

Exhibit Labels: An Interpretive Approach

In 1979, Edward P. Alexander's Museums in Motion was hailed as a much-needed addition to the museum literature. In combining the history of museums since the eighteenth century with a detailed examination of the function of museums and museum workers in modern society, it served as an essential resource for those seeking to enter to the museum profession and for established professionals looking for an expanded understanding of their own discipline. Now, Mary Alexander has produced a newly revised edition of the classic text, bringing it the twenty-first century with coverage of emerging trends, resources, and challenges. New material also includes a discussion of the children's museum as a distinct type of institution and an exploration of the role computers play in both outreach and traditional in-person visits.

"In her new work, Beverly Serrell presents the reader with excellent guidelines on the process of exhibit label planning, writing, design, and production. One of the museum field's leading consultants and label writers, Serrell has expanded upon her earlier book, Making Exhibit Labels, which has been a standard in the field since its initial publication over a decade ago."-Provided by publisher.

Nomenclature 4.0 for Museum Cataloging is an updated and expanded edition of Robert G. Chenhall ' s system for classifying human-made objects, originally published in 1978. The Chenhall system is the standard cataloging tool for thousands of museums and historical organizations across the United States and Canada. For this fourth edition, hundreds of new terms have been added, and every category, class, sub-class, and object term has been reviewed and revised as needed by a professional task force appointed by the American Association for State and Local History. This new edition features crucial revisions including: • A revised and updated users ' guide with new tips and advice • An expanded controlled vocabulary featuring nearly 950 new preferred terms • 475 more non-preferred terms in the index • An expanded and reorganized section on water transportation • Expanded coverage of exchange media, digital collections, electronic devices, archaeological and ethnographic objects, and more

A Life in Museums: Managing Your Museum Career is the guide for museum workers of all ages and stages—full of sound advice, practical tips, and illuminating personal stories that span the array of museum disciplines. Topics range from personal branding and resume writing to managing from the middle and leadership at all levels; from professional writing to keeping a career journal; and from navigating within your institution to knowing when it ' s time to move on.

Creating Natural History Exhibitions

An Exhibit Planning and Construction Handbook for Small Museums

Their Museums and Their Influence

A Manual for Museums and Historical Organizations

Museums in Motion

Sustainable Space, Facilities, and Operations

Museum Experience Revisited

Leslie Bedford, former director of the highly regarded Bank Street College museum leadership program, expands the museum professional's vision of exhibitions beyond the simple goal of transmitting knowledge to the visitor. Her view of exhibitions as interactive, emotional, embodied, imaginative experiences opens a new vista for those designing them. Using examples both from her own work at the Boston Children's Museum and from other institutions around the globe, Bedford offers the museum professional a bold new vision built around narrative, imagination, and aesthetics, merging the work of the educator with that of the artist. It is important reading for all museum professionals.

Table of Contents; Illustrations;Foreword by S. Diane Shaw;Acknowledgments;Introduction;1 Online Exhibitions versus Digital Collections; 2 The Idea; 3 Executing the Exhibition Idea; 4 The Staff; 5 Technical Issues: Digitizing; 6 Technical Issues: Markup Languages; 7 Technical Issues: Programming, Scripting, Databases, and Accessibility; 8 Design; 9 Online Exhibitions: Case Studies and Awards; 10 Conclusion: Online with the Show!; Appendixes:A Sample Online Exhibition Proposal; B Sample Exhibition Script; C Guidelines for Reproducing Works from Exhibition Websites; D Suggested Database Structure for Online Exhibitions; E Timeline for Contracted Online Exhibitions; F Dublin Core Metadata of an Online Exhibition; G The Katharine Kyes Leab and Daniel J. Leab American Book Prices Current Exhibition Awards; H Bibliography of Exhibitions (Gallery and Virtual); Museum Exhibition is the only textbook of its kind to consider exhibition development using both theory and practice in an integrated approach. This comprehensive study covers care of exhibits, writing accompanying text, using new technology, exhibition evaluation, administration and content for a wide range of collections. It provides a complete outline for all those concerned with providing displays in musuems and other cultural heritage contexts.

Exhibit Labels: An Interpretive Approach is a vital reference tool for all museum professionals. Beverly Serrell presents the reader with excellent guidelines on the process of exhibit label planning, writing, design, and production.

