



# Museum Learning Center E-Newsletter

Vol. 2 · Summer 2008

Looking for new ways to teach your students about the world around them? Look no further than the Honolulu Academy of Arts. You can use the museum's collection to teach a variety of lessons in many subjects. To get an idea of what can be learned at the Academy, we invite you to discover the story behind this important work of art.



*La Grande Penelope*, 1912, bronze,  
by Emile Bourdelle

The first work of art that you will see as you enter the Academy is this very large sculpture. It stands on the stage in the Central Court. The figure is made of bronze and represents Penelope from Greek Mythology. Penelope was the wife of King Odysseus (Ulysses). She waited for twenty years for her husband's return from the Trojan War, even though almost everyone thought he was dead.

- What creative ways could you use this sculpture to teach a lesson about Greek Mythology?
- How could you use this sculpture to excite your students about European history?
- How could use this sculpture with other works of art to teach your students about the materials used to make art?
- Can you think of interactive lessons using this sculpture that would teach your students about balance, proportion, and three dimensionality?
- Can your students identify and relate to emotions that Penelope might feel? How would you incorporate this sculpture into a lesson on grief, patience, love, or hope?

## New way to register for school tours



The Museum Learning Center announces a new and improved way to register for school tours. All you have to do is complete the Tour Request Form and mail it or fax it to the MLC. We will accept tour request forms for the fall semester beginning on July 15, 2008 and for the spring semester beginning on December 2, 2008. Please visit [www.honoluluacademy.org/schooltours](http://www.honoluluacademy.org/schooltours) to download the request form and to view the

school tours being offered in the 2008-2009 school year.

## School tours to include interactive element



The Museum Learning Center is enhancing all of our school tours to include an interactive element, such as writing about the collection, trying on historic clothing, making a work of art, or dramatizing a story. Adding these elements will extend school tours to be one and a half

hours, which will ensure students a more rewarding and enriching museum experience. (The *Creatively Christmas* tour will remain one hour long.) Please review the Tour Request Form to see which tours will be an hour and a half this school year.

# See what else is new at the MLC

Visit us online at [www.honoluluacademy.org](http://www.honoluluacademy.org)  
and click on the Education tab.



## Submit your lesson plans and student work

To expand the Academy's growing collection of curriculum guides and lesson plans related to our exhibitions, we invite educators to share with us successful lesson plans and student work inspired by our collection. We will post these lessons online so that educators across the state can learn from each other and share best practices. Contact 532-8728 or [teachers@honoluluacademy.org](mailto:teachers@honoluluacademy.org) to learn more about submitting your work.

Don't forget to visit [www.honoluluacademy.org/teacher](http://www.honoluluacademy.org/teacher) to find curriculum guides and resources that will assist you in relating your tour to your classroom lessons.



## Bank of Hawaii Family Sunday

Bank of Hawaii Family Sunday has unveiled its new themed days. During this free family day at the Academy, the event's theme revolves around an element of art. Bank of Hawaii Family Sundays are on the third Sunday of each month from 11am to 5pm.

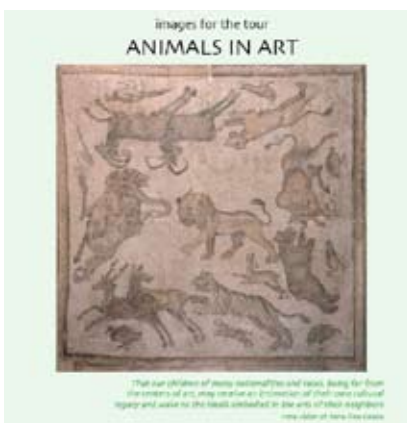
June 15 / Out of the BLUE

July 20 / In the SPACE Provided

August 10 / UltraVIOLET\*

September 21 / A Feel for TEXTURE

\*Note, in August, this event is on the second Sunday of the month.



## Slide packets are going digital

In response to numerous teacher requests, the Museum Learning Center is converting our slide packets to digital form so that the images can be viewed on a computer instead of on a slide projector. You will be able to go to our website to download the images for your tour, which include background information on the artwork and discussion questions. Introducing these works to your students before their tour will make their visit to the museum more meaningful, because they will have familiarity and recognition with the works when they see them in person. The slide packets will be updated in phases beginning this summer, so be sure to visit [www.honoluluacademy.org/teacher](http://www.honoluluacademy.org/teacher) for more information.

## New docents graduate

The Academy is pleased to announce the graduation of 19 new docents. After a rigorous two-year art history training program, these docents are now experts on both the permanent collection and on the museum's special exhibitions. This docent class includes retired doctors, lawyers, business leaders, and teachers who are now ready to join the Academy's 100 other docents in giving exceptional tours of the museum.

Perhaps your next school tour will be led by one of these outstanding new docents.



## Upcoming Exhibitions and Teacher Workshops

The Museum Learning Center is excited to announce the following exhibitions and teacher workshops:

### *Barry Moser: The Art of the Book*

June 17 to August 4, 2008



### *Art and Life in Colonial America*

August 18 to November 7, 2008 and  
January 13 to March 20, 2009

\*Teacher Workshop on Wednesday, September 3, 2008 from 5 to 7 pm and  
on Saturday, September 6, 2008 from 9 am to 3 pm

### *All About Art - Textiles*

September 4, 2008 to August 9, 2009

\*Teacher Workshop on Saturday, September 20, 2008, times TBD



1 - Self Portrait of booksmith Barry Moser; 2 - A student dresses like a colonial child; 3 - Santa's elf puts on a magic show; 4 - Schoolchildren learn how to use a loom; 5 - Textiles are important to cultures around the world

## Art and Life in Colonial America

Nationally recognized historian at the teacher workshop and extended exhibition dates



The Museum Learning Center and the Hawaii Council for the Humanities invite fifth grade public school teachers to participate in a teacher workshop for the Academy's annual exhibition *Art and Life in Colonial America*. The guest speaker for this workshop is Dr. Gary Nash, Professor and Director of the National Center for History in the Schools at UCLA. For decades Dr. Nash has been at the forefront of teaching history in schools through his role in developing the National History Standards and his authorship of numerous history books and textbooks. At this teacher workshop, Dr. Nash will discuss his book *Red, White and Black: The Peoples of Early America* and review with educators the dynamics among the American Indians, European settlers, and African slaves in the colonial period.

The workshop will be held in two parts. On Wednesday, September 3rd from 5 pm to 7 pm, participants will be introduced to the objectives of the workshop and tour the *Art and Life in Colonial America* exhibition. Then on Saturday, September 6 from 9 am to 3 pm, teachers will hear from Dr. Nash and work with the Museum Learning Center and each other to understand how they can maximize the Academy's resources to teach their students American History. Every year, thousands of Hawaii students, primarily those in the fifth grade, attend the *Art and Life in Colonial America* tour, which this year will run from August 18 to November 7, 2008 and reopen from January 13 to March 20, 2009. This workshop is supported by the U.S. Department of Education's Teaching America History Grant.

For more information, contact Kita McCord at 532-8728 or [teachers@honoluluacademy.org](mailto:teachers@honoluluacademy.org).