





## FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK



Dr. Melissa Jurgena

As I reach the end of my first year at Liberty Hall, I look back at all of the things we have been able to accomplish. We have a wonderful new education center in the lower floor of Liberty Hall that includes a formal classroom, media room, and exhibit space. Our new offices in the Orlando Brown house are a more comfortable and professional space for the museum to do business. The new paint on all of the exterior doors makes both houses appear brighter and more inviting and as the last of the windows go back in, we can see the newly restored face of Liberty Hall calling visitors back once again.

Our two most recent events, A Very Brilliant Party and Ghosts of Frankfort were both very successful. AVBP brought in record proceeds as the "Browns" entertained their guests in grand style. Our 14th annual Ghosts of Frankfort brought in around 350 people in two nights to see the performances.

We recently loaned our Paul Sawyer oil painting to the Library for an exhibit on Saturday, November 8th and received great reviews. Our painting of "Mason & Orlando Jr." is also currently on exhibition at the UK Art Museum.

Like most museums entering the 21st century, we are experiencing some growing pains as we try to hold ourselves to a higher standard of accountability and collections stewardship. However, it is meeting those standards that will bring Liberty Hall into the forefront of education and tourism in this region for years to come. As we close up for the season, we will continue to work tirelessly this coming year to clean, document, and preserve much of the collection as it comes down for the restoration work and hope you will all join us for the unveiling of new exhibits and programs next year.

## Meet the Newest Member of the Liberty Hall Team



We would like to introduce the newest member of Liberty Hall Historic Sites staff, Beth Ann Caffery, the new Curator of Collections. Beth is a native of Peoria, Illinois, where she began her first museum internship five years ago.

Beth holds a Master of Arts degree in History from Illinois State University and a Certificate in Museum Studies. Her experiences in the museum field include projects in Illinois, Missouri, and an archaeological excavation in Ireland. Beth is looking forward to the publication of her article, "The Louisiana Purchase Exposition: The Uses and Interpretations of Living Displays."

After interning and volunteering at several institutions, Beth is eager to begin her career as a museum professional. "I am excited to use the education and skills I have acquired over the past several years in order to benefit the extensive collection of Liberty Hall." Since starting here in September, Beth has worked hard at contributing to the success of A Very Brilliant Party and Ghosts of Frankfort.

### Curator's Corner with Beth Caffery

As the new curator here at Liberty Hall Historic Site, I have spent the past few months working on familiarizing myself with the collection and preparing myself for this winter's inventory. We use software called PastPerfect to manage Liberty Hall's extensive collections. This program has allowed me to assess what we have here at Liberty Hall. Ideally, every object in a museum collection needs to be cataloged in such a way that we are able to locate it using this program.

Recently, we found several objects in the attic of the Orlando Brown House that are not in our inventory. One of those objects was a Paul Sawyer watercolor. We also found a number of Robert Burns-Wilson pieces. This is an exciting find, and I look forward to sharing with you other treasures that I uncover along the way.

While this inventory is taking place, we are in need of volunteers to lend a hand in discovering and preserving the treasures that Liberty Hall has to offer. I welcome your assistance in opening boxes, trunks, and closets. If you have a knack for taking photographs, your talents would contribute greatly to cataloging. If you have an eye for detail, you would be ideal for assisting with condition reports. The heart of Liberty Hall is its extensive Brown Family collection, and we appreciate any time you can offer in protecting this unique compilation of art, furniture, documents, and other rare pieces.

## 2008 YEAR IN PICTURES



Margaretta Mason Brown (portrayed by Emily Boggs Duval) welcomed guests of all ages to the February Teas held in Orlando Brown House.



The cast of Ghosts of Frankfort posed in the Liberty Hall garden before their performance on Halloween.



Liberty Hall Gardener Vicky Baker gave tours of the garden during the Home and Garden Tour in May.



Guests enjoyed a fine meal by Holly Hill Inn, special raffle prizes donated by Blue Grass Motor Sports and UPS, a host of silent auction items, the music of Bryn Bowen Cox, and costumed interpreters portraying the Brown family during A Very Brilliant Party on September 11 and 12.