A Life in Museums

A Practical Guide to Museum Ethics

An Interpretive Approach

How Story and Imagination Create Aesthetic Experiences

Judging Exhibitions

A Step-by-step Guide

The Participatory Museum

A reprint of eleven case studies of successful history museum exhibitions supplying a compendium of highly regarded installations which can stand as a creative guide to other institutions. The contributing museum specialists analyze what works in an outstanding history exhibition from building new audiences and experimenting with new subjects to design techniques and working with consultants. Among the exhibitions featured are the Hispanic Heritage Wing of the Museum of International Folk Art and the Indianapolis Children's Museum. Includes photographs. Originally published by the American Association for State and Local History. Annotation copyrighted by

Book News, Inc., Portland, OR

“This is a must-read for the nervous novice as well as theworld-weary veteran. The book guides you through every aspect ofexhibit making, from concept to completion. The say the devil is inthe details, but so is the divine. This carefully crafted tomehelps you to avoid the pitfalls in the process, so you can have funcreating something inspirational. It perfectly supports thedictum—if you don't have fun making an exhibit, thevisitor won't have fun using it.”—Jeff Hoke, Senior Exhibit Designer at Monterey BayAquarium and Author of The Museum of LostWonder Structured around the key phases of the exhibition design process,this guide offers complete coverage of the tools and processesrequired to develop successful exhibitions. Intended to appeal tothe broad range of stakeholders in any exhibition design process,the book offers this critical information in the context of acolaborative process intended to drive innovation for exhibitiondesign. It is indispensable reading for students and professionalsin exhibit design, graphic design, environmental design, industrialdesign, interior design, and architecture.

Hailed when it was first published in 1985 as the bible of U.S. collections management, A Legal Primer on Managing Museum Collections offers the only comprehensive discussion of the legal questions faced by museums regarding collections. This revised and expanded third edition addresses the many legal developments—including a comprehensive discussion of stolen art and the international movement of cultural property, recent developments in copyright, and the effects of burgeoning electronic uses—that have occurred during the past twenty-five years. An authoritative, go-to book for any museum professional, Legal Primer offers detailed explanations of the law, suggestions for preventing legal problems, and numerous case studies of lawsuits involving museum collections.

Exhibitions for Social Justice assesses the state of curatorial work for social justice in the Americas and Europe today. Analyzing best practices and new curatorial work to support all those working on exhibitions, Gonzales expounds curatorial practices that lie at the nexus of contemporary museology and neurology. From sharing authority, to inspiring action and building solidarity, the book demonstrates how curators can make the most of visitors' physical and mental experience of exhibitions. Drawing on ethnographic and archival work at over twenty institutions with nearly eighty museum professionals, as well as scholarship in the public humanities, visual culture, cultural studies, memory studies, and brain science, this project steps back from the detailed institutional histories of how exhibitions come to be. Instead, it builds a set of curatorial practices by examining the work behind the finished product in the gallery. Demonstrating that museums have the power to help our society become more hospitable, equitable, and sustainable, Exhibitions for Social Justice will be of interest to scholars and students of museum and heritage studies, gallery studies, arts and heritage management, and politics. It will also be valuable reading for museum professionals and anyone else working with exhibitions who is looking for guidance on how to ensure their work attains maximum impact.

Museum Texts

Manual of Museum Planning

A Do-It-Yourself Workbook for Small Museums

Nomenclature 4.0 for Museum Cataloging

The Art of Museum Exhibitions

Manual of Museum Exhibitions

Advancing Visitor Engagement in Museums

Effective Exhibit Interpretation and Design examines the impact of an integrated approach to exhibit design and development on the effective creation and support of live interpretation of exhibit messages and institutional mission. Bridal argues that the interpreters who bring these exhibitions, an institution ' s mission, collections, and stories to life, and the forefront of a visitor ' s attention are just as vital a part of an institution ' s public face, and that neglecting to give live interpretation an equal seat at the table impoverishes the ultimate visitor experience.

