

WELCOME TO THE HERMITAGE MUSEUM AND GARDENS!

The Hermitage Museum & Gardens, formerly home to the Sloane family, is an early 20th century Arts-and-Crafts estate located on the shore of the Lafayette River in Norfolk, Virginia. Featuring a nationally recognized art collection spanning 5,000 years, the Hermitage is home to the arts. The Sloane Collection is unique in that it was assembled over a fifty year period by one woman, Florence K. Sloane, and remains in its original building almost entirely intact. The Hermitage was designed to serve as both Mrs. Sloane's home and as a public museum where visitors could come to learn about art, music, religion, and culture. Mrs. Sloane believed that museums were the most important component of civilized society, and as a result she filled the Hermitage and the Norfolk Museum of Arts and Sciences (now the Chrysler Museum) with thousands of objects from all over the globe. Mrs. Sloane worked tirelessly to build a cultural life for the people of Norfolk until her death in 1953, and her legacy persists at the Hermitage.

Mission:

The Hermitage Museum and Gardens preserves the distinct beauty of its natural environment; conserves and shares its multi-cultural collection; promotes and educates to inspire an appreciation for art and nature; and cultivates a spirit of stewardship while paying tribute to its rich legacy.

Teacher's Guide:

This guide was created to aid teachers in providing a foundation of learning for your students before, during, and after their visit to the Hermitage's *Traveling through Ancient China* tour. It will help students gain an understanding of the history of China including Chinese geography, Chinese inventions and contributions, as well as acquire key terminology associated with ancient China. Virginia Standards of Learning (SOLs) covered:

Grade 2:

Introduction to History and Social Studies: 2.1, 2.3, 2.4a, 2.6, 2.8

Visual Arts: 2.11, 2.12, 2.13

An overview of the Hermitage's *Traveling through Ancient China* tour

The Sloane Collection began with a Japanese Satsuma bowl gifted to Florence Sloane by her sister, Grace Stiles, in 1901. Over the next fifty years Mrs. Sloane worked with curators from the Metropolitan Museum and the Freer Gallery, along with prominent Asian art dealers like C.T. Loo and Yamanaka and Company, to assess and acquire Asian objects that were truly unique. By the time of her death, Mrs. Sloane had managed to amass an Asian art collection that to this day remains unparalleled in the South.

Chinese Neolithic jade and archaic ceremonial bronze vessels from the Western Zhou dynasty (11th century – 771 BCE) are among the highlights of this collection. These pieces along with Chinese snuff bottles, Imperial jade, cloisonné and lacquer, as well as a significant holding of Tang dynasty (618-906 CE) terracotta present the gravity with which the collection stands.

The program consists of three main interactive components:

1. An interactive tour along the "Silk Road" which takes place in the Hermitage's Great Hall. Students will learn about ancient Chinese artwork in the Hermitage's permanent collection including tomb figures, headdresses, jade, and much more!
2. Multiple interactive stations for students to explore ancient Chinese contributions and inventions. Students see how these inventions have transformed over time and how we use them today.
3. This hands-on art making activity will teach students about the kite, a Chinese invention. Each student will leave with their very own unique kite.

PLANNING A TRIP TO THE HERMITAGE MUSEUM AND GARDENS

Registration and Information

When you're ready to schedule a field trip please provide us with the following:

- Name of school and contact, school address, phone number, email address, number of students, grade level, and arrival date/time.

To reserve your trip contact Lil Acosta at lacosta@thehermitagemuseum.org or at 757-423-2052 x211

Cost of field trip is \$4 per student.

This program is approximately 1.5 hours.

All groups are welcome to enjoy a picnic lunch in the gardens following the tour.