

## NMHM and University of Maryland, Baltimore to Feature ‘Wounded In Action: An Art Exhibition of Orthopaedic Advancements’

“Wounded in Action: An Art Exhibition of Orthopaedic Advancements,” an exhibit of art works inspired by experiences with the wounds of war, is now on display at the National Museum of Health and Medicine and the University of Maryland Baltimore (UMB). “Wounded in Action” is produced and organized by the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons (AAOS). The exhibit will close in November.

“Wounded in Action” celebrates those who have had orthopaedic injuries as a result of serving our country during a time of war. From World War II to Korea to Viet Nam, from the Gulf War, to Afghanistan to Iraq, thousands of uniformed service members have suffered severe musculoskeletal injuries. Their stories are told through the art on display in the installation. The exhibition also recognizes orthopaedic surgeons who, throughout history, have risked their own safety to care for military service members, to save lives and limbs, to advance medical treatments, and to conduct research and learn from war in order to better treat those who sustain

orthopaedic trauma.

The entire juried exhibition is concurrently installed in two locations in the Baltimore/Washington region: at the NMHM in Washington and at UMB’s Health Sciences/Human Services Library and Southern Management Corporation Campus Center, in downtown Baltimore. Both locations are open to the public and the exhibition is available free of charge. (See below for specific exhibition information.)

“The intersection of medicine and the humanities is central to this exhibition and we’re honored to partner with AAOS and the University of Maryland, Baltimore in offering the public the opportunity to engage with this important show,” said Adrienne Noe, Ph.D., Director of the NMHM. “As a medical museum located on a military medical installation, we’re intimately familiar with the present-day consequences of war injuries. And, historically, our collections have played an integral role in the development of new and innovative technologies to improve the quality of

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“Home from the War” by Joseph A. Pearson, from the exhibit *Wounded in Action: An Art Exhibition of Orthopaedic Advancements*. Pearson was inspired to paint this image after seeing a young veteran, an amputee, in a coffee shop. This painting is on display at the National Museum of Health and Medicine. *MIS10-020*

## Museum Opens ‘Visibly Human’ Exhibit



“Visibly Human: Health and Disease in the Human Body,” a vivid presentation of anatomical and pathological specimens along with historical artifacts assembled from Museum collections dating back more than 100 years, is now on display.

“Visibly Human” presents the body’s organ systems and features normal anatomical specimens alongside specimens demonstrating pathology, be it from

A view of the Museum’s new exhibit, “Visibly Human: Health and Disease in the Human Body.”

injury, disease or environmental factors.

Objects installed as part of “Visibly Human” include: a leg showing the effects of elephantiasis, a lymphatic condition caused by a parasite; a trichobezoar (or human hairball) in the shape of a stomach, which was surgically removed from a 12-year-old girl who ate her hair for six years; a brain with the spinal cord still attached; lungs showing the effects of smoking or working in a coal mine; and many others.

Visitors enter the new “Visibly Human” gallery after passing by the skeletal

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# Eleventh Annual Brain Awareness Week Held at the Museum

Nearly 700 students from public and private schools in Washington, D.C., Maryland and Virginia descended on the Museum March 15-19 for its 11<sup>th</sup> annual Brain Awareness Week celebration. The event, sponsored by the Dana Alliance for Brain Initiatives, featured numerous hands-on activities designed to inspire a new generation of scientists interested in the brain and the field of neuroscience.

"Advances in brain sciences are taking place at such an accelerated rate today and this innovative program brings those sciences to students in informative, interactive ways. We hope that students who visited us were inspired to pursue a scientific discipline as a future career," said Adrienne Noe, Ph.D., Museum director.

Students were greeted each day by Albert Einstein, played by actor/storyteller Marc Spiegel, who told them about the importance of the brain and that his own brain had been subject to study following his death in 1955. Einstein appeared courtesy of The USA Science and Engineering Festival, which will be held on the National Mall October 23 and 24.

Students then rotated through six activity stations to learn about different brain functions, influences on the brain and brain disorders. Activities included building clay models of the human brain to teach students about the function of each lobe and the detrimental effects that traumatic brain injuries can cause; navigating an obstacle course while wearing "fatal vision" goggles, which distort eye-muscle coordination and allow the wearer to feel the diminished coordination and balance experienced during alcohol intoxication; and playing games that demonstrated neuronal signaling in the brain.

Presenters for the event included the George Washington University Center for Education and Acquired Brain Injury, Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences, National Institute on Mental Health, Howard University College of Medicine, National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, National Institute on Drug Abuse, National Institute on Aging, National Institute on Alcoholism and Alcohol Awareness, the Army Audiology Center, Defense and Veterans Brain Injury Center, Dr. Barry

Komisaruk of Rutgers University and staff from the Museum.

After watching her students take turns holding an actual human brain, Debbie Webster, middle school principal of Christ Episcopal School in Rockville, Md., said Brain Awareness Week activities made learning about the brain fun. "It made science come alive for them," she said during the school's trip to the Museum March 16. "They are really fascinated by the brain and its functions now. What a truly wonderful way for them to learn."

Dr. Vinod Charles of the National Institute of Mental Health said the Brain Awareness Week event is important because it could serve to inspire students to study neuroscience. His presentation, "The 'Seat of Personality'— The Frontal Cortex and Mental Function" taught students about the role of the frontal cortex in emotion, judgment, empathy, humor and other facets of an individual's personality. "I think any exposure to science at their age is good and if you can spark any interest in the brain, that's a great thing," he said.

Clockwise from left: Students from Christ Episcopal School in Rockville, Md. hold human brains and learn about the way they function from Dr. Marjorie Shaw and Dr. Marjorie Gondre-Louis of Howard University College of Medicine.



MIS10-022



Albert Einstein welcomes students to Brain Awareness Week. Einstein was brought to the Museum by the USA Science and Engineering Festival, set to take place in Washington, D.C. in October 2010.

Students from Washington Christian Academy in Olney, Md. use modeling clay to build a model of the brain during a hands-on demonstration designed to illustrate the different functions of each lobe, managed by staff from the Defense and Veterans Brain Injury Center.

A student from the Bridges Academy in Washington, D.C. navigates an obstacle course while wearing "Fatal Vision" prism goggles, which distorts the wearer's vision and allows them to feel the effects of alcohol intoxication, in a station managed by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism.



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MIS10-025

# Museum Receives Seventh Donation from Microscope Collector

NMHM recently accessioned approximately 400 microscopes, five microtomes and various accessories into its world-renowned microscope collection thanks to a donation from Dr. Manuel and Constanca del Cerro of Pittsford, N.Y.

The donation is the seventh the Museum has received from Dr. del Cerro, a retired professor of ophthalmology at the University of Rochester Medical Center in New York, and his wife Constanca. Del Cerro, who began building his collection in the 1970s, has agreed to donate his entire collection of approximately 500 microscopes to NMHM along with an extensive library and ephemera collection pertaining to the microscope, its history and use. With this donation, NMHM now has the majority of del Cerro's collection, which is known as The Manuel and Constanca del Cerro Microscope Collection.

Del Cerro said he wanted to make sure his collection would be cared for and preserved for years to come. Del Cerro's first contribution to NMHM was a brass 19<sup>th</sup> century Bausch & Lomb petrological microscope in 2003.

"I wanted to be sure I could find the

best possible home for my collection and I believe the Museum is that place," said del Cerro, who is 78.

He noted he has visited several museums, nationally and internationally, and that NMHM's microscope collection rivals anything he has seen.

"It shows a diversity that one cannot find anywhere else," del Cerro said.

Alan J. Hawk, collections manager of the Historical Collections at NMHM, said del Cerro's microscopes, which predominantly represent the 20<sup>th</sup> century, are an important addition to the Museum's rich collection.

The Museum's microscope collection was started by U.S. Army Lt. Col. John Shaw Billings, curator at the Army Medical Museum from 1883 to 1893. He supervised the AMM's first purchase of 17 microscopes in 1884. By 1888, more than 140 had been purchased.

The Museum presently features an exhibition, "Evolution of the Microscope," that displays items from what is considered to be the world's largest and most representative collection of microscopes. The exhibit traces the development of the instrument over the last 400 years and includes the 17<sup>th</sup> century, handcraft-

ed, leather and gold-tooled microscope used by Robert Hooke in the preparation of "Micrographia," reputedly the first book written about observations made through a microscope.

James Curley of the Museum's Historical Collections division and Elizabeth Eubanks, the Museum's registrar, collaborated with the donor: inventorying, packing and overseeing the safe shipment of the collection to the Museum.

"Dr. del Cerro is passionate about microscopy and, at the same time, is a discerning and thorough collector," Curley said. He added the collection is varied and distinct.

"The collection includes instruments produced just down the road from the donor, by Bausch & Lomb of Rochester, N.Y., as well as fine American examples by Spencer and classic makers from Germany and Japan," Curley said. "But the collection further extends to microscopes produced in the former U.S.S.R. and Switzerland, in Italy and Israel, in Czechoslovakia and China."

Del Cerro founded the Microscope Historical Society in 1992 and was its first president and senior editor of its journal until December 2002.



Clockwise from above left: Dr. Manuel del Cerro poses in front of a case containing just a portion of his microscope collection.

Dr. Manuel del Cerro and James Curley of the Museum's Historical Collections division work to pack up microscopes at del Cerro's home. Del Cerro has agreed to donate his entire collection of microscopes and other associated materials to NMHM.

James Curley of the Museum's Historical Collections division carefully packs up one of Dr. Manuel del Cerro's 500 microscopes during a recent visit to del Cerro's New York home. Del Cerro has agreed to donate his entire collection of microscopes and other associated materials to NMHM.



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life of wounded warriors and their families.”

NMHM has a considerable interest in documenting advances in prosthetics and orthopaedic surgery, with hundreds of objects included in the Museum’s Historical Collections. Instruments that document the history of amputation range from Revolutionary War-era amputation knives to Civil War-era surgical kits and modern 20th-century stainless steel amputation saws. A large collection of artificial limbs, dating from the post-Civil War era to modern examples, is also in the collection and on display in the Museum’s Civil War medicine and battlefield surgery exhibits. Highlights include a circa 1850 G.W. Yeager Artificial Leg, the first patented artificial limb; two artificial limbs made by American POWs during the World War II; and an Otto Bock C-Leg issued to amputees wounded in Iraq and Afghanistan. The history of total joint arthroplasty is represented by a mock-up of the Jules Pean’s artificial shoulder implant of 1890; a collection of joint prosthetics developed by the Hospital for Special Surgery in New York City; and the prototype UCI Total Knee.

“Statistics on war injuries are stark and startling—but by telling personal stories of the men and women who have demonstrated extreme courage, endured extreme loss and persevered through a healing process—we hope to truly honor our troops,” said AAOS President John J. Callaghan, MD. “We also honor the orthopaedic surgeons and all who serve as military medical caregivers. ‘Wounded in Action’ not only is a collection of artwork, it also is a collection of stories of both pain and renewal.”

“As Maryland’s public academic healthcare center, UMB is delighted to be partnering with AAOS and the National Museum of Health and Medicine to bring this provocative exhibit



“Patriotic Surgeon” by S. Terry Canale, MD, from the exhibit *Wounded in Action: An Art Exhibition of Orthopaedic Advancements*. The military surgeon superimposed on the U.S. flag symbolizes the patriotism and dedication of these physicians. This painting is on display at the University of Maryland, Baltimore. MIS10-029

to Baltimore,” said James L. Hughes, MBA, Vice President, Office of Research and Development at UMB. “By portraying the challenges in repairing war’s assault on the human body and spirit, the artwork will inspire the thousands of healthcare students, clinicians and researchers at UMB and throughout Greater Baltimore.”

### Exhibition information – National Museum of Health and Medicine

The Museum is open to the public and admission is free. Limited parking is available on weekdays; parking is widely available on weekends and holidays. NOTE: Adults must present government-issued photo identification to gain entry to Walter Reed Army Medical Center. Vehicles are subject to search. Adults should be prepared to show identification again at the Museum entrance.

### Exhibition information – University of Maryland Health Sciences and Human Services Library and Southern Management Corporation Campus Center

The Health Sciences and Human Services Library (HS/HSL) and Southern Management Corporation Campus Center (SMC/CC) adjoin each other, and are located at 601 and 621 W. Lombard Street respectively on the west side of Baltimore. Directions to the campus with available parking can be found at <http://www.umaryland.edu/map>. Both the HS/HSL and SMC/CC are open to the public with government-issued photo identification.



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eton of Peter Cluckey, a Spanish-American War veteran who suffered from a severe form of rheumatoid arthritis, which fused many of his joints together. The skeleton is a mainstay of the Museum’s historic human body exhibits and has been on display nearly continuously for decades. The exhibit also includes an interactive installation titled the Visible Human Project, in which cross sections of the human body can be examined at a station in the gallery.

Guided group tours are available by advance reservation only. Groups should review the tour options presented online at <http://nmhm.washingtondc.museum/about/tours.html> and contact the Tour Program Coordinator at (202) 782-2456 or e-mail [nmhminfo@afip.osd.mil](mailto:nmhminfo@afip.osd.mil).

Visitors are also encouraged to listen to segments of the Museum’s Audio Tour online at [http://nmhm.washingtondc.museum/about/audio/audio\\_tour.html](http://nmhm.washingtondc.museum/about/audio/audio_tour.html), which features in-depth information about several of the objects included in the “Visibly Human” exhibition.

## New Staff:

MIS10-031



● **Melissa Brachfeld** is the Museum's new public affairs specialist. Previously, Melissa was a staff writer for The Gazette newspaper in Gaithersburg, Md. and a reporter for The Prince George's Sentinel in Seabrook, Md. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in English with a concentration in journalism from the University of Delaware in 2004.

## Monthly E-News Helps You Stay in Touch!

Want to be the first to know what's new at the Museum? Be the first to register for special programs? Then sign up for our monthly e-newsletter! Each month, this short but informative email will let you know about exhibits coming or going, news about the Museum and tips about upcoming programs. Occasionally, we'll send special program announcements to subscribers, too. It's easy to subscribe: email [nmhminfo@afip.osd.mil](mailto:nmhminfo@afip.osd.mil) with your request.

## Staff On The Go:

● **Navjeet Singh Chhina, Exhibits Specialist**, was a featured panelist at a Howard University Art Department conference in March. The event focused on the importance of a strong resume and portfolio in the art and fashion industry.

● **Tim Clarke, Deputy Director for Communications**, participated in the 2010 Military Health System annual meeting, with a trade-show exhibit installed in the meeting's expo hall. Hundreds of attendees (uniformed physicians, surgeons, nurses, as well as civilian employees of different MHS agencies) visited the booth to learn about Museum exhibits and collections.

● **Tim Clarke and Gwen Nelmes, Museum Tour Program Coordinator**, showcased the Museum at "Ask Me About Washington," managed by the DC Chamber of Commerce. The annual event was held in a House of Representatives caucus room on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C.

● Several NMHM staff attended the 2010 meetings of the American Association for the History of Medicine and the Medical Museums Association, held at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, in late April. In attendance was **Alan Hawk, Historical Collections Manager**. **James Curley, Collections Manager in Historical Collections** co-presided over the joint annual conference of the Medical Museums Association and the Archivists and Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences. **Michael Rhode, Archivist in the Otis Historical Archives**, and **Emily Wilson, Collections Technician**, presented papers to the AAHM meeting.

● **Andrea Schierkolk, Museum Public Programs Manager**, and **Melissa Brachfeld, Museum Public Affairs Specialist**, visited the Margaret Schweinhaut Senior Center in Silver Spring, Md. in March to give a presentation on the Museum and its exhibits.



Andrea Schierkolk, Museum Public Programs Manager for the NMHM, speaks about the museum's collection of artifacts and specimens related to President Abraham Lincoln during a visit to the Margaret Schweinhaut Senior Center in Silver Spring, Md. in March. MIS10-032

## National Museum of Health and Medicine

The museum is an element of the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology on the campus of Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, DC

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[www.nmhm.washingtondc.museum](http://www.nmhm.washingtondc.museum)

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