

EXHIBIT FACT SHEET

MEDIA CONTACT: Wendy Aitkens, Curator
tel 403.320-3907 | waitkens@galtmuseum.com

Once Upon A Time... Knights, Castles & Common Folk

Sat FEB 02 - Sun APR 20.08

A unique exhibit showcasing life during the years 1000 to 1500 AD with special focus on two of the enduring symbols of the age: the Cathedral and the Armoured Knight. All aspects of medieval life are featured, from monks and monasteries to the feudal system, architecture, games and pastimes, and the crusades.

Learn about the invention of the clock, trade with exotic and distant countries, chain mail worn as protection. Explore the medieval grocery store. Try out the prisoners' stocks. You might even become a knight...

Also included are models of Lincoln Cathedral, Notre Dame Cathedral, a stone manor, a peasant's home, catapults, sundials and more, donated by staff and students from the Department of Architectural Science and Landscape Architecture, Ryerson Polytechnical University, Toronto.

Once Upon A Time... Knights, Castles and Common Folk is organized and curated by Bruce County Museum & Archives in Southampton, Ontario.



The Archives Exposed...Castles, Cathedrals & Common Homes

Associated exhibit | *Community Savings Learning Studio & Friends of the Galt Board Room, main level*

Elements of European architecture are evident in many buildings in southwestern Alberta. The photographs in this exhibit are selected from the Archives holdings by guest curator Trish Purkis, Archives Assistant at the Galt Museum & Archives.

Opening Reception

Fri FEB 01 | 7:00 - 9:00 pm | by invitation

Guests have been invited to wear the latest Medieval styles.

RELATED PROGRAMS

MEDIA CONTACT: Belinda Crowson,
Visitor and Program Coordinator
tel 403.320-4248 | bcrowson@galtmuseum.com

Museum Free Day

Sat FEB 2 | 10:00 am to 4:30 pm

Travel back to the days of knights and dragons, catapults and castles, damsels and queens. Activities throughout the day including demonstrations and appearances by members of the Lethbridge Medieval Society.

2:00 pm | Green Men, Gargoyles and Grotesques - Medieval Stone Carving

Medieval stone carvings appeared on churches, civic buildings, castles and walls. In this presentation we will look at examples of these carvings and find out who made them. The presenter, Carolla Christie, will show how stone is carved and children will have a chance to try their hand at carving soap. People can take home a scavenger hunt to find stone carvings in Lethbridge.

Café Galt

Weds | 7:00 pm | admission rates apply | free for annual pass holders | Exhibit open | refreshments

FEB 13 Torture in the Contemporary World and the Lucifer Effect: Why Good People Become Evil
Torture was commonly used in the Middle Ages, a barbarous, bloody time, and not at all surprising in the historical context. But what about torture in the contemporary world? **Mary Kosta**, Coordinator of Amnesty International Lethbridge Action Circle, will give an overview of Amnesty International priority concerns about torture and an update based on the 2007 Annual Report on which countries are using torture, and **Mark Sandilands**, Professor Emeritus in Psychology, University of Lethbridge, will speak on the psychology of torture.

MAR 12 Chivalry and Crusading in the Medieval World Images of chivalrous knights and pious crusaders riding out from their castles to do battle against their enemies are emblematic of medieval society and a staple of everything from Hollywood movies to children's colouring books. How closely do our popular images conform to what historians know about the Middle Ages? Were knights really as chivalrous, were crusaders as fanatical as we now make them out to be? Professor **David J. Hay** explores the myths and realities of medieval warfare by tracing the development of the concepts of chivalry and the crusade from their origins in the early Middle Ages to their full flowering in the age of Richard the Lionhearted. Dr. Hay concludes by considering the modern relevance of this long history of warfare between the Christian and the Muslim worlds.

APR 09 Silent Voices This program will highlight women of the Middle Ages and women of the not so distant past. From Gwerful Mechain, who wrote erotic poetry in 15th Century Wales, to Hildegard of Bingen to Mildred Dobbs who worked 39 years without taking a day off to Eliza Henrietta McMinn Burkitt whose obituary tells us everything about her husband but does not even give her full name, vignettes and stories of women of the Middle Ages and women of south western Alberta will be shared.

