



August 2008

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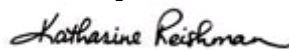
Dear %%FIRST_NAME%% %%LAST_NAME%%,

The 2nd Annual Smithsonian Young Benefactors Cup is just a month away. So, to help bolster your polo social savvy, we would like to share a few fun facts about the sport in preparation for September 6th.

- Polo is perhaps the only game in the world in which use of the left hand is forbidden. The reason is simple – to ensure fair play. If a player used his left hand to play, it would be extremely difficult for an opponent, riding to the right of his horse, to be able to reach the ball.
- When a player establishes the line of the ball (which is the path of the traveling ball) on his right, he has the right of way. An opponent can take the ball away by moving the player off the line of the ball several ways, including: making shoulder-to-shoulder contact; hooking an opponent's mallet, pushing him off the line, bumping him with his horse, or stealing the ball from him.
- The word "polo" is actually derived from "pulu," the Tibetan word for ball.
- Players hit the ball with a mallet. The basic shots are named for the side of the polo pony from which the mallet swing is made:
 - The "near side" is the left side of the mount (horse).
 - The "off side" is the right side of the mount (horse).
- Polo is unique among team sports in that amateur players, often the team patrons, routinely hire and play alongside the sport's top professionals.
- The U.S. is unique in possessing both a men's and women's professional polo league: respectively under the common name of the United States Polo Federation, founded in 2000.

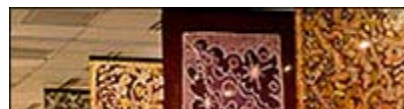
Now that you are in the know, go to www.YoungBenefactors.org or call 202-633-3030 to purchase your ticket today!

Sincerely,

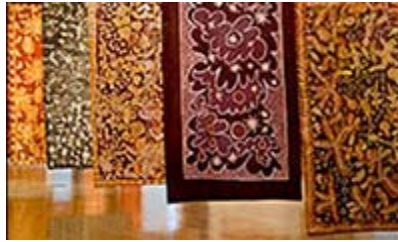


Katharine Reishman

Encourage your friends to join! Please forward this newsletter and bring a friend to our monthly Happy Hour events. For membership or event information, go to www.YoungBenefactors.org or email yb@si.edu.



**Happy Hour – Embassy of Australia
Thursday, August 7, 6 to 8 p.m.**



Location: Embassy of Australia
1601 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, DC
Metro: Dupont Circle (Red line)

Nonmembers Welcome! \$10 Suggested Donation for the YB Culture4Kids Fund!

This August, the Smithsonian Young Benefactors will return to the Embassy of Australia to view UTOPIA – A Picture Story – a collection of silk batiks by Indigenous Australian artists from the Utopia region. This collection, which is on display until August 29, showcases a unique body of work drawn from The Holmes à Court Collection of art in Perth, Western Australia. These works stand as both a major cultural document, as well as an outstanding group of individual works of art. The batiks in this exhibition have never been shown in the United States before, and represent some of the earliest works produced by Australian indigenous artists.

Beatrice Gralton, Cultural Relations Project Manager for the Embassy, will introduce the collection. Afterwards, attendees will be invited to view the batiks while enjoying complimentary wine, beer, and hors d'oeuvres.

Please RSVP for this event by emailing yb@si.edu by noon on **Monday, August 4** with the names of those attending. Due to security restrictions at the embassy, reservations are required, and all attendees must present a valid photo id for admittance.

For more information about the exhibition, visit <http://www.usa.embassy.gov.au/whwh/EmbGallery.html>.

This event is sponsored by the Embassy of Australia.



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YB New Member Dinners



Monday, August 11, 6:45 to 9:00 p.m.

NEW Location: [The Melting Pot](#)

1220 19th Street, NW, Washington, DC

Metro: Dupont Circle (Red Line)



Calling All New Members!

The Young Benefactors Leadership Committee invites you to attend our New Member Dinners now at The Melting Pot. These dinners provide a perfect opportunity to meet other new Young Benefactors as well as current members and chairs of our committees. There is no charge to attend the dinner; however, attendees are responsible for their food and drink costs along with any applicable gratuities.

