COVID-19 Resources Available for Oklahoma Museums and Staff

These are interesting times. Each day seems to bring new information that requires organizations and individuals to be ever evolving. While we are all social distancing and trying to navigate these new waters, please know you are not alone. Oklahoma museums, OMA is here for you during this COVID-19 Pandemic, and always!

In following with our mission, OMA is assisting Oklahoma museums – and their staff, board and volunteers – in several ways. First, we are encouraging museums to be a part of #MuseumsFromHome to continue to engage the public through remote alternatives. We know visiting a museum in person is preferable. Now when it is not possible to visit, many Oklahoma museums have been creative in bringing their museums to the public through a variety of virtual programs and engagements. You can find the growing list of #MuseumsFromHome activities here.

The list of #MuseumsFromHome list is continually growing. To add your museum to this list, please email info@okmuseums.org with your information. Museums are encouraged to place their #MuseumsFromHome activities on their website homepage, where the public can easily find it.

OMA has created a COVID-19 resources webpage. This page features a wide variety of access to information on everything from the Oklahoma State Department of Health to fundraising during the coronavirus as well as tips on working remotely, steps for collections professionals, and much more.

Additionally, OMA continues to advocate on the national level to make sure that museums are included in any Recovery Stimulus Packages.

Lastly, OMA recognizes that the coming days may bring financial difficulties for our Oklahoma museums and the individuals who work for and support them. If you are a current OMA individual or designated member and have become unemployed due to a recent lay off at your museum or just having financial difficulty, or if you are an institutional member struggling during this unprecedented time, OMA is here to help. Please contact the OMA office at info@okmuseums.org and let us know so we can extend your membership benefits for three additional months at no cost. A total of one extension per membership allowed. This program is subject to end at OMA's discretion.

Also, be sure to visit the job postings on the OMA website and submit your resume to bgranger@okmuseums.org for an informal resume review.

Although the OMA staff is working from home, our services to you will go uninterrupted. We will get through this difficult situation together!
We love partnerships and collaborations. In fact, our success is due to the 100+ annual partnerships which we are fortunate to be a part. Although we have been partners for many years, I want to give a shout out to Oklahoma Humanities as we embark on a new collaboration with that amazing organization. The collaboration is the Oklahoma Humanities and Oklahoma Museums Association Capacity Building Initiative. The goal is to engage and build capacity for Oklahoma’s 500+ museums from across the state, and especially rural, small or isolated museums through the Oklahoma Museum Conference in Enid, Oklahoma, as well as through membership in the Oklahoma Museums Association. In addition, the partnership will support the kickoff session at the 2020 Oklahoma Museums Conference which will inspire museums to look at things in a new perspective.

Want to be a part of this initiative? We hope so! The process will be a competitive scholarship application that can be found here. If your museum is selected, you will receive one complimentary full conference registration (September 16-18, 2020 in Enid) and a $100 conference travel stipend. Your museum also will receive a one-year OMA Institutional Membership at the Pinnacle Level. We encourage all submissions, but please know that preference will be given to rural, small or isolated museums. The deadline to submit your application is June 15, 2020.

Thank you to Caroline Lowery, Executive Director of Oklahoma Humanities for her vision and support of the Oklahoma Humanities and Oklahoma Museums Association Capacity Building Initiative.

Brenda
communicator’s corner

The Value of Media Relations
by Tony Vann, President of Vann & Associates PR + Marketing

When was the last time you heard, “Great article about your museum on the front page of the newspaper.” Or maybe, “Just saw you on the morning show, great job!” Has it been a while? Never you say? News is just like everything else, for the most part; it is produced, not discovered. There is no better way to make an impact with a potential visitor or stakeholder than being highlighted by the media. Dollar for dollar, the highest value of credibility, the greatest reach and the lowest cost for entry is still media relations.

What makes media relations so valuable? Viewers associate newspaper and television outlets as non-partial, credible, third-party presenters. This translates into almost immediate recognition when a product or service is showcased during a particular news story. Building awareness through advertising is important; however, savvy consumers understand that advertising is product-based. Those same consumers view an article about the same product presented by a news organization as consumer-based.

So how do you get your product in the newspaper or television? Like many other things in life, it is time versus money. Building and maintaining relationships with local, state and national media outlets is time consuming. However, once credibility is established between the journalist and presenter, that bond holds fast.

Ensure a successful media relations strategy by incorporating it into your overall communications plan. Although more time intensive, searching for media opportunities will ultimately pay off for you and your attraction in the long-run.

