin, Charles Bird King, George Gibbs, Edward Kern, John Webber, and over 130 oils, watercolors, and drawings by Seth Eastman, the foremost pictorial historian of the American West. There are also painted portraits of Native Americans by E.A. Burbank, some being the only extant representation of the subject. Other significant pieces include the works of Jean Charlot depicting the monumental architecture of Mesoamerica, twentieth-century works by Native American artists, an extensive series of Inuit prints, and thirty-eight works depicting people and places in India and Tibet by Andre Chéronnet Champollion.

Records & Photographic Archives
The holdings of both the records and photographic archives add inestimable value to the artifact collections. Together they form a rich depository that documents the Peabody collections.

The papers and manuscripts housed in the archives include institutional (departmental and Museum) records, special collections, and extant material associated with anthropological/archaeological expeditions, faculty members, and related research projects.

Ranging from daguerreotypes to colored transparencies, photographic images in the Peabody’s collections number about half a million and traverse the archaeology and ethnology of the world, with particular emphasis in those areas where the Peabody’s holdings in material culture are the richest. Major photographic collections include Native American cultures and portraits, Mexico, northern Central America, China and Southwest Asia, Africa, and pre–Columbian objects and art.
Exhibits On View

Special Exhibits

Digging Veritas: The Archaeology and History of the Indian College and Student Life at Colonial Harvard
Through January 2010

Through archaeological finds from Harvard Yard, historic maps, and more, the Digging Veritas exhibition reveals how students lived at colonial Harvard, and the role of the Indian College in Harvard’s early years.

Wine bottle from colonial Harvard Yard. Photo by Mark Craig. PM 992-9-10/100225

Remembering Awatovi: The Story of an Archaeological Expedition in Northern Arizona, 1935-1939
Through 3/31/2009

Part history of archaeology and part social history, Remembering Awatovi reveals what archaeologists found in the village of Awatovi with its beautiful kiva murals, and how the archaeologists lived in the camp they built for themselves beside the dig.

High spirits in the plaza at New Awatovi in 1939. Photo by Hattie Cosgrove. PM 2004.1.123.1.45
**Storied Walls: Murals of the Americas**
Through 12/31/2009

Throughout time and around the world, people have adorned the walls of their homes, palaces, tombs, temples, and government buildings with painted scenes and designs. *Storied Walls* explores spectacular wall paintings in Arizona, Guatemala, Mexico and Peru.

*Detail of painted wall relief, Huaca de la Luna, Peru. Photo courtesy Huaca de la Luna Archaeological Project*

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**Fragile Memories: Images of Archaeology and Community at Copan, 1891–1900**
Through 4/5/2009

In the late nineteenth century, Peabody Museum expedition teams explored Copan, Honduras, one of the most important Maya sites. Nineteenth-century glass plate photographs from the *Fragile Memories* expeditions act as “visual time machines.”

*Altar U, located on the village square with two young boys. Photo by Edmund Lincoln, 1893. PM 2004.24.249*
**Ongoing Exhibits**

**Encounters with the Americas**
*Encounters* explores the native cultures of Latin America before and after 1492, when the first voyage of Christopher Columbus initiated dramatic worldwide changes.

*Seated human figure, Copan, Honduras. PM 93-27-20/C871.1*

**Day of the Dead/Dia de los Muertos**
The Peabody's exhibition of a *Day of the Dead* altar or ofrenda is located in the Encounters with the Americas gallery. It represents the original Aztec origins of the holiday and the Catholic symbols incorporated into the tradition.

*Detail from Day of the Dead altar.*

**Change & Continuity: Hall of the North American Indian**
Diverse North American cultures are explored through the objects produced by indigenous peoples of the nineteenth century. The *Changes and Continuity* exhibit considers historic interactions between native peoples and Europeans during a period of profound social change.

*Kaats and Bear totem. Photo by Mark Craig*
Pacific Islands Hall
The Hall features a diverse array of artifacts from the Pacific Islands brought to the Museum by Boston’s maritime merchants.

Pacific Islands Hall. Photo by Barry Hetheringon

Upcoming Exhibits

Wiyohipiyata: Lakota Images of the Contested West
Opening April 3, 2009

A recently discovered ledger holds colorful drawings by Lakota Sioux Plains Indian warriors. The exhibit presents drawings from the ledger with historic Lakota objects in a gallery designed by a contemporary Lakota artist.

