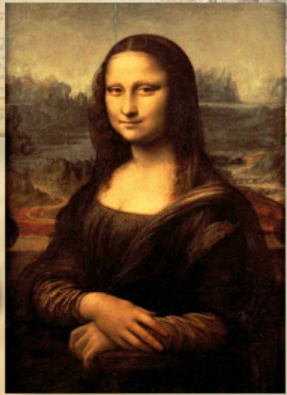
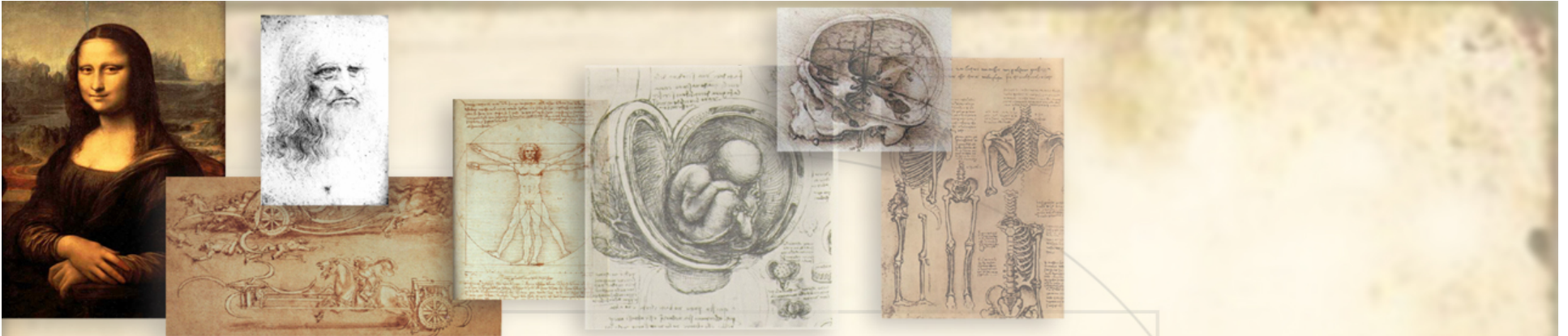


Becoming the Dream: How to Research and Develop a Persona

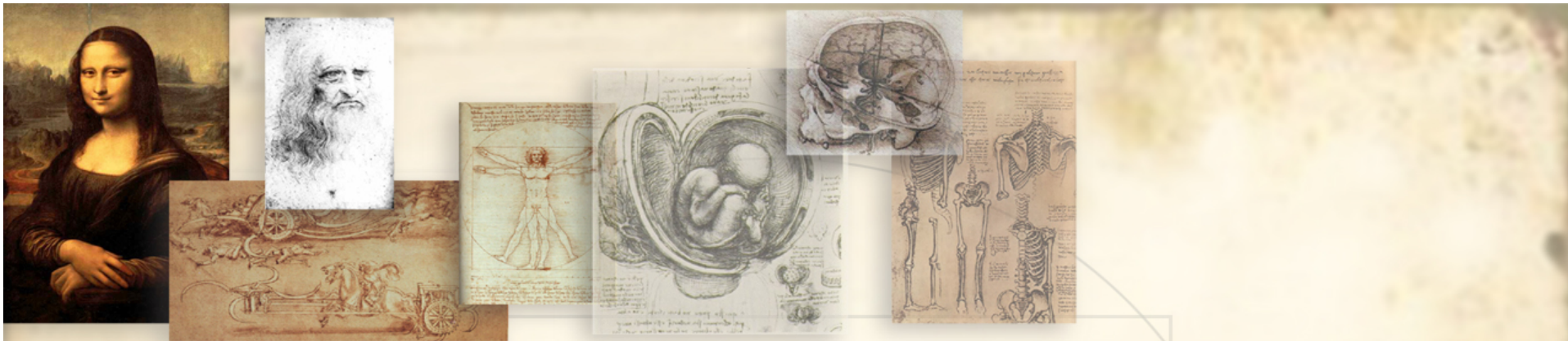


Presented by Baroness Isabella
Beatrice della Rosa called "Belle"
Kingdom Chatelaine for the
Kingdom of Northshield



Why Develop a Persona?

