

HARVARD UNIVERSITY MUSEUMS

connections

www.community.harvard.edu

2006



Photo by Stephanie Mitchell/Harvard University News Office

Harvard's art and science museums offer a variety of activities for children and families year round. Here Milan Watson (age 5) with Ellis Memorial strolls past an exhibit on the second floor during a Sackler Museum summer tour.

Museums Open up the World

An open door to a museum is an introduction to the world. And at Harvard University people of all ages can travel the globe, and also through time, by simply visiting one of the University's seven museums.

Not only are all of Harvard's museums open to the public, the museums also make a special effort to welcome Harvard's neighbors through special events and exhibitions, activities for children and families, and hours when admission is free. The result? Adventure, excitement, and exploration for all ages at Harvard's museums.

Sunday, September 17 marks the fourth annual Harvard Museums Community Day, offering neighbors a free afternoon at Harvard's seven museums. But we welcome you to come anytime to explore the natural world and art, history, and culture from around the globe at Harvard.

Explore culture, science, art at Harvard museums

Children, families and adventurers of all ages are invited to discover the many and varied treasures of Harvard University's museums on Sunday, September 17, at the fourth annual Harvard Museums Community Day. The free open house was created especially for Harvard's neighbors; to acclimate newcomers to the museums' diverse collections and offer regular visitors, including children and families, a special afternoon of free exhibits and special events.

All of Harvard's museums, which span several blocks on the north end of Harvard in Cambridge, are within walking distance of each other and on Community Day are open to visitors from 1 to 5 p.m.

Let the map on the back page be your guide.

Start your Museum walk on Oxford Street with the Harvard Museum of Natural History, home to fossils, minerals, and the renowned Glass Flowers. Then hop over to the near-

by Peabody Museum, to check out the Lewis and Clark Collection or visit the monuments to Maya kings.

From there, the next stop is the Semitic Museum on Divinity Avenue, which houses pottery, sculpture, coins, and ancient tablets from museum-sponsored excavations in Israel, Jordan, Iraq, and Egypt, among others. At 1 Oxford Street you can

see scientific instruments dating back 600 years, including some designed by Galileo, Benjamin Franklin, William James, and Charles Lindbergh.

Then work your way toward Broadway and Quincy Street to view some of the finest art collections in the United States. The Arthur M. Sackler Museum displays ancient, Asian, Islamic, and later Indian art and is known for one of the world's most impressive collection of ancient Chinese jades. The Fogg Art Museum houses masterpieces by Rembrandt, Monet, Renoir, Van Gogh, Picasso, and other world-famous artists.

The Busch-Reisinger Museum is devoted to the art of German-speaking countries and houses North America's leading collection of German Expressionist art.

Harvard's museums contribute to the vitality of Greater Boston. They are invaluable archives tied to Harvard's teaching mission, giving visitors access to rich cultural and historical resources from around the world, and are open to the public year round, offering special exhibitions and programs for children and their families. Make them a part of your life adventure.



Photo by Rose Lincoln/Harvard University News Office

All of Harvard's museums are free and open to the public on Harvard Museums Community Day at Harvard University. Education Specialist, Fred Surowiec holds a chuckwalla lizard during a Live Creature Feature at the Harvard Museum of Natural History.

please see museums map on page 4

Making a museum visit a family learning adventure

You don't have to be an art expert to enjoy coming to Harvard's museums with your children! Harvard's art museums are a great place to learn and have fun together. Here are a few simple games that could turn a museum visit into a family learning adventure.

You Choose

Before you come to the museum, make a couple of sets of cards showing the following simple symbols: heart, house, clock, dollar bill sign, and the word "yuk". Go into a gallery and have kids look for a few minutes. Then choose a painting to put cards by - parents do this, too. Be sure to talk with each other about why everybody chose the way they did.

Heart = I love this picture - it's my favorite.

House = I would hang this in my house or my room at home.

Clock = I think this one took the longest to make.

Dollar bill sign = This one is probably worth the most money.

Yuk = I don't like this picture at all!

I Spy

Go into a small gallery. Parents and child look together for a few minutes. The child picks a particular detail or element out of a painting and tells their parent to find it. Switch roles! Then the parent picks, and the child searches. Variation: Choose one painting - take turns asking each other if they can see a _____.

Conversation

In a gallery with portraits, look at the portraits and talk about what the personalities of the people in the portraits might be like. Which of the people in the portraits might be friends with each other? Why? Then choose two people in two portraits, and make up a conversation they might have with each other! The parent can be the person in one portrait, and the child in the other. Have an imaginary conversation that these two might have!

