

2016 Docent Training: Interactive Gallery Experience

Gallery Name: Multiple

Docent Name: Sylvia McWilliams

Activity Name: "APPROACH, ENGAGE, TRANSITION"

Audiences: Check all that apply

X Adults (Individuals and Small Groups) X Families

Essential Question: What are some strategies docents can use to make visitors feel welcome as well as facilitate their access to museum areas and artifacts that interest them?

Common Core Standards

N/A

List Touring Techniques

Welcoming guests, ice breakers, active listening, asking/answering questions, helping visitors to observe and talk about the artifacts, transitions between objects and galleries, sharing knowledge and making connections

List Gallery and/or Interactive Learning Station Artifacts/Objects

(Transition from *Sacred Realms* to *Mystery from the Tomb*): *Sacred Realms*: Temple Murals by Shashi Dhoj Tulachan: "Avalokiteshvara with 1000 Arms and Eyes," "A Great Wish" by Loretta Yang, "Untitled" (Mural of Bowers Museum Artifacts) by Raul Anguiano, and Bowers Mummy Mask in *Mystery from the Tomb: The Face Beneath the Mask*.

Introduction/Theme/Purpose

The gift of listening: In one-on-one interactions or small groups, we can listen and engage with visitors in a way not possible in a larger or formal tour.

Activity Description/Steps in Presenting the Activity

Start with the visitor, her interests, his focus, e.g., Have they just arrived and are full of energy, or have they finished a long tour and want to sit down?

Approach with a smile and ask a question or make a statement. Have an attitude of mutual discovery and respect:

1. What brings you to the Bowers today – what things interest you?
2. You've been studying this mural for a while. What attracts you to this painting?

Statements as icebreakers followed by an engagement question:

1. Yes, it really is made of gold (Gold Headdress from Peru). What brings you to the Bowers today?
2. In 1997(?) I saw the artist Raul Anguiano painting this mural at the Bowers. He had his dog with him. (Point out dog). Which of the artifacts pictured here have you already seen today? – or Would you like me to show you any particular artifacts or galleries represented in the painting?

Transitions Move visitors from one object or gallery to the next, connecting them in a meaningful way. (Painting in *Sacred Realms* to Egyptian mask)

As we walk down this hallway we see artifacts from around the globe both ancient and modern.

Sample interactive questions (2-3) for the Audience

See sample questions above.

Conclusion/Review/Reflection

Review different touring techniques presented and practiced.

Date approved by the Education Committee: _____