Tony Vann is the President of Vann & Associates. With over 20 years of experience in public relations and marketing, he has been involved in such well-known organizations as the Oklahoma House of Representatives, the Oklahoma City National Memorial Foundation, Oklahoma State University, the Office of Lt. Governor Fallin and others. Since inception of the award-winning firm in 2010, it has grown serving more than 40 corporations, non-profits and professional associations across Oklahoma, Texas and Arizona.

Assisting Oklahoma museums in their efforts to educate, inform and entertain -that is the mission of OMA.

Support our mission • Support OMA
Donate TODAY!

Celebrate Museum Volunteers During National Volunteer Week April 19-25, 2020

National Volunteer Week is an opportunity to celebrate the impact of volunteer service and the power of volunteers to tackle society’s greatest challenges, to build stronger communities and be a force that transforms the world. National Volunteer Week is a time for recognizing and thanking volunteers who lend their time, talent and voice to make a difference in their museums and communities.

National Volunteer Week was established in 1974 and has grown exponentially each year, with thousands of volunteer projects and special events scheduled throughout the week. Be sure to thank those who make a meaningful difference in your museum during this week and – throughout the year, too.

At OMA, we have around 100 volunteers that assist us and we appreciate each and every one of them!

ASSISTING MUSEUMS IN THEIR EFFORTS TO EDUCATE, INFORM AND ENTERTAIN – THAT IS THE MISSION OF OMA.

Support our mission • Support OMA
Donate TODAY!

OKMuseums.org
Creating Doorways for Community Connections
by Connie Pirtle, Founder/Director, Strategic Nonprofit Resources

We’re all looking for new ways to engage our community in the work of our museum. Generally speaking, we count on visitors, donors, and volunteers as our primary connections to the community. Today we’re going to look at the Doorways Model for Community Engagement that I created based on my experience and feedback from folks just like you.

Most museums have 4 doorways through which the community can enter as Visitors, Traditional Volunteers, Docents, and Board.

All museums want more visitors... the more the merrier! And, traditional volunteers often comprise the largest corps of human resources in a museum because they’re usually long-term and volunteer for the same position/duties on a weekly/monthly basis. The docents represent the educational component of a museum. They make a long-term commitment to training and service, and they are increasingly harder to find. Governance volunteers (the Board) have roles/responsibilities that are different from traditional volunteers and represent important community resources.

If I were looking for a place to contribute some of my time, all I might see at your museum are 4 distinct doorways into it. What if I don’t fit any of these doorways? What if I have only a limited amount of time to give and/or different criteria than what these doorways offer? What if your museum offered me even more doorways from which to choose?

A 5th doorway into your museum is for Episodic Volunteers. These are often one-time volunteers for special exhibits, fundraising events, etc. They sometimes become docents and/or traditional volunteers, so they represent a sort of “feeder system” for your corps of human resources. They enjoy supporting and participating in museum activities on a limited basis, and they are often younger people. They are usually employed with limited time to volunteer.

A 6th doorway into your museum would be for Students of All Ages. They can assist long-term volunteers at the visitor services desk, perform office work, and even assist with tours. They can advise your museum on how to attract their age group. Students can be groomed to become long-term volunteers and potential future board members. Their parents are also potential volunteers, donors, visitors, board members, etc.

A 7th doorway into your museum welcomes Virtual Volunteers. They generally do off-site tasks such as online research, work on databases, “clipping” services, graphic design, marketing, etc. They can be volunteers of all ages, and they are like episodic volunteers because they often work only when needed.

An 8th doorway into your museum is for Community Service Volunteers. They are often students who have school-mandated volunteerism requirements to meet. Or, they can be court-ordered volunteers.

So, why would you want to have many doorways of different shapes and sizes into your museum? To move away from the “one size fits all” approach to community engagement. To embrace the changing world we live in today. To open your museum to the many ways in which you can engage the community to support you!

Connie Pirtle is the Founder/Director of Strategic Nonprofit Resources. For the past 20 years she has focused her work on effective volunteer engagement in museums and other community organizations. Connie was a board member of the American Association of Museum Volunteers for many years, and she was the Executive Editor of AAMV’s book, Transforming Museum Volunteering: A Practical Guide for Engaging 21st Century Volunteers. Send her your questions via OMA’s website "Ask a Professional" www.okmuseums.org/ask-a-professional/ or to AskConnieP@cs.com.

