



City of Arts & Innovation

Museum of Riverside Board Memorandum

TO: MUSEUM OF RIVERSIDE BOARD **DATE: SEPTEMBER 27, 2023**
FROM: MUSEUM DEPARTMENT **WARDS: ALL**
SUBJECT: COLLECTION ACTIVITY FOR FY2022-2023

ISSUE:

Receive and file the Collection Activity report for FY2022-2023.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Museum of Riverside Board receive and file the Collection Activity report for FY2022-2023.

BACKGROUND:

Pursuant to the Standing Rules of the Museum of Riverside Board (Board), the Board approves recommendations to City Council to accession or deaccession objects to or from the permanent collection. The permanent collection is the category of collection for which the Museum assumes long-term responsibility, including fiduciary responsibility. Annually, staff prepares a summary report on activity associated with the permanent collection and other collections, in order to keep the Board apprised of the full scope of the mission-based responsibility to steward the collection, hold it in trust for the public, meet obligations to donors, and serve the public through relevant programs that draw upon the collection.

DISCUSSION:

Actions are reviewed and advanced by the Collections Committee of the Museum of Riverside. When required by Riverside Municipal Code or Museum policy, actions are further recommended by the Museum of Riverside Board and approved by Riverside City Council.

A list of additions (accessions) to the permanent collection follows. All accessions except one in FY2022-2023 were by donation. There were no acquisitions to the Community Collection. Following prudent collections stewardship practices, selected objects were examined for continuing fit to mission and other considerations, which resulted in some recommendations to

remove objects formally from the permanent collection (deaccession). Professional exchange in the form of object loans from the Museum also occurred.

Thus, collection activity continued in the following categories: accessions into the permanent collections, deaccessions from the permanent collection, and outgoing loans. All objects for which transactions were active and/or finalized in FY2022-2023 are listed below.

Accessions into the Permanent Collection

<i>Accession number</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Approved by Museum of Riverside Board</i>
A1822	Two Royal Crown Derby teacups and saucers and one sterling sugar sifter	April 27, 2022 (approved by City Council August 2, 2022)
A1930	Three artifacts relating to the then-named Riverside Theatre	April 27, 2022 (approved by City Council August 2, 2022)
A1931	Fourteen Indigenous North American artifacts	December 8, 2021 (approved by City Council August 2, 2022)
A1932	One 1920s beaded silk dress and one accompanying pair of shoes	December 8, 2021 (approved by City Council August 2, 2022)
A1933	Forty-two historic glass negatives	April 27, 2022 (approved by City Council August 2, 2022)
A1934	One "Riverside Homes" pamphlet	January 25, 2023 (approved by City Council March 28, 2023)
A1921	Two Commemorative U.S. Post Office envelopes	January 25, 2023 (approved by City Council March 28, 2023)
A1936	One Chamber of Commerce map	January 25, 2023 (approved by City Council March 28, 2023)
A1937	One Jarvis family Bible	January 25, 2023 (approved by City Council March 28, 2023)
A1938	One Lemon Street postcard	January 25, 2023 (approved by City Council March 28, 2023)
Pending*	Thirty prepared study skins of birds	January 25, 2023 (approved by City Council March 28, 2023)

* Recommendations awaiting one or more levels of approval that were scheduled after June 30, 2023, or other object processing steps.

Deaccessions from the Permanent Collection

<i>Accession number</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Approved by Museum of Riverside Board</i>
A1496-109, A1496-113.1a-b, A1496-114.1a-b, A1496-114.2.	One cherrywood rolltop desk, a library table and a side table, and one American Empire Revival mahogany bed head- and footboards, and one dresser with mirror	May 25, 2022 (approved by City Council August 2, 2022)
U1767, U1768, P88-4, and P88-6	Four Persian style rugs	January 25, 2023 (approved by City Council: March 28, 2023)

A9-15, A9-17, A8-331, A597-101	Four sacred or cultural objects (NAGPRA-mandated action)	January 25, 2023 (approved by City Council March 28, 2023)
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Note: Funds realized from the sale of objects deaccessioned from the permanent collections are restricted to a fund for future acquisitions, following ethical requirements within the museum field. Funds are tracked separately for history, anthropology, natural history, and archives.

Community Collection

<i>Identification number</i>	<i>Description</i>
None	None

Outgoing Loans

<i>Borrower</i>	<i>Objects</i>	<i>Purpose</i>	<i>Loan duration</i>
Ameal Moore Nature Center; Parks, Recreation and Community Services; City of Riverside	Nine (9) taxidermy specimens	Exhibition in visitor center	January 1, 2021 - January 31, 2022 Renewed: January 31, 2022 - September 30, 2023
L.A. Plaza de Cultura y Artes	Five (5) citrus history related objects.	Included in exhibition about Mexican-American citrus workers	February 2, 2021- February 2, 2023 Renewed: February 2, 2023 – February 2, 2024
Field Museum	Donna Largo basket A1108-40	Included in exhibition hall	August 27, 2021 – January 23, 2024

Incoming Loans

<i>Lender</i>	<i>Objects</i>	<i>Purpose</i>	<i>Loan duration</i>
None	None	None	None

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:

The activities of the Museum of Riverside align with the Strategic Priority, “Arts, Culture and Recreation.” Collection actions mentioned in this report support, in particular, goal 1.1 (strengthening Riverside’s portfolio of arts, culture, recreation, senior, and lifelong learning programs and amenities) and goal 1.2 (enhancing equitable access to arts, culture, and recreational service offerings and facilities).

Actions to build a diverse and representative collection further support the Strategic Priority, “Community Well-Being.” Specific goals supported by Museum collecting activity also include goal 2.3, which includes strengthening neighborhood identities.

1. **Community Trust** – The Collection Activity report recaps prior fiscal year activity so that the Board, which represents the community, stays informed. Refinement and use of the collections are pursued transparently and in alignment with the Museum’s Collections and

Exhibitions Management Policies, Collections Development Plan, ethics policies, professional standards, and all applicable laws.

2. **Equity** – The Collection Activity report provides specific detail on the Museum’s progress toward building a collection that equitably and meaningfully represents the histories, neighborhoods, and natural habitats of the greater Riverside area.
3. **Fiscal Responsibility** – The Collection Activity report reinforces staff’s effort to assume responsibility for the perpetual care of objects and specimens only when in alignment with mission, policy, and available resources.
4. **Innovation** – The Collection Activity report reflects actions taken in the prior year to refine the collection and further enable it to support innovative future programming.
5. **Sustainability & Resiliency** – The Collection Activity report reflects staff emphasis on honing a collection that further supports cultural sustainability. Collecting activity also documents species and habitat change, which informs climate studies and other research pursuant to strengthening community resilience.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this report.

Prepared by: Robyn G. Peterson, Ph.D., Museum Director