



Welcome

The Museum of Printing History offers hands-on learning opportunities for students of all ages. Visits to the Museum are appropriate for a wide range of subjects, whether the focus is science and technology or English Language Arts, history or fine arts and crafts. With exhibitions dedicated to the development of essential technologies, American and Texas history, the traditions of Western literature and art – as well as working galleries for crafts such as papermaking, printmaking, and bookbinding – the visiting student will encounter scholars and artists who are gifted at bringing the past to life.

Museum of Printing History tours are customizable to the needs of any class. Discuss a course or unit topic with our Curator or Artist-in-Residence to develop a tour which fits the subject matter that the students are currently exploring. If suitable for the size of your group, it is also possible to introduce hands-on projects, such as a session printing in our lithography studio with Houston artist Charles Criner, or an introduction to book construction and history with one of our bookbinders.

In addition to regularly scheduled classes, the Museum of Printing History can work with your school or community group to schedule workshops on a wide range of topics relating to the art of the book. We have a list of workshops available on demand, or we may work together to design something special for your group. For questions, or to schedule your outreach workshop, please contact Amanda Stevenson, Curator, astevenson@printingmuseum.org, 713-522-4652, ext. 207.

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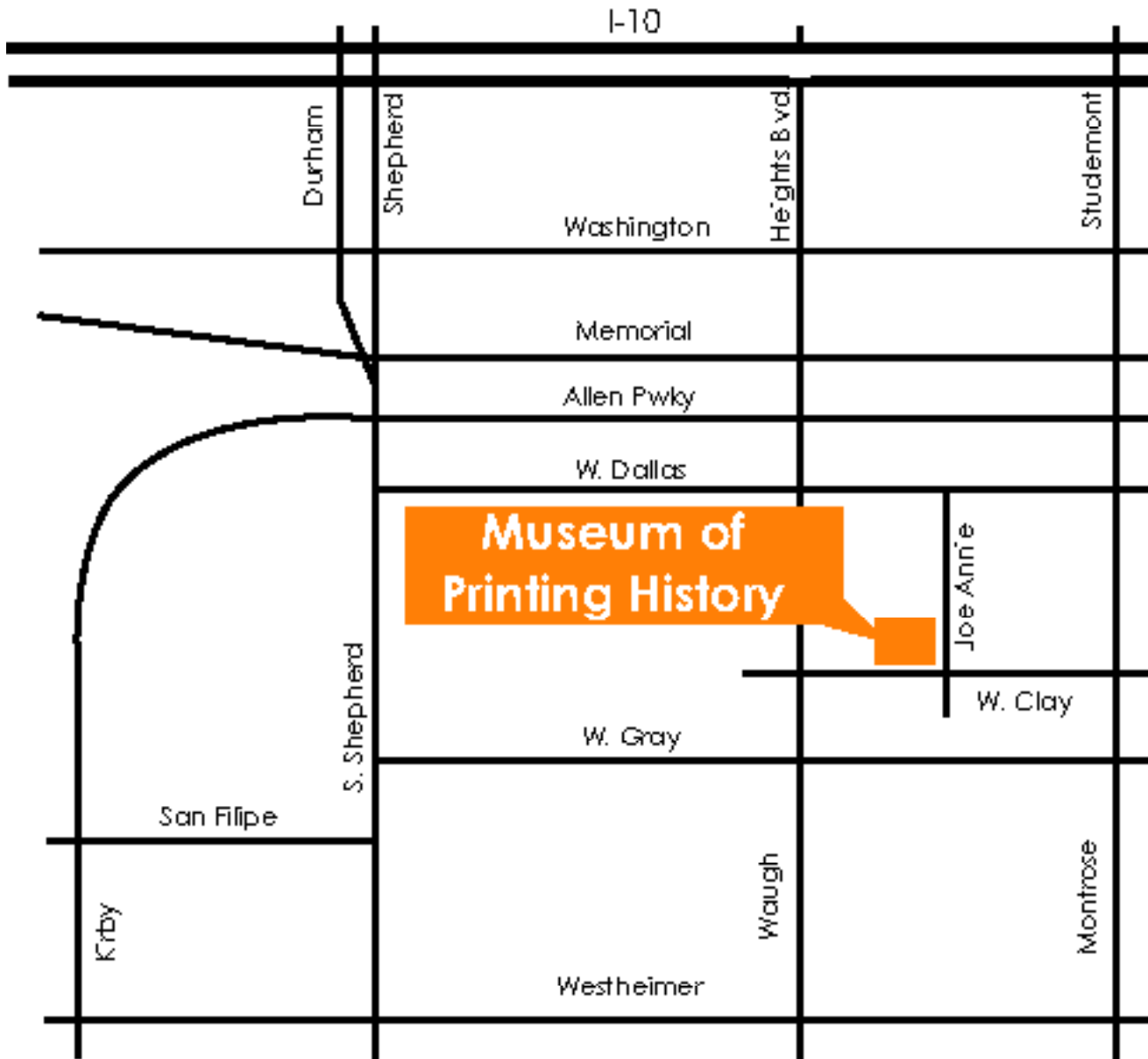
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Preparing for Your Visit