WCCFA
Western Center for the Conservation of Fine Arts
Professional Conservation for Paintings and Painted Surfaces
11415 W I-70 Frontage Road N
Wheat Ridge, CO 80033
(303) 573-1973
wccfa@wccfa.com
www.wccfa.com
Meet the OMA Volunteer

Hey everyone, my name is Emily White and I am a public relations major with a political science minor at the University of Oklahoma. My experience in the Oklahoma arts scene includes volunteering at the Moore-Lindsay Historic House Museum and working for the OU Fine Arts Marketing team.

I am so excited to continue to grow my knowledge and love for the Oklahoma arts with OMA! Over the next few months I am going to be working with the awesome OMA staff to build a new OMA Instagram! It’s going to be pretty cool. When the Instagram account is launched later in the spring it can be found @OklahomaMuseumsAssociation.

Participate in the International Festival for Museums
#MuseumWeek

Please refer to https://museum-week.org/ for updated themes and more information. Calling all art galleries, museums, science centers and cultural institutions! From May 11-17, social media will come alive with the buzz of #MuseumWeek and the 7 hashtags featured in the 7th year of this initiative in a unifying event unlike any other worldwide. #MuseumWeek is an opportunity to promote fun and educational cultural experiences across every genre, communicating them through social media. The week will generate traffic, foster diversity and encourage creativity.

Registration will be available soon on the #MuseumWeek site. Then, during the week of May 11-17, 2020, post on social media using the daily hashtags:

- Monday, May 11 #dreams
- Tuesday, May 12 #together
- Wednesday, May 13 #animals
- Thursday, May 14 #robots
- Friday, May 15 #climate
- Saturday, May 16 #gifts
- Sunday, May 17 #stories

#MuseumWeek is supported by UNESCO.

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(9 7 3) 2 8 7 - 1 7 1 6
In December of last year, I had the honor of taking part in the Heritage Emergency and Response Training (HEART) program held at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC. For those of you who have not yet heard of HEART, HEART is a training organized by the Smithsonian Cultural Rescue Initiative (SCRI) and FEMA’s Office of Environmental Planning & Historic Preservation (OEHP), both of whom are co-sponsors of the Heritage Emergency National Task Force (HENTF). The training prepares cultural stewards, first responders, and emergency managers to address disasters such as hurricanes, earthquakes, tornadoes or floods that affect cultural institutions and historic sites. Sessions included in the week-long program offered realistic, hands-on training in risk and damage assessment, disaster planning, health and safety, emergency evacuation and salvage of museum objects, crisis communication, and team building.

As cultural stewards here in Oklahoma, we are no strangers to the collections-based fear that an impending F5 excites. For so many stewards, patchwork plumbing running over galleries and collection storage is what presents the greatest threat to our collections. The HEART training anticipates just about every disastrous scenario that so many of us have either lived or imagined, and empowers its participants to not only salvage and recover collections, but to also lead in those efforts. The training is conducted annually and twenty-five applicants are selected from across the country to participate. If taking part in the HEART training is something that you are interested in doing, the call for applications will be announced this fall (date TBD) and essay answers to a few questions that make the case for why you should attend are among the application requirements.

PREPARENESS: SOME THINGS TO CONSIDER
Preparedness is crucial and it is essential to arrive at answers to your crisis-questions during peacetime. If you don’t have a relationship with your emergency responders, cultivate one. Invite them to your facility to conduct a risk assessment; help them to know and value who you are and where you fit into your community. If you don’t have an emergency response and recovery plan, create one. Plumbing and building failures aside, we live in a changing climate and recent history tells us that the chances of enacting an emergency plan are becoming greater with each passing year. If you do not know what the hazards in your collection are, find out. The health and safety of stewards and emergency responders is paramount in the response and recovery process; knowing what collection material you have that poses a threat to people engaged in the response and recovery effort is so, so important.

ALLIANCE FOR RESPONSE
Don’t know where to begin? Plugging into your local Alliance for Response (AFR) cooperative disaster network would be a great place to start. Launched in 2003, AFR was created by the Foundation for Advancement in Conservation (FAIC) as part of the FAIC’s initiative to support emergency preparedness and response. Since its inception, AFR has established over 30 networks across the country and, thanks to the tireless efforts of OMA, Oklahoma City is one of just two AFR networks here in Tornado Alley.

Networks have been proven to improve local response in times of crisis and with over 500 museums in our great state, there is incredible networking potential here so plug in now! Together we can aim to achieve our preparedness goals.

Learn more about HEART here.

Learn more about AFR, here.

