

Patrick F. Taylor Foundation Object Project

Fact Sheet

Digital Resources

Focusing on everyday things that changed everything, "Object Project" will use common objects and uncommon exhibition techniques to encourage visitors of all ages to discover the role of innovation in American history. "Object Project" will use more than 250 objects related to and including bicycles, refrigerators, ready-to-wear clothing, and a variety of household conveniences to explore how people, innovative things, and social change shaped life as we know it. The 4,000 square foot "Object Project" is divided into four sections: Bicycles, Refrigerators, Ready-to-Wear Clothes, and Household Hits. The exhibition will have a full complement of digital resources that are detailed below:

Website: <http://americanhistory.si.edu/object-project>

The site provides online visitors access to the stories and primary source materials found in the exhibition, and some web-only resources. Additional resources and activities will be added over the course of the exhibition, including educational materials for students and teachers.

Rich media essay: <https://amhistory.atavist.com/adventures-with-objects>

A richly illustrated online essay by author and object expert Rob Walker explores how Americans have been particularly venturesome in their adoption and adaptation of innovative things.

Blog: http://bit.ly/OP_blog

Regular blog posts have provided a behind-the-scenes glance into the research, object acquisition, and development of "Object Project." Once open to the public, the blog will continue to explore interesting stories and visitors' reactions, as well as inspire reflection on innovative objects in readers' own lives.

#ObjectProject social media: <http://americanhistory.si.edu/connect>

Across social media platforms, "Object Project" team members are sharing photos, quotes, and fun facts that encourage online audiences to explore objects in new ways.

On Wednesday, June 25 from 1:30-2 p.m. EST, the "Object Project" team will share an engaging sneak peek for social media followers, particularly on Twitter and Instagram (@amhistorymuseum). Tune in to see the space before it opens on July 1, learn about some of the more interesting objects, and ask the team questions. Follow the hashtag #ObjectProject.

Educational Materials: <http://americanhistory.si.edu/object-project/learning-resources>

A teaching poster, apps, inquiry based classroom activities and videos will begin to roll out for the 2015-2016 school year.