

The Principia School of Nations Museum

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“... whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.”

-Philippians 4:8

You're invited to explore humanity's love of beauty, spirit of innovation, and pursuit of justice as revealed in our collection, programs and exhibits. Our facilities and staff can provide a nice change of pace for your class or group. We love to partner with all levels and all departments. **See our contact information at the end of the newsletter.**

Now enjoy a quick “museum tour.”

BATTLEFIELD DRESS: Robin Shipman's sixth grade study of the Civil War goes beyond the textbook when re-enactors bring period costumes, uniforms and equipment, including a canon, to Principia.



Principia alumnus **Randy Baehr**, left, helps sixth graders compare reproduction Civil War uniforms and equipment with authentic artifacts in the museum collection.

ANTARCTICA AND BEYOND: Doug Hoff's second grade began its study of the continents this month. The museum is providing indigenous artifacts and hands-on objects from all seven continents for an in-class museum.

ODE TO A GRECIAN URN: Louise Elmgren-Carlson's fifth grade art students created their own **Amphora designs**, a project linked to their study of **ancient Greece**. The museum supplied a model urn and reference materials from our library.

PIECES OF OUR LIVES: Mrs. Carlson's sixth Grade art class designed crazy quilt patterns for a project linked to their study of **American pioneer life**. The museum provided an authentic period crazy quilt.



Fifth grade art students study an 1889 vintage crazy quilt from the museum collection. (Donor: J.D. Shea)

BASKETS & BLESSINGS: Our current **Lower lobby display** invites students to consider how the creation and sale of handicrafts can bless families around the world, and those who purchase these items, as well. Featured are **The Blessing Basket Project**, begun by an Illinois couple, and **wool rugs from Tuvla, Bosnia**. The rugs were hand-woven by refugee women, and are on loan from Principia employee Zufer Bander.

MUSEUM TO GO: We continue to supply Steve Greene's Upper School history classroom with artifacts and reproductions tied to study units in his Western Civilization course. Recent displays supported study of **The European Renaissance, French Revolution, Napoleon-era France, and World War I**.

HOW THE WEST WAS FENCED: Upper School students in **Jim Evans' American History class** learned how the invention of barbed wire changed the face of the American West. The museum provided samples of early **barbed wire** fencing.

TEMPLE MATH: Upper School Geometry students discovered the **Golden Ratio** in classical Greek temples. The museum provided a model Greek column and reference photos for the exercise.

WALKING ART: Lavishly embroidered and beaded garments from Latin America, Europe, North America, Asia and Africa, featured in an Upper School lobby exhibit, invite the question: "Where does our sense of beauty come from?"



Lush floral motifs on this heavily beaded **bandalier bag** (left), are the work of a Native American artist of the Northeastern woodlands. The ornate bolero **matador's jacket** (circa 1940) is from Spain. (Donors: C.P. Reissaus, N.B. White)

ON THE JOB: Our student workers get on-the-job training as they help with museum projects. At the Principia School campus, winter term workers **Emily Butson** and **Devin Sinner** worked on displays for the school libraries and bookstore lobby case. **Ifi Xifre** joins our student staff for spring term. **Dawn Gray** works at the College.



Sophomores **Emily Butson**, above, and **Devin Sinner**, below, created exhibits Winter term for the Upper School and Middle/Lower School libraries. Right: On the College campus, **Dawn Gray** photographs and inventories our heritage flags.



This traditional **Sepak Takraw ball**, featured in Devin's display, is used in a fast-paced modern version of an ancient Southeast Asian game. (Donor: D. McCann)

INTERNATIONAL FLAGS: The **Upper School library flag display** now features national flags of Upper School students with English, Canadian, Ghanan, Kenyan, German, Uruguayan, or Mexican citizenship. The **Kenyan flag** was also loaned for a February **College concert** to benefit the families of Principia's 26 Kenyan students.