- Added fun
- Better education for you
- Better education for others
- Better ability to “play the game”
- Live the Dream



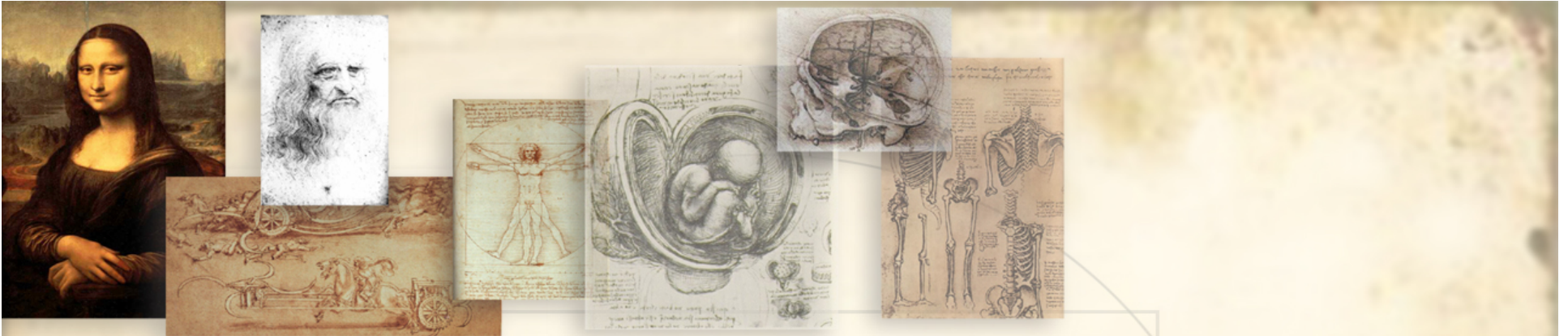
Where To Begin?

Start with a name

- Picture books
- Family history
- Special area of interest

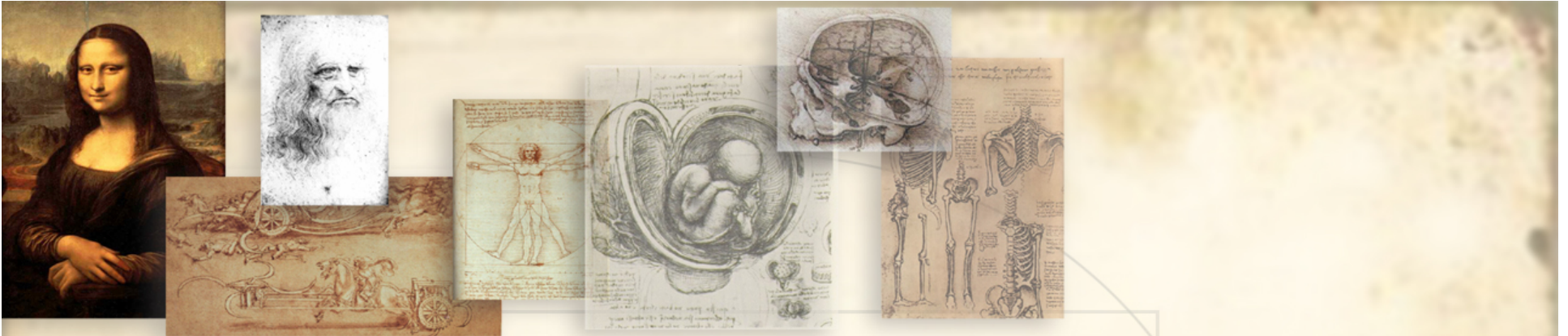
Rules:

- Cannot be someone who existed
- Cannot hold a title that was not given in the SCA
- Cannot have the EXACT same name as another



