



SMOKE SIGNALS

August 2015

Spreading the Good News

**By Dana Simon
Gillies President**

There's good news, then there's more good news.

I'm happy to announce that Executive Director Jim Pepper Henry has agreed to be our keynote speaker at this fall's Gilcrease Forum, according to Forum Chair Teresa Adwan.

Pepper Henry has some grand plans for Gilcrease. He will communicate some of those goals and designs with the Gillies, as well as with the public on Friday, September 18, at 1:00 p.m. in the Gilcrease Auditorium. Citizens of Tulsa are invited to attend, in addition to all Gillies members.

Turn to page 2 of this August *Smoke Signals* issue to find out more about what Pepper Henry plans to reveal about grand ideas for Gilcrease Museum and the surrounding 460 acres.

More good news: Two recent surveys have revealed much about the needs of the museum, and also how the Gillies Docents are doing with regard to the *Any Given Child* arts enrichment program promoted by the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C., in conjunction with the Tulsa Public Schools system.

Respondents to the Gilcrease Museum Survey included Gilcrease Staff, Board and Gillies. Not

surprisingly, top ranked priorities were protecting the collection and maintaining a good staff. Marketing of the museum, audience development, and upgrading the facility also were important.

In the AGC 2014-2015 Survey, some 66 percent of the teachers responded, compared with 1 percent of the teachers in 2013-2014. Teachers gave overwhelming praise to the effectiveness of the *Gilcrease Goes to School* programs, and they found the presenters to be friendly, courteous and knowledgeable. Most said the presentations favorably affected students' learning and appreciation for the arts.

The majority of the teachers made additional comments. Among the comments: "They learned about sculptures, painting, 2D/3D art, foreground, middle ground, background, portraits, landscapes, bison, Native Americans, tracks. They were so excited to go to a grown-up place. They really enjoyed the artwork."

Another comment was: "The students have talked nonstop about our trip to Gilcrease. They wrote about this experience in their journals. We also added several vocabulary words to both of our Spanish and English word walls so the students may refer back to them in relation to other subject areas."

This year's *Any Given Child* tours will begin on September 15 in the *On Common Ground* galleries.

Gillies, Keep Sharing Your Knowledge

Gillies Coffee, General Meeting, Luncheon & Gilcrease Forum To Be on September 18

All Gillies, make your reservations for the General Membership Luncheon to be held on Friday, September 18.

Send your check for **\$14.00** to: **Gillies Treasurer Marsha McElroy, 5206 S. Harvard Ave. #331, Tulsa, OK. 74135**
Checks should be made out to: **"The Gillies."** **Deadline for payment is Friday, September 4**

The luncheon will be preceded by a Gillies Coffee in the Vista Room at 10:00 a.m., followed by the General Membership Meeting at 11:00 a.m. in the Gilcrease Auditorium, where you will pick up your new *2015-2016 Gillies Handbook*.

Lunch prepared by Gilcrease Museum's Chef Geoff Van Glabbeek and his staff will be served in the Vista Room at noon. Don't forget the Gilcrease Forum will follow at 1:00 p.m.



Gilcrease Museum's new executive director, James Pepper Henry, who is of Kaw and Muscogee Creek heritage, stands beside *Sacred Rain Arrow* near the front entrance to the museum. The bronze sculpture, 1988, is by Chiricahua Apache artist Allan Houser.

Photo by Erik Campos

Pepper Henry to Present Ideas on 'Future of Gilcrease' at Forum

**By Melani Hamilton
Gilcrease Museum
Communications Manager**

The Gillies will kick off their 2015-2016 Gilcrease Forum presentations on Friday, September 18, with an address by Executive Director James Pepper Henry entitled "The Future of Gilcrease."

Pepper Henry became the seventeenth executive director of Gilcrease Museum on March 30. He is the first enrolled American Indian to lead Gilcrease since its founder, Thomas Gilcrease.

In his first four months, Pepper Henry has been working on a Strategic Planning Initiative that will elevate the profile of Gilcrease Museum both locally and internationally. His goals include a plan to update the existing facility to offer engaging programming that will expand audiences to include families, millennials and visitors of varying cultural backgrounds. He also plans to increase membership, and to make Gilcrease a more relevant part of the Tulsa community.

Pepper Henry's efforts have included circulation of an evaluation survey to various segments of the Gilcrease community, including the Gillies.

Pepper Henry's Gilcrease Forum talk will provide an overview of the project and information on its progress. Asked if he would take questions, he answered, "Of course!"

Most recently, Pepper Henry was the Director and CEO of the Heard Museum in Phoenix. There, he developed programming and exhibitions that significantly increased visitorship and membership.

