



## KELSEY MUSEUM OF ARCHAEOLOGY

Shaping the future by understanding the past

The Kelsey Museum of Archaeology has explored the Mediterranean, North Africa, and the Middle East since 1928—bringing the ancient world to life for generations of Michigan students, faculty, and staff. An internationally recognized institution, the Kelsey supports active archaeological fieldwork, advancing public and scholarly access to its collections through publications in diverse media and dynamic museum exhibitions and programs. The Kelsey Museum houses extensive collections of ancient Egyptian, Middle Eastern, Greek, Roman, Coptic, and Islamic art and artifacts, primarily recovered from Michigan excavations in Egypt and Iraq before World War II. Each year, thousands of University of Michigan and K–12 students from the Metro Detroit area visit the Kelsey to experience these objects firsthand. Through guided tours, object handling classes, museum internships, and international fieldwork opportunities, the Kelsey Museum further distinguishes a Michigan education.

### Supporting the next 100 years of archaeology at the Kelsey Museum

The Kelsey Museum is an international leader in the integration of archaeological fieldwork, teaching, research, exhibitions, and conservation. Your gift strengthens this extraordinary institution at Michigan and expands its capacity to explore the past and educate for the future.

## STUDENT FELLOWSHIPS AND EXPERIENCES

The Kelsey Museum enriches student education and provides unique learning opportunities at both the graduate and undergraduate levels. University of Michigan students collaborate with curators, conservators, and educators to create exhibitions, investigate objects, and explore ideas through ancient artifacts. Students also travel internationally with faculty archaeologists to view major global collections, excavate ancient sites, and engage in lab research. Gifts ensure that students continue to have access to unique educational and professional experiences that allow them to become well-rounded scholars. Annual funding of \$25,000 would cover tuition, stipend, and additional research funding for one graduate student each year, and the Kelsey aims to support at least three students per year. An endowed gift of \$25,000 would support undergraduate opportunities.

## POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

International collaboration is essential to the archaeological process. In addition to Kelsey Museum personnel conducting field and collections research abroad, international scholars frequently seek opportunities to closely study the museum's unique archives and collections. Attracting a stream of postgraduate fellows—trained at top institutions in the study of ancient art, societies, and archaeological science—will maintain and develop the University of Michigan's role as an international thought leader in archaeology and its professionalization. An expendable gift of \$50,000 would make it possible for a visiting fellow to spend a year on campus and facilitate the scholarly collaborations that ensure the Kelsey Museum's place on the world's archaeological stage. A gift of \$1.5M would endow this visiting research fellowship in perpetuity.

## EXHIBITIONS FUND

The Kelsey Museum's exhibitions bring ancient artifacts to life with poignant storytelling and vibrant displays—not only allowing visitors to connect with the shared humanity of ancient peoples but also sparking interest in archaeological discovery. The development of exhibitions that explore Kelsey Museum collections in new ways yields a richer picture of life in the ancient Mediterranean, North Africa, and Middle East. As the Kelsey embarks on transforming all of its galleries, an expendable gift of \$250,000 would support the renovation of one gallery, and \$1.5M would cover all galleries. We aim to combine cutting-edge archaeological science and powerful storytelling to illuminate the ancient world for future generations of university and community visitors.



**“Through hands-on learning and collections research, students are able to experience the awe and wonder of handling the very alien-seeming traces of the past. Sustained interactions with the Kelsey’s collections also allow students to gain a deep understanding of ancient cultures and form a profound empathy for people of the past. It is this dual feeling—of wonder and empathy—that makes the museum a transformative space.”**

**–Joseph Frankl,  
LSA Class of '23**



## EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING

Educational programming is where the science of archaeology and the meaning behind ancient artifacts are made real through public discovery and facilitated experiences. The Kelsey Museum serves K–12 students across the state of Michigan and beyond with interactive tours that invite participants to step into the ancient world and to learn archaeological tools of observation and analysis. University students and faculty enjoy custom tours and programs designed to support their curriculum and provide opportunities for object handling and discovery. Public programs invite visitors to further explore the Kelsey’s collections and the ancient world through hands-on workshops, lectures, and Family Days. Making bread from an ancient recipe, learning about ancient jewelry making, or carving a marble sculpture all bring the ancient world to life in palpable ways that extend beyond typical modes of learning.



Expendable gifts of \$5,000 - \$10,000 or more would empower the Kelsey Museum to offer more opportunities for students, scholars, and community members to experience the archaeology of the ancient Mediterranean and surrounding regions, with an emphasis on expanded accessibility for all. Donor support could make it possible to provide bus funding for Title I schools, summer camp scholarships, internships for U-M students, and more. Endowed gifts are also needed; \$50,000 would support a lecture series, and \$1M could endow the educational programming, ensuring that our educational mission continues to be central to everything the Kelsey does.

## CONSERVATION

Archaeological conservation is necessary for both field research and collection preservation. Conservators are trained scientists who use cutting-edge technology to go beyond what the eye can see, reveal new information about ancient objects, and save archaeological heritage for future generations. They are responsible for the care of objects in the collection, preventing further deterioration or damage through active conservation treatment, careful monitoring of the museum environment, and ensuring safe access. Expendable gifts of \$10,000 or more provide the Kelsey Museum’s Conservation Department with resources to fund new technology, train in new techniques, and conduct novel research, which ultimately reveals new insights into the ancient world. As archaeological sites are increasingly threatened by climate change, a gift to the Conservation Department also enables conservators to invest in new methods for preserving the spectacular archaeological heritage at the museum’s field sites around the world.

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXPLORATION

Archaeological field research is the lifeblood of the Kelsey Museum. Research projects are undertaken by faculty curators and professional staff, as well as by University of Michigan graduate students and undergrads. Numerous publications, student theses, and exhibitions have all resulted from archaeological exploration of the ancient Mediterranean, North Africa, and Middle East. International archaeological projects cost as much as \$300,000 per year and employ many Michigan undergraduate and graduate students as well as faculty. The Kelsey Museum supports three to four projects per year and welcomes meaningful support of \$100,000 or more.



## ENDOWED CURATORSHIP

Kelsey Museum curators spearhead groundbreaking research, uncover untold stories of the ancient past, develop ongoing and new exhibitions, and contribute to the intellectual life and academic vitality of the U-M scholarly community. A bridge between the museum and U-M departments, the Kelsey's first-class faculty curators teach university courses, supervise student fellows and research projects, and address public and scholarly inquiries about museum collections and activities. They also lead teams of diverse research specialists and support the training of graduate students—redefining the current understanding of Iron Age Italian towns, Egyptian tomb complexes, aesthetic fashions in Ancient Rome, and the history of the discipline of archaeology itself.

With a collection of over 100,000 objects from across ancient Europe, North Africa, and the Middle East, the museum has an urgent need to expand the team of expert scholars in the fields of numismatics, Islamic art, Greek art and archaeology, and the ancient Middle East. A gift of \$1.5M could endow a curatorship in one of these areas to help the Kelsey Museum maintain its role as a global leader in the study of the ancient and medieval worlds and to train a new generation of students to be the curators of the future

## WAYS TO FUND YOUR GIFT

Your gifts of cash, pledges, or appreciated securities change lives. Wills, estate, and planned gifts allow you to create a lasting legacy that will enable the best and brightest minds to experience a liberal arts education, solve problems in a changing world, and yield ideas and innovations that will make a difference in Michigan and around the globe.

## CONTACT INFO

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