Chain Story

The parents and their child tell a story while looking at a narrative painting. The child begins the story: "Once upon a time," and the parent takes a turn: "there was a." Then the child takes the next turn: "man on a horse," and the parent says: "who was very" and so on. Be looking at the picture for clues to hang your story on.

Sketching

You may bring paper and pencils (no pens) into Harvard's museums and galleries. Bring a pad of paper from home and some sketching pencils and choose a painting that each would like to sketch from. Talk about what each person's favorite part of the picture is - then everyone sketch their favorite. It sometimes helps young children not to feel overwhelmed if you focus on one part of a picture to sketch.

Helpful Hint

Bring a simple view finder that you can make at home - simply a piece of card-stock with a small 1 1/2 inch square hole cut out of it. Hold it at arm's length and look through the hole so you can focus on just one part of the picture at a time!

Go on a Line Hunt

Bring a pad of paper and pencils, choose a gallery, and talk about all the different kinds of lines there are: straight, curved, wiggly, jagged, zigzag, and so on. Have your children draw an example of each. Ask them to draw an angry line, a happy line, a sad line, heavy, light, and so on...Then go on a search in the gallery to see if you can find an example in the artworks with each of your kinds of lines...



Photo by Julie Russell/Harvard University Community Affairs

Family Night at the Harvard Museum of Natural History is another way children and families can enjoy nature's treasures. Sabir Cunningham from the Morse School listens to Dad reading a story.

Kids, families tap science museums

The Harvard Museum of Natural History has added a new family-fun science adventure to the mix of outreach programs - overnight camp-ins INSIDE the museum. The program began this August with kids and their chaperones sleeping over in the HMNH galleries with all kinds of evening activities and hands-on interaction with artifacts and specimens.

This is just the latest in a list of programs that link local school children, teachers, and families to Harvard's science museums each year for hands-on exploration. After all, what better place to dig your hands into science than the home of artifacts, minerals, bones, fossils, and even live critters?

At the HMNH, outreach programs range from collaborations with Cambridge Public Schools to provide science adventures that are tied to in-class teaching, to annual Family Science Nights, where students get a chance to show their parents all they've learned at the museum in a free afternoon, and special Sunday afternoon science programs for families. And for parents, evening science lectures give adults the latest in research on issues like evolution, wildlife conservation, and our understanding of the lives and work of well-known experts like Jane Goodall and historic figures such as Charles Darwin.

For anthropology and archaeology buffs, the Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology regularly hosts open houses giving families behind-the-scenes glimpses into the field.

Science learning at Harvard's museums can be a kid-friendly family affair.

For more on the events and activities at all Harvard's museums go to:
<http://www.artmuseums.harvard.edu/events/events.html>.



Sackler Summer Fun for Kids

University museums as a summer fun destination for kids? At Harvard University they are. For the past several years, Harvard University Art Museums have offered free museum activities for children visiting from Boston-area summer camps. The agenda? Learning how to enjoy the museum and actually making art. Nazavien Davis (age 5) from the Ellis Memorial childcare program in Boston shows off his watercolor.

Photo by Stephanie Mitchell/Harvard University News Office



During Family Science Night at the Harvard Museum of Natural History, Pamela Restrepo (age 5) of Cambridge looks through a leaf collection.

Photo by Kris Sribbe/Harvard University News Office

current & upcoming museum exhibits

Busch-Reisinger Museum

Rembrandt and the Aesthetics of Technique

Sept. 9, 2006 - Dec. 10, 2006

Harvard Museum of Natural History

Arthropods: Creatures that Rule
opening September 30, 2006

Fogg Art Museum

Undercover: Artists' Sketchbooks
through October 22, 2006

DISSENT!

