



January 2025



Specters from the North

Thomas Moran

1890

103 ¼" x 146"

Oil on Canvas

In April 1890, Thomas Moran sailed aboard a White Star liner from New York City to Europe accompanied by his wife, Mary Nimmo Moran (1842–1899). When the ship was several days out at sea, reports circulated among the passengers that an iceberg was adrift nearby.¹ Moran spent hours on deck in freezing temperatures sketching the glacial behemoth, complete with notations on longitude and latitude.² These quickly executed drawings impart Moran's excitement as he encountered an iceberg firsthand. Later, the artist would channel the thrill of that moment into this oil painting, *Specters from the North*.³ Even though it was more than two decades before the RMS *Titanic* would sink after hitting an iceberg, Moran clearly appreciated the danger the bergs presented, as evidenced by the wreckage he portrayed in the painting's foreground. This bit of battered wood was also a reference to Frederic Edwin Church's *The Icebergs* (1861, Dallas Museum of Art, 1979.28) and although not obvious, the title of Moran's work creates an additional connection to Church's painting.

(continued on next page)

Church's work received considerable fanfare in 1861 when it was first shown in New York City. The sheer scale of the icebergs, which filled almost fifty square feet of canvas, astounded the public and critics. A critic for the *New-York Daily Tribune* warned, "the eye feels the first shock," and the columnist for the *Boston Christian Register* suggested that the painting would "follow" viewers "home and haunt them for weeks."⁴ Church displayed the work under the title *The North*, in honor of the first shots fired in the Civil War, the initial skirmish having occurred just twelve days before the exhibition opened. What these glacial edifices suggested about the North and abolitionism, however, was not clear. Two years later, when Church prepared to show the painting in Great Britain, he changed the title to *Icebergs* and added a small, shattered mast and crow's nest in the foreground.⁵ The title of Moran's work, *Specters from the North*, alludes to Church's original name for his painting. Moran also followed Church's example of adding something created by humans, but damaged to suggest humanity's fragility in the face of the powerful forces of nature.

—Sandra Pauly, Henry Luce Foundation Curatorial Scholar for Moran Collection Research, 2021

¹ Wilkins, *Thomas Moran: Artist of the Mountains*, 254.

² The Gilcrease collection includes [*Ocean, Birds, and Icebergs*](#) (13.1218), [*Iceberg*](#) (13.1236), [*Icebergs in the Middle Atlantic*](#) (13.1237), [*Berg to the North of Us*](#) (13.1238), [*Tower of Spray*](#) (13.1239), [*Iceberg*](#) (13.1240), [*Berg to the North after Passing*](#) (13.1241), and [*Icebergs*](#) (13.1242).

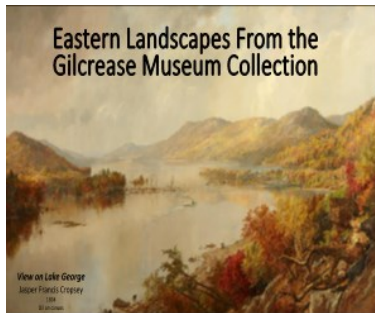
³ Gilcrease also owns a wood engraving by Moran, [*Icebergs*](#) (15.441).

⁴ Quoted in Raab, "Precisely These Objects," 588–89.

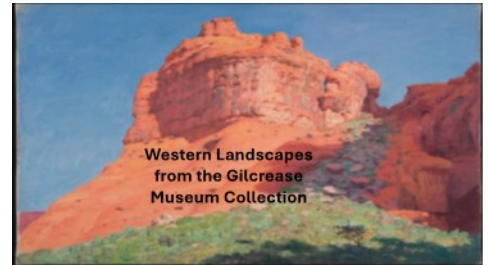
⁵ Raab, "Precisely These Objects," 588–89



Speaking of Gilcrease Program Meeting



On January 3, following the regular Docent Meeting in HCAR, there will be a meeting about the Speaking of Gilcrease Program. All Gillies currently participating in the program as well as those interested in becoming involved, are encouraged to attend. Two new presentations on Landscapes will be distributed. One will feature landscapes from the Eastern United States and the other on Western landscapes.



