ARTIFACTS AND HEIRLOOMS SCAVENGER HUNT

Objective

• To provide students with an opportunity for close observation and exploration of the artifacts and family heirlooms displayed in this exhibition.
• To help students draw connections between the larger themes explored in this exhibition, and to learn more about the unique experiences of Vietnamese Americans living in Orange County.
• To encourage students to analyze diverse forms of text and artifacts, in order to synthesize meaning from these resources.

Directions

Answer these scavenger hunt questions with information from the labels about the special artifacts and family heirlooms presented inside each display case.

1) As you enter the gallery, locate the first display case on the right side. Inside this case you will find a pair of blue jeans that belong to a man named Lam Thanh Nguyen.

• Can you find a photograph of Lam wearing these blue jeans inside this case? Where was this photograph taken?

• Why did Lam’s family need to bring these medical documents on their journey out of Vietnam?

2) Now, move on to the second display case on the right side of the gallery. Inside this case you will find a large suitcase with a dark green wool blanket and a colorful dress also draped over it. These items belong to Tieu Pham and his wife Minh Duc Vo.

• What is the name of the type of dress presented in this display, and who sewed this dress for Minh?

• What was the suitcase used for?

• Where did this green blanket come from?

3) In the third display case on the right side of the gallery, look closely for tools used by a dentist.

• What is the name of the dentist who owned these tools to? Where is his dental office located today?

• In this case you will also find a work of art created by artist Trinh Mai titled, Bien, Bien, Bien. What materials did Trinh Mai use to create this work of art?
This display case also features items belonging to Tran Thi Kim Tien, who was a refugee and social worker.

- Look closely in this case for books used by Kim Tran. How might these books help newcomers resettle?

4) Take a few more steps to the tall display case located toward the rear of the gallery, also located on the right side of this room. This case features a number of special items, which reflect the diverse work of Vietnamese Americans in the fields of the arts, entertainment, and fashion.

- Which singer has been nicknamed the “Vietnamese Madonna? What is the title of her first cassette tape?
- Look closely in this case for film reels and a prop screwdriver, what movie were they both used for?
- What television program did actor Dustin Nguyen star in from 1987-1991? Who was his co-star?

5) Now, walk over to the opposite side of the gallery. As you enter the gallery, locate the first display case of the left side of this room. Inside this display case you will find a blue suitcase that was once carried by a man named Phan Van Hoc on his journey out of Vietnam to America.

- Look closely for a journal that Phan Van Hoc carried in his blue suitcase. What year did he leave Vietnam?
- Inside this case you will also find a small piece of very old wood. What structure was this wood once a part of?

6) In the second case on the left side of the gallery you will find a display that features photographs and items belonging to a couple named Dinh Sinh Long and Tran Ngoc Diep. On their journey out of Vietnam, Long and Diep each faced many challenges, which would separate this family for many years.

- What happened to Long in 1975?
- How did Diep flee Vietnam with her children?

7) Now, examining the third case on the left side of the gallery you will find an antique pen set and a number of books written by Vietnamese American authors who live in Orange County.

- Take a few moments to examine the titles of these books. List two book titles that stand out to you.

8) Take a few steps toward the rear of the gallery to find a work of art created by artist Trinh Mai called Strength in Numbers. This work of art uses items that we might keep in our kitchen to demonstrate how much the Vietnamese population has grown over 65 years.

- What was the population of Vietnamese Americans in 1950?
- What was the population of Vietnamese Americans in 1975?
- What is the population of Vietnamese Americans in 2015?
- How much has this population increased over the course of 65 years?