

THE BAILLIEWICK

JANUARY 2010

VOLUME 13, ISSUE 1

Faith, Healing and Medical Miracles

By Paul Robertson, Curator

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FALL/WINTER/SPRING: TUES.-FRI., 10AM-4PM

SUMMER:

TUES.-SAT., 10AM-4PM * SUN. NOON-4PM

ADMISSION BY DONATION

In early November the Museum invited Dr. Jacalyn Duffin to speak on her most recent book, *Medical Miracles: Doctors, Saints, and Healing in the Modern World* (Oxford University Press, 2009). A record-breaker for this Museum, an overflow crowd of over 300 people gathered to hear the lecture. Dr. Duffin graciously agreed to repeat her talk a second time that night to accommodate everyone who could not get in for the first session – I commend those who waited patiently for an hour outside the lecture room.

Dr. Duffin recounted her years of intensive research in the Vatican archives and library into stories of illness, prayer, treatment, and miraculous cure described in detailed files documenting over 1400 miracles spanning four centuries from six continents.

Beatification and canonization are the official process that the Roman Catholic Church uses to recognise men and women who are believed to have lived lives of outstanding holiness, inspired by the grace of God and the spirit of the Gospel and have since died. The Church's examination of a cause for a particular saint can only be completed when one or more miracles attributed to the saint's intercession with God can be established. Only supernatural events such as the sudden and irreversible cure of a serious disease are accepted as miracles.

Professor Duffin, who is the Hannah Chair for the History of Medicine at Queen's

A record-breaker for this Museum, an overflow crowd of over 300 people gathered to hear the lecture.

Ex votos (votive offerings) given by people whose prayers for cure or recovery were answered. MHC COLLECTION

University in Kingston, has had a long fascination with the interrelationship between medicine and religion and how each derives meaningful signs from particular instances of human distress. A haematologist as well as a historian, her research interest in medical miracles was sparked in the 1980s when she was requested to read a set of blood and bone marrow microscope slides without

being told the reason why or any clinical details. Dr. Duffin concluded that the samples came from a patient suffering from acute leukaemia and who had gone into remission, not once, but twice. Given

the information she could glean from the slides, Dr. Duffin assumed the patient had since died. She admits her surprise when she later learned that the patient was alive and attributed her cure to a miracle – the intercession with God of a Montreal woman, Marie-Marguerite d'Youville who had died in 1771. The doctor's analysis of the blood samples became a deciding factor in the cause for Youville's canonisation in 1990 as the first Canadian-born saint.

Read more on Paul's blog!

Read the rest of Paul Robertson's article on *Ex crypta: The Curator's Blog*, a new blog feature on our website: www.museumofhealthcare.ca

MUSEUM HIGHLIGHTS



A Family Connection

The Museum was pleased to welcome John Matheson, a great-great-nephew of Ann Baillie, on July 28, 2009. John enjoyed tours of our galleries and collection storage areas.

Yes, You Just Saw the Museum on the TV

By Mary Kathryn Ilic, Advancement Officer

A commercial showcasing the Museum of Health Care has been developed in connection with Corus Entertainment, CKWS Television Kingston. This commercial will run on the CKWS Kingston Television channels for the next year, and can also be found on the Museum's website.

We hope you enjoy this showcase spot and pass along the website link to your friends and family so that others may become familiar with the wonderful hidden gem that is the Museum of Health Care.



CALL FOR PROPOSALS: Dr. Margaret Angus Research Fellowship - 2010

Deadline: February 5, 2010 at 4pm

A decision will be made by March 1, 2010

Value: \$4600.00

The Museum of Health Care accepts proposals for a 16-week resident summer fellowship relevant to the history of health and health care utilizing the Museum's collection and/or programs.

The goals of the fellowship are:

- to develop an appreciation of the value of the history of health care
- to become familiar with research methodology in the history of health care
- to understand the role of health care museums in the history of health care
- to become familiar with the goals, policies and operation of a health care museum
- to gain experience in historical research in the history of health care
- to make a contribution towards understanding the artefacts in the Museum's collection

It is expected that the Fellow will produce a manuscript, and deliver a public presentation of their findings at the end of the fellowship. Senior undergraduate students and recent graduates of Honours Bachelor, Master's or Ph.D. programs preferred.

