History’s Closet exhibition to open in January!

At long last, we are turning our gallery back into a display space with the preview of the exhibition, History’s Closet, on January 22, 2014. This exhibit is being staged as a result of the $149,000 Institute of Museum and Library Services grant project the Historic Costume & Textiles Collection has undertaken for the past year and a half. The project seeks to show the relationship between historic clothing artifacts and learning about the past. History’s Closet will feature both 19th century artifacts from the June 2013 teacher workshop and 20th century artifacts that will be the focus of the second workshop taking place in June 2014. At a time when American students are lagging behind their international peers in scholastic achievement, it is important to develop innovative strategies to engage students in learning, and this project is one way in which that can be done. The project and exhibit reveal how clothing, something very personal to everyone, can be used to spark students’ interest in history, and as a result be utilized to reinforce the new Common Core teaching standards.

Key historic periods featured in the exhibition include the early 19th century emergence of the New Republic, and the Civil War, 20th century consumerism, mid-century hardships and innovation resulting from the Great Depression, WWII, and the space race. While we photographed 42 artifacts for this project, our limited gallery space allows us to show only 1/3 of them. However, through the use of iPads in the gallery connected wirelessly to our Fashion2Fiber database, patrons will be able to see all artifacts plus bonus images of interior construction details and fiber micrographs. This technology also allows us to provide access to garments that can never be on display in a gallery due to their fragile condition. The condition of artifacts and concern for their continued survival often limits curators’ ability to include them in exhibits, but as technology improves some of the collection’s most prized offerings need never be unavailable. So beginning January 22 and running through the end of June 2014 come and join us in engaging with the past in a way that you, perhaps, have never before attempted.

Gayle Strege, Curator
Marlise Schoeny, Assistant Curator

André Courrèges orange vinyl coat 1965–69, gift of Margaret Tierney; white vinyl hat gift of Mary Bishop, white vinyl boots gift of Chris Woodyard
Thank you, Charles

As another year draws to a close and I process donations to the Collection, I’m reminded of the very generous donation Charles Kleibacker made in his bequest to the HCTC, and how it continues to be useful for us still, almost three years after his passing. Charles was always generous with his time, but he was also thoughtful of us in his will. His gift to the HCTC of almost $83,000 enabled us to design and print the 32-page catalog for the Columbus Fashion Story exhibition. If anyone would like copies, let me know, and I will mail them out. A digital version can be found on our website at go.osu.edu/ColsFashionstory. We also used some of Charles’ bequest to pay a portion of salary and benefits for Marilse Schoeny that was not covered by our IMLS grant, and we still have a significant balance remaining that we would like to put toward something really useful such as new mannequins or a down-payment on a high-density storage system that we could install in the basement of Campbell Hall.

I am very thankful for this last gift Charles gave us, as I am also of past bequests left to us by Mary Nancy Davis and Grace Heck Faust. Grace’s endowment also provides us with a small income every year that we can put toward personnel. As we continue to grow, we continue to require new sources of revenue, so please consider the HCTC in your estate planning.

On the Road

We are excited to announce that several artifacts will be going out on loan in the upcoming year. One of our ongoing goals is to continue to make HCTC artifacts available and accessible to as many as possible. Our online endeavors are work toward that end, but a more traditional way we do that is by lending to off-campus institutions. Last summer several items were on exhibit for the Ohio Decorative Arts Center’s Glorious Threads exhibition, and this February, we will lend our Charles Frederick Worth 1880s yellow silk ball gown along with a full dress men’s tailcoat to the Columbus Museum of Art for their exhibition, Toulouse-Lautrec and ‘la vie moderne’, February 7–May 18, 2013. In addition, we have six wedding dresses going out on a two year travelling exhibition tour arranged by International Arts & Artists. Something Old, Something New: A World of Bridal Fashion, will travel to the Springfield Art Museum in Springfield, MA from October 21, 2014–January 4, 2015, followed by the Reading Public Museum in Reading, PA April 29–July 22, 2016. These garments include a Macedonian and Japanese wedding costume, as well as two dresses from the 1880s, a 1920s dress and a WWII nylon parachute wedding dress.

Launch of new website design!

The HCTC website, costume.osu.edu has a new look! Check it out and let us know what you think. We’re pretty sure all the links still work, but let us know if something does not. Now that we have a new look, we will concentrate on updating some of the information in the weeks and months ahead. Be sure to check out our postings on Facebook too. We don’t post on a regular basis, but when we find something interesting about something we are working on, it is a quick way to get the information out there for folks to see. go.osu.edu/hctcfacebook

In Memoriam

Correction: Contrary to a report in our summer issue, Anita Eisenstein is happily still with us. We were misinformed, but told of our error and apologize for any distress this may have caused.

Longtime HCTC Friend and former faculty member, Velma Everhart passed away peacefully at age 97 on September 4th.

Members who renewed since June 2013:

$250-$500
- Ann Davidson
- Janet Rajadhyaksha

$250
- Beth Assif
- Ella Mae Bard
- Sandra Byers
- Connie Cahill
- Elizabeth Handlan
- Maryanne Jackson
- Markie May
- Norma Pitts
- Corde Robinson
- Joyce Smith
- Lynn Gutches Snowden
- Joy Tom
- Jacqueline Long
- Vaughan

$100
- Jennifer Brown
- Lois Dickey
- Jack George
- Kathryn Jakes
- Marsha Hamilton
- Debra Heimann
- Evalind Pickering
- Georgeanne Reuter
- Merry Ann Sauls
- Margaret Scherer
- Mary Stine

$50
- Shirley Brooks-Jones
- Kathleen Busche
- Molly Butler
- Barbara Bidwell
- Coombs
- Bette Darr
- FloAnn Easton
- Nancy Fuller
- Johnnie Hoopes
- Darlene Von Stroh
- Jones
- Pat Larson
- Barbara McSheffery
- Priscilla Meeks
- Marianne Mueller
- Mary Richardson
- Linda Wolske

$25
- Mary Stine
- Margaret Scherer
- Merry Ann Sauls
- Darlene Von Stroh
- Nancy Fuller
- Florence Easton
- Patt Larson
- Barbara McSheffery
- Priscilla Meeks
- Marianne Mueller
- Mary Richardson
- Linda Wolske

$10
- Jennifer Brown
- Lois Dickey
- Jack George
- Kathryn Jakes
- Marsha Hamilton
- Debra Heimann
- Evalind Pickering
- Georgeanne Reuter
- Merry Ann Sauls
- Margaret Scherer
- Mary Stine


Charles Frederick Worth yellow silk floral brocade dinner/reception gown, 1885–1890, purchased by The Friends of the Historic Costume & Textiles Collection.
Please renew your membership or join for the first time!

The Friends of the Historic Costume & Textiles Collection

Student ($15.00); Senior ($25); Active ($35), Sustaining ($50); Patron ($100); Trendsetter ($250); Haute Couture ($1,000)

Please accept my membership in the Friends of The Historic Costume & Textiles Collection at The Ohio State University, and list my name in the membership directory as follows:

Level of Membership __________________________________________

Name ______________________________________________________

Address ____________________________________________________

City/State/Zip+4 ____________________________

Phone (Day) ___________________________ (Evening) ___________________________

Email Address __________________________________________

Please make check payable to the Historic Costume & Textiles Collection and mail to the collection at the College of Education and Human Ecology, The Ohio State University, 175 Campbell Hall, 1787 Neil Avenue, Columbus, OH 43210-1295

If you or your spouse works for an employer that makes matching charitable gifts, please indicate the company name: