

Teaching American History Field Trip

Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians and Western Art

Saturday, January 23, 2010

8:30: Depart Bloomington from Bloomington North High School

10:00-12:00: “We are the People” tour, Eiteljorg

We will divide into two groups (one Elementary, the other Middle-High School) to tour the museum’s Native American art and artifacts exhibitions. Guides will take us through the museum and will help us see and think. We will have abundant opportunities for questions. (A common question is “Where’d they get the beads?” We’ll likely have many more.) Cathy Burton, Beeler Family Director of Education will share time with each group as we tour.

12:00-1:00: Lunch in Thompson Board Room

1:00–3:00: Meet with Eiteljorg staff (Cathy Burton, Beeler Family Director of Education)

Cathy will help us think about what we have seen in the morning tour and facilitate discussion of “Teaching about Native Americans.” She will want to know what your needs are as a classroom teacher: what, for example, are the challenges when discussing the diversity of Native Peoples and what are the pre-conceived notions students have. Cathy will talk about teaching strategies that can work alone or in tandem with a student field trip to the Eiteljorg.

3:15- 4:00: break out for sub-group discussion; one group in Thompson Board Room; one group in Hunt Studio.

4:15: depart for Bloomington

Our Host, Cathy Burton, Beeler Family Director of Education, has over 22 years of museum experience and served in collection management, curatorial and educational capacities at the Southwest Museum, Autry Museum and the Children’s Museum of Indianapolis before coming to the Eiteljorg. She has her master’s degree in cultural anthropology. At the Eiteljorg, Ms. Burton is responsible for school programming, the guide/docent program and training; the research library and the education center. She meets regularly with preservice teachers and other educators to discuss how to relate a museum visit with state Academic Standards.