Applications should be submitted by mail to:

Dr. Hugh Pross - Chair, Program Committee
Museum of Health Care, 32 George Street, Kingston, ON K7L 2V7
or by email in Microsoft Word or Rich Text Format to:
museum@kgh.kari.net

Applications should include a brief description (300-350 words) of the research plan and two letters of reference. For more information about fellowship requirements or about previous or possible fellowship topics, please visit www.museumofhealthcare.ca. For further inquiries, contact Catherine Toews at 613-548-2419, or museum@kgh.kari.net.

2009 Dr. Margaret Angus Research Fellowship

Evening Presentation



L to R: Curator Paul Robertson, Research Fellow Leanne Shapton, & Master of Ceremonies Hugh Pross with an electrocardiograph (COURTESY DR. GREG BARAN).

Our 2009 Dr. Margaret Angus Research Fellow Leanne Shapton, a fourth year Life Sciences student at Queen's University, delivered a public presentation of her research on October 1 at 7pm at the Glaxo Wellcome Clinical Education Centre. Leanne's paper focused on the development of the electrocardiograph and its impact on cardiac patient care. Executive Director Dr. James Low referred to Leanne's final manuscript as "absolutely first class," noting that it "tells a great story of the history and development of the electrocardiograph." Congratulations, Leanne!

Reflectors, and Skeletons, and Otoscopes! Oh My!

By Catherine Toews, Museum Manager

All 2009 was an exciting time for the Museum. After a busy summer spent developing new exhibition-linked educational programs for schools and other groups, we began welcoming students into the Museum to experience these new programs.

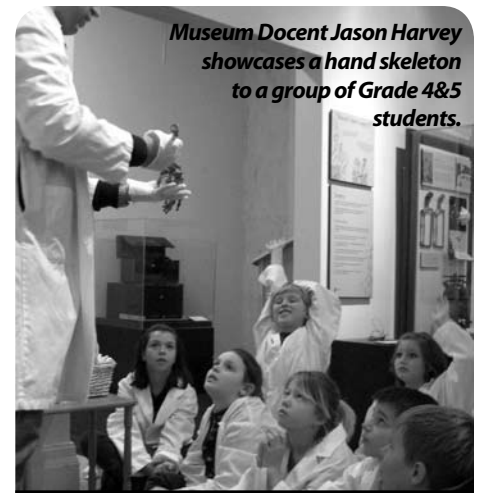
The response from teachers and students has been very positive thus far, with teachers commenting that the new programs are "very interesting and worthwhile," "well-organized," and "wonderful."

It has been my pleasure to interact with all of the students who have visited so far this school year (over 130 students ranging in age from Grade 2 to Grade 10). I would like to extend a huge thank you to

our dedicated and talented team of Museum Docents (Cathy Neilson, Jason Harvey, Kristina Enciso, and Victoria Harrison) who have been instrumental in both developing and delivering the programs.

Our *E-Newsletter for Educators* helps to spread the word about the Museum's many educational activities. If you or someone you know would like to receive this newsletter, simply send an e-mail to museum@kgh.kari.net to indicate your interest.

We are also on the lookout for enthusiastic volunteers interested in joining our team of Museum Docents. To find out more about this exciting opportunity and learn how you can apply, visit the "Get Involved" section of our website.



Museum Docent Jason Harvey showcases a hand skeleton to a group of Grade 4&5 students.

Visit the "Activities & Programs" section of our website for more information about our new in-Museum educational programs.



MHC COLLECTION

Photographs are found in almost everyone's home. They are keepsakes of moments in time and special events that we want to keep as pieces of the past. The photographs preserve our memories, but how do we preserve our photographs so they will be there for years to come?

One important aspect of photograph preservation is the environment in which they are stored. Photographs are very sensitive to temperature and relative humidity. The ideal storage area is a cool, dry location with a temperature below 21°C and a relative humidity of 25%. The most important factor is that the temperature and relative humidity remain as stable as possible. A fluctuation of even a few degrees in temperature or a 5% change in relative humidity can be harmful to the photographs. Therefore, it is best not to keep photographs in your attic or basement.

If you choose to keep your photographs in an album, consider first

Photograph Preservation Tips

By Elisia Scagnetti, Curatorial Intern

what type is best, particularly if your photographs are in plastic folders that have yellowed and become stiff and brittle. The best type of album will have pages made of thicker acid-free paper with small corner tabs in which to insert your pictures. The corners will hold the photograph in place with a minimal amount of contact. You will also be able to write information about the picture on the paper below it.