SOG Chair, Marion Richardson, has received requests from several new sites. With the opportunity to grow into new venues, we need more Gillies to step up to make it happen.

Any Gillie wanting to become involved in SOG will have the opportunity to be trained at this meeting. If you have any questions about becoming an SOG Gillie, please contact Marion Richardson at 918-970-4754 or Kathe Crapster at 918-924-9182.

There are nine SOG programs: Americans All, Gilcrease in Your Neighborhood, Horses, Rivers, Nocturnes, National Parks, Women in Art, and Eastern and Western Landscapes.



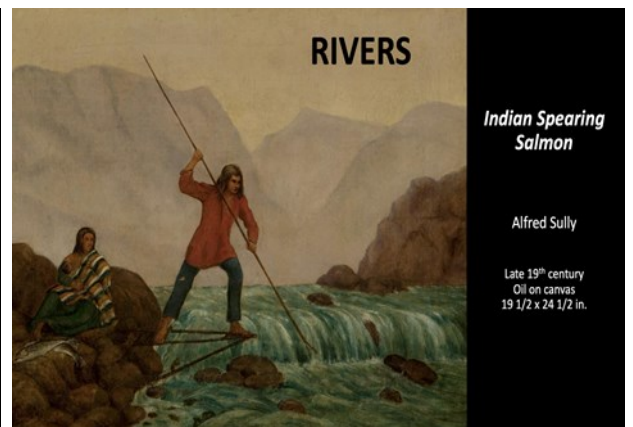
The Bronco Buster
By Frederic Remington
1909
Lost-wax cast in bronze



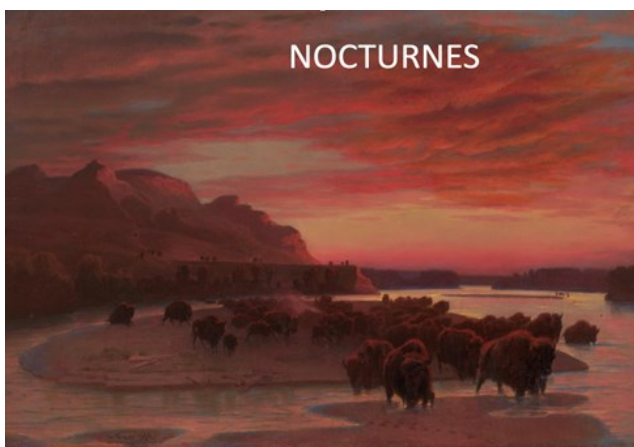
A Horse, Of Course!

A look at the corral of the
Gilcrease Museum

RIVERS



NOCTURNES



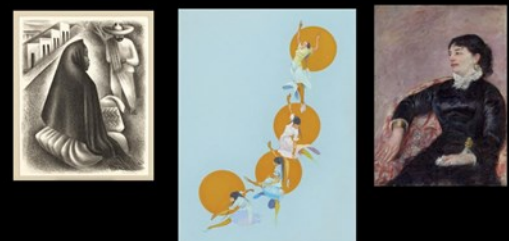
Buffalo Crossing the Platte

Carl Ferdinand
Wimar
1828 - 1862

1859 (Age 31)
Oil

Images of Women

In the Gilcrease Collections



Compiled by Karen T Morris, Fall 2021, revised Dec. 2023

Forum Speaker Announced

By Teresa Pena, Forum Chair



The Gillies are so excited to announce our Spring Forum speaker, JOHN WOOLEY.

Mr. Wooley is a well-known writer, novelist, lecturer, filmmaker, and radio and TV host who specializes in the movies, literature, and music of the 1930s and '40s as well as other pop-culture history.

Mr. Wooley has written, co-written, or edited nearly 50 books. He authored the *Twentieth-Century Honky-Tonk*, the real-life story of the fabled Cain's Ballroom's first 75 years, with Brett Bingham; *Right Down the Middle*, the as-told-to biography of famed New York Yankees pitcher Ralph Terry, a northeastern Oklahoma boy who went on to become 1962 World Series MVP; the critically acclaimed biography of moviemaker Wes Craven, *The Man and His Nightmares*; and *Shot in Oklahoma*, a look at Sooner State-lensed pictures.