The notion of working in museums first grabbed Tracy Bidwell’s attention when she was on an elementary school tour of the Dallas Museum of Art. She was standing in the DMA’s basement looking at the subterranean portion of Claes Oldenburg’s Stake Hitch when it hit her that this was what she wanted to do in life. She went on to receive her BA in Fine Art from the University of Oklahoma and began her museum career as a volunteer at the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art. She accepted an assistant position in the FJJMA’s Registration department in 2010 and was appointed to the position of Chief Registrar in 2013. In 2015 she received her MA in Museum Studies with a focus on Collection Management and in 2019 she joined the staff at the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History where she is excited to be serving as Museum Registrar. Tracy enjoys a forever-growing love for the natural world, a passion for museums and collections, and helping those in need.
Call for Nominations to the 2021-2022 OMA Board of Directors

OMA President, Dan Provo, has issued a call for nominations to the 2021-2022 Board of Directors. OMA members are invited to submit names to the Nominating Committee for consideration. This year, the Committee will present a slate of candidates for the following positions:

- President
- Vice-President
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- District 2 Representative
- District 4 Representative
- At-Large Representatives

According to the bylaws, all persons nominated to a board position shall have been members of the Association for at least one year. A copy of OMA’s board member expectations, responsibilities and job descriptions is available here. You may also contact the OMA office by e-mail at info@okmuseums.org or phone at 405.424.7757 to request a copy.

2020 Nominating Committee

Jennifer Holt, Will Rogers Memorial Museum & Birthplace Ranch, Claremore, jholt@willrogers.com

Karen Whitecotton, OKPOP, Tulsa, kwhitecotton@okhistory.org

JA Pryse, Carl Albert Congressional Research and Studies Center, Norman, japryse@ou.edu

Ella Crenshaw, Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History, Norman, ellamc2@ou.edu

Jennifer Holt, OMA Immediate Past President, is the Nominating Committee Chair. Contact Jennifer, any committee member listed or the OMA office by May 8, 2020, if you have suggestions for nominees, you are interested in serving, or would like more information. Some positions open for election may have incumbents who will be invited to serve a second term.

OMA Sponsor of Oklahoma National History Day Award

Each year thousands of Oklahoma students participate in the Oklahoma National History Day (OkNHD) program. OkNHD is a part of National History Day and is a highly regarded academic program for students grades 6–12. More than 750,000 students across the country participate!

Oklahoma Museums Association is a proud sponsor of the Best Exhibit Design award during the contest. This award is given to one Junior Division and one Senior Division entry exemplifying the best exhibit design practices in creating their entry.
The 2020 Emergency Preparedness and Response Workshops are FREE to attend, but registration by Monday, May 1 is required.

Register online here.

During the information packed workshop, you will learn the process and skills to improve the emergency preparedness and response of your organization. Topics include the planning process, the incident command system, risk assessment, key contacts, determining salvage priorities, emergency supplies, writing the plan, training and implementation of plan, and the emergency response. Each workshop will be identical; choose the date/location that best suits your schedule.

Monday, May 11, 2020
Ottawa County Historical Society and Dobson Museum, Miami
9:00am-3:30pm

Tuesday, May 12, 2020
Museum of the Red River, Idabel
9:00am-3:30pm

Wednesday, May 13, 2020
Museum of the Great Plains, Lawton
9:00am-3:30pm

Thursday, May 14, 2020
Oklahoma History Center Research Library, OKC
10:00am-4:00pm

Rebecca Elder, an experienced cultural heritage preservation consultant who helps clients find practical and achievable solutions to care for their history collections, will be the instructor for the workshops. She collaborates with libraries, museums, archives, municipalities and families to tailor preservation plans and resources to their unique needs. In 2011, Rebecca founded Rebecca Elder Cultural Heritage Preservation to provide preservation advice to clients holding history collections. Rebecca has also worked at Amigos Library Services, the Harvard University Libraries and the Dolph Briscoe Center for American History. Rebecca is a Professional Associate member of the American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works. She also engages in professional service with the American Institute for Conservation, the Society of American Archivists, the Society of Southwest Archivists, and the Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries and Museums.

The 2020 Emergency Preparedness and Response Workshops are in partnership with the Oklahoma Museums Association, Oklahoma Department of Libraries, Oklahoma Archivists Association, Oklahoma Historical Records Advisory Board and Oklahoma History Center in cooperation with the Foundation for Advancement in Conservation (FAIC) with support in part from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). The 2020 Emergency Preparedness and Response Workshops also are supported in part by the Oklahoma Historical Society, Union Pacific Foundation, Chisholm Trail Museum and University of Central Oklahoma Max Chambers Library, National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum, The Springer Company, Grady County Historical Society, Western Center for the Conservation of Fine Arts, Daystar Foundation and Library, Dane & Lynn Pollei, and Collections Research for Museums, The Osage Nation.

