



# IPI Update Fall 2007

Quarterly Newsletter of the Independence Park Institute

## The Benjamin Franklin: Man of Many Talents Learning Lab is Complete!

Benjamin Franklin himself would love to experience the *Franklin in Philadelphia* program in the Benjamin Franklin: Man of Many Talents learning lab. The permanent exhibits are now in place. K-12 students will now be completely immersed in the world of Franklin.

The printing station comes complete with a life sized 18<sup>th</sup> century drawing of a printing office, drying rack overhead, and the type cases that students will use to set their name in type. The science station features many of Franklin's inventions as well as kites suspended from the ceiling. Here students will experiment with electricity and lenses. The work station sports a wall depicting many of the occupations Franklin had during his life as well as a reproduction desk that students can rummage through to see what Franklin was working on. At the music station, students are able to try their hand at the glass armonica, a musical instrument invented by



Franklin. They are also able to listen to music of the time period.

K-2<sup>nd</sup> grade classes get to learn about Franklin through a pass around story and then have the opportunity to create their own invention and try some of Franklin's inventions.

In the *Franklin in Philadelphia* program, students learn using multiple intelligences. They

experience the musical, mathematical, linguistic, kinesthetic, spatial, interpersonal and intrapersonal Franklin.

Free pre-visit lesson plans and teacher guide can be found at [www.independenceparkinstitute.com](http://www.independenceparkinstitute.com).

To book one of these fun and educational classes for your group or for more information, please call 215-597-2760.

## It's HisSTORY Time! Programs for Families and Children



Each Saturday from October 6 until November 17, children ages 4-8 and their parents are invited to enjoy a picture book read by a park ranger then participate in craft projects and activities in the IPI learning labs. You will get to hear a new story every week!

The program takes place each Saturday from 10:00-11:00 AM

and takes place at the Independence Living History Center on the corner of 3<sup>rd</sup> and Chestnut Streets. The cost is only \$10 per session.

Class size is limited. Please pre-register by calling 215-597-2760 and reserve your spot for this new exciting program for families today!

**A Note from the Teacher's Desk: Frances Delmar, Supervisory Education Program Specialist**

Imagine expanding your facilities and your enrollment capacity by 100% over the course of six months.

The Independence Park Institute currently faces the challenge and the joy of doing exactly that!

As renovation work on our building at 325 Walnut Street nears completion, the IPI staff works to finish the programs for three new learning labs. As mentioned elsewhere in this publication, the Liberty Bell, the Underground Railroad, and the Dynamic Documents all will have their own place in our education program.

The IPI staff realizes that to completely utilize these new spaces and to guarantee equal access to our programs, we must find "scholarship funding". Many school districts lack the wherewithal to fund field trips.

The IPI and our partners at Eastern National believe that seeing the real thing and having an interactive experience with history offers students an invaluable educational opportunity.

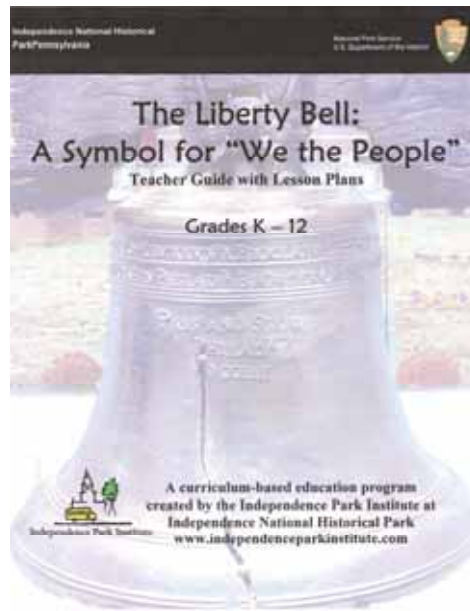
With our partners we continue to explore funding possibilities and creative solutions.

Please watch this column for further updates on handling this challenge.

See you at the Independence Park Institute!

Frances Delmar  
Supervisory Education Program Specialist

## **New Lesson Plans on the Liberty Bell for grades K-12 now available.**



The *Liberty Bell: A Symbol for "We the People"* lesson plans were created by K-12 grade educators who participated in the 2007 Summer Institute for Teachers. Participants spent a week learning about the Liberty Bell, its history and its symbolism. They learned methods of incorporating historic documents, objects, and images into lessons to enhance their teaching and inspire students with the stories that make history come alive in the classroom and beyond. They shared ideas and classroom resources, and they had fun.

The lesson plans they developed will help students develop an understanding of the powerful symbolism of the Liberty Bell and how a broken bell became an icon of ourselves, our country, and our world. The lessons discuss how this transformation took place by looking at each event in history associated with the bell and answering a series of essential questions. Students will see how each event and group gave the Bell more legitimacy as a symbol.

