During World War I, propaganda posters held unique power in mobilizing the public. Without the Internet, radio and television, they were one of the few ways to spread messages. A new online exhibit by the Cincinnati Museum Center (www.cincymuseum.org) showcases some of the museum's collection of more than 200 wartime posters. Though many of the placards were meant to sway public opinion, encouraging enlistment or support for the war effort, others were simply notices for events like fundraisers. "Propaganda isn't necessarily a bad thing," says curator Scott Gampfer. Other exhibits dedicated to World War I posters this year include one at the First Division Museum at Cantigny in Wheaton, Ill., and another at Boston's Museum of Fine Arts, opening on July 26.

—Alexandra Wolfe