

Field Trips Grades 6-8

Special Exhibition Programs

The Armory Show at 100: Modern Art and Revolution

October 11, 2013-February 23, 2014

In 1913, the International Exhibition of Modern Art came to New York. Organized by a small group of American artists and presented at the Lexington Avenue Armory (and thus nicknamed the Armory Show), it introduced the American public to European avant-garde painting and sculpture. Students will explore this centennial celebration of the Armory Show to learn about this now-legendary event. They will consider not only the visual arts, but music, literature, and early film, as well as the political and economic climate of the time. They will learn how the Armory Show inspired seismic shifts in American culture, politics, and society.

Audubon's Aviary: Part II of the Complete Flock

March 24-May 26, 2014

Take your students on a tour of John James Audubon's beautiful watercolors from *The Birds of North America*, and learn how Audubon became the "patron saint" of the naturalist movement in the U.S. In a tour of Part II of this groundbreaking exhibition, students will study the techniques Audubon used to produce his life-like images and practice the close observation and identification that made Audubon's work not just aesthetically beautiful, but scientifically significant.

DiMenna Children's History Museum (DCHM) Programs

History Detectives

Students explore 300 years of New York and American history through artifacts, interactive games, and maps. They will engage in small group work as they examine the pavilions and practice their history detective skills through close observation and careful reading of text in multiple formats.

Artifact Adventure

Students take their history detective skills to the next level by engaging in close examination of touch objects, which are replicas of museum artifacts. Then, they explore the DCHM for clues to place their objects in their proper historical context.

Four Seasons/Four Centuries:

The DiMenna Children's History Museum and Beyond

This four-program series covers 400 years of New York City history and introduces students to object-, art-, and document-based inquiry. Lessons focus on major questions and themes of the

1600s, 1700s, 1800s, and 1900s. In each 90-minute lesson the students will spend time in both the DCHM and galleries throughout the museum.

The themes of each lesson are as follows:

- Cornelia's World: New Amsterdam/New York in the 1600s
- Revolutionary Ruckus: New York and the American Revolution
- Country in Crisis: New York and the Civil War
- Newsie New York: Life in the Early 20th Century

Early New York

Life in New Amsterdam

Students examine artifacts in our museum collection to learn about the exploration and settlement of New Amsterdam by Dutch colonists, Native Americans, and enslaved people. Authentic objects from the touch collection allow students to imagine life in the 17th century and to compare and contrast it with life today.

The American Revolution in New York

Students consider the causes, effects, and significance of the American Revolution by learning about its course in New York. Paintings, primary sources, artifacts, and touch objects from our collections bring this dramatic moment in our nation's history to life.

Slavery in New York

This program examines the important role enslaved people played in the development of New York under Dutch, British, and American rule. Students analyze artifacts, paintings, and primary sources to deepen their understanding of slavery as it was practiced in New York in the 17th, 18th and early-19th centuries.

New York City: Then and Now

Students compare artifacts, works of art, photographs, and prints from the Dutch colonial period through the early 20th century to their modern day counterparts. Students come to understand the evolution of the city over time and learn to think critically about their everyday surroundings.

The Nation Grows

Immigration: America Begins in New York

Students explore works of art and primary sources to understand the challenges of traveling to and settling in a new country, and learn the many ways that immigrants shaped our city and nation.

New York and the Civil War

Based on the New-York Historical Society's recently published book *The Civil War in 50 Objects*, this program allows students to consider the causes, effects, and significance of the

Civil War through the close observation of paintings, artifacts, and historical documents. Students will analyze and discuss the debates that raged in New York and the nation over slavery, states' rights, and the rights of citizens, as well as the experiences of soldiers on the front.

Industrialization

Students examine works of art and artifacts to learn how the transformation of the city from an agricultural to a manufacturing society impacted New York and the nation. From robber barons to factory workers, they will get to know the New Yorkers who experienced both the problems and the pleasures of a growing city.

Historical Inquiry and Discovery

Learning History Through Paintings

In this program students learn to read paintings as both works of art and historical texts. By examining portraits, cityscapes, and landscapes, they develop the vocabulary to describe, analyze, and contextualize paintings.

Objects Tell Stories

Students learn to work like historians. They view objects from the past—from a waffle iron to an 18th century coach—and analyze what they tell us about life long ago. In the process, students develop their visual literacy and critical thinking skills.

Being a Historian

What exactly are historians and why do we need them? During a highlights tour of the museum students experience the kind of work that historians do, from examining an artifact and discovering its secrets to analyzing a painting for clues about what the world looked like long ago. In the end, they will have to decide: Is learning about the past important?

To book a program, visit
www.nyhistory.org/ednet.

If you have any questions, please contact us at
212-485-9293.