

Entertainment - Page Four

Openings 1988

GALLERIES AND MUSEUMS

U. museums imaginative Baseball, gardens among treasures

By SHARON DECKERT
Chronicle assistant feature editor

The museums at the University of Utah are very different from the cluttered, musty museums of many people's imaginations. (Do people perhaps think museums and museums are similar?)

The U.'s museums are spacious and innovative. The Utah Museum of Fine Arts, for instance, is hosting a children's batting clinic as part of an upcoming exhibit. But best of all for U. students, these museums are all FREE!

The Utah Museum of Fine Arts—With a permanent collection of almost 8,500 objects, this museum represents all time periods and cultures.

Chuck Loving, the museum's assistant director of administration, said all the permanent collection pieces, however, are not displayed at once.

The museum is divided into several rooms, each representing a different time period or culture. Pieces within each exhibit are periodically rotated so visitors aren't overwhelmed by seeing too much too fast.

The room dedicated to Utah and the West, for instance, changes as it focuses on different artists who have lived or worked in the West, Loving said.

Besides the permanent exhibits, the museum presents 16 temporary exhibits each year. They range from the photography exhibit shown this summer to "Diamonds are Forever: Artists and Writers on Baseball," which opens Sept. 17.

The exhibit will combine visual arts such as painting, photography and sculpture with literature on baseball, and

Loving hopes it will attract a new audience.

One possible new audience is the children who will participate in the exhibit's opening weekend batting clinic. Robert Redford and former Mets All-Star pitcher Tom Seaver will demonstrate their abilities. For U. students needing a relaxing, quiet break from their studies, visiting the museum in the afternoon (there are literally hundreds of school children there in the mornings) could be just the ticket.

The museum is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays and 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays.

Utah Museum of Natural History—This museum, with more than 200 items in its permanent exhibit, represents the earth sciences, life sciences and archaeology.

The first thing that pops into mind when thinking of this museum is dinosaurs. That is appropriate this year, since 1988 is the year of the dinosaur, but the museum offers much, much more.

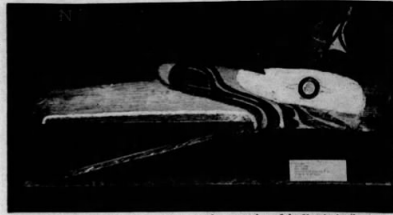
The Norton Hall of Mineralogy, for instance, is worthy of more than a few wide-eyed enjoyable hours.

But until December the life-size, mechanized dinosaurs do reign at this museum.

"Dinamation," the museum's current dinosaur exhibit, seems to have taken this museum and the population at large by storm.

Curator Frank L. DeCourten said the average yearly attendance of the museum is about 80,000 people. "Dinamation" has attracted almost that many people since its opening in June, he said.

Unfortunately, for U. students, agreements with the creators of "Dinamation" have prevented the museum from offering



"Raven Mask," a wood and pigment carving by a member of the Kwakiutl tribe, is one of many exquisite art pieces at the Museum of Fine Arts. Museums on campus are free for U. students.

student discount tickets, DeCourten said. But don't panic too quickly; the rest of the marvelous displays are still free.

The museum also offers workshops, short courses, lectures and field trips. Some of these are free and some are available at a minimal charge, DeCourten said.

The State Arboretum of Utah—This is not a museum, but a visit is an absolute must for students who go crazy surrounded by concrete and asphalt all day.

The arboretum is not a giant greenhouse, though there are plans for one; nor is it a bunch of trees in five-gallon cans waiting to be planted on Arbor Day.

Officially, the arboretum includes all of the grounds of the U. The tree identification signs across campus are part of the work done by the arboretum.

But aside from the U. campus, which most of us see too much of on a daily basis anyway, a visit to the Red Butte Gardens could make one forget there is a city down here.

The arboretum's office is in the same building as Parking Services. But the Red

Butte Gardens are east of Fort Douglas.

The gardens include many varieties of plants both native and adaptive to Utah. One of the goals of the gardens is to demonstrate how homeowners, nurseries and landscape artists can use these plants to create gardens that are attractive all year, Dick Hildreth, arboretum director, said.

This is the kind of garden both the plant aficionado and the casual browser will love. Paths surrounded by different types of flowers wander past ponds and a meadow and under groves of trees.

The cool quiet would be enough for most, but for the educated there are many varieties of plants, from lobelia to hyacinths to hydrangea to flowering tobacco.

The arboretum staff, in a joint venture with Native Plants Inc., is also doing research with drought-resistant plants.

Red Butte Gardens also is home to a series of outdoor concerts in the summer and to classes during the school year.

The arboretum is open from 8 a.m. until sunset seven days a week.

U. student art exhibited

Galleries display untraditional work

By SHARON DECKERT
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Galleries at the University of Utah provide more than just art exhibits. Not only do they provide an opportunity for students to view art, they provide students with the chance to show their own art.

Alvin Gittins Gallery—This gallery, which is located on the first floor of the Art and Architecture Center, is not restricted to the traditional forms of art most people associate with galleries.

"The gallery shows everything from graphic design to painting to sculpture to computer art," Joe Marotta, U. associate professor of art, said.

Through Sept. 30, for instance, the gallery and the Ching Hai Oriental Painting Society are co-sponsoring an open, juried show that will celebrate the Chinese Year of the Dragon.

The exhibit, "Unfolding Forces," will feature paintings using a water medium on paper, U. associate professor of art Mary Lou Romney said.

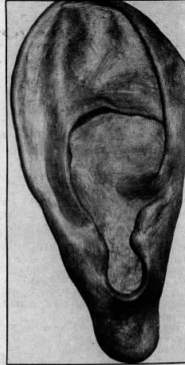
It will also feature the work of an artist from Hong Kong, Carrie Koo-Mei. Koo-Mei is teaching a pre-autumn quarter workshop in Chinese brush painting in conjunction with the exhibit.

Marotta said the gallery accepts applications to show the works of individuals or groups between its major annual shows. He said any interested applicants may submit slides of their work.

The annual shows include faculty, student and intercollegiate shows. This year the faculty show will run Jan. 9-31.

The intercollegiate show invites students from colleges and universities around the state. The show will run Feb. 8-March 1.

Beginning May 17, the gallery will show the work of U. students.



"The Walls Have Ears," by Cory Westerman, is an example of creative student exhibits at the Union Gallery.

Marotta said the gallery exhibits many different types of art because it is meant to be a learning gallery. Professors can bring students to see various exhibits and then discuss the different works in class.

But the gallery is not restricted to use by professors and their students. It is open free of charge from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays.

The Union Gallery—If you are interested in a gallery that exhibits art that is really different from the norm, check out the Union Gallery.

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