John Wooley has scripted a number of documentaries, the recent *Oklahoma Military Academy: The West Point of the Southwest*. His scripting extends to comic books and graphic novels.

Mr. Wooley was also an entertainment writer for the *Tulsa World* newspaper for 23 years (1983-2006). His articles and interviews appear in a wide range of other publications, from *TV Guide* to the horror-movie magazine *Fangoria*.

As the producer and host of the highly rated *Swing on This*, Tulsa's only western-swing radio program, John Wooley can be heard every Saturday night on NPR affiliate KWGS (89.5FM).

Please visit his website <https://johnwooley.com> which contains his comprehensive works - too numerous for our newsletter.

(information edited from the John Wooley website)

Mark your Calendars for March 14th.

Gillies Snuggle Up in Igloo at Sapulpa Chute

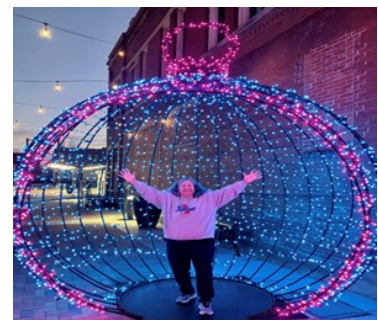
By Cindy Strassheim, Travel Chair



"Eleven Ladies Laughing, ten Igloo seatings, nine Santas watching, eight kinds of snackings...well, it is/ was a Christmas Adventure through the Sapulpa Christmas Chute! Teresa Pena, Norma Wallace, Dian Peacock, Becky Hatchett, Carol Stookey, Mary Castro, Shawn Harbert, Carli Amer-sak, Nancy Setter, Mary Brennan Elliott and Cindy Strasheim began the evening at

Crossroads Cookery for lovely soup and sandwiches before trekking through the Chute. The Christmas Train was a great way to look up at all the ceiling decorations looking for clues to the scavenger hunt. The Retro Igloo was truly nice and warm with hot chocolate and cider. Little snacks were a great etro Igloo was truly nice and warm with hot choaddition for chatting by the "fireplace." Seeing the Joni Rogers-Kante art collection in the gallery upstairs was a highlight, too!

We can't say much more because Santa was watching our every move and he told us what happens in the Christmas Chute stays in the Christmas Chute!





December Docent Meeting Report

By Alana Trisler, Docent Chair

What do Gillies do when we have a researcher extraordinaire in our midst? We invite him to share some of his expertise with us! And that's what took place at our Friday, December 6th Docent Meeting.

Two of Dr. William Smith's professional passions are American history and research into the connections of the past and present. These were at the core of his presentation on the Cherokee Hymn Book and the Reverend Isaac Watts (1674 – 1748), the father of English hymnody who composed over 750 hymns. Watts' works include "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross," "Joy to the World," and "Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed," with the latter being the hymn Dr. Smith used to compare interpretations of it from English, Cherokee, and Muscogee translations. Here are some interesting take aways from his presentation:

- Hymn books were part of the white missionaries' efforts to convert Cherokee people to Christianity, but the Cherokee Hymn Book, in the Cherokee syllabary, was created for and by the Cherokee people in partnership with missionaries. Its unique syllabary worked to unite the Cherokee people through their own written language by creating a boundary with whites.
- Samuel Worcester, a New England missionary working among the Cherokee at New Echota, GA was responsible for having the Cherokee syllabary cast in type for a printing press. (The Cherokee syllabary had officially been adopted as their written language by the Cherokee Nation in 1821.)
- Elias Boudinot, a Cherokee educated in Connecticut, was the first editor of the *Cherokee Phoenix* and was responsible for printing books and tracts for the readership as well.
- The *Cherokee Phoenix* newspaper began printing in 1828.
- The Cherokee Hymn Book, (1829) was the first *book* printed in the Cherokee syllabary and contained only the words to the hymns, but no musical notation.
- Isaac Watts did not see his hymnal texts as sacrosanct and encouraged congregations to make the hymns their own, thus the hymnal variations within the English, Cherokee, and Muscogee languages.
- The Cherokee people also created their own hymns.
- "Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed" (1707) has the same melody as "Amazing Grace."
- Because tone is so important in the spoken Cherokee language, some meaning can be lost in printed text.
- The Cherokee Hymn Book is still in print with the new additions including Cherokee syllabary, Cherokee phonetics, new English translations and musical notation.
- In August 2024, Dr. Smith presented his research on the intersection of The Cherokee Hymn Book and Isaac Watts at Cambridge, UK for the American Society of Church History to commemorate the 350th anniversary of the birth of Reverend Isaac Watts.

