

Arts & Entertainment

Sheldon gallery a cultural trip for grade-school kids

Analysis by Mick Dyer
Staff Reporter

For grade-school children, field trips break up the monotony of the normal school year. No matter how interested the students are in the subject of the trip, they always look forward to the adventure and the change of pace a field trip provides.

As adults, field trips are often among our fondest memories of grade school, right up there with getting picked on by the big kids, the military-like environment of the cafeteria and the personal insights gained from spending hours with the special reading group down in the grade-school basement.

The Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery offers field trips to grade-school children attending Lincoln Public Schools. Such tours can leave lasting impressions on growing minds.

Karen Janovy, education coordinator for the gallery, arranges the field trips requested by the schools. Once the classes arrive at the gallery, they are divided into

small groups. The groups are led through the gallery by volunteer guides who have undergone intensive training to explain and answer questions about items in the gallery.

Sally Raglin has been a tour guide at the gallery for 15 years. It's a job she enjoys.

"It's really fun to see and hear the kids' reactions to the things they see in the gallery," she said.

She took eight Lakeview Elementary students from Marcella Bohart's fourth-grade class on a tour through the gallery last Wednesday.

She began by explaining to the group the purpose of the gallery and asking them not to touch any of the art on display.

She asked what kinds of art projects the students were working on. They told her about the popcorn and cranberries they were stringing for Christmas ornaments. With that information, she found a starting point for the tour.

Raglin then led her group to rooms on the second floor to look at some of the artwork in the gallery's permanent collection.



Andrea Hoy/Daily Nebraskan

Shana Yaussi (left), Brandon Behrends and Tom Hague, sixth-graders at Lakeview School, look at a statue during a school tour at Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery.

There the students had the opportunity to look at a wide variety of art styles, from classical to modern.

The first piece the group

stopped at was a scrap-metal sculpture of a horse entitled "Derby Horse," by Deborah But-

terfield. As the students looked at the work, Raglin demonstrated

how artists use various materials to create art, comparing the cranberry-and-popcorn strings to the

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