

Papyrus book



Rosetta Stone replica



The History of the Book A Traveling Exhibit

Presented by the Iowa Center for the Book

The Iowa Center for the Book invites requests from Iowa public libraries of differing sizes to borrow The History of the Book traveling exhibit. The exhibit is the result of a creative collaboration between the Iowa Center for the Book and the University of Iowa Center for the Book. The exhibit and tour are funded by a major grant from the Iowa Center for the Book Foundation.

The exhibit is an educational collection of items and guides that tell the story of the book. This “hands-on” exhibit is intended to bring to life the invention of writing, paper and books, telling the book’s story to both children and adults.

It consists of historically accurate replicas of the book throughout history, as well as accompanying educational materials to assist libraries with programming.

Although items must be secured when on display, we encourage librarians to remove them, under supervision of a staff member, for learning purposes. The objects are made for handling.

Selection and Responsibilities

Exhibit venues will be selected based on a number of factors including different sizes of communities, and proposed outreach and programming ideas for the public. The exhibit must be free and open to the public.

Host institutions are responsible for:

- Creative and varied ideas for public programs
- A clear and targeted publicity plan to engage their communities
- Administrative support for the project and its accompanying programming requirements
- Suitable space in which to display the exhibit
- Reasonable security requirements.

There is no cost to libraries for the loan or shipping. The loan period is one month. The ICB reserves the right to accept or deny any request.

Space Requirements

A Pelican shipping case will include 38 distinct pieces. The exhibit can be arranged flexibly into a secure display case that contains approximately 20 square feet of space. A press kit and additional learning materials will be available from the Iowa Center for the Book’s website.



Point of Contact

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