Prior to the Heard, he enjoyed a successful tenure at the Anchorage Museum at Rasmuson Center, Alaska's premier art, history and science institution.

He also is a former associate director of the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI).

As an associate director of NMAI for nearly 10 years, Pepper Henry managed a wide variety of American Indian community-oriented programs, services and traveling exhibitions. He played a pivotal role in the establishment and launch of NMAI, located on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., that opened to the public in 2004.

Pepper Henry served as the founding director of the Kanza Museum in Kaw City, Oklahoma; interim curator of American Indian Art at the Portland Art Museum; gallery director at the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center in Portland, Oregon; and gallery director for the Institute of Alaska Native Arts in Fairbanks, Alaska.

He is an enrolled member of the Kaw Nation, and affiliated with the Muscogee Creek nation. His mother is of Kaw and Muscogee Creek descent. He is co-founder and president of the Kanza Iloshka Society, a non-profit organization dedicated to the perpetuation of the cultural life-ways and traditions of the Kaw people.

He is a graduate of the University of Oregon and a recipient of the university's prestigious Council for Minority Education Leadership Award. He also is a graduate of the Museum Leadership Institute at the Getty Center in Los Angeles, California.

He has contributed essays to various publications, including *Stewards of the Sacred*, co-published by the American Association of Museums and Harvard University, and *Native Universe: Voices of Indian America*, co-published by the Smithsonian Institution and the National Geographic Society.

Gilcrease Forums are presented twice a year, in September and March, as a service of The Gillies volunteer organization. The Forums are free and open to the public with paid museum admission.

The September 18 event will be at 1:00 p.m. in the museum auditorium, following the Gillies General Membership Meeting at 11:00 a.m., and a Gillies Luncheon at noon in the Vista Room.

This will be a great opportunity to learn what the future holds for Gilcrease.

You don't want to miss it!

Docent Corner

By Sondra Mullins
Docent Chair

The next Docent meeting will be on **Friday, August 28, in Gallery 18.**

The program will be a presentation by Acting Director of Education & Public Programs Deborah Burke and Associate Curator of Family & Youth Programs Sarah Wright on the Interactive Art Sense Tour (with Art Cart.)

The new tour will be introduced to students and teachers in grades kindergarten through 5th grade, beginning in the fall of 2015.

The Interactive Art Sense Tour, using an Art Cart is an opportunity for students and teachers to learn more about Gilcrease Museum's collection through interactive experiences designed to address a variety of learning styles by using a multi-sensory approach. The Art Cart is the main component of the tour, with art supplies, reproduction artifacts and activities used to experience specific works of art through a one-to-two-hour tour.

The *First Visit* tour will continue this year in the *On Common Ground* galleries with a few modifications. A new *Small Talk* tour will be developed in the *Enduring Spirit* galleries.

A tour is being developed for the exhibit *Painted Journeys: The Art of John Mix Stanley*, which will open on Sunday, October 4, closing on Sunday, January 3, 2016.

Docents, thanks again for all you do and I will see you at the Docent Meeting.

Think Positive.



Gillies Docents give tours to children in the *Focus on Favorites* galleries as part of the Summer Tour Program 2015, *Face-Time with Super Heroes*. Taking part are Jo Carolyn Rushing, top left photo, in the Creative Learning Center where participants made a "super mask;" Kathy Horne with *Washington and Lafayette at the Battle of Brandywine* by John Vanderlyn, Barbara Bush and Karen Jarvis, holding a copy of the Declaration of Independence in front of *Charles Carroll of Carrollton* by Thomas Sully; Nancy Kingery beside *Spectres From the North* by Thomas Moran; Sandy Montgomery holding a photograph of artist Frederic Remington as Alan Jarvis looks on; and Mindy Paschal showing *Frank Hamilton Cushing* by Thomas Eakins.

Photos by Rick Paschal

Speaking of Gilcrease **Training to Be Offered**

By Frances Whisman
***Speaking of Gilcrease* Chair**

Have you ever thought of volunteering with the *Speaking of Gilcrease* program?

Now is the time!

More and more senior residential facilities have heard of what Gilcrease Museum has to offer them. In addition, *Speaking of Gilcrease* gives presentations to many civic organizations and clubs in the Tulsa area.

Additional volunteers are needed to help the current presenters, and to expand the program.

New presentations will be offered this fall.

What does this have to do with you?

Come learn more about *Speaking of Gilcrease* at the training session scheduled on Monday, August 24, from 10:00 a.m. to noon in the reading room behind the Kravis Discovery Center.

You will be introduced to the state-of-the-art digital projection equipment, and you will be trained on how to use it. You also will receive a guide book containing the text of the various programs, for example, *Gilcrease Sampler*, *Remington & Russell*, *Plains Indians*, *George Catlin, Oklahoma – Sagebrush to Statehood*, *Trappers & Traders*, *The Westward Movement*, *The Gardens at Gilcrease*, and more.

