

Secondary School Programs

There are several ways for schools to visit the Powerhouse Discovery Centre. Supervised and themed tours can be tailored to each group's specific needs in order to meet Key Learning Area requirements. All visits ensure that students and teachers both experience and work directly with objects from the Museum's collection with a focus on discovery and exploration.

In 2009, the Powerhouse Discovery Centre offers five new secondary school programs specifically tailored to the History, Technology and Engineering Studies syllabuses.

+ HISTORY

Historical Inquiry: Preserving Our Past Years 7 and 8 History Mandatory Stage 4

In *Historical Inquiry*, Years 7 and 8 History students take on the role of a historian/museum curator allowing them to handle a variety of objects in order to explore the nature and significance of history.

The visit begins with a multi-media presentation introducing the concepts of history, museums, and the conservation of heritage, followed by a tour of selected museum objects in the Display Store focusing on historical inquiry and the importance of preservation. The highlight of the visit is a glimpse inside one of the Discovery Centre's behind-the-scenes storage areas, giving students the unique opportunity to learn about the importance of collection care and maintenance. This program is ideal for the Mandatory History Topic 1, *Investigating History* (Syllabus Outcomes 4.4, 4.5 and 4.6).

Please note that for visits booked on Thursdays only, students have the option to visit the Collections Lab to view the Australian Memorial AIDS Quilt documentation project. The Quilt comprises of 128 panels, created by friends and families to remember the lives of loved ones who died from HIV/AIDS in Australia. This provides students with the opportunity to engage with and explore aspects of current social history.

Detailed teacher's notes and activity sheets are provided with your booking confirmation.

Cost: \$10 per student / \$7 PSP Schools (One teacher free per 10 students.)

Available: from Term 2, 2009, Tuesdays—Fridays, 10.00am—4.00pm

Length: 120 minutes

Maximum number of students per visit: 60

Bookings essential (minimum two weeks' notice)

Examining Evidence: Constructing Our Past Years 8—10 History Elective Stages 4 and 5

Examining Evidence: Constructing Our Past has been created for Elective History students, Years 8—10 (Stages 4 and 5), Topic 1: Constructing History, Syllabus Outcomes E5.2, E5.6, E5.8. This program focuses on developing the students' understanding of the museum collection and reconstruction of the past by using a variety of primary and secondary sources. Following a multi-media presentation focusing on the history of the museum and its role in the preservation and storage of objects, students tour through the Display Store where they investigate a range of objects. A hands-on activity enables students to develop an understanding of the museum curator's role as they create narratives by examining objects and other evidence. Students will also get the opportunity to learn about collection care and maintenance by visiting one of the Discovery Centre's behind-the-scenes storage areas.

Detailed teacher's notes and activity sheets are provided with your booking confirmation.

Cost: \$10 per student / \$7 PSP Schools (One teacher free per 10 students.)

Available: from Term 2, 2009, Tuesdays—Fridays, 10.00am—4.00pm

Length: 120 minutes

Maximum number of students per visit: 60

Bookings essential (minimum two weeks' notice)

The Times They Are A-Changin' Years 9 and 10 History Mandatory Stage 5

The Times They Are A-Changin' is designed to provide Stage 5 History students with an insight into how the lives of people have changed in the 20th century. Following a multi-media presentation, students investigate heritage first-hand by handling and examining individual objects to create their own timelines and sequences of change. A tour of the Display Store enables the students to explore a series of objects which demonstrate how life has changed in Australia during the last century. This program supports Mandatory History Topic 1 and 8 (Syllabus Outcomes 5.1, 5.4 and 5.5).

Prior to booking you will be required to choose three themes from the following; Home Appliances & Domestic Life; Entertainment & Leisure; Transport; Work & Inventions; or Fashion & Design. Students will also get the opportunity to learn about collection care and maintenance by visiting one of the Discovery Centre's behind-the-scenes storage areas.

Detailed teacher's notes and activity sheets are provided with your booking confirmation.