We want to thank Dr. Smith for sharing one of his many scholarly pursuits with us and hope that in the future, he will share other insightful presentations gleaned from the Gilcrease collection!



Docent Corner

By Alana Trisler, Docent Chair

Thank you so much for the great attendance at the special December 6th Docent Mtg. We have use of such a fantastic classroom space in HCAR and with its recent upgraded technology, the colors projected on the new screens are vibrant and you can hear clearly from any seat in the room – now that is an upgrade!

Mark your calendar for January 3, 2025!

Our guest speakers for our January 3rd Docent Meeting are some of our very own Gillies! In November, Kathe Crapster, Becky Hatchett, Julie Gentz, Deanna Storm, and Sharon Patch traveled to Atlanta, GA to attend the biennial National Docent Symposium. The theme of this year's Symposium was "Perfecting Your Craft." While we know perfection is a lofty goal, as Gillies, we constantly strive to improve our performance as volunteers representing Gilcrease. To this end, the Gillies who traveled to Atlanta will share their learning experiences at the gathering. Kathe and Becky will discuss a session they presented at the Symposium on how the Gillies supported the museum's community-wide program, *Gilcrease in Your Neighborhood (GIYN)*, including adopting a site location to monitor, giving Spot Talks/Mindfulness sessions, and staffing large family gatherings focused on the theme of the displayed artwork. Kathe and Becky reported that they received great positive feedback from their participants. Each of our attendees will share a sampling of what's going on at other museums as well as what they learned from attending their chosen sessions.

Please join us on **Friday, January 3, 2025**, to hear about new happenings in the museum world!

Where: PACCAR in the Helmerich Center

When: 9:30 – Refreshments

10:00 – Meeting begins.

We hope to see you there!

Message from Alison Rossi

Dear Gillies,

Many of you have heard by now that my last day at Gilcrease is this week, and that I am relocating to the Sacramento area where I have accepted a position at the University of California, Davis. I regret that I haven't been able to deliver this news in person. It has been a whirlwind of traveling back and forth and trying to get things settled for my two teenagers in a new city before school starts in January.

Though I am excited about this new adventure for my family, I am also pretty heartbroken to leave Gilcrease at this juncture so full of promise. You all know better than anyone what a special place Gilcrease is, and you are an important part of the Museum. I have learned a lot from each of you, and you have inspired me with your dedication to Gilcrease and one another, your commitment to community service, your enthusiasm, and your example of continuous learning. Thank you for your unwavering support of the Museum. Please know how much I have appreciated working with you over the past seven plus years. I'm looking forward to following your good work in the future, and to cheerleading from afar (and in-person when I can visit)!

I will truly miss you, but take comfort in the fact that you are in good hands with Brian Lee Whisenhunt at the helm, and with Mia Hoskison as your liaison to the Learning & Community Engagement department. If I can be of service in any way, or if you want to stay connected personally, please don't hesitate to reach out. My email address is alisonbgrossi@gmail.com With Gratitude, Alison Rossi

Gillie Recently Honored



Our own Frances Whisman was honored as a “Hometown Hero” by the Modern Woodmen of America Fraternal Financial for her incredible contributions to mental health care. With an inspiring 58 years of service as a nurse, Frances has dedicated her career to making a difference at Parkside Hospital and in the broader community. She also just completed a year as the President of the Tulsa National Association of Mental Health (NAMI). Her compassion, dedication, and unwavering commitment has touched countless lives.

