



*Explore the concept of time at Harvard's Collection of Historical Scientific Instruments and in unexpected places on campus! It's all part of a new exhibition running from March 6 to December 6, 2013 at Harvard.*

## **TIME AND TIME AGAIN**

### **How Science and Culture Shape the Past, Present, and Future**

Time: We find it, keep it, measure it, obey it, rely on it, waste it, save it, chop it and try to stop it. We organize our lives around it, and yet, do we really know what time is?

Drawing upon collections in Harvard's scientific, historical, archaeological, anthropological, and natural history museums and libraries, this exhibition explores the answers given to that question in various ages by different world cultures and disciplines.

Themes include time finding from nature and time keeping by human artifice. Visitors will explore cultural beliefs about the creation and end of time, the flow of time, and personal time as marked by rites of passage. They will take time out and examine the power of keeping time together in music, dance, work, and faith. They will discover time's representation in history and objects of personal memory, its personification in art, and its expression in biological change and the geological transformations of our planet.

Featured objects include portable sundials and precision clocks, calendars from different cultures and epochs, time charts shaped like animals, Mesopotamian, Native American, and African ritual objects, fossils, metamorphosing creatures, and Julia Child's stopwatch.

But don't stop here....

### **TIME TRAILS**

A free smartphone app using geo-location leads visitors beyond the primary exhibition in the Science Center to other intriguing sites on the Harvard Campus. They can explore the concepts of time as they are revealed in 40 thought-provoking objects specially marked with a "timepiece" label throughout the galleries of all four of the Harvard Museums of Science and Culture. Download the app here:

[http://www.fas.harvard.edu/~hsdept/tta\\_timetrails.html](http://www.fas.harvard.edu/~hsdept/tta_timetrails.html).

And check out our website to see upcoming events related to time!

[http://www.fas.harvard.edu/~hsdept/chsi\\_tta.html](http://www.fas.harvard.edu/~hsdept/chsi_tta.html).



The exhibition was curated by Sara J. Schechner, the David P. Wheatland Curator of the Collection of Historical Scientific Instruments, with assistance from Samantha van Gerbig, designer and photographer, and Noam Andrews, Wheatland Curatorial Fellow. Financial support for this exhibition was generously provided by the David P. Wheatland Charitable Trust, the Provostial Fund Committee for the Arts and Humanities at Harvard University, and an anonymous donor.

### **About the Harvard Collection of Historical Scientific Instruments**

The Collection of Historical Scientific Instruments preserves and documents over 20,000 instruments portraying the history of science teaching and research at Harvard from the Colonial period to the 21st century. Through lively exhibit and teaching programs, research activities and cultural initiatives engaging many academic disciplines, the museum is both a specialized institution and an experimental space, where Harvard Faculty and students, instrument scholars and museum experts meet in the production of object-based knowledge.

One of the four Harvard Museums of Science and Culture, the Collection of Historical Scientific Instruments is located in the university's Science Center at 1 Oxford Street, Cambridge, just a five-minute walk from the Harvard Square T station. The museum's Putnam Gallery is open 11 am to 4 pm on weekdays, and the Special Exhibition Gallery is open 9 am to 5 pm on weekdays. Admission is free. For more information, please visit the website <http://www.fas.harvard.edu/~hsdept/chsi.html> or call 617-495-2779.

### **MEDIA CONTACTS**

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### **ADDRESSES & HOURS**

#### ***Time & Time Again***

Collection of Historical Scientific Instruments  
Special Exhibition Gallery, Science Center 251, 1 Oxford Street, Cambridge  
Monday-Friday 9 - 5

### *Time Trails Destinations*

Semitic Museum, 6 Divinity Avenue, Cambridge  
Monday-Friday 10 – 4, Sunday 1 – 4

Harvard Museum of Natural History, 26 Oxford Street, Cambridge  
Daily 9 – 5

Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, 11 Divinity Avenue, Cambridge  
Daily 9-5

Collection of Historical Scientific Instruments  
Putnam Gallery, Science Center 136, 1 Oxford Street, Cambridge  
Monday-Friday 11 – 4





