

the MoA Quarterly

A NEWSLETTER OF THE
MUSEUM OF ANTHROPOLOGY, MIZZOU

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NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Welcome, Winter!

It's easy to write that as it is currently 70 degrees outside. As we look forward to holiday events around town, we also look forward to our new museum space. Packing the museum is complete thanks to our talented and tremendously capable staff and students! They really are fabulous at carefully packing objects from tiny bone needles to the 9-foot wooden canoe.

The Museum's renovations are underway. The sprinkler crew is on site to install fire protection, and the construction crew is working in the new space starting with widening the doorways so we can move safely with large objects. As we plan the new exhibits, it has been wonderful to handle every object as it comes out of its case.

It reminds us of the amazing artifacts at the museum, and all the stories they tell. For example, the archer's thumb rings were made in many countries for hundreds of years out of materials like jade or agate, and are still being carved and used today. But you will also find them repurposed in other tools, such as the handle of a make-up brush, or decorative piece on other objects.

We continue to raise funds for the new museum cases, and would love your support. You can donate through our giving page online, or by mail. You can also reach me at salle@missouri.edu or 573-882-3764. I want to thank you for your support in 2021, and I wish you and yours a very happy holiday season! ❖

- CANDACE SALL

SPOTLIGHT: PACKING THE MUSEUM

BY JESSICA BOLDT

We have definitely been busy the past couple months! Since our last newsletter, we have completely packed our entire museum! Luckily, our staff has done this before and had a detailed system to ensure no objects were lost or damaged along the way.

As soon as we found out we would be moving to our new location we began preparing the collections. First, we made sure the exhibit case inventories were accurate and up-to-date. These inventories included a photo of every section of the museum's exhibits showing each object's unique identification number (MAC number). Before any packing took place, every artifact was labeled with its MAC number using the exhibit case inventories. When the actual packing began, we were able to quickly record exactly what objects were placed in each box on a box contents sheet. Then, when a box was completed, a box label pre-printed with consecutive numbers was affixed to the box contents sheet. This ensured box numbers would not be duplicated. We then securely taped the sheet to the outside of the box and wrote the box number on all sides. To help keep track of where every item was located at all times, a photo was taken of the box contents sheet and the database was updated with each item's box number at the end of every day. As an extra precaution, a "field notes" journal was written, keeping track of each day's activities.

Thanks to our dedicated staff and student employees, we were able to safely and securely pack and prepare all of the Museum of Anthropology's exhibit objects for the big move back to campus. ♦



FUNDRAISING: THE GIVING SEASON

BY AMANDA STALEY HARRISON

The Giving Season is upon us and we are still in great need of funds for our move. We continue to ask for the support of friends, colleagues, museum allies and alumni to help us reach our goal and cover the costs of cases for our Missouri Archaeology collection, Grayson Archery, visible storage of our Mississippian vessels, as well as special exhibits, vitrines, and miscellaneous exhibit infrastructure such as lighting.

Our goal to raise \$58,000 is only 2% met. Any amount, large or small, will help us on our journey. There are several ways to donate to us at this time. Our Donate page on the website (anthromuseum.missouri.edu/donate) gives detailed instructions on how to donate. In person donations are also still very much appreciated - please contact us - we are often between buildings.

If you are interested in covering the cost of a full construction or case project, please contact us. Thank you as always for your generous support and many well wishes! ❖



OBJECT HIGHLIGHT: SHOES GO TO STORAGE

BY Candace Sall

Did you know the Museum houses some of the oldest footwear in the world? We even have the oldest open-toed sandal in the world. It's over 8,000 years old! The shoes and sandals, excavated from a dry cave in Callaway County, require strict climate, light, and pest control. While they were on display in the museum at Mizzou North we carefully controlled the environment by using a specialized microclimate machine that kept the humidity stable. Now that we are preparing to move back to campus, the museum staff transported the shoes to a safe, climate-controlled space as the new museum space is being renovated. You can look forward to seeing shoes from Arnold Research Cave back on display when we reopen next year.