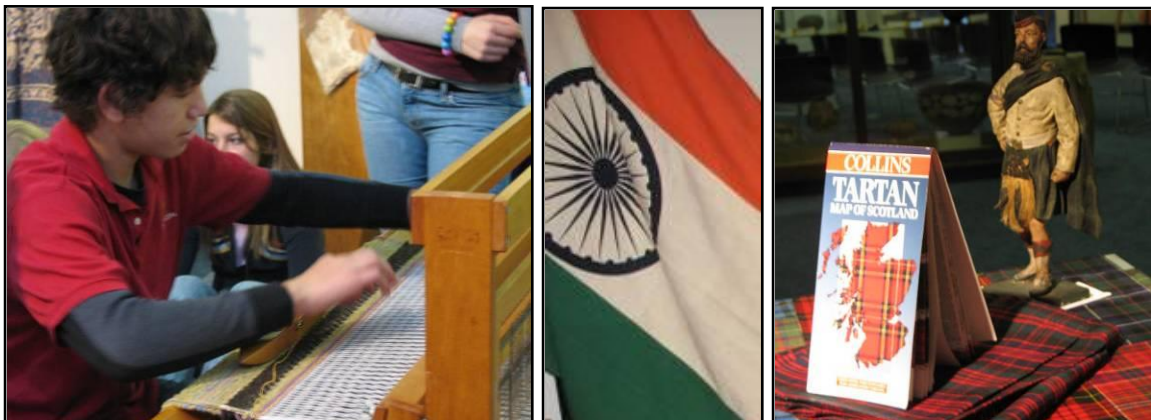
HANDSOME HANDICRAFTS: A **Middle School display** on textiles and fiber arts features a changing display of handicrafts in our collection, along with beautiful items made by members of Middle School families.

PRESIDENTIAL PITFALLS: When alumnus **Bud Krogh** spoke to **Upper School** students about lessons learned from the Watergate Scandal and his years in **The Nixon White House**, a museum display documented his Principia and White House staff years. **Campaign** and **pop culture items** were displayed at Bud's Student Council dinner.



A THIRSTY WORLD: College museum assistant Jayne Bennett featured **water containers from around the world** in a Howard Center display that invites a prayerful response to the global water crisis. Other College displays this year have featured Principia Abroad programs to **Mongolia** and **Peru**. (Photo at left: Guatemalan water jug. Donor: L. Johnson.)

TEXTILES IN HISTORY: From the dawn of human communities, people have prepared plant and animal fibers for clothing and shelter. The current floor exhibit at the **St. Louis campus** includes **touchable raw silk, wool and cotton**, and hand-woven fabrics from around the world. Visitors read how **Mahatma Gandhi** urged Indians to buy only home-spun cloth made in India, and how the British parliament outlawed Scottish "**highlander**" **tartan clothing** from 1746-1785. Students are invited to weave on a **four-harness loom**, loaned by Principia mom and textile artist, Christina Bell.



Freshman **Josh Roometua** (left) tries out a floor loom. The **spinning wheel** image on the **Indian flag** (center) symbolizes independence. **Scottish tartans** (right) came to symbolize highland pride.

EXPLORE OFF CAMPUS OPPORTUNITIES...

- **St. Louis Art Museum** (www.slam.org) Exhibit of **George Caleb Bingham's** famous painting, "**The County Election**" and preliminary sketches, through March 9th. Check out the on-line interactive program for this exhibit under "exhibitions: on the museum website. **Early American quilts (1700s-1850s)** opens March 2nd.
- **Little Bosnia**, a play about the St. Louis Bosnian community, inspired by interviews with Bosnian refugees and their families overseas. Commissioned by Avalon Theatre. Performances April 11-20 (Thurs-Sun) at Union United Methodist Church, 3543 Watson Road. For info, or to reserve tickets, contact atc@avalontheatre.org.

MUSEUM STAFF: **Nancy Boyer-Rechlin**, museum director, 314-514-3073. nancy.boyer-rechlin@principia.edu. **Sharon Cheatham**, museum assistant, The Principia School, x3298. sharon.cheatham@principia.edu. **Jayne Bennett**, museum assistant, Principia College, 618-374-2910. jayne.bennett@principia.edu.

