“Worth Its Weight: Gold from the Ground Up”

Object Highlights

Gemini astronaut training helmet with gold visor. *On loan from the National Air & Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution.*


Gold locket presented to John Clum for his service to the US Post Office, 1911. Clum established the Alaskan postal system during the Klondike Gold Rush. *On loan from the National Postal Museum, Smithsonian Institution.*

Mining artifacts from the California Gold Rush including miner’s pan, miner’s candlestick, eating utensils and pepperbox gun. *On loan from the Placer County Museums Division (first two) and the El Dorado County Historical Museum.*

Christopher Bechtler gold coin (first standardized gold dollar coin minted in the US). *On loan from the North Carolina Collection, University of North Carolina.*

Gilded ceremonial cup, possibly used for wedding ceremonies or as a gift to newlyweds. *On loan from the Max Stern Collection of Judaica, Yeshiva University Museum.*

Jewelry from the American Gemstone Collection. *On loan from the National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution.*

Cufflings in four gold alloys (yellow, white, rose and green) from the collection of contemporary New York jewelry designer Marla Aaron.

Gold nuggets from Australia, Virginia and Georgia. *On loan from the National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution (first 2) and Tellus Science Museum.*

Rare collection of “12 Caesars” gold coins. *On loan from Thomas Tesoriero.*

Rare United States Treasury gold license. *On loan from Alan Kaye.*