Frances has been a Gillie since 2012. As a docent, she’s given tours and been involved with the Speaking of Gilcrease program. She’s chaired the committee several times and currently makes presentations at 4 sites every month! We couldn’t be prouder to see her recognized for her remarkable impact. Congratulations, Frances, on this amazing honor!

Speaking of Gilcrease - The Stories We Hear

By Marion Richardson, SOG Chair

At a recent visit to one of my sites, one 90+ year-old gentleman came and shared with us that he had given Willard Stone a ride home every day from work at the Ernest Weimann Ironworks because Willard had no car. There had recently been an article in the Tulsa World about ‘Willard Stone Day’ in Locust Grove on November 2nd. He went on to say that he was eventually called up for war so his parents let Willard stay in his room while he was away because Willard had no car to get back to Locust Grove. Those were different times back then.

I also had a woman come to one of my sites whose 2nd husband was a cousin to Willard Stone. She had met Willard’s widow Sofie.

The residents who come on a regular basis become very close and try never to miss a presentation. One elderly gentleman had quite literally just been to the funeral service for his wife the morning before our scheduled time. They had always come together.

University of Tulsa

Course Offerings for Spring 2025

Unless there is a fee for supplies, classes for Gillies are free. Please read through the course offerings for Spring 2025 and check out the J-term class as well. All are listed below. **If you are interested in any of the courses below, please email Stephanie Boulden at the University of Tulsa at: stephanie-boulden@utulsa.edu**

Course No.	Course Title	BLD G	ROOM	Begin Date	START TIME	END TIME	DAYS	COMMENTS	Faculty
ANTH-1063-01	Cult People & Nature	OH	141	1/21/25	2:00P M	3:15PM	TTh		Foster
ANTH-2034-01	Intro Biol Anthropology	OH	138	1/22/25	11:00A M	11:50AM	MWF		Belmaker
ANTH-4253-01	Every Campus a Refuge	HH	214	1/21/25	3:30P M	4:45PM	TTh	See SOC 4253	Macdonald,
ART-2023-01	Drawing II	PH	201	1/22/25	1:00P M	3:20PM	MW	Lab fee of \$150, which will cover most supplies for class	Rafferty
ART-3003-01	Life Drawing	PH	206	1/21/25	1:00P M	3:20PM	TTh	Lab fee of \$250; other personal supplies may be needed (\$50-\$100)	Rafferty
ART-3403-01	Painting I	PH	206	1/22/25	8:00A M	9:20AM	MW	Lab fee of \$200; other personal supplies may be needed (\$50-\$100)	Rafferty
ART-4033-01	Painting Studio	PH	206	1/22/25	8:00A M	10:20AM	MW	Lab fee of \$200; other personal supplies may be needed (\$50-\$100)	Rafferty
ART-4063-01	Printmaking Studio:relief	PH	308	1/21/25	3:30P M	5:50PM	TTh	\$300 Course Fee	Martin
ART-4293-01	Game Asset 3D Char Dsgn	RH	2055	1/21/25	3:30P M	5:45PM	TTh		Burris
ARTH-2223-01	Survey of Art Hist II	PH	211	1/22/25	9:00A M	9:50AM	MWF	Block 1	Maurer
ARTH-3103-01	Art & Arch Islamic Wrld	PH	211	1/22/25	2:00P M	3:15PM	MW		Maurer
CHIN-1014-01	Beginning Chinese II	OH	140	1/21/25	9:00A M	9:50AM	MTW F		Edens

