

MATSON MUSEUM OF ANTHROPOLOGY

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University Park, PA 16802

Newsletter



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Summer 2023

Medical Humanities Visits the Matson

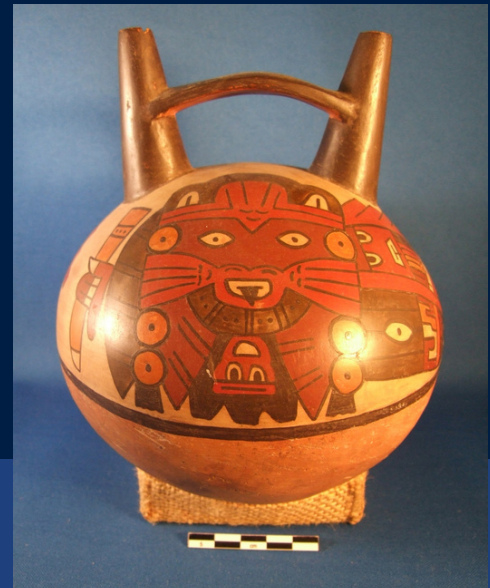
In collaboration with Dr. Mark Stephens, Associate Dean for Medical Education at the Penn State College of Medicine, Director James Doyle created “Making Strange”; a defamiliarization experience for medical students. The experience was designed to challenge the perception of medical students by prompting them to distinguish between describing artifacts only as they were seen, as opposed to interpreting them based on their knowledge. This difficult process of abandoning preconceptions and biases will assist these future medical professionals in promoting equitable and welcoming environments for their patients and co-workers.



Medical students analyzing pieces from the Matson Museum collection.

Director's Pick Dr. James Doyle

Double-spout Bottle with Flying Figure
Unrecorded Nasca Artist, Peru, AD 300-500.
Ceramic and slip; H. 18.5 cm. PSU 72:2.



Did you know?

The ancient Peruvian peoples that created the famous Nasca “lines” geoglyphs also achieved artistic excellence in painted pottery.



PennState
College of the Liberal Arts

Modernizing the Museum Student Spotlights



Museum Assistant Marcus Murphy



Museum Assistant Marcelo Negrette

Marcus Murphy, an aspiring archaeologist, actively photographs and expands the digital archives of the museum. Visitors will eventually be able to see an online gallery of these photos, and become more familiar with what the museum has to offer for students and others in the community interested in the extensive collection.

Marcelo Negrette, an undergraduate of Social Sciences and Education and museum assistant, is labeling the collection in preparation for packing. The Matson has implemented a new database with a barcoding system. Marcelo and other museum assistants are able to work with the packing team to safely pack all artifacts before they are moved to the new building. In the future, the new database will allow visitors to access the museum collection virtually.

Preparing for the New Matson

As we start preparations for our move to the Susan Welch Liberal Arts building in the fall of 2024, the Matson Museum has transformed one of the galleries into a conservation and packing space. Come check it out! Visitors are welcome to enjoy the remaining exhibits on view and to inquire about specific objects from our collection related to your field of interest or research. For more information, please email Director James Doyle at matsonmuseum@psu.edu.

Donors are crucial partners in this educational mission! To learn more about how you can become a leading patron of the new Matson Museum, please email Director James Doyle at matsonmuseum@psu.edu.

Become a Matson member! Members get invited to exclusive events on campus, access to behind-the-scenes tours, and receive the Matson newsletter! Inquire at matsonmuseum@psu.edu.



Acknowledgement of Land

Penn State campuses are located on the original homelands of the Erie, Haudenosaunee (Seneca, Cayuga, Onondaga, Oneida, Mohawk, and Tuscarora), Lenape (Delaware Nation, Delaware Tribe, Stockbridge-Munsee), Shawnee (Absentee, Eastern, and Oklahoma), Susquehannock, and Wahzhazhe (Osage) Nations. As a land-grant institution, we acknowledge and honor the traditional caretakers of these lands and strive to understand and model their responsible stewardship. We also acknowledge the longer history of these lands and our place in that history.