Convenient to downtown and to all major freeways, the Museum is located at 1324 West Clay, between Waugh Drive and Montrose, just south of Allen Parkway. The Museum is open to the public Tuesday through Saturday; 10am-5pm.



Driving Directions to the Museum

From 610 West: Exit Woodway-Memorial, go east on Memorial toward downtown to the Waugh Drive South exit. Turn right on Waugh Drive to West Clay Street and turn left. The Museum is on the left in the second block.

From Downtown: Go west on Lamar Street, which becomes Allen Parkway, to Waugh Drive. Turn left on Waugh Drive to West Clay Street. Turn left on West Clay. The Museum is on the left.

From US 59 South (Southwest Freeway): Exit Kirby Drive; go north. Kirby Drive becomes Allen Parkway. Turn right on Waugh Drive, then turn left on West Clay Street. The Museum is on the left.

From 45 North or South: Exit Allen Parkway. Take Allen Parkway to Waugh Drive. Turn left on Waugh Drive to West Clay Street. Turn left on West Clay Street. The Museum is on the left.

Public Transportation

The Museum of Printing History is also accessible by public transportation. The number 34 Montrose Crosstown bus stops at West Clay and Waugh. The Museum is a block and a half down West Clay to the east. Schedules and maps may be found at the Metro website (ridemetro.org).

Parking

Two Museum parking lots hold a capacity of approximately 50 cars. Additional free street parking is also available. School buses may park in front of the Museum on West Clay Street or on the side of the Museum on Joe Annie or Peveto.

Wheelchair Access

The Museum is ADA-compliant and can accommodate students with special needs. Please let the staff know ahead of time if any of your students will require special accommodations. The building and facilities are wheelchair accessible.

Photography Policy

The use of non-flash photography by the general public is permitted in all galleries, unless otherwise indicated. Photographs taken at the Museum of Printing History are for personal use only, and are not to be used for commercial purposes. Visitors must receive permission by Museum staff to use tri-pods. Video is not allowed without prior permission.

Please remind your students to treat all objects in the Museum with care, as they are very old and important pieces of history.



Tours cost \$3 per student and \$7 per adult, and typically last from 45 to 90 minutes. Please call **(713) 522.4652, ex. 203**, to schedule your tour today. Enjoy your visit!

Typical Tour Overview

- Students visit the permanent galleries and pull prints
- Students visit working studios
- Students watch a movie about printing

Tour Details

Our typical tour travels through history by means of our permanent collection. We narrate the story of written communication and the ways in which the technologies of printing have transformed the world. Our galleries trace significant developments such as ancient Mesopotamian clay seals and Johann Gutenberg's type and printing press. American history is dramatized through newspaper accounts of major events from the American Revolution to the Civil War; Texas history is told through the life of the state's first printer, with a press he owned and a display of the documents and newspapers he printed.

The Hearst Newspaper Gallery demonstrates the emergence of modern printing, and our exhibit of historical newspapers displays pivotal moments in recent history.

Join us for tours featuring interactive activities, including hands-on printing: See a sheet of the Gutenberg Bible pulled just as it was in 1455; watch the Declaration of Independence printed on a 150-year-old iron handpress; view colonial documents, including a Pennsylvania Gazette, the newspaper owned by Benjamin Franklin, in 1765; read eyewitness accounts of the struggle for Texas independence, told from both sides of the events. Each class will gain the opportunity to leave the Museum with an example of our work, including a leaf facsimile from the Gutenberg Bible and a reproduction of the first printing of the Declaration of Independence.

