

DAY OF ARCHAEOLOGY COMES TO THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA!

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Howard University at the Day of Archaeology

On July 30th, 2011, Archaeology in the Community, Inc brought together a diverse set of archaeological organizations to celebrate archaeology in the Chesapeake. This festival is particularly exciting in DC, where Ruth Troccoli (DC SHPO) has been working tirelessly to promote the importance of archaeology in conjunction with DC heritage. Organizations began to set up in Garfield Park, a few blocks from the US Capital, at 9am.



JPPM Activities

In attendance was Maureen Malloy from the Society for American Archaeology, Louis Berger Group, Inc., Dr. Ruth Trocolli (City Archaeologist) and Charde Reid (Assistant City Archaeologist) with the Washington D.C Historic Preservation Office, Carol Ebright representing Maryland's Native American Liaison Committee (CFMA), Tiffany Raszick from the Cultural Resources Division of the Maryland State Highway Administration (MDSHA), and Kelly Cooper and Patricia Samford from Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum. Also in attendance were Howard University's Department of Sociology and Anthropology represented by Dr. Flordeliz Bugarin and students Ashelee Gerald (Senior), Takisha Black (Senior), and Eva-Maria Tobin (Junior). Nurse Kristina Foster manned the First Aid station and Dominique did some of the most amazing face painting I've ever seen!



Tiffany (MDSHA) and Carol (CFMA) educating about prehistory in Maryland.

Although the kids loved the face painting and balloons, they were really riveted by the varied activities. Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum (JPPM), the State Museum of Archaeology, taught kids how to make pinch pots that they could take home with them, and let them try out all kinds of prehistoric tools. At the Howard University booth you could make marbles and bead necklaces. The DC Preservation Office had artifacts from DC archaeology sites to touch and identify, and the Society for American Archaeology helped kids dig through sand to find and analyze “artifacts” like a real archaeologist!



Making Pinch Pots



Dr. Ruth Trocolli (DC SHPO) showing off DC artifacts.

Over 150 DC and Maryland residents came to learn more about archaeology yesterday, even though temperatures were over 90 degrees. Music from a group of live musicians, lead by Dava Sykes (bass) with Mike Pryor (piano) and Trae Couter (drums), and the sounds DJ Earth 1ne, who kept spirits high (thanks also to sound engineer Tony Smith, who also volunteered his time and equipment to the cause). The archaeologists representing all of the organizations really appreciated the excitement and fun that this group of artists brought to our celebration of archaeology.



Musicians at Day of Archaeology festival

Amazingly enough, everyone involved volunteered their time; the only pay was pizza! Archaeology in the Community, Inc (AIRC) could not have reached so many residents without the hard work and enthusiasm of so many wonderful volunteers, many of whom were not archaeologists. And thank goodness for our interns Saamerikes Hetep Anderson, and Tariq Haqq from The Mission Continues. They passed out flyers all over Washington DC in 100 degree heat all week long.



Archaeology in the Community organizing volunteers.

We can't wait to do it again next year!



A beautiful Day for Arcaheology!

