**Lesson Two  
*Exploring Costumes at the Tempe Center for the Arts***

**Objectives**

1. Students will be able to speculate about how a presentation venue might influence a designer’s decisions.

2. Students will be able to identify qualities of a costume that express a particular character.

**Preparation**

Read and make copies of “Questor Questions about Costumes at the Tempe Center for the Arts" worksheet.

Make arrangements for field trip to the TCA.

Before your visit, talk with assigned TCA docent, if possible.

Provide the docent with a copy of Questor Questions about Costumes worksheet in advance of your trip and discuss the extent to which students might complete any or all of the worksheet at the center or whether any or all of the questions or ideas might be addressed during their tour.

Preview the "Merely Players Exhibition Preview" PowerPoint and decide whether you might want to use it as a preview before visiting the exhibition or as a follow-up to extend students' understanding of costume design.

**Resources**

Questor Questions about Costumes at the Tempe Center for the Arts worksheet

**Vocabulary**

seamstress

Comicon

Victorian

Steampunk

steam-powered

milling

character

adjective

**Activities**

Review and Application: Distribute Questor Questions about Costumes worksheets to all students and ask them to answer as many questions as they can during their tour. If writing responses on the worksheet is not practical or possible during the tour, use the worksheet to guide students in focused observation as circumstances permit. For example, you might use questions on the worksheet when students assemble or travel to the TCA or when they assemble for or travel back to school.

Take notes on any new information presented by the docent as well as interesting questions, observations or responses made by your students during their tour. If the circumstances of the visit do not allow students to complete their worksheets, explain that later, in class, you will lead a discussion of discoveries they made about using how costumes can express character by viewing the online Merely Players ExhibitionPreview Powerpoint. Use the online preview also to compare criteria (craftsmanship, dramatic impact, detail, originality, beauty, other) they might use to judge different costumes in the exhibition.

**Assessment Checklist**

\_\_\_1. Students will be able to speculate about how a presentation venue might influence a designer’s decisions.

(Spoken or written responses to the COMPARE question.)

\_\_\_2. Students will be able to identify qualities of a costume that express a particular character.

(Spoken or written responses to the INTERPRET question).