You can still use a plastic photograph sheet, but it is important to use chemically inert materials. The plastics that have been used in the past were very damaging to the photographs as they off-gassed chemicals creating an unstable environment in which the photographs were contained. So, when purchasing these types of sheets, look for plastics like uncoated polyethylene or polyester. These plastics are much more stable, which means they will not add to the deterioration of the photograph they hold.

Now that you have your photographs properly stored in an album that will help to preserve the photographs, the next step is to reduce the amount of deterioration that can occur to the photograph. Try to limit how much you handle the individual photographs by taking some precautions.

First, if you choose the photograph album that uses corner tabs, there is space available for you to write information below the picture. Or if you use the chemically inert plastic sleeves, you may be able to find some that create a space for labels. If you choose to write on the back of your photographs, consider the tools you use. A ball-point pen on the back can cause an indentation on the front side of the photograph. A permanent marker is toxic and therefore should not be used. Instead, use a soft leaded pencil and gently write on the backside as close to the edge as you can.

Another way to limit handling or exposure of photographs is to make copies of the original that can be used for display. If you have a very important or valuable photograph that you want to display, the type and amount of light the picture is exposed to will over time fade the photograph and add to its deterioration. You can make a digital copy of the original photograph by using a scanner and then display the copy.

If you take the time to store your photographs in the proper environment, in proper storage devices and limit the amount of light they are exposed to, you can preserve them long into the future.

Since beginning in 1991, our vision for the Museum has been to become Canada's premier museum devoted exclusively to the story of health and health care and a key element in a centre of excellence for health care history.

Our strategic plan focuses on five initiatives to achieve this goal.

Developing Our People

No matter how unique the collection, it is people that are at the heart of a Museum's success. Board, staff, and volunteers provide the ideas, the energy, the access to resources, and the connections to the community that shape the Museum.

We have had great success attracting excellent staff and volunteers over the years. We will continue to develop a knowledgeable and dynamic team to move the Museum forward.

We value professional integrity in all our interactions, activities and programs. Through this we gain the respect and trust of others.

Building and Managing Our Financial Resources

While established cultures make exceptional efforts to sustain legacies through museums, galleries, archives and libraries, North America, as a relatively young and rapidly developing society, is still in the early stages of efforts to preserve its past, especially as it relates to health care.

As the Museum and its activities grow, so too does the need for financial resources. We will build on and strengthen our existing financial management systems to ensure that we maintain the highest level of accountability, and make the best possible use of Museum resources.

The Advancement Program will put in place innovative programs to build both operating funds and an endowment fund to protect the Museum's future.

Developing Our Collections and Curatorial Strength

The valuable lessons learned over the



The Museum - Our Vision

By Dr. James Low, Executive Director

centuries run a grave risk of being lost unless the history of health care is actively collected, preserved and promoted for the shared benefit of all Canadians.

The Museum has one of the largest and most important collections of medical and health care artefacts in Canada. Approved collection management policies and procedures, and sound research and documentation, with state of the art storage will allow us to protect and enhance the collection as it grows.

We value the collection as central to our objective of understanding the history of health and health care in Canada. As custodians we aim to make the collection accessible as widely as possible, and to provide a positive legacy for future generations.

Develop Programs to Inspire a Diverse and National Audience

There are many reasons why the legacy of health care is important.

The quest to understand the cause of diseases and their treatment extends back beyond recorded history. History helps us understand the social attitudes and beliefs that have influenced health and health care through the ages. It provides the foundation for understanding modern day prevention and treatment of illness.

Few things are more important to Canadians than access to quality health care. Indeed, health and health care

have remained high social and political priorities in our society. Canadians must become more knowledgeable about health and health care if they are going to make informed decisions concerning their personal health and health care policies for our society. Citizens must understand the history of health care and the consequences for tomorrow of decisions made today.

Thus history of health and health care is of significance to everyone. We will seek out and work with diverse

History helps us understand the social attitudes and beliefs that have influenced health and health care through the ages.

audiences to develop programs and exhibits that are relevant, dynamic, and engaging. We will pursue innovative means to reach communities across Canada.

Enhancing Access, Visibility, and Community Engagement

A cultural institution is only valuable if it is used. We value engagement with diverse audiences and communities in meaningful and relevant ways that contribute to lifelong learning. Central to achieving this, we incorporate learning into all our programs and aim to challenge, excite, and involve our visitors and other clients.

The Museum will enhance access to its research, collections, exhibits, programs, and services by reaching out to the broader public through creative use of a wide range of media and other communication channels.



