

TREASURES OF NATIVE AMERICA

Shelf guide



Left case:

1. **Redware Pot**, ca. 1960

Polingaysi Qöyawayma (1892-1990), Oraibi, Hopi Third Mesa, Arizona

Redware with matte red slip surface

Gift of Drs. Norman and Gilda Greenberg

2016.033.089

Educated by Mennonites, Polingaysi Qöyawayma (which translates as “butterfly among breeze-stirred flowers”) grew up to become a potter as well as author of books such as *Sun Girl* and *No Turning Back*. Her village of Oraibi has been inhabited continuously for more than 900 years.

2. **Ceremonial Rattle**, acquired 1976

Unknown San Juan Pueblo maker, New Mexico

Gourd, wood

Promised gift of Drs. Norman and Gilda Greenberg

TD366.285

All parts of the rattle are highly symbolic. The flattened spherical shape of the gourd represents the earth, while the handle represents the north-south axis of the earth where the Hero Twins reside in order to keep the planet rotating.

3. **Handled Basket**, ca. 1900-1950

Unknown Cherokee maker, North Carolina

Split oak, river cane, twilled construction

Gift of Robert S. Brunk

2004.072.008

Few Native American baskets featured handles until contact with European settlers in the 18th century.

4. **Fruit Basket**, acquired 1969

Katie Panther (1924-2016), Cherokee, Big Cove Community, North Carolina

White oak, walnut, blood root dyes

Promised gift of Drs. Norman and Gilda Greenberg

TD366.338

5. **Lidded Basket**, mid-20th century

Unknown Cherokee maker, North Carolina

Honeysuckle

Gift of Robert S. Brunk

2004.072.002

6. **Four Reptile Pot**, 1999

Senora Richardson Lynch (b. 1963), Haliwa-Saponi, Hollister, North Carolina

Bi-chrome sgraffitto terracotta

Transfer from the North Carolina Wesleyan College

2015.006.130

Senora Lynch began making pottery at age fourteen, using red and white clay and traditional hand coiling. Her work is in the permanent collections of the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian and at the N.C. Museum of History, and she was a 2007 recipient of the N.C. Folk Heritage Award.

7. **Small Jar**, circa 1900

Unknown Catawba maker, North Carolina

Burnished and fired clay

Gift of Nell B. Cant and Bess Beatty

2002.029.262

8. **Jug**, circa 1900

Unknown Catawba maker, North Carolina

Burnished and fired clay

Gift of Nell B. Cant and Bess Beatty

2002.029.265

9. **Double Plaited Basket**

Unknown Cherokee maker, North Carolina

Gift of Robert S. Brunk

2004.072.005

10. **Handled Basket**, ca. 1940-1970

Unknown Cherokee maker, North
Carolina

Split oak, river cane, twilled
construction

Gift of Robert S. Brunk

2004.072.006

Middle case:

11. **Coiled Basket**, acquired 1954

Unknown Tohono O'odham maker,
Arizona

Yucca or cattail wrapped with
yucca; willow bark with Devil's
Claw seed capsule strips

Gift of Drs. Norman and Gilda
Greenberg

2009.019.006

12. **Coiled Basket**, circa 1940

Unknown Tohono O'odham maker,
Arizona

Beargrass or cattail wrapped with
yucca or willow bark with Devil's
Claw seed capsule strips

Gift of Michael and Linda Keefe;
inherited from donor's Aunts
Marie and Margareta Geier

2012.049.003

13. **Vase-Shaped Basket**, ca. 1940

Unknown Apache maker, Arizona

Willow rods, *Martynia* sp.

Gift of Michael and Linda Keefe;
inherited from donor's Aunts
Marie and Margareta Geier

2012.049.004

14. **Seed Basket**, ca. 1880

Unknown Paiute maker, Nevada

Willow, yucca, cotton string

Gift of Drs. Norman and Gilda
Greenberg

2009.019.017

The main purpose of this container was to keep precious seeds dry so they wouldn't rot or germinate too soon. The pointed bottom prevented it from lying flat and spilling, and when not in use it would have been suspended indoors from an overhead beam to keep it away from mice and ants.

15. **Avanyu Bowl**, acquired 1954

Mary Cain (1916-2010), Santa Clara Pueblo, New Mexico

Hand coiled and stone polished redware with *avanyu* (plumed serpent) pattern in relief

Gift of Drs. Norman and Gilda Greenberg

2016.033.085

Mary Cain was part of a lineage of great potters, whose female ancestors had worked with clay for generations. Her mother Christina Naranjo and aunt Margaret Tafoya taught her to make pots when she was fifteen.

