

## Planning and Guide for Cabinets of Curiosity – 2025-2026 (SGK notes 5.2.25)

1) Saint Anthony Falls Laboratory (SAFL) - probably October

Main contact is Chris Paola, former director and Professor Emeritus of Earth and Environmental Sciences ([cpaola@umn.edu](mailto:cpaola@umn.edu))

-- will host a tour group of about 20, maybe a few more; willing to schedule two tours, perhaps same day if high demand; will schedule large room for opening comments and background; perhaps 1.5 hours

--check parking and directions; make note of accessibility per his note; up to 20? Or park on river road; include a map

2) Earth Sciences and Paleontology – hiding in plain sight – a tour of Tate including hall exhibits and class laboratory fossil specimens with background history of previous museum in Pillsbury Hall.

Contact is Kent Kirby, longtime, popular teaching specialist in Earth and Environmental Sciences

--can host 20-25 people; two-hour tour with presentation in 4<sup>th</sup> floor colloquium space; willing in fall

3) Return to Wangensteen Historical Library of Biology and Medicine in Philips-Wangensteen Building; head librarian Lois Henderson is the contact.

--can host 25-30 people and can develop displays that complement those we saw three years ago for those who chose to repeat a visit

4) Other possibilities beyond campus - MIA, Duluth to Grand Marais with stops, check with Anderson to overlap with exhibit areas of special collections (Wendy?), St. Johns Abby with illustrated Bible and pottery center; capital tour 1 hr and history center w/lunch at deli; campus sustainability bike tour; art on campus (Tate+) – maybe Weisman knows;

5) The Grove neighborhood; one a real estate agent who is a mid-century modern specialist and has sold many of the houses in the Grove; and the other is the author of a recent book on Bob's mother Elizabeth Close, a pioneering architect of mid-century modern buildings who designed 12+ of the houses in the Grove. Bob is himself a landscape architect.

Newish member Craig Moody is the former head of the University's environmental health unit (I may not have the name of it right), and thus the internal regulator on the safety engineering of all UMN facilities. He was one of the advisors as the storage areas in the caverns were being developed and will have some insights.

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### **Condensed Instructions to organize a tour:**

- 1) Discuss possible sites and times with team and begin to plan well ahead, even several months
- 2) Contact potential hosts – ascertain dates available for them: midweek, first two weeks of month
- 3) Check back with team to confirm availability
- 4) Write a description of tour, confirm details with host and with team
- 5) Establish registration link to go in announcement; check registration numbers
- 6) Send information at least a couple of months ahead (see deadlines) for eNews and Newsletter to Kris Mortensen; and to Cathy for [umra.umn.edu](http://umra.umn.edu) calendar as soon as a date is known
- 7) Prepare separate announcement to circulate when appropriate for deadlines [?]
- 8) Share registration numbers, once available, and links to UMRA announcement to the host as a reminder of event
- 9) Send reminder notice to those who registered a few days before event along with transportation and any other relevant information, including possible social time after the tour
- 10) Planning a semester ahead