Exhibit LabelsAn Interpretive ApproachRowman & Littlefield

Building informative and interesting exhibits is challenging for small museums. Even museums with minimal budgets can produce quality exhibits with guidance from Great Exhibits! An Exhibit Planning and Construction Handbook for Small Museums. Using research from top exhibit professionals and do-it-yourself installation instructions, small museum staff and volunteers will be able to build professional exhibits. Museum professionals have dedicated years of study to the experiences of museum visitors. Great Exhibits! combines the best academic research that will help small museums understand what needs to go into planning an exhibit with step-by-step instructions that outline the process for planning successful exhibits. Digital interactive technology and simple hands-on experiences are included. To keep up with changing technology, the companion website https://bethsagehansen.wordpress.com/ will be updated regularly to provide resources and current digital technology. The best thing about Great Exhibits! is that features more than 100 FULL-COLOR photographs and illustrations to show you how to create exhibit cases, object mounts, and temporary walls. This practical guide is invaluable for any museum without professional fabricators. Based on practical experiences at small museums across the country and featuring more than 100 full-color photographs and illustrations, Great Exhibits! is an invaluable resource for theoretical guidance and practical assistance to anyone who works or volunteers in a small museum as well as a textbook for museum studies programs. To keep up with changing technology, the companion website https://bethsagehansen.wordpress.com/ will be updated regularly to provide resources and current digital technology.

The first book to take a "visitor's eye view" of the museum visit, updated to incorporate advances in research, theory, and practice in the museum field over the last twenty years.

Educators and the Changing Museum

Planning for People in Museum Exhibitions

Dinosaurs and Dioramas

Exhibit Makeovers

Making Exhibit Labels

Exhibitions for Social Justice

Theory and Practice

How do visitors like to experience art? What makes for an enriching museum visit? The Dallas Museum of Art undertook a groundbreaking seven-year research initiative to answer these questions, examining how people connect with art and identifying preferences and differing behaviors. Ignite the Power of Art publishes these findings and provides a new understanding of museum visitors. It describes how these studies have been used to build attendance, enhance exhibits, and develop new programs such as the Center for Creative Connections, the online Arts Network, and the Late Nights event series, all at the Dallas Museum of Art. Furthermore, the book describes how this research, which goes far beyond traditional demographic data and analyses, has transformed the Museum, unleashing a profound change in institutional thinking and paving the way for sustained innovation. Also included are interviews with community leaders who offer their perspectives and insights on the Dallas Museum of Art's remarkable revitalization.

From Knowledge to Narrative shows that museum educators—professionals responsible for making collections intelligible to viewers—have become central figures in shaping exhibits. Challenging the traditional, scholarly presentation of objects, educators argue that, rather than transmitting knowledge, museums' displays should construct narratives that are determined as much by what is meaningful to visitors as by what curators intend. Lisa C. Roberts discusses museum education in relation to entertainment, as a tool of empowerment, as a shaper of experience, and as an ethical responsibility. The book argues for an expanded role for museum education based less on explaining objects than on interpreting narratives.

Two experienced exhibit designers lead you through the complex process of design and installation of natural history exhibitions. The authors introduce the history and function of natural history museums and their importance in teaching visitors the basic principles of science. The book then offers you practical tricks and tips of the trade, to allow museums, aquaria, and zoos—large or small—to tell the story of nature and science. From overall concept to design, construction, and evaluation, the book carries you through the process step-by-step, with emphasis on the importance of collaboration and teamwork for a successful installation. A crucial addition to the bookshelf of anyone involved in exhibit design or natural history museums.

In the second edition of their 2000 book, John H. Falk and Lynn D. Dierking offer an updated version of the Contextual Model of Learning, as well as present the latest advances in museum research, theory, and practice in order to provide readers an inside view of how and why people learn from their museum experiences.

The Victorian Illustrated Book

An Introduction to the History and Functions of Museums

Connecting Kids to History with Museum Exhibitions

Museum Exhibition Planning and Design

Learning from Museums

Interpreting Our Heritage

A Practical Guide for People with Big Ideas and Small Budgets

The Manual of Museum Planning has become the definitive text for museum professionals and others who are concerned with the planning, renovation, or expansion of a public gallery or museum. This third edition features new sections on operations and implementation as well as revised sections on planning for visitors, collections, and the building itself.

Visitor participation is a hot topic in the contemporary world of museums, art galleries, science centers, libraries and cultural organizations. How can your institution do it and do it well? The Participatory Museum is a practical guide to working with community members and visitors to make cultural institutions more dynamic, relevant, essential places. Museum consultant and exhibit designer Nina Simon weaves together innovative design techniques and case studies to make a powerful case for participatory practice. "Nina Simon's new book is essential for museum directors interested in experimenting with audience participation on the one hand and cautious about upending the tradition museum model on the other. In concentrating on the practical, this book makes implementation possible in most museums. More importantly, in describing the philosophy and rationale behind participatory activity, it makes clear that action does not always require new technology or machinery. Museums need to change, are changing, and will change further in the future. This book is a helpful and thoughtful road map for speeding such transformation." -Elaine Heumann Gurian, international museum consultant and author of Civilizing the Museum "This book is an extraordinary resource. Nina has assembled the collective wisdom of the field, and has given it her own brilliant spin. She shows us all how to walk the talk. Her book will make you want to go right out and start experimenting with participatory projects." -Kathleen McLean, participatory museum designer and author of Planning for People in Museum Exhibitions "I predict that in the future this book will be a classic work of museology." --Elizabeth Merritt, founding director of the Center for the Future of Museums