If you plan to attend the training, please contact my cell: (918) 759-1131, or by e-mail: frances.whisman@cox.net

This Gillies community out-reach program is a tremendous benefit to the museum. It also is a personally rewarding experience.

The Living Exhibit

By Chuck Gibson
Gardens Chair

Tulsa is lucky to have so many beautiful, public gardens, such as, the historically based Gilcrease Museum Gardens, Linnaeus Teaching Gardens, Tulsa Botanical Gardens, the Italian styled Philbrook Museum of Art gardens, and more.

Each of these gardens serves a different purpose and provides a different experience to its visitors.

The historical Gilcrease Gardens are complementary to the museum, and they can enhance our guests' total experience.

A visitor can tour the museum's extensive art, historical documents and artifacts that represent the founding of the Americas, with an emphasis on the United States. Similarly, the museum's gardens portray the movement of American gardening styles from a time before Columbus arrived at Hispaniola to the present.

The Pre-Columbian garden represents a period predating the arrival of Columbus. The Colonial Gardens were popular from the late 1600s to mid-1800s. Victorian gardens came into existence during Queen Victoria's reign, from 1837 to 1901. About this time, the pioneers were moving west and planting their Pioneer Gardens. In the late 1800s, people became interested in Rock Gardens.

Indeed, the historical gardens at Gilcrease parallel the history of the United States.

If you would like to know more about the historical Gilcrease Gardens, contact me: Chuck Gibson (918) 814-2339 or cogir@cox.net.

Visit the Garden Sculptures

Start to visit the Gilcrease Gardens. One by one, take in the many sculptures that grace the museum's landscape which covers more than 460 acres. This bronze sculpture is by Colorado skier-turned-artist Denny Haskew. It is called "Strength

of the Maker," and was donated in 1999 by Pat and Patti Lester, & Wade, Robert, and David James. The art piece is a show of powerful Native American muscular force. The sculpture must be observed from all directions to appreciate the true potent energy. The back side has just as much authority as the front. The outdoor sculpture is installed in the Byron & Audray Boone Grove. It is in between Gilcrease Museum Road to the east, and the narrow drive on the west that leads to the northeast parking lot from the circular passenger drop-off at the museum's front entrance. A locator map may be found in the colorful *Gardens at Gilcrease Museum*

brochure at the front Greeters' Desk. Traipse over to this magnificent outdoor art piece, and you will be mesmerized. You will want to visit it often.

Photo by Rick Paschal



Please Take Note

~~ Kathy Horne, Secretary

Changes in addresses:

Glenna Anderson – 4130 E. 31st St., #3028
Tulsa, OK 74135
Jim & Jo Ann Clapp – 4130 E. 31st St., #4029
Tulsa, OK 74135
Leona Graham – 6332 S. 90th East Place
Tulsa, OK 74133
Charles & Margarita Harrison – 4121 E. 86th
St.
Tulsa, OK 74137
Jim & Dot Kelly – 4130 E. 31st St., #3019
Tulsa, OK 74135
Alana Trisler – 5823 E. 63rd St.
Tulsa, OK 74136

Changes in emails:

Mary Estrada – mary.estrada6544@gmail.com
Margarita Harrison –
margaritaharrison377@gmail.com
Alana Trisler – atrisler@icloud.com

Changes in phone numbers:

Glenna Anderson – (918) 633-7014
Mary Elliott – (918) 607-7370
Leona Graham – (918) 638-6831
Charles Harrison – (417) 631-8504
Jim & Dot Kelly – (918) 949-9999
Jim Walker – (918) 691-8421

Deaths:

Erich Westfield – June 11, 2015
Joan Stauffer – June 15, 2015
Barbara Kimbrough – June 19, 2015
Elizabeth Collins – July 8, 2015

Get well cards sent to:

Jo Ann Clapp Mark Dolph

Sympathy cards sent to:

Families of Erich Westfield, Joan Stauffer,
Barbara Kimbrough, and Elizabeth Collins
Phyllis Logsdon – death of daughter
Deanna Storm – death of son-in-law
Nancy Teasley – death of husband

Thinking of you cards sent to:

Marsha McElroy Judy Reiners

*Please send changes in contact information
(address, phone, and email), as well as news
about a Gillie who is ill to Gillies Secretary
Kathy Horne, phone:(918) 747-4716 or email:
kchorne49@gmail.com*

Several Courses at TU Open for Gillies to Audit

Several University of Tulsa courses being offered this fall that relate to the Gilcrease Museum collection have been identified for Gillies to audit, said Gillies TU Audit Chair Joe Tipton.