November 11, 2006 - February 25, 2007

Arthur M. Sackler Museum

The New Chinese Landscape: Recent Acquisitions

through November 12, 2006

Sharon Lockhart: Pine Flat
through November 19, 2006

Peabody Museum

Michael Rockefeller: New Guinea Photographs, 1961

Nov. 15, 2006 - Feb. 27, 2007

Semitic Museum

The Houses of Ancient Israel: Domestic, Royal, Divine
ongoing exhibit

Collection of Historical Scientific Instruments

Time, Life, & Matter: Science in Cambridge

ongoing exhibit in the Putnam Gallery

happenings @ HARVARD

www.community.harvard.edu

Community Day highlights

Sunday, September 17, 2006

All Museums

A wide selection of must-see permanent and special exhibitions: 1-5PM

Free & open to the public

Harvard Museum of Natural History

Live Creature Feature: 1PM

Discovery Zones: 1-5PM

Investigation Stations: 1-5PM

Free & open to the public

Fogg Art Museum

Drop in and Draw in the Calderwood Courtyard: 1-3PM

Free & open to the public

Semitic Museum

Docent tour of Houses of Ancient Israel exhibit: 3PM

Free & open to the public

Peabody Museum

Central America dance group

XUCHIPILLI Danza y Cultura: 1:30-3:30PM

Free & open to the public

Collection of Historical Scientific Instruments

Benjamin Franklin: A How-To Guide: through Dec. 22

Free & open to the public

museum events & programs

Harvard Museum of Natural History

Sunday, September 10 at 2PM

Hunting for Dinosaurs and Other Long Lost Creatures

Free with museum admission/open to the public

Peabody Museum

October 9 at noon-4:30PM

Zooarchaeology Lab Open House

Free & open to the public

Harvard Museum of Natural History

Sunday, October 15 at 2PM

One Kingdom: Our Lives with Animals

Free with museum admission/open to the public

Peabody Museum

November 2 from 5-8PM

Day of the Dead celebration including performances, traditional Mexican food and music.

Free & open to the public

Fogg Art Museum

Six weekend afternoons

Drop in and Draw!

Free with museum admission

call 617-495-4402 for information

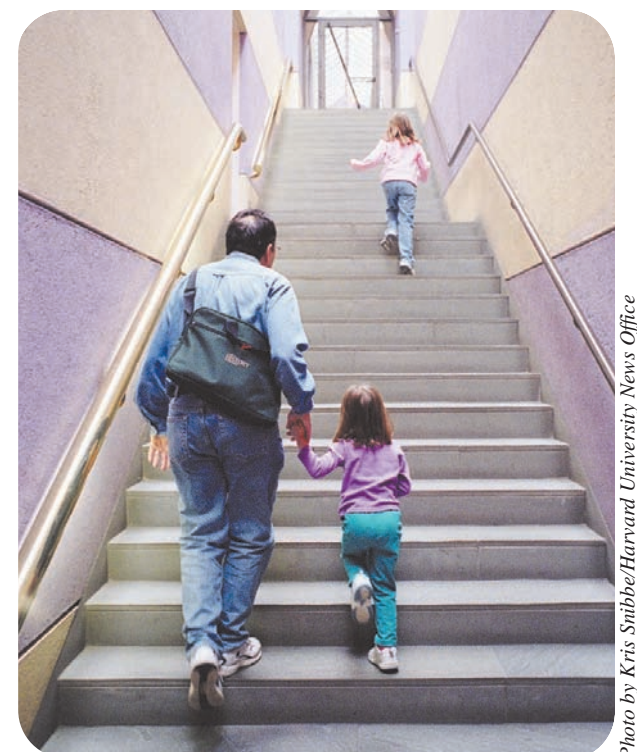


Photo by Kris Sribbe/Harvard University News Office

Marty Blatt ascends the staircase leading to the 4th floor gallery holding the hand of his daughter Rosam (age 4), while Emma (age 7) runs ahead for a free program for parents and children at the Sackler. Harvard University Art Museums host hands-on activities that make art fun for kids. For more information go to: <http://www.artmuseums.harvard.edu/sackler/>.

FREE MUSEUM HOURS

Regular admission rates range from FREE to \$9/adult. For more information go to: <http://www.harvard.edu/museums>.

FREE admission daily to the Semitic Museum.

Most Harvard Museums offer FREE admission for Cambridge Public Library cardholders.

The Harvard University Art Museums (Fogg Museum, Busch-Reisinger Museum, Arthur M. Sackler Museum) offer FREE admission Saturday 10AM-12PM & every-day after 4:30PM. Children under 18, always FREE.

Harvard Museum of Natural History & Peabody Museum FREE to MA residents on Sun. mornings from 9AM-12PM year round & Wed. afternoons from 3-5PM Sept. - May.

Harvard University Museums Community Day

Fourth Annual Community Day - September 17, 2006 - FREE Admission to all Harvard Museums from 1-5PM

1

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford Street
617-495-3045

www.hmnh.harvard.edu

Open to the public daily,
9AM - 5PM.
Closed on holidays.



3

Semitic Museum
6 Divinity Avenue
617-495-4631

www.fas.harvard.edu/~semitic/

Open to the public Mon - Fri, 10AM - 4PM & Sun, 1 - 4PM.

Closed on holidays,
& Sun before Mon holidays.



5

Adolphus Busch Hall
29 Kirkland Street
617-495-9400

www.artmuseums.harvard.edu

Open to the public on the second Sunday of each month, 1 - 5PM, and when organ concerts are given.
Closed on holidays.