Detail from the newly discovered Lakota Sioux ledger book. Photo courtesy Houghton Library. [109 detail.jpg]

Avenue Patrice Lumumba: Photographs by Guy Tillim
Opening April 29, 2009
As the first recipient of the Robert Gardner Fellowship in Photography at the Peabody Museum, Guy Tillim traveled through Angola, Mozambique, Congo, and Madagascar, documenting the grand colonial architecture and how it has become part of a contemporary African stage.

*City Hall offices, Lubumbashi, DR Congo, 2007. Photo courtesy Guy Tillim.*

**Masked Festivals of Canton Bo, Southwest Ivory Coast**  
Opening May 27, 2009

Through rare drawings and photographs, along with masks from the Peabody Museum collections, *Masked Festivals* explores the different kinds of masked spirit forms and their performances.

*Masked "spirit form" during a festival in Canton Bo, Ivory Coast. Photo by Monni Adams, 1986.*
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<td><strong>MEET THE FILMMAKERS</strong> Sensory Ethnography: New Harvard Student Ethnographic Works Sherman Fairchild Auditorium Fairchild Bldg., 7 Divinity Ave., 5:30 pm</td>
<td><strong>LECTURE</strong> Starting at Standing Rock: Following Custer and Sitting Bull to the Little Big Horn Nathaniel Philbrick, author of Mayflower Geological Lecture Hall 24 Oxford St., 5:30 pm</td>
<td><strong>LECTURE</strong> How Much is Heritage Worth? Australia’s Greatest Rock Art Competes with its Most Valuable Industry Iain Davidson, Professor of Archaeology, emeritus, University of New England, Australia Geological Lecture Hall 24 Oxford St., 5:30 pm</td>
<td><strong>SEMINAR</strong> Visualizing Power: Plains Pictographic Arts Lectures, Discussion, &amp; Tours, registration required Geological Lecture Hall 24 Oxford St., 9 am–5 pm</td>
<td><strong>FOUNDER’S LECTURE</strong> Entangled at Catalhoyuk: Material Life in the First Cities Ian Hodder, Dunlevie Family Professor, Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology, Stanford University Yenching Institute, 2 Divinity Ave., 5:30 pm</td>
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<td><strong>HALLAM L. MOVUIS LECTURE</strong> The Shock of the Old: New Discoveries in Ice Age Art Paul G. Bahn, author and journalist Yenching Institute, 2 Divinity Ave., 5:30 pm</td>
<td><strong>EXHIBITION OPENING</strong> Avenue Patrice Lumumba: Photographs by Guy Tillim Peabody Museum, 5–7 pm; Gallery Talk, 5:45 pm</td>
<td><strong>GORDON R. WILLEY LECTURE</strong> Itza and Kowoj: Conflicts and Factions in the Last Maya Kingdom Prudence Rice, Professor of Anthropology, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale Yenching Institute, 2 Divinity Ave., 5:30 pm</td>
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**SCHEDULE**

**Masked Festivals of Canton Bo, Southwest Ivory Coast** Opens May 27, 2009

**Avenue Patrice Lumumba: Photographs by Guy Tillim** Opens April 29, 2009

**March 26**

**GORDON R. WILLEY LECTURE** Itza and Kowoj: Conflicts and Factions in the Last Maya Kingdom Prudence Rice, Professor of Anthropology, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale Yenching Institute, 2 Divinity Ave., 5:30 pm

**March 19**

**Gordon R. Willey Lecture** Itza and Kowoj: Conflicts and Factions in the Last Maya Kingdom Prudence Rice, Professor of Anthropology, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale Yenching Institute, 2 Divinity Ave., 5:30 pm

**March 12**

**LECTURE** How Much is Heritage Worth? Australia’s Greatest Rock Art Competes with its Most Valuable Industry Iain Davidson, Professor of Archaeology, emeritus, University of New England, Australia Geological Lecture Hall 24 Oxford St., 5:30 pm

**March 4**

**SEMINAR** Visualizing Power: Plains Pictographic Arts Lectures, Discussion, & Tours, registration required Geological Lecture Hall 24 Oxford St., 9 am–5 pm