May 1 is
May Day.

The perfect reminder to update your emergency preparedness plan.

Free Emergency Preparedness and Repsonse Workshops May 11-14

For help with Collections Management
Training and Services

Contact:
Collections Research for Museums
4830 E. Kansas Dr
Denver, CO 80246
303-757-7962
Toll Free 1-877-757-7962
http://museumcollectionmgmt.com
FREE INITIAL CONSULTATION

Martin & Martin Design is a three division company: fine art services, architectural lighting design/specification/controls, and custom fabrication/exhibits. Whether new construction or remodeling let us help you create a comprehensive gallery exhibit design from the lighting, to the exhibit design. To how it is controlled...from design to fabrication to installation, Martin & Martin can seamlessly partner with you to tell your museum’s story.

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ART + LIGHT
The Oklahoma Museums Association is proud to recognize the following OMA Corporate Level II members for the services they provide to the Oklahoma museum community.

**ITIN Museum Services**
Okmulgee, OK
918.777.6807
Nancy Lowe-Clark
itin@hughes.net

Helping Oklahoma’s small to mid-size museums make the best professional use of their resources. Experience in board, staff and volunteer training, collections care and management, exhibit design, graphic production and custom mounts, project management and more.

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**Southwest Solutions Group**
Oklahoma City, OK
www.southwestsolutions.com
Bruce Delp
bdelp@southwestsolutions.com

Concerned about the deterioration of your collections from unnecessary exposure to light, dust or harmful insects? We have the appropriate Museum Cabinets and Storage Solutions to properly protect your stored collections. Our storage solutions include museum cabinets, art racks, and moveable compact storage shelving. Let us share with you our knowledge and experience to safely and efficiently store your specimens, books, manuscripts, paintings, framed artwork, garments, textiles, or over-sized items.

**Oklahoma Humanities**
Oklahoma City, OK
405.235.0280
www.okhumanities.org
Caroline Lowery
caroline@okhumanities.org

Founded in 1971, Oklahoma Humanities is a private, 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. As the state-affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities; we strive to actively engage people with humanities disciplines such as history, literature, philosophy, and ethics. Our mission is to strengthen communities by helping Oklahomans learn about the human experience, understand new perspectives, and participate knowledgeably in civic life.

**Oklahoma Today**
Oklahoma City, OK
405.522.9646
www.oklahomatoday.com
Colleen McIntyre
Colleen.McIntyre@travelok.com

Oklahoma Today covers the people, places, food, travel, culture, and history of Oklahoma. Each issue features these topics plus a calendar of events as well as breathtaking scenic and urban photography. Published since 1956, it’s the official state magazine and the only Oklahoma-based magazine that covers the whole state.

continued on page 10
OU Extended Campus offers bachelor’s and master’s degrees that can be completed 100% online, including a Master of Arts in Museum Studies. The Museum Studies program has been designed to meet the career development needs of individuals working in museums, galleries, historical sites and other related institutions.

University of Tulsa Museum Science & Management Program
Tulsa, OK
918.631.
graduate.utulsa.edu/academics/museum-science-management

Dr. Robert Pickering
bob-pickering@utulsa.edu
The University of Tulsa offers an M.A. degree in Museum Science and Management (MSM). The program provides interdisciplinary coursework and “hands-on” experience to prepare future museum professionals in administration, fiscal management, collections care and research, and education. Gilcrease Museum staff and TU faculty provide training in the curation, exhibition, archaeology, ethnology, and archives. Internships available.

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Tony Vann
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Vann & Associates is a full-service public relations and marketing firm specializing in media relations, marketing, branding and online image development. V&A is a partner who understands working within deadlines in a high-stress, low tolerance environment. The reason clients enjoy their relationship with Vann & Associates is simple - they are different. They are not consultants, Vann & Associates is committed to be a full-service communications department ready to plan and execute a comprehensive communications strategy.
**OMA Nomads Trip to Ireland**

The Oklahoma Museums Association Nomads trip to Ireland was memorable to say the least. While changes/closures due to quick changing coronavirus guidelines may have altered the itinerary, the group maintained high spirits as well as safety precautions.

Our visit to see the “Kindred Spirit” monument honoring the generosity of the Choctaw people to the starving Irish tenant farmers during the Irish Potato Famine was a big highlight of the trip.

