

# Magna Carta displayed at WISTEC

A landmark document in the history of English and American common law, The Magna Carta, was our first written guarantee of basic civil rights. The Lincoln Cathedral Magna Carta, one of four original renderings of the Great Charter still in existence, will be on display at Willamete Science and Technology Center (WISTEC) in Eugene Nov. 13-22. Thirteenth century artifacts from the Lincoln Cathedral collections will accompany the Magna Carta, along with interpretive material that shows its relationship to American law.

Magna Carta in America: Liberty Under the Law was organized by the Oregon Historical Society in cooperation with the Dean and Chapter of Lincoln Cathedral in England. The tour to Eugene of a portion of the exhibition, including the Magna Carta and the original Oregon Constitution, is made possible by the Oregon Committee for the Humanities and by numerous contributors. Following its stay in Eugene,

Magna Carta will travel to Jacksonville, Nov. 26-Dec. 7.

## Society of Creative Anachronism

A special feature of WISTEC's Magna Carta exhibition is the involvement of the Society of Creative Anachronism. SCA is a non-profit educational corporation, dedicated to the recreation of the ideals, arts and technologies of the Middle Ages. Their display of handcrafted replica artifacts will give a vivid picture of everyday life in the 13th century, including games, cooking, combat, clothing and textiles, and decorative arts. Live demonstrations of crafts such as blacksmithing, weaving, calligraphy, and medieval board games as well as simulations of combat techniques, will be scheduled frequently throughout the 10 days of the exhibit.

The Lane ESD Planetarium has produced a new multi-media program in conjunction with Magna Carta. Using art work and music

from the period, *The Quiet Revolution* traces the growth of astronomical and scientific knowledge from the Medieval era through the Renaissance. Using the planetarium projector to recreate the skies of Medieval times, the presentation outlines the parallel growth of philosophical and technological thought that led to the beginnings of modern Western science.

## Charters of Freedom

The Lane County Historical Museum will mount a *Charters of Freedom* exhibition to coincide with the visit of Magna Carta. Copies of federal and state documents related to personal freedom will be displayed with historic writing implements from the Sidney Austin collection. Original documents from the formative years of Lane County will also be on view.

Special WISTEC hours during the Magna Carta exhibit are 9 am to 9 pm every day. *The Quiet Revolution* will be shown to the public in the Lane ESD Planetarium at 3 pm and 7 pm every day. Group tours to WISTEC and the Planetarium can be arranged by calling 687-3619 or 689-6500, ext. 227, Monday through Friday, 10 am to 4 pm.

Admission to WISTEC for the Magna Carta exhibition will be \$2.50/adults, \$1.50/seniors and college students, \$1/children ages 3-18. Planetarium shows are \$1.50/adults, \$1/seniors and students.



King John, the 13th Century monarch whose powers were limited by the Magna Carta. One of the original versions of this famous document is on display at WISTEC.

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Guide to Local Arts, Entertainment and Events

Published Every Thursday

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**Typesetting**  
ProtoType

**Camera Work**  
Graphics Unlimited  
Printing  
Springfield News

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Eugene, Oregon 97405  
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