History of Interpretation - “We see further than others, because we stand on the shoulders of giants.”

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Welcome to the World of Interpretation (page 4 - 5, CIG Workbook)

40 minutes, PowerPoint accompanies this program

Audience Description
CIG enrolled students, with varying experience levels in interpretation and at least a Junior Year in High School educational background. Not gender specific and ages vary between 16-60. Class size should not be more than 25 (when taught with another teacher), preferably 15.

Objectives
- All students can remember that E is for Enjoyable and Experiential, and describe what the result of that is.

Measured By
- Output on chart, lists of who is inspiring

Items Needed
PowerPoint and equipment, flipcharts

Outline for History of Interpretation

We have learned what interpretation is, but who started it, who does it?

Interpretations started around a fire. The first need to explain… to understand…

Shamans, Wise Men

Storytellers

Imparters of Knowledge

Storytellers gave way to the Philosophers

And later Observers, of science, and how things worked.

These were all GIANTS of their time and culture.
The Renaissance, and the renaissance men that followed, continued to explore the world and relate their knowledge. In America, many of our founding fathers were renaissance men.

**Ben Franklin**- quote

The US became the birthplace of democracy, and the birthplace of something else…

**Audubon**- quote

In the tumult leading up to the Civil War

**Thoreau**- quote

America began to awaken to it’s wonder, it’s place. Moran- painting

One guy was hanging around this area…

**Muir**- quote

While Keith painted the Sierra Nevada, many people were living like this…

Moran painted the Snake River Falls

**TR**- quote

Between 1900-1910 the US saw the invention of the Model T, the beginning of flight, the Panama Canal and increases in mechanized agriculture.

We also saw the beginning of the National Park Service- parks for everyone was new

This was the birth of interpretation as we recognize it today in parks.

At Rocky Mtn National Park, this man was a guide.

**Enos Mills**- quote

The booming 20’s led to the bust in the 30’s.

Out of this came another observation- one to shape ourselves by-

**Aldo Leopold**- quote

The 1950’s- NPS begins to explore what is being done in it’s parks. Hires Freeman Tilden to do a study. Tilden travels the NPS system and writes a book-
Tilden quote

1960’s- excess is still apparent in America-

Rachel Carson quote

Supporting Interpretation

Who are the interpreters?

Who has the opportunity?

Optional- list the following:
Where do Interpreters Work?
Skills Interpreters Need
What forms does interpretation come in ?

We stand on the shoulders of giants-

Rachel’s work is not done

Aldo Leopolds work is not done

WE stand on the shoulders of giants- and become giants ourselves

Who is standing with you today? Make list.

1. Motorcycle Salesperson
   Stephanie Acheson has been riding bikes since her childhood on a central Virginia farm. She is also a skilled historical interpreter, a position she held previously with the National Park Service. (Morton BMW)

2. Interpreter at Fort Loudoun, TN. This 1,200-acre site is the location of one of the earliest British fortifications on the western frontier, built in 1756.

3. NPS Interpreter and pictographs

4. Interpreter at Banff NP in Canada
5. Richard Louv, author of Last Child in the Woods

   B 1939, D 2004