CHIN-1014-01	Beginning Chinese II	OH	140	1/21/2 5	9:00A M	9:50AM	MTW F		Edens
CHIN-2013-01	Intermediate Chinese II	OH	140	1/22/2 5	10:00A M	10:50AM	MWF		Edens
CHIN-3013-01	Advanced Chinese II	OH	140	1/22/2 5	1:00P M	1:50PM	MWF		Edens
ECON-2073-01	Intro Chinese Econo- my	CH	122	1/22/2 5	11:00A M	11:50AM	MWF		Ouyang
ECON-2073-02	Intro Chinese Econo- my	CH	330	1/22/2 5	10:00A M	10:50AM	MWF		Ouyang
ENGL-1043-01	Poetry & Modern World	CH	349	1/21/2 5	9:30A M	10:45AM	TTh	Block 1	Jenkins
ENGL-2013-01	Shakespeare	LH	314	1/21/2 5	2:00P M	3:15PM	TTh	Block 1	Engle
ENGL-2403-01	Intro to Creative Wrtg	CH	349	1/21/2 5	12:30P M	1:45PM	TTh	Block 1	Dralyuk
ENGL-3053-01	Literature & Film	TH	2020	1/21/2 5	2:00P M	3:15PM	TTh	See FLM 3153	Dralyuk
ENGL-3413-01	King Arthur	CH	330	1/22/2 5	2:00P M	3:15PM	MW		Engle
ENGL-3473-01	Victorian British Lit	OH	302	1/21/2	9:30A	10:45AM	TTh	HCDG See WS	Crystal
FLM-3143-01	Screenwriting I	LPC	2215	1/21/2	9:30A	10:45AM	TTh		Van Hank-
FLM-3153-01	Literature & Film	TH	2020	1/21/2 5	2:00P M	3:15PM	TTh	See ENGL 3053	Dralyuk
FR-2013-01	Intermediate French II	OH	231	1/22/2 5	10:00A M	10:50AM	MWF		McDer- mott
FR-4143-01	Genres & Periods	OH	FLCR	1/21/2 5	12:30P M	1:45PM	TTh	Qui sont ces sor- cières ?	Meunier
HIST-2453-01	Music & Society America	CH	254	1/21/2 5	11:00A M	12:15PM	TTh		Wood
HIST-2503-01	American Republic	CH	122	1/22/2 5	10:00A M	10:50AM	MWF		Lueras
HIST-2623-01	China/Japan Since 1800	CH	123	1/21/2 5	8:00A M	9:15AM	TTh	Block 2	Buoye
HIST-2733-01	Colonialism/ Imperialism	CH	LH	1/22/2 5	11:00A M	11:50AM	MWF	Block 2	Wood
HIST-3303-01	Hist Early Chin Phil	TH	3020	1/21/2 5	2:00P M	3:15PM	TTh		Buoye
HIST-3523-01	Revolution Am 1750- 1800	CH	256	1/21/2 5	12:30P M	1:45PM	TTh		Oertel
LANG-1993-01	Beginning Creek II	OH	105	1/22/2 5	6:00P M	8:30PM	W		Fife
MSTU-4863- 03	St: Music As Social Criticism	OH	141	1/21/2 5	6:00P M	8:45PM	T	Music as Social Criticism	Conner
PHIL-1003-01	Socrates to Sartre	OH	105	1/21/2 5	11:00A M	12:15PM	TTh	Block 2	Futch
PHIL-2183-01	Curr Prob in Pol & Social Phil	CH	330	1/21/2 5	3:30P M	4:45PM	TTh	Block 2	Gardner
PHIL-2233-01	Existentialism in 20thC	CH	330	1/21/2 5	2:00P M	3:15PM	TTh	Block 2	Gardner
PHIL-2453-01	Great Conversation II	CH	LL017	1/21/2 5	11:00A M	12:15PM	TTh	Block 2 See REL 2453	Drever