Elisia Scagnetti is working at the Museum as a Curatorial Intern. After completing her undergraduate degree she moved to Toronto where she developed an interest in the

museum field while volunteering with The National Ballet of Canada Archives and the Theatre Museum of Canada. She recently completed Fleming College's Museum Management and Curatorship program where she learned in a classroom setting and on a summer internship. She is happy to be using the skills and knowledge gained from her experiences while cataloguing a wide variety of artefacts for the Museum.



Sarah Jeffrey is excited to be at the Museum as a Curatorial Volunteer. She has recently graduated from the University of British Columbia with a Bachelors Degree in Human Kinetics. Her

interest in medicine and health care led her to the Museum and she is greatly enjoying cataloging and learning about the Museum's artefacts and collections.



Kristina Enciso is a third year biology and history student at Queen's University. Kristina is volunteering as a Docent at the Museum. She enjoys going to the movies, reading,

and is passionate about environmental conservation. Her favourite movie is *Amelie*, and her favourite books are *Pride and Prejudice* and *The Razor's Edge*.



Jason Harvey is a fourth-year History student at Queen's University. Having been involved with several heritage organizations in the past, Jason is very excited to be

volunteering as a Docent at the Museum. Having primarily studied Canadian military history, Jason is looking forward to learning as much as he can about the history of medicine, as well as museum practices in general. In his spare time, he has been busy applying to graduate programs, as well as attempting to learn to play the mandolin. Jason looks forward to more volunteering opportunities in the New Year.

WELCOMING NEW FACES



Gina Kim is a third year Life Science student at Queen's University. She is working in the Museum as a Curatorial Cataloguer. She is enjoying learning about the health

care related artefacts she is cataloguing. In her spare time, she enjoys playing sports, traveling, and watching movies with her friends. It is her pleasure to be working with friendly staff in a stimulating museum environment. She hopes her contributions will help preserve the health care history of Canada for future generations.

Bibliography of Canadian Hospital Histories

David Crawford, a McGill University Emeritus Librarian, has compiled a website listing separately published histories of Canadian hospitals, schools of nursing and medical faculties. It contains over 700 entries and may be of interest to local historians and those interested in the history of health care in Canada. The bibliography is a 'work in progress' and also notes which titles are held by the Osler Library of the History of Medicine at McGill; the Osler is actively trying to fill in any gaps in its medical Canadiana collections. See: <http://internatlibs.mcgill.ca/hospitals/hospital-histories.htm>

Acknowledging Our Amazing Volunteers

Our enthusiastic and indispensable volunteers generously donate their time, energy, and expertise to Museum activities. Without the contributions of our volunteers, the Museum could not continue to advance its preservation and educational functions.

The Museum wishes to thank all of the volunteers who gave their time in 2009:

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Acknowledging Our Generous 2009 Supporters

The Museum of Health Care would like to acknowledge all the Memberships and Donations received during 2009.

Thank you to all our supporters for showing the ongoing commitment to the Museum of Health Care. Your support ensures that the Museum of Health Care can continue to provide the many resources helping to explain the history of health and health care both provincially and nationally. In addition to our recognized contributors, we extend thanks to all our anonymous donors.

The Museum invites all others to consider making a donation or becoming a Museum member for 2010. For more information on becoming a Museum member or about the Gift Circle please visit www.museumofhealthcare.ca/donate.html

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The continuing operation of the Museum is possible due to the generous support of institutions, associations, corporations and individuals who have made contributions at a Sustaining Patron level.

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We express our appreciation to the following contributors that have made a commitment and contributed to our endowment funds

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[Margaret Angus Research Endowment Fund](#)
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Celebrating our Successful 2009 Matching Gift Campaign

By Mary Kathryn Ilic, Advancement Officer

In July of this year we started our *Matching Gift Campaign* in the hope of raising \$10,000 towards our operation budget. A \$5,000 commitment from a generous local couple started the challenge off and news traveled fast.

We obtained an additional \$3,000 commitment from additional local community members which provided a new raising goal of **\$13,000**. Contributors making new gifts of \$100 or more before November 16, 2009 contributed to this challenge.

With great success we fulfilled the full potential of this *Matching Gift Campaign* and raised a total of **\$5,365.00** in new gifts, bringing our grand total to **\$13,365.00**.

