EXHIBITION CHECKLIST
All artifacts courtesy Archives and Special Collections, Dickinson College, Carlisle, PA unless otherwise noted.

THE PORTRAIT
Sully, Thomas. Benjamin Rush, c. 1813, oil on canvas, 32 x 26 in. Acquired through gifts from Lockwood and Jacklyn Rush, the Rush Trust Endowment, the Helen E. Trust Memorial Fund, and the Friends of The Trout Gallery, 2009.

EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY DOCTOR
Lancet, for bleeding, used by Benjamin Rush. AC00283, Shelf 25. Gift of Dr. Ronald Goldberg.
Rush, Benjamin. An Account of the Bilious Remitting Yellow Fever, as it Appeared in the City of Philadelphia, in the Year 1793. Philadelphia: Thomas Dobson, 1794.
Rush, Benjamin. Six Introductory Lectures to Courses of Lectures Upon the Institutes and Practice of Medicine, Delivered in the University of Pennsylvania: Philadelphia: John Conrad & Co., 1801.

PATRIOT AND REVOLUTIONARY

EDUCATIONAL IDEALS AND DICKINSON COLLEGE
Rush, Benjamin, to John Jay, 16 January 1785. Record Group 1/1, Board of Trustees (1783–1833).

SELECTED GIFTS TO DICKINSON COLLEGE

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
James Gane, Archivist, Archives and Special Collections, Dickinson College
Photography by Andrew Bats
Graphic design by Catherine Siegel
Cover: Thomas Sully, Portrait of Benjamin Rush (detail).
Exhibitions are supported in part by Dickinson College, the Rush Trust Endowment, the Helen E. Trust Memorial Fund, and the Friends of The Trout Gallery. Educational programming presented through the Shangri-La’s Education Center at the Trout Gallery.

Rush, Benjamin, to John Dickinson, 30 June 1785. Record Group 1/1, Board of Trustees (1783–1833).
Rush, Benjamin. Plan of Education, 1785. Record Group 1/1, Board of Trustees (1783–1833).
Rush, Benjamin. Cash Ledger Accounts for Dickinson College, 1786–1787. Record Group 1/1, Board of Trustees (1783–1833).
Lamrome, Benjamin. Sketch of the American Story of Dickinson [sic] College, 1803, ink, 14¼ x 9¾ in. Record Group 1/1, Board of Trustees.
Lamrome, Benjamin. Sketch of the North Front of Dickinson [sic] College, 1803, ink, 14¼ x 9¾ in. Record Group 1/1, Board of Trustees.
Lamrome, Benjamin. Sketch of Dickinson College, c. 1813, watercolor, graphite, 6¾ x 14¼ in. Gift of John Dunn.

SEVENTEENTH-CENTURY DOCTOR
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Benjamin Rush began his medical career as an apprentice to Dr. John Redman in Philadelphia. In 1766, the young Rush left America for a year of study at the University of Edinburgh, where Rush served as a physician. Surrounded by books, the doctor's reading glasses are pushed back on his head as he glances up in retrospection. Sully's portrait of Rush is one of the painter's finest, as it exhibits the bold brushstrokes of a painter well versed in the current English trends. Sully, known for his ability to capture the personality of his sitters, emphasizes Rush's likeness as well as the doctor's pursuits in both medicine and intellectual matters.

**Eighteenth-Century Doctor**

Benjamin Rush was portrayed by leading artists over the course of his life, including Charles Willson Peale, Edward Savage, and his cousin William Rush. In 1812, Dr. David Hosack wrote to Thomas Sully to commission a painting of Benjamin Rush. Dr. Hosack requested that it contain “the character of Dr. Rush” and also had “a distant view of your City Hospital [Philadelphia Hospital] … to which Dr. Rush’s labours have been so much and so long devoted.” While it is unclear if Dr. Hosack’s request relates directly to the painting at The Trout Gallery, such features are clearly represented in this work. It is also not certain where the painting was originally displayed, but it remained in the Rush family until it was acquired by The Trout Gallery in 2009.

**Patriot and Revolutionary**

In the 1770s, Benjamin Rush joined the struggle for separation from England, participating in circles where he actively promoted American Independence. He worked closely with many Founding Fathers, such as John Adams, John Dickinson, and Thomas Jefferson. He also worked with Thomas Paine, author of *Common Sense* (1776), a pamphlet that called for American Independence. Rush suggested the title to Paine and found a printer for the controversial text. In 1776, Rush was elected to the Second Continental Congress and signed the Declaration of Independence. Throughout his life, Rush promoted the principles of the American Revolution and advocated other social ideals, such as abolition and prison reform.

Rush’s service to medicine, American Independence, and education were all essential endeavors in his life. His ideals and passions remain instilled in Dickinson College today. Through a useful education, the college continues to teach students to serve their communities. Thomas Sully’s painting, as well as the artifacts and documents that belonged to Benjamin Rush, reveal a studious man committed to a life of purpose.

Emma Bennett ’10