

For over 90 years the Oshkosh Public Museum has been a community resource where people come together to celebrate a common heritage, to connect and remember our past, and to create new memories.

The Museum remains committed to sharing the astonishing real stories from the past and ensuring the vast array of artifacts, images and historical documents in our collections are preserved for future generations to discover the richness of life in Oshkosh and the Lake Winnebago region.

Presenting this heritage in compelling ways is one of the goals for the creation of a new long-term exhibition called *People of the Waters* that will explore the region's richness of prehistoric and early life that spans 10,000 years.

The key storyline and interpretive elements of this cutting edge experience were selected based on public input and feedback from a focus group of teachers to link with major curriculum points on the study of the Ice Age, Native American cultures, and the impact of the Fur Trade.

Rendering of Travel and Trade area in the *People* of the Waters exhibit, courtesy of Split Rock Studios.



The waterways were like highways, and canoes would have been a common sight throughout the Lake Winnebago region during the early historic period. To best represent this history, Museum staff wanted the new *People of the Waters* exhibit to include both a birch-bark and dugout canoe.

Native Americans traded much more than furs to early traders. Rolls of birch bark, pitch for repairing seams, extra paddles, fresh and dried food, and their labor were all bartered in return for manufactured goods.

Other exhibit highlights include a dynamic 40-foot long artifact display wall representing the cultural history from about 10,000 years ago up to the 1850s, an interactive longhouse dwelling, a walkover archaeological excavation site, an interpretive multi-touch geological map, a travel and trade exploration station, and the work of contemporary Native American artists.

People of the Waters will have a major impact on the Museum, the community, and our role in serving students and teachers. The exhibition, the only one in its class in eastern Wisconsin, combines science, math, environmental history, heritage and the arts in a captivating interactive format, providing enriching field trip opportunities that align and enhance classroom instruction. Creating this state-of-the-art full gallery exhibition



Rendering of longhouse interior in the *People of the Waters* exhibit, courtesy of Split Rock Studios.

is a demanding, complicated and expensive undertaking involving researchers, volunteers, City departments, local contractors, and the experience of Split Rock Studios and Museum staff.

Like any mammoth project, the implementation and success of *People of the Waters* is dependent on funding. The City of Oshkosh is helping to fund a significant part of the cost, but the balance of expenses associated with this exhibit must be borne by the generosity of foundations, businesses, individuals and Museum trusts.

People of the Waters is expected to open in September 2017.

Please consider making a charitable gift to help bring all the innovative components of this amazing exhibition to life. Donations can be made in person or by mail, and are also accepted online at oshkoshmuseum.org.

For more information on this project, or if interested in becoming a major sponsor, contact the Oshkosh Public Museum at 920.236.5799, stop in at 1331 Algoma Blvd in Oshkosh, or visit online at oshkoshmuseum.org.

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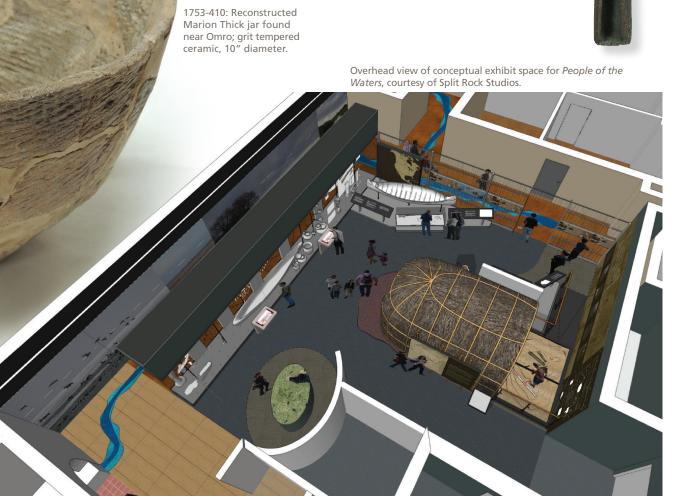
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ation of:	Yes! I want to support the Ushkosh Public Museum and help make <i>People of the Waters</i> a reality with a donation of:





L268-T1: Clovis point found near Lake Butte des Morts, Hixton silicified sandstone, nearly 4" long, about 10,000 years old.

M75: Socketed and ridged point found near Lake Puckaway, copper, 5 ½" long, circa 6,000 to 3,500 years ago.





Rendering of Living Cultures area in the *People of the Waters* exhibit, courtesy of Split Rock Studios.





Rendering of graphic banners for the artifact display glass wall, representing the cultural history from about 12,000 years ago up to the 1850s, in the *People of the Waters* exhibit, courtesy of Split Rock Studios.



1331 Algoma Blvd, Oshkosh, WI 54901 Tue-Sat 10am-4:30pm • Sun 1-4:30pm 920.236.5799 • oshkoshmuseum.org



Help make it a reality!



Step inside this immersive, interactive exhibit and explore the richness of prehistoric and early life in Oshkosh and the surrounding region.

