

# For Teachers



No visit to the Page is complete without a stop at the Dire Wolf Skull Wall. See if you can count them all!

(Just kidding, there are 404 -- only a fraction of the over 4,000 dire wolves recovered from the Pits!)

## This Month's Issue:

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## New Discoveries, New Standards

Dear Teachers,

Another school year has begun, and we are so excited to welcome you and your students back to the Page Museum at the La Brea Tar Pits. We continue to make groundbreaking new finds in our current excavation, Project 23, and our paleontologists are hard at work in the Museum's Fishbowl Laboratory sorting microfossils and cleaning fossils.

Speaking of new things, my School Programs staff and I are thinking a lot about the Common Core Standards and the Next Generation Science Standards, and we're sure you are too! We understand what a huge shift this will be for science education in Los Angeles, and we are committed to supporting you all through these changes. In the coming months, we'll be offering professional development opportunities with a focus on CCS and NGSS and how these standards can be put into action in your classroom and at the Museum.

We look forward to seeing you soon,

**Molly Porter**

*Manager, School and Teacher Programs*

## What's New!

We know everyone says that L.A. doesn't have seasons, but here at the Tar Pits, we're pretending that the leaves on the palm trees are turning and the air is crisp. Fall is here, and we can't wait to see you at the Page for another fabulous school year! So, what's new?

All your favorite guided programs have returned, running through February 28, 2014. In addition to *Windows into Nature*, *Fossil Detectives*, and *Guided Tours*, we have added a brand new program. *Small Survivors: Ice Age Invertebrates* (available Mondays and Tuesdays only) will bring 6th - 12th grade students outside to our Pleistocene Garden as we explore the relationship between entrapment, ecology, and extinction. Looking for Ice Age Encounters? The Cat is hibernating for the fall, and will be back to perform for schools on Wednesdays between March 5, 2014 and May 28, 2014. You can find more information on all these programs and how to book at [www.tarpits.org/for-teachers/school-visits](http://www.tarpits.org/for-teachers/school-visits).

More exciting news! We're adding more resources to our website for both you and your students that you can download any time and use in the classroom and at the Museum. Keep an eye on [www.tarpits.org/for-teachers/resources](http://www.tarpits.org/for-teachers/resources) for the latest!

So join us at the Page Museum this school year -- the mysteries of Ice Age Los Angeles are waiting...

**Kelsey Ziff**

*Coordinator, School Programs*



## Can You Dig It: Gallery Interpreters!

You'll see them in their blue shirts, walking the Museum floor with a saber-tooth skull or a mammoth tooth. The intrepid Page Museum Gallery Interpreters (GI's) are an integral part of an unforgettable Museum experience. They greet your group when you arrive and introduce you to the Tar Pits, they facilitate all your favorite fall programs, and they're always available to answer your questions and give you more information. As Judy Pinheiro, a GI Lead says, "We love working with school visitors, because they are always so curious, interested, and amazed at the story of the Tar Pits and the animals that lived here."

So next time you see one of our GI's, say hi! There's no telling what you might learn from one of these incredible educators...



### Fast Fact!

Our amazing team of Gallery Interpreters comes from very diverse educational backgrounds. We're proud to have English majors, musicians, actors, historians and more bring their unique perspectives to interpretation at the Page. What's the common thread? A passion and unmatched dedication for getting our visitors excited about science!

## Upcoming Opportunities

**Science Notebooking with UCLA Center X**  
**Saturday, November 2, 9:30am - 12:30pm**  
*Hosted at the Page Museum, La Brea Tar Pits*

Learn how observing, writing and drawing can help incorporate and support Common Core Standards in your classroom! E-mail [schoolprograms@tarpits.org](mailto:schoolprograms@tarpits.org) for more on how to register.

## Teachers Get in Free!

California PreK - 12th teachers with school ID always receive free admission to the Natural History family of Museums. If you're thinking about planning a trip, stop by to see everything the Page can offer your students. Already booked your visit? Come test out lesson plans or take a tour to learn more about Pleistocene L.A.!

## Resource Reminders

### Lesson Plans

Created with schools in mind, our grade-specific lesson plans help students connect their Museum experience to classroom curriculum. Find activities for Kindergarten - High School at [www.tarpits.org/for-teachers/resources](http://www.tarpits.org/for-teachers/resources).

### Chaperone Guide

Looking for a Museum map or tips for your visit? You'll find everything you need to stay organized and make the most of your trip to the Page in our Chaperone Guide. Download your copy at [www.tarpits.org/for-teachers/resources](http://www.tarpits.org/for-teachers/resources) and print them out for your adults before you visit!

## Do I qualify?

The Page Museum offers free school visits to California accredited PreK - 12 schools, as well as after-school programs and non-profit organizations providing academic instruction to students. E-mail [schoolprograms@tarpits.org](mailto:schoolprograms@tarpits.org) for more information.

## Submit your visit request!

Go to [www.tarpits.org/for-teachers](http://www.tarpits.org/for-teachers) and click on the **Plan Your Trip** link for step-by-step instructions on how to plan your day and submit a visit request!