**March 16**

**FOUNDER’S LECTURE** Entangled at Catalhoyuk: Material Life in the First Cities Ian Hodder, Dunlevie Family Professor, Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology, Stanford University Yenching Institute, 2 Divinity Ave., 5:30 pm

**March 12**

**LECTURE** How Much is Heritage Worth? Australia’s Greatest Rock Art Competes with its Most Valuable Industry Iain Davidson, Professor of Archaeology, emeritus, University of New England, Australia Geological Lecture Hall 24 Oxford St., 5:30 pm

**March 3**

**LECTURE** Starting at Standing Rock: Following Custer and Sitting Bull to the Little Big Horn Nathaniel Philbrick, author of Mayflower Geological Lecture Hall 24 Oxford St., 5:30 pm

**March 29**

**EXHIBITION OPENING** Avenue Patrice Lumumba: Photographs by Guy Tillim Peabody Museum, 5–7 pm; Gallery Talk, 5:45 pm

**February II**

**MEET THE FILMMAKERS** Sensory Ethnography: New Harvard Student Ethnographic Works Sherman Fairchild Auditorium Fairchild Bldg., 7 Divinity Ave., 5:30 pm

**February 26**

**HALLAM L. MOVUIS LECTURE** The Shock of the Old: New Discoveries in Ice Age Art Paul G. Bahn, author and journalist Yenching Institute, 2 Divinity Ave., 5:30 pm

**February 11**

**MEET THE FILMMAKERS** Sensory Ethnography: New Harvard Student Ethnographic Works Sherman Fairchild Auditorium Fairchild Bldg., 7 Divinity Ave., 5:30 pm

**February 29**

**EXHIBITION OPENING** Avenue Patrice Lumumba: Photographs by Guy Tillim Peabody Museum, 5–7 pm; Gallery Talk, 5:45 pm

**April 3–4**

**LECTURE** Starting at Standing Rock: Following Custer and Sitting Bull to the Little Big Horn Nathaniel Philbrick, author of Mayflower Geological Lecture Hall 24 Oxford St., 5:30 pm

**April 4**

**SEMINAR** Visualizing Power: Plains Pictographic Arts Lectures, Discussion, & Tours, registration required Geological Lecture Hall 24 Oxford St., 9 am–5 pm

**April 16**

**FOUNDER’S LECTURE** Entangled at Catalhoyuk: Material Life in the First Cities Ian Hodder, Dunlevie Family Professor, Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology, Stanford University Yenching Institute, 2 Divinity Ave., 5:30 pm

**April 29**

**EXHIBITION OPENING** Avenue Patrice Lumumba: Photographs by Guy Tillim Peabody Museum, 5–7 pm; Gallery Talk, 5:45 pm

**May 27**

**EXHIBITION OPENING** Masked Festivals of Canton Bo, Southwest Ivory Coast Tozer Library Gallery, 5–7 pm

**Credits**


**The benefits of membership:**

- Free admission to all Harvard Museums
- 10% discount at all Harvard Museum shops
- Subscription to Symbols newsletter
- Discounts on family and adult programs

Call 617-495-2269 for membership information.

Lectures and Exhibit Openings are FREE unless otherwise indicated.
Join the Peabody Museum Association

and enjoy a variety of programs and benefits. Your contribution funds many worthwhile projects including an internship program, rotating exhibits, and visiting lectures, as well as researchers who come to study our vast collections.

Whether you are renewing your membership or joining for the first time, we welcome your participation in what promises to be a unique and memorable museum experience.

THE Peabody

- was founded in 1866 by George Peabody and is one of the oldest museums in the world devoted to anthropology.
- has one of the most comprehensive collections of North American archaeology and ethnology in the world.
- has the only artifacts known to have survived from the Lewis and Clark Expedition of 1804–06.
- has important collections from South America, including over 5,000 ancient Peruvian textiles.
- has the finest archaeological documentation of the Maya as well as the most extensive and varied collection of Mesoamerican artifacts and sculpture outside Mexico.
- has early and rare historical collections from the Pacific Islands, especially Hawaii, Fiji, and Tonga.
- has one of the ten largest photographic archives, documenting the cultures of indigenous peoples across the world.
- has a strong relationship to indigenous communities whose histories and cultures are reflected in the collections.
ASSOCIATION CATEGORIES AND BENEFITS