16. **Red Olla**, ca. 1960

Tomasita Montoya (1899-1978), San Juan Pueblo, New Mexico

Handcoiled and stone polished clay with red glaze

Promised gift of Drs. Norman and Gilda Greenberg

TD366.177

Tomasita Montoya began making pottery in the late 1920s. She is one of seven original potters of the “San Juan Revival” in the 1930s, and her daughters Dominguita Naranjo and Rosita de Herrera carry on the tradition. San Juan Pueblo is now called Ohkay Owingeh.

17. ***Navajo Jackrabbit Rider***,
acquired 2012

Delbert Buck (b. 1976), Navajo,
Shiprock, New Mexico

Hand carved wood, paint, paper,
metal, cloth

Promised gift of Drs. Norman and
Gilda Greenberg

TD366.234

At age twelve, self-taught artist Delbert Buck began making constructions from found objects and cottonwood limbs, then roughly carving and painting them. His first carvings were toy guns and small wooden horses to play with. To supplement his income he has worked as a physical therapist, auto mechanic, and electrician.

18. ***Navajo Rocket Rider***, acquired
2004

Delbert Buck (b. 1976), Navajo,
Shiprock, New Mexico

Hand carved wood, paint, paper,
cloth

Promised gift of Drs. Norman and
Gilda Greenberg

TD366.233

Right case:

19. **Parched Corn Sifter**, circa 1954

Abbie Talashoma (1895-1992),
Hopi, Bacavi, Arizona

Coiled sumac, yucca

Promised gift of Drs. Norman and
Gilda Greenberg

TD366.084

20. **Shouldered Basket**, mid-20th
century

Unknown Tule River(?) maker

California(?)

Yucca fibers, internal sumac coil

From the Collection of Joan Mills
Busko

2015.037.072

21. **Elongated Basket**, circa 1940

Unknown Washoe (?) maker,
Nevada or California

Willow, beargrass

Gift of Kim B. and Roselyn G.
Bacheller

2013.001.053

22. **Beaded Basket**, ca. 1950

Unknown Tohono O'odham and/or
Paiute maker(s), Utah and/or
Arizona

Coiled grass; glass beads, diagonal
weave technique

Promised gift of Drs. Norman and
Gilda Greenberg

TD366.080

23. **Platter Basket**, acquired 1961

Juana Ahil (dates unknown),
Tohono O'odham, Chandler,
Arizona

Coiled yucca

Promised gift of Drs. Norman and
Gilda Greenberg

TD366.081

24. **Sled with Two Figures**,
acquired 1968

Unknown Inuit maker, Alaska

Walrus ivory, bone

Promised gift of Drs. Norman and
Gilda Greenberg

TD366.094

25. **Walrus**, 1971

Charlie Iyapana (1925-2014),
Inupiat, Kotzebue, Alaska

Walrus ivory

Promised gift of Drs. Norman and
Gilda Greenberg

TD366.093

Widely considered one of the
greatest Alaskan carvers, Iyapana
served in the military in WWII and
worked as a local liaison with the
748th Aircraft Control and Warning
Squadron based in Kotzebue
during the Cold War.

26. **Whale**, acquired 1963

Unknown Inuit maker, Baffin
Island, Nunavut, Canada

Soapstone (talc)

Promised gift of Drs. Norman and
Gilda Greenberg

TD366.090

27. **Basket**, acquired 2013

Unknown Tsmshian maker, Alaska

Coiled grasses

Promised gift of Drs. Norman and
Gilda Greenberg

TD366.201

28. **Lidded Basket with Frog**

Finial, ca. 1900

Unknown Tlingit maker, Alaska or
British Columbia

Coiled grasses and wooden rods,
carved wood

Gift of the Friends of the Gallery

2001.013.002

29. **Fish Figurine**, acquired 1967

Unknown Haida maker, British
Columbia, Canada

Slate

Promised gift of Drs. Norman and
Gilda Greenberg

TD366.091

30. ***Eskimo Hunter***, acquired 1963

Matthew Tie (dates unknown),
Baffin Island, Nunavut, Canada

Soapstone (steatite)

Promised gift of Drs. Norman and
Gilda Greenberg

TD366.239