To read about the radiocarbon dating of the shoes, see *Science*, 1998, Jul 3, 281(5373):72-75, Kuttruff, DeHart, & O'Brien. Or read more in the *New York Times* article: Shoes That Walked the Earth 8,000 Years Ago. <https://www.nytimes.com/1998/07/07/science/shoes-that-walked-the-earth-8000-years-ago.html> ❖



Padded sandal with side loops and cord to criss-cross and tie at the ankle. 8,325-8100 years Before Present. (6,325-6,100 BC)



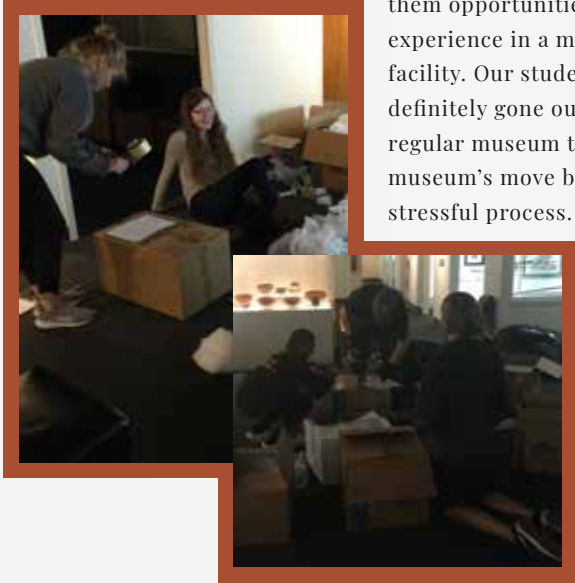
The MoA's collections and archives have been online and accessible to the public for almost two decades. Click the quick link to the databases on our website's home page to learn more: anthromuseum.missouri.edu.

EDUCATION & OUTREACH

BY AMANDA STALEY HARRISON

Moving is a huge task, and when you are a full-time staff of three people moving a whole museum can feel daunting to say the least. That is unless you also have an amazing team of student workers helping out. One of the things we love about being an academic museum is that we are surrounded by so much talent among the students and can offer

them opportunities to get real-life experience in a museum and curation facility. Our student workers have definitely gone outside the box of regular museum tasks to help the museum's move be a smooth and less stressful process.



TEACHERS NOTE

Are you a K-12 teacher interested in the MoA collections to round out your lesson plan? The MoA continues its strong relationship with Columbia Public Schools. While we are still not offering tours due to the move, we are able to visit your classroom virtually or in-person. Whether you are interested in a visit from us to your classroom with artifacts from our education collection or scheduling a virtual discussion with a curator, send us an email. Let's talk about how the MoA can partner with you! ♦



MEET OUR CPS INTERN

We have had the pleasure this year of having Noah Robinson join us as our Columbia Public Schools EEE Intern. Jessica and I first met Noah just before he entered high school at our Archaeology summer camp where he impressed us with his enthusiasm and genuine interest in the science of archaeology. We were delighted that Noah reached out to us when he was selecting his place of internship in August.

Noah has become a vital part of the MoA's team, contributing his ideas, time, and talents to a variety of tasks. Among his projects he has already curated one online exhibit and his second will be featured this month.

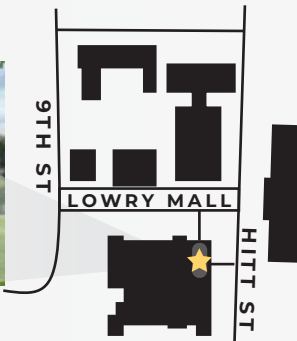


We hope that by the end of the school year his experience carries with him into his future. Noah is a senior at Rock Bridge High School and plans on attending college next fall and pursuing a degree in engineering.

NEW
LOCATION
COMING
2022



Lower level of Ellis Library on the east end.



MoA | The MUSEUM of ANTHROPOLOGY

The museum offices are currently located at the
Museum Support Center
1411 Rock Quarry Road
Columbia, MO 65201

TEMPORARILY
CLOSED FOR MOVING
ANTHROMUSEUM.MISSOURI.EDU