FAHRNEY’S PARTNERSHIP WITH NATIONAL ARCHIVES BEARS FRUIT

On January 5, the nearly 10-month-long exhibit “Making Their Mark: Stories Through Signatures” at the National Archives closed. But the Washington D.C. retailer Fahrney’s Pens supported it throughout its run with various activities for young people and adults. An article in our June 2014 issue (“The Story in a Signature”) described the exhibit in detail.

At the request of the National Archives, Fahrney’s spearheaded a series of four enthusiastically received Adult Education Workshops held in the evenings at the National Archives: Handwriting Analysis, Quill to Rollerball, Meet the Pen Doctor, and Calligraphy Basics.

Fahrney’s also participated in the Archives’ two Family Day events held during the course of the exhibit. In July, Fahrney’s put a Pelikano Junior fountain pen in the hands of almost 200 young people by allowing them to assemble and take one home. In December, Fahrney’s led a session on writing thank-you notes. Participants created thank-you notes that were entered in a contest to win a fountain pen, cursive writing book, a Write Notepad and a box of thank-you cards. All entrants received a letterpress card and envelope to take home, plus a Parker Jotter ball pen.

Educational programming for “Making Their Mark” was also sponsored in part by Cross and Parker Pen Company–Newell Rubbermaid.

A MIGHTY SYMBOL

Just as we were going to press with this issue, PW learned of the January 7 attack on the French magazine Charlie Hebdo. Twelve were killed in the horrific attack, which seems to have been carried out because of the magazine’s cartoon depictions of Muhammed.

By now, you’ve all seen the photos of people raising their pens and pencils as a symbol of the freedom of the press. Such demonstrations of solidarity took place not only in France, but all over the world. On the day of the attack, Secretary of State John Kerry said that the United States and France share “a commitment to those who wield something much more powerful [than weapons], the pen.”

Contributing editor Deborah Basel created this tribute of her own, on behalf of Pen World.