We were starting to feel like the last tourists on the island as national tv and radio outlets interviewed various group members and a local paper took our photographs. Well, turns out that feeling was not too far from the truth as our trip home was on the last Aer Lingus flight leaving for America.

As of this writing, all group members were in good health and observing CDC quarantine guidelines. It was an amazing trip marked by many changes and challenges in the world. Truly one of a kind.

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**Travel Program Offered by Museum of the Red River and Mabee-Gerrer Museum of Art**

The Best of Southern Spain & Exotic Morocco is being offered by the Museum of the Red River and Mabee-Gerrer Museum of Art. This 15-day tour August 31 – September 14 includes deluxe land and round-trip airfare from Dallas-Fort Worth Airport for $4,300. Please contact the Museum of the Red River at 580.286.3616 for complete information.

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**Museum Monthly, an OMA Facebook feature, is underway. Check out the current post now by visiting the OMA Facebook page.**

Like us to learn about one of Oklahoma’s 500+ museums each month.

Sign up [here](#) to have your Oklahoma museum featured in an upcoming Museum Monthly post.
Together, we can strengthen Oklahoma museums.

Thank You Recent Professional Development Sponsors

The following organizations and individuals have recently become 2020 OMA Professional Development Sponsors:

- The Anne & Henry Zarrow Foundation
- National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum
- The Springer Company
- Grady County Historical Society
- Western Center for the Conservation of Fine Arts
- Daystar Foundation & Library, Inc.
- Dane & Lynn Pollei Collections Research for Museums
- The Osage Nation
- Oologah Historical Society

It’s not too late to become a sponsor. Sign up online or download the form now to be recognized throughout 2020!

Oklahoma Today is the perfect gift for your donors and members. Show your appreciation 6 times a year with statewide stories about the culture, history, events, food, and people of Oklahoma. Each issue is branded specifically from you. There’s no better way to say thank you!

ThePerfectGift.OklahomaToday.com
Grant deadlines, training and other news

Oklahoma New Brand
Oklahoma recently launched a new brand for our state. The design of the logo is based on shapes and colors embedded in our history. The form is inspired by our native heritage. It reflects earth, sky, water, agriculture and forest. These colors also speak to the seasons. A white star is a powerful symbol of America which is a part of our state seal and on the original flag of the state. Chevrons acknowledge our military. These elements form a circle and direct their energy inward, dramatizing Oklahoma as a hub at the center of America. This symbol invites everyone to join us here in an embracing community, to take in countless unexpected experiences and explore genuine opportunity. The tag line is “Imagine That”. Read More

New Director Named at IMLS
Crosby Kemper III took the helm of the Institute of Museum and Library Services as its sixth director, following his commission by the White House and confirmation by the United States Senate. IMLS, an independent government agency, is the primary source of federal support for the nation’s museums and libraries.

2020 National Visitation Survey for History Organizations
This survey from the American Association for State and Local History is to identify trends related to in-person visitation to historical organizations across the United States and Canada. This fall, AASLH will share its findings with the entire field. Read More

Federal Grant Opportunities
From the American Alliance of Museums, a list of upcoming deadlines – Several federal agencies offer grants to support the work of museums. For full guidelines and the most up-to-date information, please visit the agency’s website. Read More

Celebrate how #TravelWorks
May 3 – 9, 2020
National Travel and Tourism Week is an annual tradition for the U.S. travel community. It’s a time when travel and tourism professionals across the country unite to celebrate the value travel holds for our economy, businesses and personal well-being. View the toolkit.

OMA Calendar of Events
Dates/events subject to change; visit OKMuseums.org to confirm.

April 19-25
National Volunteer Week – Celebrate Museum Volunteers

May 1
Deadline to register for Alliance for Response Emergency Preparedness Workshops

May 3-9
National Travel and Tourism Week

May 11-14
Alliance for Response Emergency Preparedness Workshops
Miami (May 11) – Idabel (May 12)
Lawton (May 13) – OKC (May 14)

May 11-17
#MuseumWeek

May 18
Deadline to register for Museums Engaging the Military Seminar

May 28
Museums Engaging the Military Seminar at Oklahoma History Center, OKC

June 2
OMA Board Meeting at Science Museum Oklahoma, OKC

June 8
OMA Awards Program Entry Deadline

June 19
Smarties Trivia Night Fundraiser - Oklahoma History Center, OKC

August 6
Back to School Bash, Oklahoma History Center, OKC

August 24
Poverty Simulation for Museums

September 16
OMA Board Meeting at Stride Bank Center, Enid

September 16-18
OMA Conference at Stride Bank Center, Enid

September 16-18
Oklahoma Humanities and Oklahoma Museums Association Capacity Building Initiative

October
Oklahoma Archives Month

November 17
OMA MIX Jingle Mingle at 5:30pm at Museum of Horseshoeing, Stockyards, OKC

What we do is difficult.
We just make it look easy.

public relations. marketing. branding. digital.