Cost: \$10 per student / \$7 PSP Schools (One teacher free per 10 students.)

Available: from Term 3, 2009, Tuesdays—Fridays, 10.00am—4.00pm

Length: 120 minutes

Maximum number of students per visit: 60

Bookings essential (minimum two weeks' notice)

the powerhouse
discovery centre

COLLECTION STORES AT CASTLE HILL



Image: Interior of the Technology Museum Ultimo showing the Applied Arts court c. early 1900s.

+ TECHNOLOGY

Design, Make, Evaluate!

Years 7 and 8 Technology Mandatory Stage 4

Design, Make, Evaluate has been planned specifically to target Years 7 and 8 students studying Technology (Mandatory). The syllabus outcomes covered include 4.1.1, 4.1.2 and 4.1.3. This program investigates the process of design, with a focus on opportunities for designing, factors affecting design and the importance of designers using appropriate technology and resources. Students will have the unique opportunity to be able to view first-hand the work of professional designers and to compare the processes that these designers have used for the work undertaken in their own design projects at school.



Image: Sydney 2000 Olympic Games Opening Ceremony costume display.
Photo: Kate Pollard.

This program includes a multi-media introductory presentation, a tour of the Display Store and a hands-on activity in the Resource Room. The hands-on activity has a key focus on the environment and students will have a unique opportunity to view the *EcoLogic Kit*, a mobile resource developed to engage consumers on the topic of designing for ecological sustainability. Students will be able to handle many product samples that have already had a positive impact on the environment. They will learn about the crucial role that designers have in creating an ecologically sustainable future, as well as what they can do, individually, to help ensure such a future.

A highlight of the program is a behind-the-scenes look inside a storage area where students have the rare opportunity to view a range of costumes and props from the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games. Also on display are design models, storyboards, drawings and prototypes assisting students to get a feel for the design process undertaken by designers, from the initial ideas through to the finished product.

Detailed teacher's notes and activity sheets are provided with your booking confirmation.

Cost: \$10 per student / \$7 PSP Schools (One teacher free per 10 students.)

Length: 120 minutes

Available: from Term 2 2009, Tuesdays-Fridays, 10.00am – 4.00pm

Maximum students per visit: 60 (Groups will be split into three groups of 20)

Bookings essential (minimum two weeks' notice)

+ ENGINEERING

Distance Conquered

Engineering Studies: Stage 6

Distance Conquered is ideal for Engineering Studies Stage 6. This structured program is based on the modules of *Personal and Public Transport* and *Aeronautical Engineering*. It relates specifically to the history of transport in Australia, traces materials choices and manufacturing methods and looks at the use of specific materials in light aircraft design.

The program includes a multimedia presentation followed by a tour of the Display Store and a behind-the-scenes storage area. The tour will conclude with a review of current transport systems and a look at possible future directions through the sociological and environmental impacts on society.

Cost: \$10 per student / \$7 PSP Schools (One teacher free per 10 students.)

Available: from Term 3, 2009, Tuesdays—Fridays, 10.00am—4.00pm

Length: 90 minutes

Bookings essential (minimum two weeks' notice)

To book your visit please phone the Discovery Centre on 02 9762 1300

For further information and specific needs, please contact Lysele Assarapin, Education and Volunteers Coordinator on 02 9762 1303.

A 'Venue and Safety for School Excursions' document can be downloaded from our website at <http://castlehill.powerhousemuseum.com/education>.

About the Powerhouse Discovery Centre

The Powerhouse Museum, Australia's premier museum of science, technology, history and design opened its major offsite storage and collection care facility—the Powerhouse Discovery Centre—to the public in 2007. The Powerhouse Discovery Centre: Collection Stores at Castle Hill is one of only a few publicly accessible museum storage and collection care facilities in Australia. The Display Store, the centrepiece of the site and visitor experience, is a museum which houses thousands of objects including historic steam engines, cars, trams and planes. It also includes smaller historic and everyday objects displayed in thematic drawers and shelf units.

Principal sponsor