Winner of the 2018 Ontario Museum Association Award of Excellence Winner of the 2019 Canadian Museum Association Award of Outstanding Achievement in the Research - Cultural Heritage Category Creating Exhibits that Engage: A Manual for Museums and Historical Organizations is a concise, useful guide to developing effective and memorable museum exhibits. The book is full of information, guidelines, tips, and concrete examples drawn from the author's years of experience as a curator and exhibit developer in the United States and Canada. Is this your first exhibit project? You will find step-by-step instructions, useful advice and plenty of examples. Are you a small museum or local historical society looking to improve your exhibits? This book will take you through how to define your audience, develop a big idea, write the text, manage the budget, design the graphics, arrange the gallery, select artifacts, and fabricate, install and evaluate the exhibit. Are you a museum studies student wanting to learn about the theory and practice of exhibit development? This book combines both and includes references to works by noted authors in the field. Written in a clear and accessible style, Creating Exhibits that Engage offers checklists of key points at the end of each chapter, a glossary of specialized terms, and photographs, drawings and charts illustrating key concepts and techniques.

The sixth edition of Museum Registration Methods is a comprehensive guide to registration and collections management of museum collections, from acquisition, use, and deaccessioning.

Identity and the Museum Visitor Experience

Writing for Museums
Managing Your Museum Career
Creating Exhibitions
The Art of Relevance
Ignite the Power of Art
A Legal Primer on Managing Museum Collections, Third Edition

Words are everywhere in the museum. Amidst all the visual exhibits, and in many non-exhibition areas, swarm a host of words, talking to a vast swath of people in ways that visuals cannot. Signage at the information desk, brochures, exhibition videos, guided tours, membership materials, apps, and store labels: in a multi-screen world, where information explodes in every corner of the field of vision, clarity comes from the presence of words among the feast of visuals, helping contemporary audiences feel at home. Research bears out the need for a range of learning tools and it's not just visitors who benefit from verbal cues; donors, educators, community partners, and volunteers will all engage more effectively with the museum that explains its brand mission with good writing. Whether written by administrators, staffers, freelancers, or interns, words are delivered by people in your museums with the knowledge that they will be interpreted by strangers. Your story is told everywhere, and with each narration it reinforces your brand; hopefully every single word reflects your brand. Each chapter tells how to put into words the stories you need to tell including: Blogs Brochures Exhibition videos Guided tour scripts Collateral programming talks Marketing plans Proposals to community partners Public Relations releases Social Media Solicitation letters Surveys Volunteer communications Website If you ever wished for a good writer, right on staff, ready to take on project, major or routine, here's the help you're looking for.

Great exhibits are never an accident. Planning effective exhibits is a demanding process that requires the designer to consider many different aspects and navigate numerous pitfalls while moving a project from concept to reality. In Museum Exhibition Planning and Design, Elizabeth Bogle offers a comprehensive introduction and reference to exhibition planning and design. This book focuses on both the procedural elements of successful planning, like the phases of exhibit design and all associated tasks and issues, and on the design elements that make up the realized exhibit itself, such as color, light, shape, form, space, and building materials. This helpful guide includes: Breakdown of the design and development project phases used by professional planner/designers Principles of good design as they pertain to: color, light, shape, form, space, line, balance, accent, rhythm, proportion, and scale Criteria to evaluate an exhibit and measure its success Discussion of construction contracts and procedures Discussion of building materials and their advantages and disadvantages Glossary of museum and design terms for easy reference Bogle has translated her years of experience as an exhibition planner into a guide for practitioners of all sizes and levels of experience. For the solo practitioner, perhaps working with limited or no staff in a small institution, Bogle walks through every task that will be faced as the project develops. For the staff member of a larger institution or firm, this book serves as a checklist, reinforcing the instruction that comes from peers and previous experience. Museum Exhibition Planning and Design is a useful tool for anyone interested in or involved in bringing their exhibits to life.