At The Melting Pot, the YBs will enjoy a prix fixe menu of a salad and two fondue courses for \$20 (plus tax and gratuity), wine specials, and use of a private room.

Reservation Policy: New Member dinners are designed to provide new members with an opportunity to meet each other and learn about the organization in a small group setting (15 to 30 people per dinner). Therefore, we require that all interested attendees RSVP. Seats for each dinner will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. If the available seats have been filled for the dinner you request, your name will be placed on a waitlist, and you will be confirmed for a seat at a future dinner.

To RSVP: Send an email to ybnewmembers@yahoo.com with the following information: "New Member Dinner" (Subject Line), your name, email, phone, date of dinner you would like to attend, month/year you joined, and your YB member ID.

YB Second Saturday Tour

Saturday, August 16, 12 noon

Location: [National Museum of the American Indian](#)

4th Street and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC

Metro: L'Enfant Plaza (Blue, Orange, Green, and Yellow lines)
Smithsonian Station (Blue and Orange lines)

FREE for Members Only!

"Native Life and History"

Unearth the unique, spiritual, and fascinating culture of the indigenous peoples from across the Western Hemisphere. The museum highlights the Native American's special bond between humankind and the natural world by showcasing permanent and temporary exhibitions year-round.

Our tour will feature highlights from the display *Our Universes, Our Peoples, and Our Lives*. This exhibition spotlights traditional knowledge, history, and contemporary culture while using words and objects to convey the important stories, ideas, and experiences which comprise the Native American lifestyle.

Space is limited! Email ybsecsat@yahoo.com by **August 13th** to reserve your space. **Reservations will be taken by email at this address only and are required to attend.** The Smithsonian Young Benefactors are planning to go to lunch following the event. Attendees will be responsible for their

own lunch and any applicable gratuities. All are invited to attend.

Please provide the following information in your email:

- "August Tour Reservation Request" in the subject line
- Your name and your YB Member ID

Voices to Access Volunteer Project

Saturday, August 16, 10:15 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Location: [National Museum of American History](#)

14th Street & Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC

Metro: Federal Triangle or Smithsonian Metro (Blue and Orange lines)

The Voices to Access Project provides cassette recordings of the *Smithsonian* magazine and other printed materials to more than 800 people monthly who are visually impaired. YB members volunteer in the packaging and mailing process, allowing the Smithsonian to offer the recordings free to those who need it. It is a wonderful way to give back to the Smithsonian while meeting other YB members in a small group setting. The group may go to lunch afterwards.

Since the museum is now closed for renovation until fall 2008, you will receive instructions on how to enter the museum upon signing up. The Voices to Access Project takes place in the Accessibility Office (Room 2100A) on the second floor. The office is situated near the end of the *Communities in a Changing Nation* exhibition.

For information or to sign up, e-mail voicestoaccess@yahoo.com.



2nd Annual Smithsonian Young Benefactors Cup

Saturday, September 6, 12 to 6 p.m.

Location: West Potomac Park Polo Field

Ohio Drive at 23rd Street and Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC

Metro: Smithsonian Metro (Blue and Orange lines)

The 2nd Annual Smithsonian Young Benefactors Cup is right around the corner! Come watch celebrity host John Walsh and Argentinean professional polo player Nacho Figueras play with other local and national amateur and professional players in an afternoon of competitive polo on the National Mall.

All attendees will enjoy two exhibition matches and the Smithsonian Cup match, a catered buffet, and an open bar featuring wine, beer, and champagne. VIP ticket holders will also receive access to the VIP tent and admission to the VIP After-Party at the Mandarin Oriental. General Admission and VIP tickets can be purchased online at www.YoungBenefactors.org or by calling 202-633-3030.

Public parking will be available in West Potomac Park lots A, B, and C, and a complimentary shuttle to and from the Smithsonian Ripley Center will run from 11:45 a.m. to 7 p.m. with service to the

Mandarin Oriental starting at 5:30 p.m. for the After-Party.

