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NORTHWEST travel

Tacoma's *Amazing Walking Tour of Glass Art*

4 Winter Adventure
Getaways

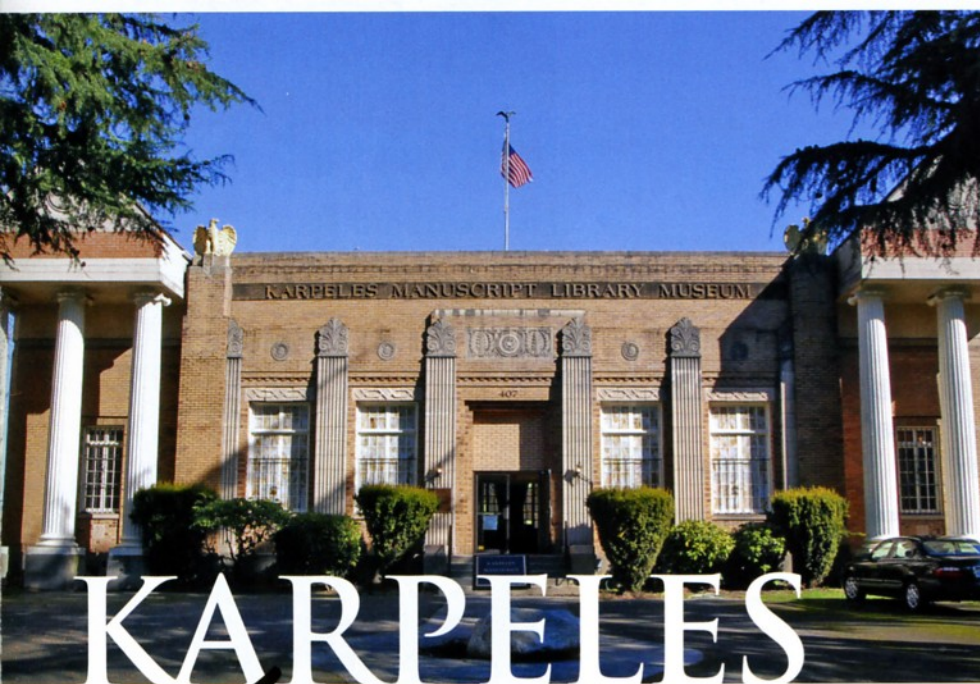
**RAINY DAY WINE TASTING
in the Willamette Valley**

FEBRUARY 2010

\$4.95



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KARPELES

Manuscript LIBRARY Museum

STORY & PHOTOS BY
BARBARA WYATT

SEE THE ORIGINAL MANUSCRIPTS OF EVERYTHING FROM TENNYSON POEMS TO TREATIES ABOLISHING THE SLAVE TRADE.

“**I** INTO THE JAWS of Death/
Into the mouth of Hell/
Rode the six hundred.”
Read the firsthand
words from the bloody
Crimean War written
by a poet, Alfred, Lord Tennyson,
and a nurse, Florence Nightingale.
Her personal letters and a copy of the
final draft of his famous poem are cur-
rently on exhibit at Tacoma’s Karpeles
Manuscript Library Museum.

The January–April 2010 exhibit
features original manuscripts relating to
Nightingale’s perseverance to improve
nursing standards under wartime condi-
tions. While living in London in 1854,
she read of the scandalous medical
treatment of wounded soldiers during
a bitter winter in the Crimean War.
War correspondents wrote stories of the
tactical blunders on the battlefield that
killed far too many soldiers, and of the

mass infections in the hospitals that
killed more soldiers than their battle
wounds. She and 38 brave female vol-
unteer nurses traveled to Turkey to tend
to the wounded British, at a time when
an upper-class woman’s role was limited
to wife and mother.

Read the letter from the British
Commander-in-Chief, Lord Raglan,
welcoming her to the war zone. Read
one Nightingale letter describing her
commitment to help the wounded and
another pleading with parents to send
her warm clothing. Understand why she
is given credit for coining the phrase
“applied statistics” by examining her
original statistical notes on the medical
conditions in the hospitals. Nightingale
was honored with the Royal Red Cross
in 1883 and was the first woman elected
to the Royal Statistical Society and the
first woman granted the British Order of
Merit in 1907.

“Some one had blundered;/Their’s
not to make reply,/Their’s not to reason
why, /Their’s but to do and die.” The
Karpeles exhibit includes Alfred, Lord
Tennyson’s copy of the final draft of
The Charge of the Light Brigade. This
poem captures the passion of a light
cavalry’s charge on its suicidal mission
into a valley towards 20 battalions of
infantry supported by over 50 artillery
pieces during the Battle of Balaclava.

Artwork by Florida artist, Joanelle
Mulrain, who was inspired by
Nightingale, is also on display.

Tacoma is one of the ten Karpeles
Manuscript Library Museums and
242 mini-museums in the United
States. Exhibits are rotated among the
museums every four months. Karpeles’
astounding collection includes such
treasures as the original proposed
draft of the U.S. Bill of Rights, the
Emancipation Proclamation signed by
Abraham Lincoln, as well as sheet
music penned by Beethoven, Mozart,
Wagner, and Puccini. ■

WHEN YOU GO

**Tacoma’s Karpeles Manuscript Library
Museum** is located across from Wright Park at 407
South G Street, Tacoma. Admission is free. Open
Tuesdays–Fridays 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., except for
holidays. (253-383-2575; rain.org/~karpeles)