Two films are also offered in our theater: a biography of Benjamin Franklin (30 minutes) or The Harvest of Wisdom (45 minutes), a history of written communication from prehistoric to present times. The Museum also presents rotating exhibitions highlighting fine art prints, rare books, and related artifacts.

The Museum has a gift shop with items that may appeal to young children. These items range in price from \$.50 to \$6.00.

You will be provided with a feedback form following your tour that may be faxed back or returned in a postage-paid envelope. Thank you for sharing your thoughts with the Museum staff.

Museum Overview

The Museum of Printing History's Guided Tour Program charts innovations in human attempts to communicate, beginning with writing on clay tablets, papyrus scrolls, and parchment manuscripts, to Johannes Gutenberg's combined use of moveable type and the printing press to mass-produce the Bible in the 1450s, to today's newspaper headlines. These technological innovations were instrumental in leading to a greater exchange of information and ultimately to a more literate society. The Museum of Printing History makes its book and document collections accessible through display in various galleries.

Gallery I – Writing Prior to Printing (3500 BC to 1400 AD) - explores the development of writing, books and paper from the earliest clay tablets and papyrus scrolls to the beautiful illuminated manuscripts created by scribes and monks in the Middle Ages.

Gallery II – Renaissance Gallery – The Invention of Printing - this workshop houses an historically accurate replica of the printing press that would have been used in Johannes Gutenberg's shop. Examples of books, maps, and prints from the period illustrate the rapid spread of information that was made possible by the press.

Gallery III – The Americana Gallery - contains original documents from the Colonial, Revolutionary and Civil War eras. Civil War era newspapers currently on view include the printing of the Emancipation Proclamation in the New York Herald dated September 23, 1862.

Gallery IV – The Texas History Gallery – pays tribute to the first printer in Texas, Samuel Bangs, who settled in Galveston in 1838 and started the town's first newspaper, which still operates today. On display is one of the earliest surviving pieces printed by Bangs, in 1820, as well as the 1825 Ley de Colonizacion (Law of Colonization), which opened Texas to colonization by Anglo-Americans.

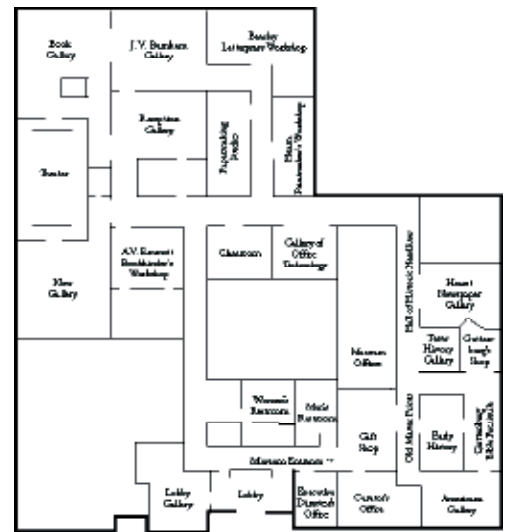
Gallery V – Hearst Newspaper Gallery – displays pieces of early newspaper equipment, including a 20th century model linotype machine, invented by Ottmar Mergenthaler in 1890, which drastically changed the speed of production. Also on display is a Cranston flatbed newspaper press. Historical newspapers dating back to the 1640s make it possible to compare the changes in the look of the newspaper over the years.

The Josef and Anna Drozd Hornak Miniature Book Collection - True miniature books do not exceed three inches in length. The books must be protected and cared for, which means they are preserved in a glass case. This prevents handling of the books, which unfortunately is a large part of the appreciation for books and understanding why people collect books.

Museum of Printing History Workshops include a **Paper Makers Workshop**, the **Hearn Printmaking Workshop**, where students may view an artist creating an image on limestone and watch a demonstration of the Museum's stone lithography press that dates to the 1830s. The **A.V. Emmott Bookbinder's Workshop** is a workshop displaying 19th century book binding tools and bound volumes in various stages of creation. The **Raoul Barton Beasley Letterpress Workshop** houses antique type collections and numerous presses and equipment for traditional letterpress production also used by artists on a regular basis.

Galleries The Museum contains four rotating galleries which present original exhibitions upon a wide range of topics. The **J.V. and Patti Burnham Print Gallery**, the **New Gallery**, and the **Book Gallery** are large galleries dedicated to temporary exhibits of various collections of fine art prints and rare books, posters and documents. We have recently mounted exhibitions on book forgery, pop-up books, and early African exploration; a collaboration with Houston's own John Lienhard; and the work of artists from Edward Gorey to Marc Chagall.