POL-2123-01	Intrnt Soc Media Democr	TH	3020	1/22/2 5	1:00P M	1:50PM	MWF	Block 2	Kampani
POL-2523-01	St: Country/City Di- vided Land	TH	3020	1/21/2 5	3:30P M	4:45PM	TTh	"Country and City in a Divided	Mosher
POL-2863-01	St: Pol of Envirnm & Climate	CH	123	1/21/2 5	11:00A M	12:15PM	TTh	Block II "Politics of the Environ- ment and Climate Change "	Kampani
POL-3323-01	U S National Security	CH	251	1/22/2 5	6:00P M	7:15PM	MW		Kampani
POL-3863-01	St: Country/City Di- vided Land	TH	3020	1/21/2 5	3:30P M	4:45PM	TTh	"Country and City in a Divided Land"	MosherA
PSY-2083-01	Psychology of Trauma	LH	314	1/27/2 5	6:00P M	8:45PM	M		Stem
REL-2453-01	Great Conversation II	CH	LL017	1/21/2 5	11:00A M	12:15PM	TTh	Block 2 See PHIL 2453	Drever
RUSS-1014-01	Beginning Russian II	OH	140	1/21/2 5	2:00P M	3:40PM	TTh		Doshlygi- na
RUSS-2013-01	Intermediate Russian II	OH	140	1/21/2 5	11:00A M	12:15PM	TTh		Doshlygi- na
SOC-1033-01	Sociologcl Imagina- tion	CH	LH	1/21/2 5	11:00A M	12:15PM	TTh		Head
SOC-3813-01	St: Sociology of Men- tal Health	HH	214	1/21/2 5	9:30A M	10:45AM	TTh		Head
SPAN-2003-02	Intermediate Spanish I	OH	302	1/22/2 5	10:00A M	10:50AM	MWF		Chamorro
SPAN-3033-01	Hispanic Literary Texts	OH	301	1/21/2 5	11:00A M	12:15PM	TTh	taught in Span	Willis
SPAN-4073-01	Poetry of Latin Amer- ica	OH	301	1/21/2 5	2:00P M	3:30PM	TTh	taught in Span	Willis

Spring 2025 J-Term

January 6-17th, 2025, Monday -Saturday

HIST 3703 01 History & Anthropology of Museums

Instructor: Andrew Wood

2 Week Course: Tyrrell Hall 3020, 8:30am – 1:00pm – MTWTHFS

Description: "Critical Museum Histories: Global and Local Approaches"

This innovative "field experience" seminar will critically consider both the history and contemporary experience of selected socio-cultural museums in the Tulsa area.

V.I.P. sessions at the Helmerich Center for American Research (Gilcrease Museum campus), the Philbrook, the Tulsa Historical Society, the Woody Guthrie and Bob Dylan centers, Greenwood Rising, the Sherwin Miller Museum and the Outsiders House will constitute our primary experience during the J Term sessions. Reading to accompany our travel dates will be drawn from Bettina Messias Carbonnel (ed.), Museum Studies: An Anthology of Contexts. London: Wiley-Blackwell, 2012.

As the seminar progresses, students will be expected to design, develop and write a research essay on critical museum history in relation to selected local examples.

Past Presidents Gather



On December 12th 15 former Gillies Presidents gathered at the Club at Indian Springs.

Past presidents (from top left): Alan Jarvis (2016-17), Dana Simon (2015-16), Sondra Mullins (2013-14), Pat Davidson (1991-92), Beverly Wilcox (1990-91), Becky Hatchett (2022-23), Janell Swearingen (2002-03), Charley Wyatt (2011-12), Nannette Tresner (2022-23), Carol Stookey (2021-22), Deanna Storm (2006-07), Kathy Horne (2018-19), Sharon Patch (2017-18), Alana Trisler (2020-21), Kathe Crapster (2019-20 & 2024-25). This group meets quarterly, and they are a powerhouse of ideas and institutional knowledge. The excitement for our new director and museum is building every time we meet!

Secretary's Report

Get Well cards were sent to Janet O'Connor and Karen Jarvis.

Sympathy cards were sent to Alana Trisler and Nannette Tresner and to the families of Marian Bovaird, Sally McCoy, and Nancy Foote.

Mark Your Calendar

JANUARY

January 3 – Executive Committee meeting in HCAR @ 8:30 a.m.

January 3 – Docent Meeting @ 9:30 a.m. in HCAR

January 3 – Speaking of Gilcrease- meeting following Docent Meeting

January 10 – Board of Directors Meeting via Zoom @ 10 a.m.

FEBRUARY

February 7th – Executive Committee Meeting @ 8:30 in HCAR

February 7th – Docent Meeting @ 9:30 in HCAR

February 14th – Board of Directors Meeting

MARCH

March 7th – Gillies Executive Meeting via Zoom @ 9:00

March 7th – Docent Meeting via Zoom @10:00

March 14th – General Membership Meeting: location TBA

March 14th – The Forum - Speaker: John Wooley