What do the London Science Museum, California Shakespeare Theater, and ShaNaNa have in common? They are all fighting for relevance in an often indifferent world. The Art of Relevance is your guide to mattering more to more people. You'll find inspiring examples, rags-to-relevance case studies, research-based frameworks, and practical advice on how your work can be more vital to your community. Whether you work in museums or libraries, parks or theaters, churches or afterschool programs, relevance can work for you. Break through shallow connection. Unlock meaning for yourself and others. Find true relevance and shine.

Alexander brings to life the stories of twelve ambitious leaders from the United States and Europe who helped shape the future of the museum world.

A Framework for Assessing Excellence
A Guide for Libraries, Archives, and Museums
Ideas and Images
Developing Interpretive History Exhibits
Communication Frameworks
Creating Exhibits That Engage
Museum Exhibition

Kids have profound and important relationships to the past, but they don't experience history in the same way as adults. For museum professionals and everyone involved in informal history education and exhibition design, this book is the essential new guide to creating meaningful and memorable connections to the past for children. This vital museum audience possesses many of the same dynamic qualities as trained historian—curiosity, inquiry, empathy for the human experience—yet traditional history exhibitions tend to focus on passive looking in the galleries, giving priority to relaying information through words. D. Lynn McRainey and John Russick bring together top museum professionals to present state-of-the-art research and practice that respects and incorporates kids' developmental stages and learning preferences and the specific ways in which kids connect to history. They provide concrete tools for audience research and evaluation; exhibition development and design; and working with kids as "creative consultants." The only book to focus comprehensively on history exhibits for kids, Connecting Kids to History With Museum Exhibitions shows how to enhance the experiences of a vitally important but frequently the least understood museum audience.

Answering key questions in the study of how museums communicate, Louise Ravelli provides a set of frameworks to investigate the complexities of communication in museums: * What is an appropriate level of complexity for a written label? * Why do some choice in language make a more direct relation to visitors? * Is there a correct way of presenting a particular view of content? * How do design practices contribute to the overall meanings being made? The frameworks enhance the way we critically analyze and understand museums text, both in the sense of conventional – written texts in museums – and in an expanded sense of the museum as a whole operating as a communicative text. Using a wide range of examples Ravelli argues that communication contributes fundamentally to what a museum is, who it relates to and what it stands for. Not only museum studies and communications studies students, but also professionals in the field will find Museum Texts an indispensable guide on communication frameworks.

US scholars of literature explore how illustrated books became a cultural form of great importance in England and Scotland from the 1830s and 1840s to the end of the century. Some of them consider particular authors or editions, but others look at general themes such as illustrations of time, maps and metaphors, literal illustration, and city scenes. Annotation copyrighted by Book News, Inc., Portland, OR Are your collections up for grabs? Does the spouse of one of your trustees have too much say in development the exhibition schedule? How much is too much public participation? Where's does a curator's authority begin and end?Grounded in a series of case studies, A Practical Guide to Museum Ethics leads the reader through the process of making ethical decisions about dilemmas encountered while working in museums in chapters dealing with -accessibility, disability, and diversity; -collections; -conflict of interest;-governance; -management;-deaccessioning; and -accountability and transparency.Suitable for classroom use as well as a professional reference, here is a comprehensive, practical guide for dealing with ethical issues in museums.

Creating a Winning Online Exhibition
Exhibit Labels
Museum Masters

Collaboration in the Planning, Development, and Design of Innovative Experiences
Robert G. Chenhall's System for Classifying Cultural Objects
Museum Registration Methods

Understanding the visitor experience provides essential insights into how museums can affect people's lives. Personal drives, group identity, decision-making and meaning-making strategies, memory, and leisure preferences, all enter into the visitor experience, which extends far beyond the walls of the institution both in time and space. Drawing upon a career in studying museum visitors, renowned researcher John Falk attempts to create a predictive model of visitor experience, one that can help museum professionals better meet those visitors' needs. He identifies five key types of visitors who attend museums and then defines the internal processes that drive them there over and over again. Through an understanding of how museums shape and reflect their personal and group identity, Falk is able to show not only how museums can increase their attendance and revenue, but also their meaningfulness to their constituents.

This book moves the field forward in its collective conversation about the interpretation of slavery—acknowledging the criticism of the past and acting in the present to develop an inclusive interpretation of slavery.