The Museum of Printing History Theater seats 67 students and offers the opportunity to enhance what students learn while on the tour with a 26-minute film about Benjamin Franklin or a 45-minute film about the history of written communication from prehistoric to present times.



Pre-Visit Discussion: Prior to Printing/Johannes Gutenberg

The highlight of the Museum's Renaissance/Reformation Galley is a replica of Johannes Gutenberg's press, which sits in proximity to a Gutenberg Bible facsimile. Students will receive a demonstration of the operation of this press as a tour leader prints a leaf from the Gutenberg Bible.

Johannes Gutenberg (1400-1468) and the 42 line Bible

The first major printed book in Europe, the Gutenberg Bible, takes its name from Johannes Gutenberg, a native of Mainz, Germany, who began experimenting with casting movable or reusable type in the 1440s. Much of what we consider fact about Gutenberg comes from the few primary source documents that mention him by name.

Gutenberg's 1282-page Bible was designed to look like a Northern European manuscript of the time. The Gothic black letter script was printed from individual, hand cast metal letters (movable type) in Mainz, Germany, and was finished in 1454 or 1455. Gutenberg used oil-based ink in contrast to the scribes' water-based ink. Forty-eight copies (some complete) survive; of those, some are printed on parchment and some on paper. The original production number was probably 180. The decoration and binding of each surviving Bible varies since only the black letters were printed, and the book was sold undecorated and unbound. The Bible consists of two volumes- the Old and New Testament in Latin.

In the mid-1400s, it is said it took ten scribes four years to write one Bible by hand. In comparison, Gutenberg was able to print 180 Bibles in four years. Gutenberg borrowed money from Johann Fust to print the Bibles. Gutenberg went into bankruptcy and Fust took over the shop with his son-in-law, Peter Schoeffer.

Time Magazine chose Gutenberg as the "Man of the Millennium," for without the press few of the other accomplishments of the past millennium could have been realized.



Pre-Visit Discussion: American History

The Americana Gallery is especially useful in assisting the student's understanding of the roles and contributions of significant colonial leaders. Students are able to see first-hand the newspapers that reported the major events of the days of the American Revolutionary Period. Special emphasis is placed on the significance of the Declaration of Independence, which can be printed as an alternate demonstration.

Following is a list of original documents related to U.S. history that your students will be able to view and study.

New York Weekly Journal, January 14, 1733 and April 14, 1735 (John Peter Zenger's Newspaper)

Perhaps the most outstanding event in the history of the press was the famous trial of John Peter Zenger in August 1735. Zenger published covert attacks on the administration of New York and particularly on William Cosby, its unpopular governor. Cosby ordered that Zenger be imprisoned, although a grand jury refused to return an indictment of seditious libel. At his trial, Andrew Hamilton of Philadelphia defended him. In spite of the kangaroo court and stacked jury, Zenger was acquitted with a verdict that established for the first time the legal principle that in libel cases, the jury is the judge of both the law and the facts and that if you print the truth you violate no law. The trial of John Peter Zenger marked an important step toward freedom of the press.

Boston Evening Post, Monday, September 2, 1765 (Burning and looting of the tax collectors' houses by citizens)

The Stamp Act was passed in Parliament March 22, 1765. Here, articles appear covering the burning and looting of the tax collectors' houses by citizens of Boston just prior to the "Stamp Act Congress," held in New York on October 7, 1765.

Pennsylvania Gazette, June 6, 1765

The newspaper published by Benjamin Franklin in partnership with David Hall.

London Chronicle, July 27-29, 1775

Displays the infamous Tax Stamp (lower left corner). The Stamp Act of 1765 applied the stamp tax, which was already in effect in Great Britain, to the colonies. The Stamp Act taxed every copy of a newspaper or gazette, and in England it had severely restricted growth of periodical presses. Printing a newspaper without the stamp was punishable by fine or imprisonment.

Colonists responded by burning and looting the Tax Collectors office. American printers refused to print on paper imprinted with the stamp; some stopped printing newspapers, but others changed their names and continued to publish in secret, an autonomous form of political dissent. England repealed the Stamp Act in 1766.