Saturdays at 1:00

Weekly family program | admission rates apply | free for annual pass holders

Calling all brave and noble youths (and young at heart), *"A thrilling quest awaits you. Over the next several weeks challenges and activities will be set out before you to help you understand life in the Middle Ages and help us prepare for our quest. Are you up for the challenge? Adventure awaits..."*

~ Sir George de Galt

Quest 1 ❖ FEB 9 | Cover Thee Head In the Middle Ages, a person's social status and job could be known by the type of hat he or she wore. Be thee king or queen, lord or lady, knight or peasant - design your own hat in preparation for the quest.

Quest 2 ❖ FEB 16 | Friend or Foe? As we go forward on the quest, we will know the people we meet by their crest or coat of arms. Design your own family crest so that when you complete the quest, people will know it is you who made it to the end.

Quest 3 ❖ FEB 23 | En Garde The quest ahead will be perilous - there may be dragons and ogres (or not) - so we must be prepared. We will design our own swords and shields to take on the quest.

Quest 4 ❖ MAR 01 | Gather From the Four Corners Hark! The Herald reports that the quest is more dangerous than we first thought. We will need help. Before the printing press, writing was all done by hand and was elegantly decorated. We will create our own illumination of an ornamental alphabet letter to send out a request for others to join our quest.

Quest 5 ❖ MAR 08 | From Spoons to Saints - Medieval Wood Carving We will be gone on our quest a very long time and must learn how to make our own supplies. Medieval craftsmen carved designs on almost everything they made - from common household utensils like spoons to statues of saints in churches. We will look at different types of medieval wood carving and how they were used. Presenter Carolla Christie will show how wood is carved, and we will colour a medieval style bookmark to take back home.

Quest 6 ❖ MAR 15 | Storm the Castle We have learned that our quest will require us to storm a castle. As part of our preparation, we will need to build and learn about castles so we are better prepared.

MAR 22 The quest will take a break for Eggstravaganza

Quest 7 ❖ MAR 29 | Dragons, Ogres and Unicorns Finally, the quest has begun. We must go beyond the area known to our mapmakers and into the unknown. Who do we meet on our travels? Learn about the strange and exciting creatures that populate the road.

Quest 8 ❖ APR 05 | A Challenge Thwarted! The way to the treasure is guarded and we cannot get past unless we can win the challenge. We must learn to play Medieval Games (such as Nine Men's Morris and Fox & Geese) so we can outsmart and get past the guard.

Quest 9 ❖ APR 12 | The Treasure The treasure at the end of the quest has been hidden. We must work together solve the clues to find it!

Quest 10 ❖ APR 19 | Feasting and Storytelling Our quest is done! Now is time for feasting and storytelling. Exploding chocolate frogs will help us celebrate the end of our quest as we sit back and relax and are regaled by stories of legends and heroes of old.

Coulees & Culture Connection

Spring break MAR 25-28 | 8:30 am to 4:30 pm | ages 6 to 9

\$100 per child | min. 10, max. 20 participants | Register at SAAG by March 14: 327-8770

Come celebrate the return of Coulees & Culture Connection and discover the cultural, historical and natural treasures in our city. Four full days of fun and exciting activities will keep you busy and show you the diversity that Lethbridge has to offer. Each day children are dropped off at a different location. Tuesday they'll visit the Helen Schuler Coulee Centre, Wednesday the Southern Alberta Art Gallery, Thursday [Middle Ages] and Friday [Local History] the Galt Museum & Archives.

Guided Tours of *Once Upon a Time* or of the permanent exhibit are available for groups and classes.

RELATED EVENTS

MEDIA CONTACT: Lori Harasem-Mitchell,
Special Events/Volunteer Coordinator
tel 403.320-4219 | lmitchell@galtmuseum.com

Eggstravaganza Meets King Arthur

Sat MAR 22 | 10:00 to 2:00

\$4/3/child; adults free; * annual pass holder rate*

Stop by for fun Easter activities - paint eggs and have your face painted, make cool crafts, bring your camera in case you see the Easter Bunny - he's stopped by in the past! Lots to do and see and the exhibit will be open so bring the whole family! Check www.galtmuseum.com for updates and information on 2008 events, or call 403.320-4219.

For additional information, or to obtain high resolution images, please contact:

Anine Vonkeman, Marketing/Communications Officer

403.320-4009 | avonkeman@galtmuseum.com

www.galtmuseum.com