Individual $40
Student/Senior $25
- Free admission to all six Harvard Museums
- Biannual calendar of events
- Invitations to Peabody exhibition openings and special events
- Reading room access to Tozzer Library, Harvard’s preeminent anthropology library
- Subscription to Symbols, the semi-annual newsletter about current Museum projects and exhibits
- 10% discount in all Harvard Museum Gift Shops
- 10% discount at Harvard Collections in Harvard Square
- Discounts on family and adult programs

Student/Senior $25

Household/Dual $60
- All benefits above, plus
- Free admission for two adults and accompanying children under 18

Sustaining $125
- All Dual benefits above, plus
- Two one-day guest passes
- 10% discount on museum publications

Supporting $250
- All Sustaining benefits above, plus
- Annual special collections tour/symposium

Patron $500
- All Supporting benefits above, plus
- Invitation to the bi-annual Gordon R. Willey Lecture on Mesoamerican Prehistory and reception

Peabody Institute $1,000+
- All Patron benefits above, plus
- Annual special collections tour/symposium
- Invitation to the Founder’s Lecture, reception, and dinner
- Eligibility to rent museum spaces for private gatherings

Memberships under $125 are fully tax-deductible.
Sustaining is $105 deductible, Supporting is $230 deductible, Patron is $465 deductible, and Peabody Institute is $935 deductible.

Join today!

Catherine Linardos
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www.peabody.harvard.edu

Above: Brass Mask, Benin, PM 16-45-30/B485
*Chief Joseph of the Box Foe,* dressing, Louis Alvin Turley, PM 65-45-1004
Jaquar God, Maya, Honduras, PM 91-49-20/C642
*Afghan,* oil on canvas, Andrea Chenonnet Champollion, PM 32-19-606/DJ492
Wooden War Shield, Papua New Guinea, PM 91-6-705/515
*Alice C. Fletcher,* charcoal on paper, artist unknown, PM 95-37-10/34069

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Photography: Hillel Burger
Brochure design: Eleanor Bradshaw

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
The Peabody Museum Association

Please sign me up at the following level:

- [ ] Individual $40
- [ ] Student $30
- [ ] Senior $30
- [ ] Household $60
- [ ] Dual $60
- [ ] Sustaining $125
- [ ] Supporting $250
- [ ] Patron $500
- [ ] Peabody Institute $1,000+

Please accept also a donation in the amount of ________________ toward the Peabody Museum Fund.

This membership is [ ] New [ ] Renewal

Name ____________________________
Address ____________________________
City State Zip ____________________________
Day Telephone ____________________________
Email Address ____________________________

Make checks payable to the Peabody Museum/Harvard University and mail to Membership Office, Peabody Museum, 11 Divinity Ave, Cambridge, MA 02138.

- [ ] Mastercard
- [ ] Visa
- [ ] American Express

Card # ____________________________
Expiration Date ____________________________
Amount ____________________________
Signature ____________________________
STORIED WALLS
MURALS OF THE AMERICAS

Throughout time and around the world, people have painted the walls of their homes, palaces, temples, and government buildings with an array of scenes and designs expressing artistic as well as social values.

STORIED WALLS: Murals of the Americas present four extraordinary sets of wall paintings from Guatemala, Mexico, Peru, and the United States.

ANATOY
BOKANPAK
SAN BORTOLO
THE MOQUE

Spanning 6,000 years, the origins and reproductions shown in this exhibition include the Olmecs.

Mural paintings from the first century B.C. to the magnificent Bokanpak. Mural scenes from the eighteenth century B.C., Stelae basalt murals created in the first seven centuries B.C., and Tepexica murals painted in the sixteenth century, shortly before the Spanish conquerors arrived.

Alongside these murals, this exhibition examines the different meanings and uses of these paintings, the history of their discovery and investigations by affiliates of the Peabody Museum and others, and imaging efforts to preserve and restore these fragile painted surfaces.

The persons who adorned these walls left compelling visual accounts of some of the most significant and enduring stories of their times—stories that mirror upon being read, even now, centuries after their creation.