New England Chronicle, or The Essex Gazette, Cambridge, March 28-April 4, 1776

Thomas Paine's supplement to Common Sense is printed on the front page in a letter to the "people called the Quakers, or any eyes that may see." This appeared four months before the Declaration of Independence. The New-England Chronicle was published in Essex until May 1775, when its production was moved to Cambridge, continuing there until April 1776, when it was moved to Boston after the British evacuation.

The Independent Chronicle, October 3, 1776

Battle of Harlem Heights, as British forces fight their way across New York.

The St. James Chronicle; or, British Evening Post, Saturday, March 1 to Tuesday March 4, 1777 Washington Crosses the Delaware and the Battle of Trenton.

Continental Currency, \$5, September 1778 and Continental Currency, 1/6 dollar, 1776

Since the Continental Congress could not tax, it issued notes of denominations from \$1 to \$20. Citizens were forced to accept the note under threat of "fine, imprisonment, or forfeiture of claim." However, so many issues were made that their value depreciated substantially. They were also easily counterfeited. Leaves were printed on the reverse to discourage counterfeiting but to little avail. The growing worthlessness of the Continental currency brought forth the saying, "Not worth a Continental."



Massachusetts Spy, March 30, 1791

Printed and published by Isaiah Thomas, a leading printer of his day, the Massachusetts Spy, printed mostly in secret, kept Americans informed during the Revolution. Thomas entered apprenticeship at the age of six and ran away from his master at 16. He founded the American Antiquarian Society in 1812, published the Royal American Magazine and wrote and published the first history of printing in America.

The Boston Gazette, July 28, 1803

Report of the Louisiana Purchase.

The Independent Chronicle, September 6, 1804

Aaron Burr, Thomas Jefferson's vice president, kills Alexander Hamilton in a duel - Aaron Burr's failed presidential bid was followed by a campaign to become governor of New York. When Burr requested the endorsement of the Federalists, Hamilton replied that he thought Burr to be "a man of irregular and insatiable ambition...who ought not be trusted with the reins of government." Burr's loss in the governor's race led him to challenge Hamilton to a duel. On July 11, 1804 in Weehawken, New Jersey, Burr exacted his revenge on his nemesis with a single shot. Alexander Hamilton died from the wound on July 12, 1804 in New York City.

The Freemans Journal and Philadelphia Mercantile Advertiser, Friday morning, September 4, 1812

"Glorious News! Brilliant Naval Victory!...The damage sustained by the fire of the Constitution was so great that...the ship sunk..." - Not so long after the first Revolution, the British returned to try and retake the colonies. The resulting conflict was known as the War of 1812. An on-board officer wrote this naval battle account. The Americans also won this "Second American Revolution."

