Current Exhibitions

**Ancient Middle East**
Explore one of the largest collections of Parthian pottery beyond Iraq.

**Dynastic Egypt**
Examine the painted mummy coffin of Djehutymose and learn about ancient Egyptian culture and religion.

**Graeco-Roman Egypt**
Encounter the largest corpus of daily-life objects from Graeco-Roman Egypt outside of the Cairo Museum.

**Pompeii**
Spend time viewing a nearly life-size representation of frescoes from Pompeii.

**Roman Empire**
Experience daily life among the diverse communities of the ancient Roman world.

**Cyprus, Greece, Etruria**
Learn the stories and myths of ancient Greece and Rome through decorated pottery.

**Ancient Glass**
View an important collection of ancient glass vessels and fragments.

**Edwin E. Meader & Mary U. Meader Special Exhibition Gallery**
This gallery space hosts a rotating selection of special exhibitions featuring a variety of archaeological themes.

Visit our website for the latest news and programs:
Welcome to the Kelsey Museum

Newberry Hall

Newberry Hall was designed by Spier & Rohns of Detroit in the Romanesque style made popular by Boston architect H. H. Richardson. It was dedicated in 1891 as the headquarters of the Students’ Christian Association and named in honor of railroad magnate John S. Newberry, whose widow donated a large sum toward its construction. From 1921 until 1928, the university rented the building for use as classrooms; in 1928, it was given over to the newly formed Museum of Classical Archaeology. Ownership was transferred to the university in 1937, and in 1953, the museum was renamed the Francis W. Kelsey Museum of Archaeology in honor of the professor who initiated the fine collections of antiquities now housed in the building.

In 2003, a generous gift from Ed and Mary Meader of Kalamazoo funded construction of the William E. Upjohn Exhibit Wing, designed by the Chicago firm Hammond Beeby Rupert Ainge. This new addition provides over 20,000 square feet of state-of-the-art, climate-controlled study, storage, and display space. The Upjohn Wing, named after Mary Meader’s grandfather William E. Upjohn, a noted pharmacist, opened to the public in November of 2009. Newberry Hall now houses classroom space and the administrative offices of the Kelsey Museum staff.

Programs

The Kelsey offers a variety of events and programs, including:

Lectures
Learn more about current archaeological research at one of our lectures offered throughout the year, online and in person.

Tours
A guided tour is a great opportunity to get the inside story on our collections and exhibitions.

Virtual Tours
Take a closer look at the stories behind the museum and its collections with a virtual tour online.

Virtual Flash Talks
Dig into current archaeological research sponsored by the Kelsey Museum and ask our specialists questions.

Coming Soon
Crossroads of Culture Gallery
Spring 2026

From 400 to 1800, the Mediterranean, North Africa, and the Middle East were sites of remarkable human achievements, aided by the dynamic social, economic, and intellectual relationships that characterized the region. Throughout the Eastern Roman Empire and Byzantine world, cities such as Cairo, Constantinople, and Alexandria became important hubs for exchange, not only of commodities but also of languages, ideas, and practices—as observed with the rise and spread of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. The Kelsey Museum’s new gallery will transcend traditional boundaries, viewing diverse communities across broad geographic contexts. Drawing from the Kelsey’s rich collection of artifacts and images, the gallery will provide visitors with a unique look at this “Crossroads of Culture.”