OKMuseums.org
**recent gifts**

**Contributions, donations, grants and sponsorships received**

**December 1, 2019 - February 29, 2020**

**Champions ($1,000 and over)**
- Citizen Potawatomi Nation
- Cultural Heritage Center
- Foundation for Advancement in Conservation
- Oklahoma Arts Council
- Oklahoma Humanities
- The CarMichael Foundation
- The Springer Company
- Carol and Michael Wilson, Edmond

**Supporters ($500 to $999)**
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- James Pepper Henry, OKC
- Sherry Marshall, Edmond
- National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum
- Oklahoma City National Memorial & Museum

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- Osage Nation Museum
- Dane & Lynn Pollei, Shawnee
- Dan Provo, Edmond
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- Diane White, Fort Smith AR
- West Oklahoma City Rotary Club
- Western Center for the Conservation of Fine Arts
- Wichita and Affiliated Tribes

**Contributors (up to $99)**
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- PayPal Giving Fund
- Jacalyn Pearce, Tulsa
- Connie Pirtle, Stillwater
- Amy Stephens, Edmond
- D'Lese Travis, Weatherford
- Martin Wing, Tulsa
- Sarah Wright, Tulsa
- Lonnie Yearwood, Colony, in memory of Glenda Taylor

**In-Kind Donors**
- Kendra Scott
- Science Museum Oklahoma
- The Springer Company

**Leave your legacy**

OMA would appreciate you remembering the organization in your will. If you are interested in leaving OMA a charitable bequest, the language in your will should contain the following:

I/We give to the Oklahoma Museums Association (EIN 73-1004791), a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation, the following money or asset (describe here) to benefit their charitable purpose.

Additionally, you can list the organization as a beneficiary on your insurance or investment policies.

OMA encourages you to consult your estate planner, tax professional or attorney when preparing your charitable bequest.

**OMA endowment fund**

If you would like to make a contribution to the OMA endowment fund at the Oklahoma City Community Foundation, please visit [www.occf.org](http://www.occf.org) and select the blue Online Giving button from the right column; or you may contact the OMA office at 405.424.7757.

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**Helping Museums Make History!**

**ITIN MUSEUM SERVICES**

Nancy Lowe-Clark
itin@hughes.net
918.777.6807

"Madonnas of the Prairie"
National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum

[View our complete profile at GiveSmartOKC](http://www.GiveSmartOKC.org)

"Find. Learn. Give."

A project of the OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
Newly Updated OMA Awards Program Accepting Entries

The OMA Awards Improvement Committee has revised and truly improved the Awards Program for 2020!

Changes and updates starting this year include:
- Every award has specific judging criteria.
- Every award has its own online entry form.
- There is a new Special Project award to encompass projects that have multiple aspects or do not fit in one of the other project awards.
- The former Conservation or Preservation project award has been retired as a stand-alone award and these projects can now be entered under the Special Project award.
- All project awards continue to be grouped by the size of the project expense. However, the grouping has been expanded to four levels for competitive comparison: $0-$5,000, $5,001-$15,000, $15,001-$50,000, and over $50,000.
- Only one submission per OMA member per project category type is allowed. Example: A museum may submit one entry for Outreach or Education Program and one entry for Publication. A museum may NOT submit two entries under Special Projects even if the projects are different and/or have different budget expense levels.

Entries for the 2020 OMA Awards Program are now being accepted. Download the Awards Program here. The deadline to submit an entry is Monday, June 8. OMA takes great pride in honoring the outstanding projects and dedicated individuals that make Oklahoma museums—large or small, rural or urban—shine!
Registration is Open for Blue Star Museum Program

Blue Star Museums is a collaboration among the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, the Department of Defense, and museums across America. Each summer since 2010, Blue Star Museums have offered free admission to the nation’s active-duty military personnel and their families, including National Guard and Reserve. For more information on Blue Star Museums, please see the Frequently Asked Questions.

The United States Conference of Mayors has issued a resolution about Blue Star Museums, urging mayors and their local arts agencies “to promote the Blue Star Museums program and to encourage museums in their communities to participate in this national program serving active duty personnel and their families.” Read more here.


Blue Star Museums Parent Toolkit: A Guide for Before, During, and After Your Family Trip to the Museum (created by Blue Star Families).