With warm hearts we would like to thank all our contributors that made this *Matching Gift Campaign* a true success:

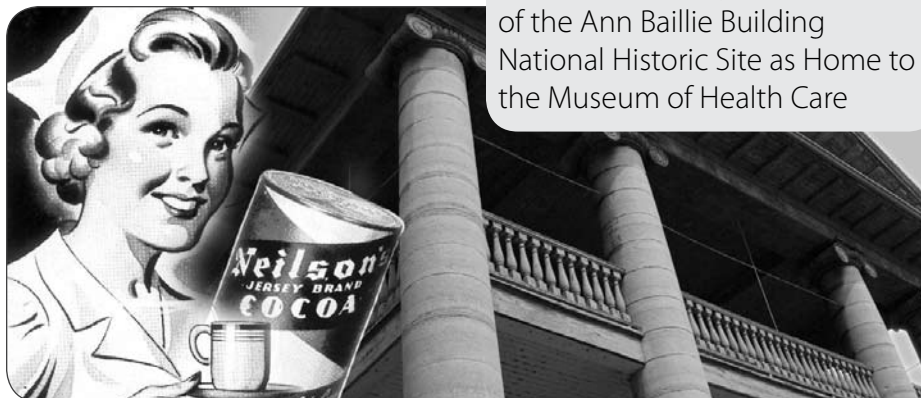
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Ann at Home

15th Anniversary Celebration
of the Ann Baillie Building
National Historic Site as Home to
the Museum of Health Care



February 18 ● 1:00 to 3:00 pm

AT THE MUSEUM (32 GEORGE ST.) FREE ADMISSION

Spend an afternoon at the Museum of Health Care during Heritage Week and enjoy:

- A Curator's tour of our nursing gallery
- Storytelling tours with nursing grads who once called the building home
- A special "behind the scenes" look at our basement collection storage facilities
- A free cocoa and cookies reception.

Co-organized by the Kingston General Hospital Nurses' Alumnae and the Museum.

When Medicine Met Science Fiction

Film Night

March 4 ● 7:00 pm

AT THE GLAXO WELLCOME CLINICAL EDUCATION CENTRE
(LOUISE D. ACTON BUILDING, 31 GEORGE ST.,
QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY) FREE ADMISSION

Following the success of *Celluloid & Starch: Nurses in the Movies*, join us for our second-annual entertaining and thought-provoking evening of film clips and discussion. This year's program will explore the representation of genetic engineering and cloning in popular film. The Museum will be offering special extended evening hours for one night only (March 4th gallery hours: 10am to 6:45pm).

Presented by Cameo Cinema and the Museum of Health Care.



Our Funny Bodies

March Break Programs
for Ages 6 and Up



March 17 ● 10:00 am to noon
March 18 ● 10:00 am to noon
March 19 ● 2:00 to 4:00 pm

AT THE MUSEUM (32 GEORGE ST.)
FREE ADMISSION
PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Engage all five senses and discover fascinating details about the human body through hands-on crafts and activities. Suitable for ages 6 and up (parents welcome). **Admission is free, but pre-registration is required.** For more information or to register call Catherine Toews at 613-548-2419 or e-mail museum@kgh.kari.net.

WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO PLAN A WHOLE DAY OF FUN ON MARCH 17TH OR 18TH BY COMBINING A MORNING PROGRAM AT THE MUSEUM OF HEALTH CARE WITH AN AFTERNOON *DROP IN AND DISCOVER* PROGRAM AT THE **AGNES ETHERINGTON ART CENTRE** (QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY, UNIVERSITY AVE. AT BADER LANE). FOR CHILDREN 6+ WITH ADULT ACCOMPANIMENT. **DROP IN BETWEEN 1 AND 4 PM;** REGISTRATION NOT REQUIRED. FREE WITH ADMISSION; FREE FOR ALL ON THURSDAYS.

History Meets Modern Technology: Tweet the Museum

By Mary Kathryn Ilic, Advancement Officer

Tweet the Museum, become a fan on Facebook, follow on MySpace and subscribe on YouTube - these are just some of the ways that you can stay current with all the activities, events, programs and news here at the Museum of Health Care while online.

The Museum has made significant improvements when it comes to its online persona. With the new revamped website and the option to donate online, the Museum has taken the necessary steps to utilize the modern technology that is available. As new events, news and programs are available the Museum uses many venues to share this information with those who are interested. We have an online e-newsletter, our social networking sites, and our always current "New at the Museum" section of our website.

In addition to these wonderful new resources, we have been posting videos of many of our events online. Interested individuals can view events online from the comfort of their homes.

Even with all these wonderful online resources, it still does not compare to the real thing. We encourage you to visit the Museum and experience all our treasures and knowledge firsthand. Visit us online and in person.