Fall classes begin on August 24. TU has been accepting applications for admission to audit classes since July 24, so some classes already might be closed. Gillies Docents are given preference when audit openings are limited. Interns are not eligible until they graduate in May 2016.

Interested Gillies should contact Joe Tipton at joeintulsa@aol.com or phone: (918) 492-2140.

Handbook Photo Session Set

Gillies who have not yet had their photo taken for the new *2015-2016 Gillies Handbook* may do so on Thursday, August 20, at 11:30 a.m. in the Helmerich Center for American Research.

Gillies who want to change their contact information in the directory portion of the handbook, such as address, phone, cell, email, may notify Vice President Linda Harkey at (918) 266-7287 or email: lindaharkey@sbcglobal.net

Gillies to Take In Sites In Scenic Southeastern Oklahoma

The Gillies Travel Committee is planning a fall overnight tour of southeastern Oklahoma on October 21 and 22, said Travel Chair Marietta Seibert.

Among the sites to visit will be the Museum of the Red River in Idabel, the Frisco Depot Museum in Hugo, the Wheelock Academy at Millerton, historic Fort Towson, the Barnes Stephenson House in Idabel, the McAlester Building Foundation in McAlester, and more.

Accommodations will be at the new Choctaw Casino Resort in Grant. The hotel offers comfortable rooms, shopping, food and entertainment.

If we're lucky, southeastern Oklahoma's beautiful fall foliage may be at its peak.

The committee expects the total cost to be less than \$200.00. Final information and cost will be announced on Friday, September 18, at the General Membership Meeting.

The Gillies
Thomas Gilcrease Institute of American History & Art
1400 N. Gilcrease Museum Road
Tulsa, OK 74127

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

August 2015

2 – Gillies Art Show Reception	Creative Learning Ctr.	1:00 p.m.
5 – Development Comm.	Gillies Library	10:00 a.m.
7 – FMPOV	Gallery 18	noon
Speaker: Kirsten Olds, TU assistant professor of art – <i>American Impressionism with a California Palette</i>		
13 – Exec. Comm. Mtg.	Gillies Library	10:00 a.m.
13 – Education Comm. Mtg.	Board Room	1:00 p.m.
14 – Board of Directors Mtg.	Board Room	9:30 a.m.
15 – <i>Smoke Signals</i> September 2015 newsletter deadline		
16 – Gillies Art Show	Creative Learning Ctr.	Last day
16 – Funday Sunday	Gilcrease Museum	noon
17 – Gillies Handbook Mtg.	Gillies Library	10:00 a.m.
20 – New Interns Coffee	HCAR, Great Room	10:00 a.m.
20 – Handbook Photo Session	HCAR, Great Room	11:30 a.m.
24 – Gillies Handbook Mtg.	Gillies Library	10:00 a.m.
24 – <i>Speaking of Gilcrease</i> Trng.	Kravis “Reading Room”	10:00 a.m.
28 – Docents Mtg.	Gallery 18	9:30 a.m.
31 – Gillies Handbook Mtg.	Gillies Library	10:00 a.m.

September 2015

2 – Development Comm.	Gillies Library	10:00 a.m.
3 – Standards Comm.	Board Room	10:00 a.m.
6 – <i>California Impressionism: Selections from the Irvine Museum</i>		
	Getty Galleries	Closes
9 – Intern Training	Gallery 18	9:30 a.m.
10 – Exec. Comm. Mtg.	Gillies Library	10:00 a.m.
10 – Education Comm. Mtg.	Board Room	1:00 p.m.
10 – <i>Smoke Signals</i> October 2015 newsletter deadline		
11 – Board of Directors Mtg.	Board Room	9:30 a.m.
11 – FMPOV	Gallery 18	noon
Speaker: Mark Dolph, Director of Volunteer Services and long-time jazz enthusiast – <i>Giant Steps and Milestones: An Appreciation of Jazz Through the Lens of William Gottlieb</i>		
14 – Intern Training	Gallery 18	9:30 a.m.
16 – Intern Training	Gallery 18	9:30 a.m.
18 – Gillies Coffee	Gallery 18	10:00 a.m.
18 – Gillies Membership Mtg.	Auditorium	11:00 a.m.
18 – Gillies Luncheon	Vista Room	noon
18 – Gilcrease Forum	Auditorium	1:00 p.m.
20 – Funday Sunday	Gilcrease Museum	noon
21, 23, 28, 30 – Intern Training	Gallery 18	9:30 a.m.

***Smoke Signals* is published monthly, except January and July for The Gillies, the volunteer service organization of the Thomas Gilcrease Institute for American History & Art.**