

SEPTEMBER 2015  
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Philadelphia

# Where

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## Divine Art

"Vatican Splendors"  
comes to the Franklin Institute

INTERNATIONAL PERFORMERS  
FLOCK TO PHILLY FOR  
FRINGE FESTIVAL 2015



4 STOPS  
FOR YOUR  
SWEET TOOTH



VISIT PHILLY CEO  
MERYL LEVITZ ON WHAT NOT  
TO MISS AROUND TOWN



# → Philadelphia where now

The savvy traveler's guide to what's hot right now in Philly



**DIVINE ART**

## Worthy of His Holiness

This September, Philadelphia is gearing up to be quite the destination for world travelers, and you might know why – the Pope and Dalai Lama both make historic appearances in our loving city. With that in mind, we've explored the incredible art, attractions and events on display around town to complement their visit, and provide some rich context for their much anticipated arrivals.



# Vatican Splendors

As Philadelphia gets ready for a historic visit from a very special guest, The Franklin Institute will open a groundbreaking, rarely seen complementary exhibit. **BY AMY GORDON**



Portrait of a Cherub, Ziboli (1681-1767)

In conjunction with the World Meeting of Families 2015 Congress, His Holiness Pope Francis is coming to town in late September. In honor of this momentous occasion, The Franklin Institute (222 N. 20th St., 215.448.1200) will open *Vatican Splendors*, a groundbreaking exhibition of rarely seen objects brought over directly from the papal headquarters in Italy.

Spanning 2,000 years of history, every object in the exhibit tells a unique story, from artwork dating back to the first century to relics discovered at the tombs Saints Peter and Paul.

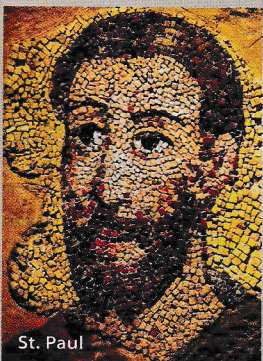
Even if you've been to the Vatican in person, however, you'll still want to make sure to get to the Franklin Institute's exhibition. Many of the artifacts have never been on public view, even in Rome. The exhibit will feature eleven galleries and recreated environments. Each area highlights a different aspect or event, which are reflected via the historical objects and artistic design of the galleries. Visitors can discover a recreation of the underground catacombs where the remains of Saint Peter were discovered or even explore the grand chambers that Pope Francis calls home.

The exhibit also includes artwork by Michelangelo as well as signed documents, rarely seen sculptures and tools that the legendary artist used in his masterpiece on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel. All of these items are on loan from The Reverenda Fabbrica of Saint Peter, the Basilica of Saint Paul Outside-the-Walls, the Basilica of Saint Mary Major, the Vatican Library, the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples, the Apostolic Floreria, the Papal Swiss Guard, the Vatican Museums, and private collections.

The Franklin Institute is the only East Coast destination for this travelling exhibit, and it's one of only two sites in North America that will host the exhibit. Afterwards, these treasures will return home to the Vatican in Rome, Italy. According to Vatican law, items are not allowed to be away from the premises for more than a year at a time.

Vatican Splendors opens on September 19 and will be on display in the Nicholas and Athena Karabots Pavilion through February 15, 2016. No matter what religion you subscribe to, this awe-inspiring exhibit is a must-see when you're in town.

The Franklin Institute, 222 N 20th St, 215.448.1200, fi.edu



St. Paul

(LEFT) ©COURTESY THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE; (CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT) ©COURTESY BELLA TURKA; ©LAGOS; ©COURTESY NMAJH; ©LIGHTFORMER



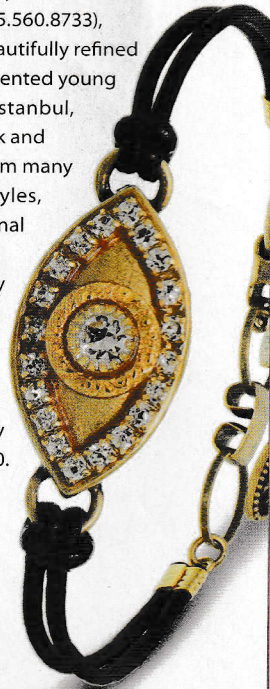
Cross Jewelry at Lagos

Bella Turka

## WEAR YOUR SPIRITUALITY

If you're attending the events of two certain visiting spiritual leaders, you may need some accessories to help adorn your displays of faith. These are some of the best places to shop in Philadelphia to help you wear your spirituality. Philadelphia-based designer Steven Lagos embodies the philosophy that jewelry is one of the most personal and significant forms of art a person can own. At **Lagos** (1735 Walnut St., 215.567.0770) browse through elegant pieces inspired by his world travels, including jewelry adorned with stunning crosses. Some items feature sparkling gemstones, while others are made from muted metals. Whether you're Christian or Catholic, showy or understated, you'll find something here to suit your style. For Judaica ranging from two-toned Jewish Star necklaces to rings adorned with meaningful passages, head to the gift shop at the **National Museum of American Jewish History** (101 S. Independence Mall East, 215.923.3811). This impressive museum outlet has a diverse selection of jewelry, accessories and religious items from an array

of talented designers. Take a look at the "Ahava" collection, based on Robert Indiana's famous statue in Love Park. Showcasing the Hebrew word for "Love", these pieces marry Jewish culture with Philly pride, and proceeds are split between the NMAJH and the Israel Museum in Jerusalem. One of the newer shops in town for spiritual jewelry is **Bella Turka** (113 S. 13th St., 215.560.8733), which offers a beautifully refined selection from talented young designers from Istanbul, Tel Aviv, New York and beyond. Shop from many contemporary styles, as well as traditional and handmade pieces inspired by ancient designs from Greece and Turkey. Prices range from \$25 to \$500 with many pieces under \$100. The Center City shop also offers a collection of unique gifts and home decorative items for all your spiritual needs.



Eye Bracelet by Michal Golan



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