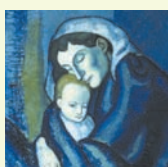


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Fogg Art Museum
32 Quincy Street
617-495-9400

www.artmuseums.harvard.edu

Open to the public Mon - Sat, 10AM - 5PM & Sun, 1 - 5PM.
Closed on holidays.



2

Peabody Museum
11 Divinity Avenue
617-496-1027

www.peabody.harvard.edu

Open to the public daily,
9AM - 5PM.
Closed on holidays.



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Collection of Historical Scientific Instruments

Science Center 136 & 251
1 Oxford Street
617-495-2779

http://www.fas.harvard.edu/~hs

dept/chsi/



Free & open to the public Mon - Fri, 11AM - 4PM
Closed on holidays.

Children must be escorted by an adult.

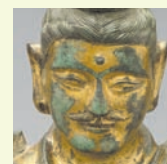
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Arthur M. Sackler Museum
485 Broadway
617-495-9400

www.artmuseums.harvard.edu

Open to the public Mon - Sat, 10AM - 5PM & Sun, 1 - 5PM

Closed on holidays.



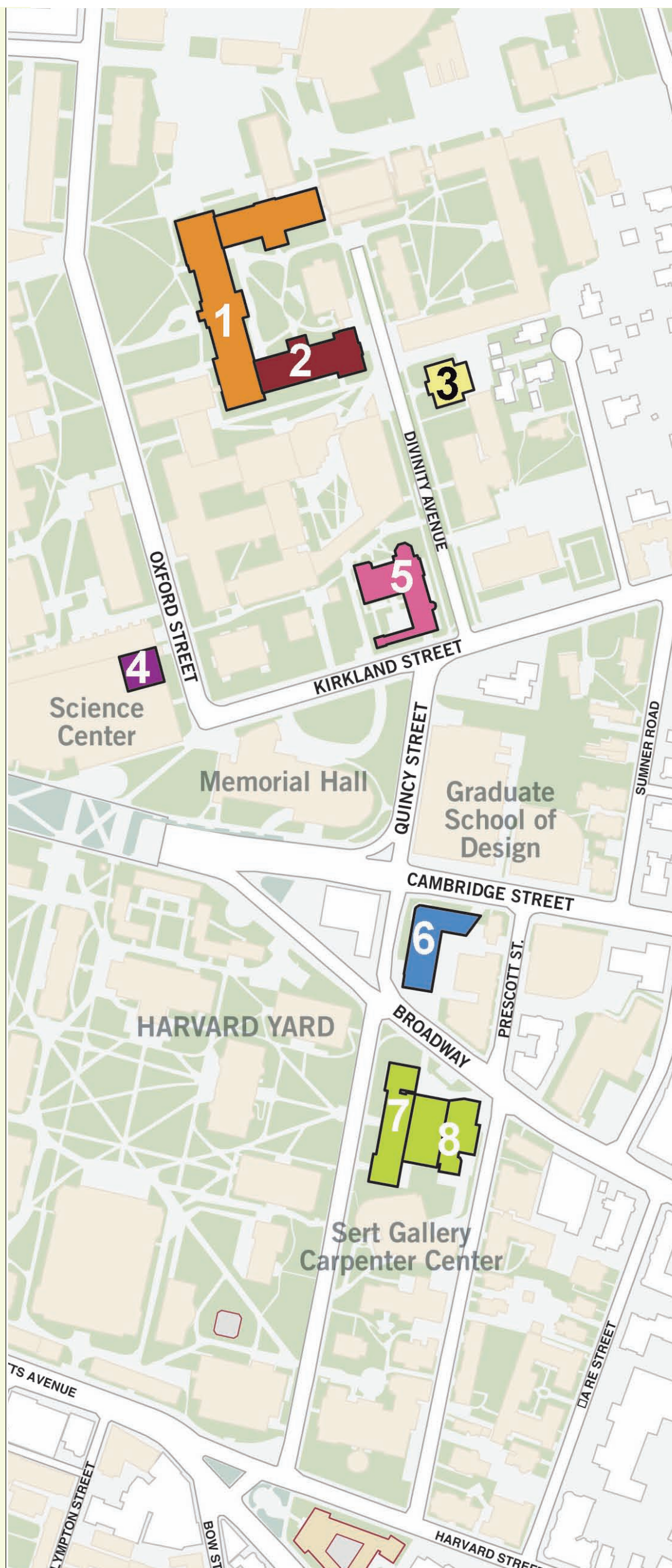
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Busch-Reisinger Museum
32 Quincy Street
617-495-9400

www.artmuseums.harvard.edu

Open to the public Mon - Sat, 10AM - 5PM & Sun, 1 - 5PM

Closed on holidays.



Tell us what you think! Email us at: community@harvard.edu

