



# *the* MoA Quarterly

A NEWSLETTER OF THE  
MUSEUM OF ANTHROPOLOGY, MIZZOU

## NEW THIS QUARTER:

**Note From The Director**

**Student Updates**

**PAGE 2**

**New Exhibit**

**PAGE 4**



## NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

As spring is in full bloom, we look back on the semester, and oh what a fabulous one it was. Just before our 1-year anniversary of opening here at Ellis Library came around, we hit 20,000 visitors to the Museum!

We were happy to host all of Columbia Public Schools' 6th graders for guided tours this spring, as well as MU classes and community groups. The advanced archaeological chemistry class worked with museum artifacts to analyze materials from jade and silver archer's thumb rings to crossbow bolts and ceramics. Students showed professionalism during the data collection at the museum and all through the analysis and presentations. We now have more precise data about the objects that will allow us to dial-in the exact care they need for preservation.

We have submitted a grant proposal to fund essential work with tribal nations and are

preparing another grant application. This research and collaboration will bring more in-depth and interactive exhibits centering on Missouri history. We invite our supporters to donate to the Museum of Anthropology in support of our mission to better understand human behavior through research and preservation of objects and documents.

Save the date! Thursday, September 25th, 2025 is this year's Archaeology Month Lecture. We are excited to host a presentation by Dr. Robert Reeder. Dr. Reeder is the President of the Missouri Archaeological Society (MAS), retired director of MoDot's Cultural Resources and Historic Preservation Department, and MU alumnus. We look forward to his talk on what is the 90th anniversary of the founding of the MAS. ♦

- CANDACE SALL

# STUDENT UPDATES

## RESEARCH AND WORK AT THE MUSEUM SUPPORT CENTER

### - JESSICA BOLDT

Every semester, students gain valuable experience at the Museum Support Center that opens opportunities for them to do further work in their field.

**Noah Smelser**, one of our student curation technicians and former interns, has been accepted into the College Field School for Undergraduates at Crow Canyon Archaeological Center in Cortez, Colorado. The project is funded in part by the National Science Foundation Research Experiences for Undergraduates Sites program in the Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences directorate.

**William Fitzgerald**, one of our fall semester Museum Studies course participants, is headed to the University of Chester in England to start a master's program in museums and heritage practice.

**Logan McDonough**, a senior in the Department of Anthropology, studied lithics from the Standlee Shelter (23BY386) and received an award for his work at Show Me Research Week.



## ARCHAEOLOGICAL CHEMISTRY

This semester, the Museum of Anthropology teamed up with Dr. Brandi MacDonald, Assistant Professor of Chemistry and Assistant Research Professor in the Archaeometry Laboratory at the MU Research Reactor, to invite her Advanced Archaeological Chemistry students to study the museum's collections. Students used non-destructive portable XRF (X-ray Fluorescence), FTIR (Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy), and Raman Spectroscopy to characterize artifacts. The results of their research have provided valuable information on the composition, authenticity, condition, and object histories of the Museum's collections. ♦



Chem4000 students using XRF on a Chinese thumb ring.

# INTRODUCTION



Hi there! My name is Jessica Totsch, and I am the new NAGPRA Coordinator for the Museum of Anthropology. Since 2021 I have worked part-time at the Museum on projects relating to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), so I was delighted to accept this full-time position in January to continue supporting the Museum's mission to repatriate all Native American ancestors and funerary belongings. In addition to working at MoA, I am finishing my Ph.D. in Anthropology at MU using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to understand urbanization and water use in Roman-period Pompeii, Italy. In addition to fieldwork in Pompeii, Sicily, and Italy, I also have experience with Cultural Resource Management in Missouri and Texas.