These K-12 lesson plans can be used by teachers to help their students investigate both primary and secondary sources, and to discuss their importance to historians.

We hope that you and your students enjoy learning about the Liberty Bell through this new education program. We'd love to hear your feedback as we are always striving to improve our programs and curriculum materials.

Also, stay tuned for a new on-site K-12 curriculum based education programs on the Liberty Bell. All programs are fun, interactive, and age appropriate. This is one of three new program topics being developed for the new 325 Walnut Street IPI Education Facility. Other program topics include Slavery and the Underground Railroad in Philadelphia, and the Dynamic Documents (a program on the Declaration of Independence for grades 4-7 and a program on the Articles of Confederation and the US Constitution for grades 6-12).

All lessons meet PA, NJ, and National standards for learning. All lessons also have a rubric and some form of assessment.

Lesson plans and teacher guide can be downloaded from the "For Teachers" section of [www.nps.gov/inde](http://www.nps.gov/inde).

Are you interested in being a part of our 2008 Summer Institute for Teachers? Look for the 2008 Application in January on the IPI website.

# October is Pennsylvania Archeology Month

This October teachers, families, and students are celebrating Pennsylvania Archeology Month by learning about how archeologists help to piece together history.

On October 13, area educators participated in *Archeology: History Found in Pieces* a professional development workshop for 4<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade educators. Participants talked with archeologists, curators, and museum educators to learn how history is discovered, interpreted, and taught. Franklin Court and the James Dexter site were the areas discussed in this workshop.



On October 20, the IPI presented programs for families in conjunction with the third annual Public Archeology Month forum co-sponsored by the Philadelphia Archeological Forum and Independence National Historical Park. The public was invited to discover Philadelphia's past by listening to archeologists tell about recent and ongoing work in the Philadelphia area, visiting a working archeology lab, and children participated in hands-on, age appropriate activities.

Don't worry if you did not have a chance to celebrate and learn about archeology in October. Groups are able to book a fifty minute program in the Archeologists in the Making

Learning Lab to learn about archeology any time of the year! Students in grades 5-12 take on the role of archeologists as they piece together the stories of the buried past. They get hands-on experience from replica artifacts and then have the opportunity to see and talk with real archeologists at work processing artifacts from the excavation at the National Constitution Center. Call 215-597-2760 with questions or to register your group.



## Teamwork: National Public Lands Day

National Public Lands Day is the day when volunteers across the country give their time and talents to improve the public areas that Americans enjoy. One of these important areas is Independence National Historical Park.

washing signs and painting fences throughout the park. The IPI was there to join in the festivities by offering free programs for children and families on the visitor center lawn.

On Saturday, September 29, Independence NHP celebrated with a public art display with original works of images of the park from area artists. Volunteers helped to beautify the park by

Thank you all who volunteer and work to protect the National Parks and other public lands. These areas are preserved for the enjoyment of future generations. Experience your America!



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

The IPI Update is the quarterly newsletter of the Independence Park Institute. The Independence Park Institute offers education programs geared toward wide and varied audiences. Programs connect participants of all ages to the resources and stories of Independence National Historical Park.

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The National Park Service cares for the special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

## New Staff Join the IPI Team!



Charlotte Haines has joined the IPI staff as an intern for the fall 2007 semester. Charlotte is working on her Masters in Museum Education at

the University of the Arts and is scheduled to graduate in December. While she is here, Charlotte will tackle creating the online component of a new 4<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> grade program on the Declaration of Independence. She will work closely with park staff and educators in the classroom to create the program. Charlotte will also be assisting with school programs and special events throughout the semester.



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Independence National Historical Park  
Independence Park Institute  
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EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

### Independence National Historical Park

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**Comments?**  
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## First Ever Educator's Open House at the IPI



On September 26, 2007 the IPI housed our first ever Educator's Open House to help Philadelphia area teachers plan their field trips to Independence National Historical Park. Teachers were also able to reserve fun, interactive, standards-based education programs for their class, see and experience the IPI learning labs, and learn about the programs we offer.

If you were unable to attend the open house and would like help planning your class trip or need more information about the education programs offered at Independence National Historical Park, please feel free to contact us by calling 215-597-2760, e-mailing [inde\\_education\\_comments@nps.gov](mailto:inde_education_comments@nps.gov), or visiting our website at [www.independenceparkinstitute.com](http://www.independenceparkinstitute.com).

### Spread the Word

Tell all the teachers you know about the fun and exciting programs being offered by the Independence Park Institute!

