



Announcing the 2012 Digital Library Project at the C.H. Nash Museum

The February issue of *Chucalissa Anoachi* contained an article about our plans for the 100th Anniversary of the University of Memphis and the 50th Anniversary of the University's administration of Chucalissa in 2012. One of those plans is to make our library and archives more accessible for research by students, professionals, and community members. Two projects currently in process lead us in that direction. First, **Sherye Price Fairbanks**, a Graduate Assistant funded by the University of Memphis, is completely reorganizing our library and creating a digital catalog of the holdings. Second, **Ron Brister**, volunteer extraordinaire, brings his 30 years experience as Collections Manager at the Pink Palace to take the lead in organizing our Museum's 50 years of accumulated archives.

And there is more - we set several goals to accomplish by 2012 that include creating digital copies of the following:

- all papers and reports related to research at Chucalissa.
- all photographic prints, 35 mm slides, and negatives from the past 50 years of research and activities at Chucalissa.
- the Occasional Paper Series of the Department of Anthropology at the University of Memphis.

Our goal is to make all of these materials available electronically for ready access. To complete this project will require considerable effort. Volunteer assistance will be key. With your own scanner, you can even volunteer from your home! For more information about the 2012 Digital Library Project at the C.H. Nash Museum, contact Rachael South at resouth@memphis.edu or 901-785-3160 extension 12.

.....from the Director

Through a grant from the **Strengthening Communities Foundation** and in partnership with the Westwood - Indian Hill Neighborhood Development Corporation, during a 5-week period this summer, we will create an exhibit at the C.H. Nash Museum that explores the early historic African-American experience in Southwest Memphis. The exhibit will be based on previous excavations of a 1920s era African-American farmstead located near the Museum. Additional aspects of the project will include the collection of oral history from the neighborhood, library research, and the analysis of archaeological materials.

Eight area high school students will be selected to participate in the project. Students wishing to apply for participation must meet the following criteria: 1) Be in either 10th or 11th grade; 2) Live in Memphis, Tennessee in the 38109 zip code; 3) Be available to fully participate during the scheduled hours of the project; and 4) complete and return an application to the C.H. Nash Museum by **April 7, 2010**.

Students who fully participate in the 5-week project will earn \$840.00. The applications will be reviewed and students selected by a panel of judges whose decision will be final.

For more information contact the C.H. Nash Museum. Based on our response thus far we are certain to have many applicants. Students selected for the project will be notified by April 15th.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me with your comments, suggestions or questions at rcnnolly@memphis.edu or 901-785-3160.

- Robert Connolly





Our Graduating Graduate Assistants . . .

The University of Memphis provides funding for several Graduate Assistants at the C.H. Nash Museum - and they do actually graduate! At the end of this month we say goodbye to two students.

First, after two years at the Museum, **Dustin James** will receive his MA in Anthropology. During his tenure at Chucalissa, Dustin's primary responsibility was to coordinate our Volunteer Day activities and inventory collections curated by the University. His practicum in the Anthropology Department was a program evaluation of a grass-roots HIV Education program for children in Kampala, Uganda. After graduation in May, Dustin will return to Mbale, Uganda as a research leader for the Minority Health and Health Disparities International Research and Training Center organized through Christian Brother's University. Dustin will train students to conduct health needs assessments at a newly constructed rural clinic.

Our second graduating graduate assistant is **Katie Stringer** who worked at the Museum for the past year. Katie will receive her MA in History and the Museum Studies Graduate Certificate Program. Katie was instrumental in the development of several educational programs that make use of our unprovenanced artifact collections. Katie was recently accepted into the Public History doctoral program at the Middle Tennessee State University, with full funding!

Congratulations to both Dustin and Katie and a heartfelt thanks for their contributions to the C.H. Nash Museum.

Our other Graduate Assistants have also been busy. For example, in March **Sam Gibbs** gave a presentation at the Society for Applied Anthropology Meetings in Merida, Mexico, on the musical program she created that uses percussion instruments from throughout the world.



Djembe Drum

Given to the C.H. Nash Museum

In Memory of Terry Gibbs

Our Mission - As an integral component of the University of Memphis, the mission of the C.H. Nash Museum at Chucalissa is to protect and interpret the Chucalissa archaeological site for the benefit of the University community and the public, to provide high quality educational experiences on past and present Native American cultures of the Mid-South, and to pursue new knowledge of these cultures through research as part of the University's explicitly multicultural and multiethnic educational orientation.