Proceeds from the event will benefit The Smithsonian Associates – the cultural and educational programming unit of the Smithsonian Institution – and the YB Culture4Kids Fund, which provides support for DC area schoolchildren to attend Smithsonian Summer Camp and Discovery Theater performances.

We are delighted to have the Embassy of Argentina as Honorary Patron, and greatly appreciate the support of our 2008 sponsors.

Thank you to our Teams:
Capitol File; CIRCA; Harper's Bazaar; Mandarin Oriental, Washington, DC;
Moët Hennessey USA; and Ralph Lauren.

With additional support from:
FIJI Water, Heineken USA, Legacy Concierge, Maserati of Washington,
Ridgewells Catering, and Smathers and Branson

YB Spotlight

Openings, Events, and Exhibitions of Interest

[Jim Henson's Fantastic World](#)

Organized with The Jim Henson Legacy, *Jim Henson's Fantastic World* offers audiences a rare peek into the imagination of this brilliant innovator and creator of Kermit, Big Bird, and other beloved characters. The exhibition, which is located in the S. Dillon Ripley center from July 12th through October 5th, documents Henson's process of "visual thinking" through works of art, photographs, documents, puppets and other 3-D objects, and film and video clips. [Click here](#) for additional information.

[Dig It! The Secrets of Soil at the National Museum of Natural History](#)

Through dioramas, soil cross-sections, cultural artifacts, and hands-on interactives, this recently-opened exhibition introduces the study of soil science and demonstrates the vital role soil plays in sustaining human welfare, assuring future agricultural productivity, and environmental sustainability. *Dig It!* will transport visitors to the world of fungi, bacteria, worms, and countless other organisms enabling them to discover the amazing connections between soils and everyday. [Click here](#) for additional information.

Recommended Resident Associate Events


As a Young Benefactors Member, you receive member discounts to the nearly 1,200 Resident Associate programs offered each year. Visit [ResidentAssociates.org](#) or grab a copy of the monthly *Smithsonian Associate* catalog for a complete program listing and ticket information.

[Afghanistan: Hidden Treasures from the National Museum, Kabul](#)

Monday, August 11, 6:45 to 9 p.m.



With their country in crises, a small group of Afghans in 1978 hid thousands of artifacts and other ancient national treasures from their National Museum to protect them. The priceless hoard stayed safely secreted for 25 years as the Soviets invaded, bloody power struggles followed, and the Taliban took over. Then, in 2003, the

 Afghan government invited archaeologist Fredrik Hiebert to inventory the artifacts. What he found astonished him – and the rest of the world.

To complement the traveling exhibit of some 200 pieces from the cache (at the National Gallery of Art through September 7), this evening Hiebert talks about the thousands of years of history represented, the cultural significance, and how the treasures were preserved.

[+ PURCHASE TICKETS](#)

[The Burning of Washington](#) **Sunday, August 24, 9:30 a.m.**



In the summer of 1814, British troops made a 50-mile march to capture the American capital, routing pitiful citizen militiamen (some in winter gear, others barefoot), while President James Madison rode out of town to safety.

Among those remaining, a realization spread that Washington had been abandoned to a horrid fate. In no time, British arsonists had lit an inferno whose glow was seen 50 miles away. Burn marks are still visible on the original stones of the White House. The attack was a defining moment in the young nation's coming-of-age.

Historian and author Anthony S. Pitch leads a full-day exploration of sites based on his book, *The Burning of Washington: The British Invasion of 1814*. Highlights include Fort Lincoln Cemetery, the Riverdale Mansion, Congressional Cemetery, Bladensburg Road, the Sewall-Belmont House, the Navy Yard, the White House area, and the exterior of the Octagon House. Lunch at Riverdale Mansion is included.

[+ PURCHASE TICKETS](#)

Please share your thoughts and/or questions. The YB Committees value your input and welcome all volunteers. Contact information and Committee descriptions are available at www.youngbenefactors.org/contact.shtm.

For more information on the Young Benefactors of the Smithsonian Institution, visit www.YoungBenefactors.org.

For more information on the Smithsonian Resident Associate Program, visit www.ResidentAssociates.org.

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