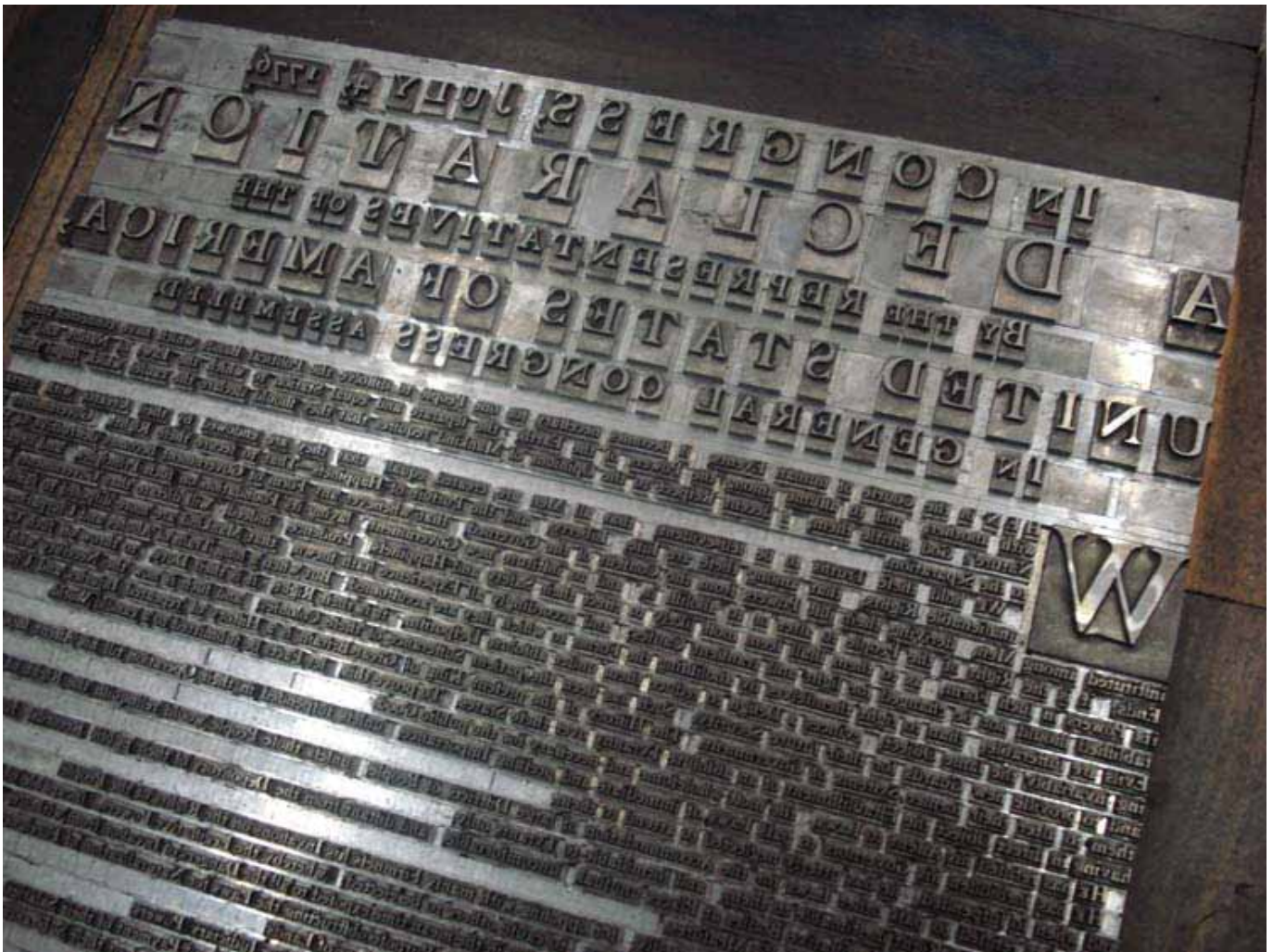
The National Anthem, New Hampshire Gazette, Portsmouth, October 11, 1814

This is an early printing of our national anthem in a New Hampshire newspaper. Near the end of the war of 1812, a naval battle occurred at Ft. McHenry. Observing the battle on a ship nearby was an American poet, Francis Scott Key, who wrote a poem while watching the battle. In 1935 the poem became the national anthem of the United States.

Pre-Visit Discussion: The Declaration of Independence

Congress passed the Declaration of Independence on the evening of July 4, 1776. It was given to printer John Dunlap as written that night and with orders to complete the job with the utmost dispatch. Dunlap set the type by candlelight for the printing of a 15-inch by 18-inch broadside. Since there was no time for proofreading, many typographical, capitalization and punctuation errors occurred. The broadside was completed on the morning of July 8. A copy was read to the people of Philadelphia from the State House yard on the afternoon of July 8, 1776. It is that copy that is reproduced at the Museum, the first printing of the American Declaration of Independence. There is no record of how many copies were printed. The town criers in every town in the colonies read out the Declaration to the people, and newspapers all across the colonies reprinted the Declaration over the next few weeks. A copy was entered into the Congressional Record.

The Declaration was formally engrossed (hand written) on parchment and signed on August 2, 1776 and became the official copy of the United States of America's most important document. In 1823, a copper plate was made from the original, signed parchment from which facsimiles were printed for distribution to historical societies and to the families and heirs of the signers of the Declaration. This process so injured the parchment that the writing is now scarcely legible. In 1894, the original was sealed in a steel case out of reach of light and air. It now resides in the National Archives of the United States in Washington, D.C.



Pre Visit Discussion: Benjamin Franklin

Benjamin Franklin was born on January 17, 1706, in Boston, Massachusetts. He was the tenth and youngest son of Josiah and Abiah Franklin. Josiah Franklin was a poor candle-molder of Boston. Intending that Benjamin should enter the Church, Josiah sent the boy to school. After two years, financial reverses necessitated his withdrawal, and in 1718, he was apprenticed to his half-brother, James, a Boston printer.

Apprentice and Journeyman Printer

James was a harsh master. Hence when a turn of events forced him to cancel the apprenticeship papers, Benjamin ran away in 1723 to Philadelphia, where he found employment in Samuel Keimer's printing house.

