

Change Is Coming To The Smithsonian National Postal Museum (continued)



Exterior View— Showing the “Glowing” Wall of Windows Depiction US Postage Stamps



Interior Pic of Gallery Under Construction

It is envisioned as visitors move through six thematic areas, stunning displays and interactive moments reveal the amazing stories that unfold from the museum’s unparalleled collection. Distributed throughout the thematic areas are hundreds of pullout frames containing more than 20,000 objects, providing ample opportunities to view noteworthy stamps that have never been on public display.

One of the unique features of the gallery will be its "glowing" wall of windows featuring reproductions of 54 historic U.S. stamps provides an unforgettable backdrop to the 12,000-square feet of exhibits and continually reminds visitors that the history of stamps is intertwined with the history of America.



Planned Gems of American Philately Area

Gems of American Philately - Will be one of the six thematic area. It is planned as a dramatically lit space, where visitors will have the privilege of examining 13 of the most rare and highly valued gems in the world of philately—including the most famous US stamp of all, the 1918 Inverted Jenny. The display will be augmented by a video that explains why the Inverted Jenny and other stamps displayed here are considered philatelic gems.

Other treasures will be showcased in this area whose goal is to make these rarely seen items readily available for public viewing. Each item tells its own story about a significant milestone in US history—from one of the surviving revenue stamp proofs of the 1765 Stamp Act that so infuriated the American colonists, to a lunar mail cover postmarked on the Moon by astronaut Dave Scott in 1971.

Connect with US Stamps - Is another of the six thematic areas. In this highly interactive area, visitors are immersed in examples of how stamp content, design, and production have changed over time and how modern US stamps reflect the nation’s identity. Here, too, visitors explore their own connections with stamps. At three touchscreen tables, they sort through the National Postal Museum’s collection and create their own stamp collection based on the topics that interest them most. Nearby are stations where visitors can create their own stamp designs.

Visitors will also have the chance to view videos in which stamp designers talk about their craft, stamp collectors explain what they collect and why, and footage shows how stamps are produced.

With this addition, it may be worth a trip back to DC to see this and all the other museums and other attractions of the Nations Capitol.



Planned Connect with US Stamps Area

(pictures and information lifted from the museum website: <http://www.postalmuseum.si.edu/index.html>)