

Penn Museum unwraps mystery of mummy conservation

October 22 2012, by Kathy Matheson

A museum in Philadelphia is unwrapping the mystery of mummy conservation.

The newly installed [Artifact](#) Lab at the Penn Museum allows visitors to peek behind the scenes as staff members preserve [relics](#) from [ancient Egypt](#).

Human and animal mummies, as well as an intricately inscribed coffin, are among the items undergoing treatment and repair.

Museum officials say the glass-enclosed workspace allows the public to share researchers' sense of wonder and the thrill of discovery.

Flat-screen monitors display magnified images of what staff members are working on. Conservators will also set aside time twice a day to answer visitors' questions.

The archaeology and anthropology museum's 42,000-piece Egyptian collection is among the largest in the U.S.

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Citation: Penn Museum unwraps mystery of mummy conservation (2012, October 22) retrieved 10 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2012-10-penn-museum-unwraps-mystery-mummy.html>

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