London

At Keimer's, he so distinguished himself that Sir William Keith, governor of the province, sent him to London, promising financial aid in securing equipment with which to open his own shop. Keith failed to keep his promise, and Franklin entered the employ of Samuel Palmer, a printer, and later secured a position in the printing establishment conducted by John Watts.

New Printing Shop

Franklin returned to Philadelphia in 1726, and again took up the composing stick in Keimer's printing shop, where he became acquainted with Hugh Meredith, who became his partner in establishing the New Printing Shop. Franklin bought out Meredith and later opened branch offices throughout the colonies, in Jamaica and in the West Indies. In 1730, he married Deborah Read.

Author, Publisher & Editor

During the twenty years in which he was actively engaged in the printing business, Franklin founded and edited "The Pennsylvania Gazette," published Poor Richard's Almanack (1732) and wrote and published many books and pamphlets. The sayings of Poor Richard, summed up under the title of "Father Abraham's Speech to the American People," or "The Way to Wealth," have been translated into 12 languages. Franklin retired from the printing business in 1748, turning over his interests to David Hall.

Inventions and Discoveries

In 1746, Franklin began his first experiments in electricity. He discovered that lightning is electricity. He evolved the theory of electro-magnetism and invented the lightning rod, bifocal spectacles, the first smoke-consuming furnace, the Franklin stove and other useful items.



He made the discovery that storms travel in the opposite direction to the wind, and his investigations along this line resulted in the establishing of the United States Weather Bureau.

He pointed out the advantage of building ships with watertight compartments and proved that the temperature of the Gulf Stream is higher than that of surrounding water. In recognition of his scientific work, honorary degrees were conferred upon him by universities and scientific bodies in many countries.

Public Life

In 1736, he was appointed to clerk of the Pennsylvania General Assembly. He also served as postmaster of Philadelphia, member of the Philadelphia Common Council, special agent representing the colonies in England, Postmaster General and delegate to the Continental Congress. He was one of the five men chosen to draw up the Declaration of Independence, which he also signed.

In 1776, he was made sole plenipotentiary to the French Court. He also was a member of the commission appointed to make peace with Great Britain. Upon his return home, he was elected chairman of the Municipal Council of Philadelphia and chosen president of the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania. In 1778, as a delegate to the Constitutional Convention, he helped draw up the present Constitution of the United States.

Civic Activities

Franklin organized the first municipal fire department and the first state militia. He invented a more efficient streetlight and assisted materially in founding the first Philadelphia hospital. He established the first subscription library in America and was instrumental in founding an academy, which later became the present University of Pennsylvania.

Franklin's Press at Passy

Although he had retired from the printing business 28 years before, Franklin's love for his craft caused him to establish a small printing plant at his residence in Passy, France. With reference to this, his grandson, William Temple Franklin, wrote, he "amused himself in composing and printing the Bagatelles." These, together with other books and pamphlets printed at Passy, represent some of the finest specimens of his work.

Last Days

Franklin lived to be 84 years old. He died April 17, 1790, and was buried in Christ Church burial ground in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Although his interests led him into numerous fields, and although his achievements were many, he always regarded himself first as a printer, and when in the autumn of life he wrote his will, he began it: "I, Benjamin Franklin, of Philadelphia, Printer..."

Courtesy of The Overnight Group, Inc.

Activities



Museum of Printing History Glossary

Broadside - a sheet of paper printed on one side, usually with an advertisement, a proclamation, a political message or a single news story

Cuneiform - writing composed of or written in wedge-shaped characters

Facsimile - An exact copy; a reproduction

Frisket - A thin, lightweight metal frame covered with stiff paper and joined to the upper part of the tympan with hinges. Its job is to hold the paper on the points during the printing process. Windows are cut out of the frisket covering to allow only the type to print on the paper and to keep the rest of the sheet clean. (Glossary- Rummond's Printing on the Iron Hand Press)

Hieroglyphics - a system of writing mainly in pictorial characters, a system of hieroglyphic writing; specifically: the picture script of the ancient Egyptian priesthood

Ink Balls - Round cushions stuffed with wool and nailed to wooden ball stocks. The cushion covering was made of sheepskin, pelts or leather. Ink balls were used in pairs to ink the type form before the invention of rollers. (Glossary- Rummond's Printing on the Iron Hand Press)

Moveable Type - Individually carved or cast letters. A rectangular block usually of metal bearing a relief character from which an inked print can be made

Papyrus - the pith of the papyrus plant, especially when cut in strips and pressed into a material suitable for a writing surface

Pictogram or Pictograph - one of the symbols belonging to a pictorial graphic system

Printing- a process for reproducing text and image, typically with ink on paper using a printing press.

