A Curious Collaboration:
Explorations in Exhibition Development

by

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A Project
Approved by the Department of Museum Studies

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Abstract

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This project focused on gaining experience in the exhibition development process and in planning and management of traveling exhibitions. The product of this learning experience was the creation of an auxiliary exhibit titled “Curious Creatures: Traditions of Animal Imagery” which was designed to complement the themes of the traveling exhibit “Sacred Journeys” by National Geographic. This report details the challenges and accomplishments over the course of this project which further emphasized the importance of adaptability and collaboration in the museum field.
A Curious Collaboration
Explorations in Exhibition Development
Graduate Project By Jenna Norris
How it started

• Spring Assistantship to Summer Internship
• Auxiliary Exhibit
• Topic and Location
Expanding Exhibit

- Traveling Exhibits
- Baylor Hall
- Topic Change
- External Collaboration
- Event Planning
- Evaluation/Survey
Traveling Exhibits
Research and Preparation

- Research: Totem Poles and the Kaningara Tribe
- Lessons in Design and Technology
- Budgeting
- Preparing Objects
- Event Planning
Collaborations

- Inside and Outside the Museum
  - Facilities, Collections, Education, Events
  - Cameron Park Zoo
  - Research
Installation week

• What could go wrong?
• Time saving decisions
• Volunteers to the rescue
• Opening and Extension
Events

• Cameron Park Zoo
  • Sacred Snakes and Raptors

• Marketing

• Informal Events
Challenges

- Climate Control
- Ongoing Maintenance
- Communication
  - Curators
Evaluation Phase

• Staff Survey
  • Future of the Baylor Hall

• Guest Interviews and Observations
  • Using the Collection
Outcome

- Donation
- Dates Extended
- Experience