All museum activities converge in the public forum of the exhibition - regardless of whether the exhibit is held in the physical museum or is on the Web. Since the first edition of this book in 2002, there has been a world-wide explosion of new galleries and exhibition halls, and new ideas about how exhibitions should look and communicate. The definition of what an exhibition is has changed as exhibitions can now be virtual; non-traditional migratory and pop-up spaces play host to temporary displays; social media has created amazing opportunities for participatory engagement and shifted authority away from experts to the public; and as time-constrained audiences demand more dynamic, interactive, and mobile applications, museum leadership, managers, staff, and designers are rising to these challenges in innovative ways. Drawing on years of experience and top-flight expertise, Barry Lord and Maria Piacente detail the exhibition process in a straightforward way that can be easily adapted by institutions of any size. They explore the exhibition development process in greater detail, providing the technical and practical methodologies museum professionals need today. They've added new features and expanded chapters on project management, financial planning and interactive multimedia while retaining the essential content related to interpretive planning, curatorship, and roles and responsibilities. This second edition of the standby Manual of Museum Exhibitions is arranged in four parts: Why - Covering the purpose of exhibits, where exhibit ideas come from, and how to measure success Where - Covering facilities and spaces, going into details including security, and interactive spaces What - A look at both permanent collection displays, and non-collection displays, as well as virtual, participatory, temporary, travelling displays, and retail sales How - Who is involved, planning, curatorship, and content development, design, multimedia, fabrication and installation, financial planning, and project management Over 130 figures and photographs illustrate every step of the exhibit process. No museum can be without this critical, detailed guide to an essential function.

Environmental Interpretation is the first truly applied treatment of environmental communication written specifically for people with big ideas and small budgets. Drawing on 20 years experience and the successes of his colleagues worldwide, Sam Ham presents an unusually diverse collection of low-cost communication techniques that really work. More than 200 illustrations, photos, and technical insets provide simple instructions for designing and implementing effective education programs in forests, parks, protected areas, zoos, botanical gardens, extension and community programs, and in all kinds of agriculture and natural resource management programs. Aside from its step-by-step, "how-to" approach, what sets this volume apart is its solid theoretical foundation. Readers learn not only how to communicate their ideas more forcefully but why the methods work. Some 20 case studies, carefully selected from throughout the Western Hemisphere, stimulate the imagination and show how others have successfully applied what this book is about. Written for beginners and experts alike, the book represents a valuable resource for anyone faced with the need to communicate about the environment yet constrained by lack of money and experience.

*From Knowledge to Narrative
Great Exhibits!*

*Environmental Interpretation
Interpreting Slavery at Museums and Historic Sites
Effective Exhibit Interpretation and Design*

Since its publication in 2008, Exhibit Makeovers has been a useful do-it-yourself handbook for museum staff and volunteers. Exhibit Makeovers is a workbook that provides grounding in interpretive principles, how-to-advice, step-by-step guidance, and moral support for in-house exhibit planning and design. The revised and expanded 2nd edition preserves the supportive tone and easy-to-follow steps that make the original Exhibit Makeovers so user-friendly. Significant revisions—especially in the technology arena—and additions make this new edition a must-have addition to any museum's toolkit: • New emphasis on visitor input, with step-by-step guidelines for evaluation studies during planning and design. • New text and worksheets to guide development of interactives, and ensure varied levels of visitor participation. • Focus on affordable software to help with exhibit planning and design, as well as low- cost technologies that can vary and deepen the visitor experience. • Brand-new chapters on exhibit design, production, and installation, written by the experienced team responsible for in-house exhibits at a thriving, mid-size museum. Following the same pattern as the 2008 original, the revised Exhibit Makeovers guides users through step-by-step processes of a single-case makeover, development of a new exhibit, and renovation/renewal of an entire gallery or museum.

Every year millions of Americans visit national parks and monuments, state and municipal parks, battlefield areas, historic houses, and museums. By means of guided tours, exhibits, and signs, visitors to these areas receive a very special kind of educatio

Renowned museum consultant and researcher Beverly Serrell and a group of museum professionals from the Chicago area have developed a generalizable framework by which the quality of museum exhibitions can be judged from a visitor-centered perspective. Using criteria such as comfort, engagement, reinforcement, and meaningfulness, they have produced a useful tool for other museum professionals to better assess the effectiveness of museum exhibitions and thereby to improve their quality. The downloadable resources include a brief video demonstrating the Excellent Judges process and provides additional illustrations and information for the reader. Tested in a dozen institutions by the research team, this step-by-step approach to judging exhibitions will be of great value to museum directors, exhibit developers, and other museum professionals.