Scribes - one of a learned class in ancient Israel through New Testament times studying the Scriptures and serving as copyists, editors, teachers and jurists

Stylus - an instrument for writing, marking or incising used by the ancients in writing on clay or waxed tablets

Town Crier - A town officer who makes public proclamations

Tympan - A frame covered with parchment or paper upon which the sheet of printing paper is laid. The tympan is attached to the bed of the press. (Glossary- Rummond's Printing on the Iron Hand Press)

Type - Pieces of metal that had a letter or character in high relief for their face, used in letterpress printing. The word typography, meaning the design of printed matter, comes from the term type.

Word Find

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

s p v k z v n u l z y l k e q j d f o x
a c i m i a q h k u r i d d k t n i q p
s b i c w c t i c h r o o i t h y z z x
a y e h t s k x p h k e i s q v o h k s
p j p d p o f m c y s i l d h q t c e x
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broadside

pictogram

cuneiform

scribes

facsimile

stylus

hieroglyphics

tympan

papyrus

type

Cryptogram

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

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PRINTING IS $\frac{A}{13}$ $\frac{\quad}{1}$ $\frac{\quad}{9}$ $\frac{O}{6}$ $\frac{\quad}{26}$ $\frac{E}{24}$ $\frac{\quad}{19}$ $\frac{\quad}{19}$ $\frac{\quad}{7}$ $\frac{O}{6}$ $\frac{\quad}{9}$

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The 42-Line Story

As was mentioned on the tour, the first book to be printed on Gutenberg's printing press was the 42-Line Bible. Create a 42-Line Story, which includes a beginning, a middle and an end. This helps build knowledge of structure in relation to writing.

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The 42-Word Story

As was mentioned on the tour, the first book to be printed on Gutenberg's printing press was the 42-Line Bible. Create a 42-Word Story, which includes a beginning, a middle and an end. This is a fun way to explore vocabulary, grammar and punctuation. With a limit of 42 words, you will have to think carefully about each word that you want to include.

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

Scavenger Hunt

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

Time Frame:

30 minutes

Supplies:

Pen & Paper

Details:

Answer questions 1-10 and turn it in.

Start your day at the Museum of _____.

Here, you will find the answers to the following questions:

Find the 1765 Pennsylvania Gazette dated June 6, 1765.

Who Published it? _____

Find the first dictionary printed in the Western Hemisphere.

Where was it printed? _____

What page is it opened to? _____

The key to understanding the history to the worlds greatest ancient civilization-what is it?

Find the "Stars and Stripes" dated Wednesday, May 2nd, 1945.

What's the big news? _____

Find the "Dallas Morning News" dated July 21, 1969.

What is special about Monday? _____

What time was he at the bottom of the ladder? _____

Find the "Conrier Journal" dated April 16, 1912.

What event occurred? _____

How many lives were lost? _____

Find the "The Honolulu Advertiser" dated March 12, 1959.

What is the front headline? _____

Find the "New York Herald" dated Tuesday, September 23, 1862.

What is the important news of the day? _____

Find the Rosetta Stone.

What year was it created? _____

What stone is it made of? _____

Return the collected information to your instructor.

Post-Visit Activities

Declaration of Independence Activity

Today you have printed a copy of the Declaration of Independence. The original document was written by hand and signed by 56 people, including Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, John Adams and John Hancock. In the space below, show how you would have signed the declaration of Independence.

Benjamin Franklin Activity

You have learned about Benjamin Franklin and that he invented many things. If you were a famous inventor, describe and then draw a picture of something you would invent if you lived during Benjamin Franklin's time.

Francis Scott Key

The Museum of Printing History has on display an early printing of our national anthem in a New Hampshire newspaper, dated October 11, 1814. It was written by American poet Francis Scott Key, who wrote the poem while observing a naval battle at Ft. McHenry. In the space below, write a short poem about your country and what it means to be free.

Thinking about Printing

Today you have observed and participated in the printing process. What do you think the world would have been like if the printing press did not exist? Do you think we would have computers and the internet today?