I am a strong advocate for Missouri archaeology and have served on the Missouri Archaeological Society Board of Directors since 2017. You can usually find me behind the camera capturing our annual events or at the auction booth raising funds. From 2016 to 2024 I was a Graduate Instructor for MU's Department of Anthropology and taught Fundamentals of Archaeology Lab, Significant Discoveries of Archaeology, and Multiculturalism. Although I am no longer in the classroom, I enjoy working alongside our awesome graduate and undergraduate students as they grow their skills in artifact identification, curation practices, and biological anthropology. The first half of 2025 has been busy for the Museum of Anthropology's NAGPRA Team. Consultations with our tribal partners are always ongoing, and this spring we culturally affiliated ancestors from sites in Boone and Howard counties; many of them salvage excavations of archaeological sites at risk of being destroyed by development or erosion. These vital repatriation efforts would not be possible without the hard work and dedication of the Museum's director, staff, students, and tribal partners, and I am thrilled to be part of this team! ♦

## EDUCATION & OUTREACH

Another successful spring of tours with Columbia Public Schools, as well as K-12 schools across Missouri, is complete. This summer we are preparing for fall activities so keep your eyes open for more workshops, lectures, and events.

Semptember dates to remember are the 2nd Annual Art After Dark event with arts around campus (September 17th, 5pm to 7pm) and the museum's annual Missouri Archaeology Month lecture with Dr. Reeder on September 25th.

Until then, we wish everyone a relaxing summer and don't forget to stop in and see us when the weather gets hot and sticky - we are climate controlled!

### WE ARE HIRING! WORK STUDY STUDENTS

We have TWO work study positions open in our gift shop for fall 2025 semester! This opportunity involves assisting in the museum's daily visitor engagement and other tasks as assigned.

If you or someone you know qualifies for work study and they are looking for a great job this coming academic year, please send them our way!

Email for more info:  
[harrisonaj@missouri.edu](mailto:harrisonaj@missouri.edu)

# NEW ONLINE MUSEUM EXHIBIT

## HEZZIE GOES TO WAR: WORLD WAR I THROUGH A MID-MISSOURIAN'S EYES

- JOHN CUNNING

A new virtual exhibit explores John Hezekiah Patrick's (nicknamed Hezzie) experiences in France during World War I through letters, diary entries, and photographs from the John H. Patrick Papers at the Historical Society of Missouri, Center for Missouri Studies; and photos of artifacts in the Museum of Anthropology's Patrick Collection.

The Museum of Anthropology created this updated version of an older eExhibit with ArcGIS StoryMaps. This format layers the information in a way that allows the virtual visitor to dig as deeply as they wish into Hezzie's story.

A temporary exhibit featuring some of the objects seen in this virtual exhibit is on display in the museum's hallway case through the summer. The full virtual exhibit is available on the museum website - scan the QR code below to check it out.



### Hezzie Goes to War

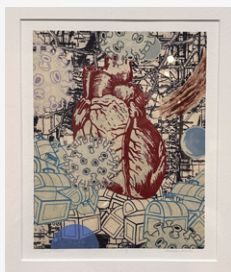
World War I Through a  
Mid-Missourian's Eyes

Museum of Anthropology, University of Missouri



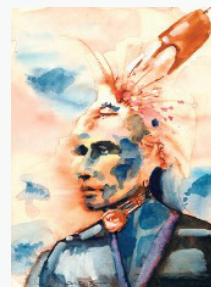
SCAN HERE

Last chance  
to visit the  
**Contemporary  
Osage Artists**  
exhibit!



The "Contemporary Osage Artists" exhibit will be up through June 12th, 2025.

If you haven't had a chance to visit this amazing collection of contemporary works by artists Norman Akers and Joe Don Brave, do so before mid-June!



# *Summer Exhibits*

JUNE through SEPTEMBER 2025

## **“Hezzie Goes To War”**

As compliment to our new online exhibit by the same name, this exhibit gives visitors the opportunity to view objects in person as well as online.

## **“Reflections from Above”**

This exhibit studies how technology has changed from early 1900s aerial photos used in WWI to today’s Lidar images of ground surfaces.

JULY 2025 through JULY 2026

## **“Southwest Prints”**

These prints are an incoming acquisition of the MoA, showing artists of San Ildefonso and Zia Pueblos.

### **Summer Hours**

Open regular hours Tues – Fri, 10 am to 4 pm  
Sat – Sun, 12 pm to 4 pm

CLOSED July 4-6 for the holiday weekend.

1020 Lowry St.  
Lower Level, Ellis Library  
Columbia, MO 65201  
573.882.3573

ANTHROMUSEUM.MISSOURI.EDU