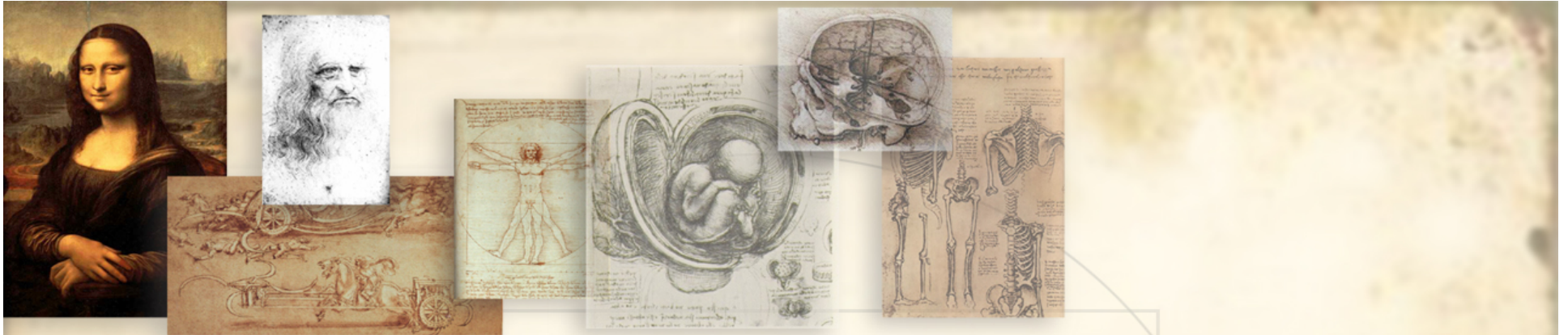
Where Do I Go From There?

- **Ask yourself some questions**
 - Refer to the Persona Development questions
 - Keep in mind what will make you happy
- **Do some research**
 - Where to go
 - Reference librarian



Primary and Secondary Sources

- **Primary Source** – Something that came directly from the time period you are researching.
- **Secondary Source** – Something that talks about the subject of interest but was not made during that time.



How to Incorporate Learnings

- Follow sumptuary laws
- Wear specific clothing or jewelry befitting your station
- Bring translations of books you might have read
- Learn a song or poem from your homeland.
Recite it at an event
- Bring a period game to an event and teach others how to play it
- Learn to play a period instrument
- Learn period embroidery and enter it into an A&S display. Wear the embroidery
- Use period hair techniques
- Don't forget your head and feet
- Learn a few phrases in your native language
- Learn how you would have addressed people and employ it at an event
- Be creative with other ways! These are just suggestions but there are so many more possibilities!!

Persona Development Questions

By Baroness Isabella Beatrice della Rosa called "Belle"

When developing and building on a persona, consider using some of these questions to assist. None of these questions HAVE to be answered in order for you to participate in the SCA, but they are a great way to broaden your skills and to better "play" while at an event. A lot of these questions can also assist in what to wear for garb or things to aspire to during your SCA journey. Have fun! Be Creative! Don't forget to ask for help or direction if you need it!

Basic Questions:

1. Where in the world are you from?
 - a. Country
 - b. Region in that country
2. When in the world are you from?

Intermediate Questions:

1. What kinds of clothes are you comfortable wearing?
2. What kinds of clothes are you not comfortable wearing?

Advanced Questions:

1. What religion do your people practice?
2. Are there sumptuary rules where you live?
3. Are there other rules for clothing?
 - a. Would women cover their faces or hair?
 - b. Would men be required to wear hats or fight for their liege lord?
4. Is there a middle class of people?
5. What was the political system like?
6. What kind of holidays or celebrations might you observe?
7. What is the social climate like where you live?
 - a. Is there a war going on?
 - b. Is there plague?
 - c. Any political or religious rebellions going on?
 - d. Are you living at a time and place where there is a new form of thinking or behaving (i.e., Humanistic thought, the advent of the printing press, the reformation)
8. Do you know how to read? If so, what kind of books might you read?
9. Do you know how to write? If so, what language would you write?
10. What kinds of stories or songs are being performed in your homeland?
11. What kind of art is being made in your homeland?
12. What kinds of food do you eat?