Museums Engaging the Military Seminar May 28

If your museum has been considering developing a military exhibit or implementing programming for military personnel, then you need to attend the Museums Engaging the Military seminar. Three museums will present case studies and how they can be replicated to help expand access to the arts for military personnel and their families in museums throughout Oklahoma.

The Mabee-Gerrer Museum of Art will discuss their exhibition and programming for A Tribute to America’s Combat Artists and Fighting Forces: Art from the U.S. Navy, Marines and Coast Guard. The artwork in the exhibition was created by military artists and some civilians, and all had military subjects, depicting wartime and peacetime activities.

Oklahoma History Center will discuss their exhibition and programming for Welcome Home: Oklahomaans and the War in Vietnam. The exhibit explored the impact of the war on Oklahoma families, as told through the stories of the young men and women who served their country in the armed services and the immigrant families who fled Vietnam and came to Oklahoma seeking freedom and opportunity.

The Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art will discuss their VA Hospital Outreach Initiative. This initiative is a partnership with the Recreation Therapy Department at the Oklahoma City VA Hospital’s out-patient program, consisting of monthly visits to the hospital and quarterly visits to the museum.

The Museums Engaging the Military seminar will be held on May 28 from 1:00pm-4:30pm at the Oklahoma History Center. Registration is $25 per person. The deadline to register is May 18. Register online here.

Also, OMA is offering the program Engaging the Military on May 28. Program information appears below.

This seminar is sponsored in part by The Anne & Henry Zarrow Foundation, National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum, The Springer Company, Grady County Historical Society, Oklahoma Arts Council, Daystar Foundation and Library, Inc., Western Center for the Conservation of Fine Arts, Dane & Lynn Pollei, Collections Research for Museums, Osage Nation Museum, Oologah Historical Society and Oklahoma History Center.

POSTPONED

Hold the Date

Wet Salvage Workshop

July 13, 2020
New and renewed members December 1, 2019 - February 29, 2020

New members are indicated with an asterisk.

Individuals

Friend
Susan Bailey, Tulsa
Maury Ford, OKC
Melvin Moran, Seminole
Sheri Vance, OKC

Individual
Pat Baker, Elk City
Pam Bell, Edmond
Janet Braun, Norman
Susan Green, Tulsa
Chelsea Herrod, Dallas TX
Johnnie Jacobs, Holdenville
Victoria Lupia, OKC
Julie Lyes, OKC
Scott A. Neel, Ph.D., Elgin
Karen Neurohr, Stillwater*
Susan Patterson, OKC
Michael Reinschmidt, OKC
Melissa Rickman, Norman
Gena Timberman, OKC
Diane White, Fort Smith AR

Retired Professional
Dianne Moore, Mineral Wells TX
Kathleen Triebel, Bartlesville

Student
Amena Butler, OKC
Emily McKenzie, Tulsa
Coy Moses, Tulsa
Jacyal Pearce, Tulsa*

Designated Staff/Board/Volunteer
Kathy Anderson, Bethany
Brooke Armstrong, Lawton
Debra Baker, Lawton
Mattie Barlow, OKC
Regina Belcher, OKC
Victoria Berry, Stillwater
Annie Bewley, OKC
Kelly Bradshaw, Stillwater
Mike Branen, Oologah
Ron Brown, Pawnee
James Burns, Norman
Linda Callery, Locust Grove*
John Cary, Claremore
JM Cavazos, Stillwater
Lynnsey Childress, Tulsa
Anne Chilton, OKC
Kristi Church, OKC
Heather Coffman, Lawton
Cathryn Cornwell, Claremore
Andy Couch, Claremore
Gerda Cox, Lawton
Anna Davis, Pawnee
Cat de Araujo, Stillwater
Kristen Duncan, Stillwater*
Christina Elliott, Stillwater*
Douglas Forsyth, Norman
Holly Forsyth, Norman*
Emma Fritz, OKC
Todd Fuller, Norman
Edward Granger, OKC
J. Seth Hammond, Goodwell*
Jennifer Holt, Claremore
Toni Hopper, Duncan
Stephanie Hunter, Claremore
Casey Ihde, Stillwater
Ted Jones, Claremore
Arlette Klaric, Stillwater
Glenn Lamza, Fort Towson*
Ken Landry, Shawnee
Mary Lee, OKC
Linda Maisch, OKC
Kerry Magruder, Norman
Anne Mannell, Tulsa*
Sherry Marshall, OKC
Ashley Mason-Burns-Meerschaert, OKC
Donna Merkt, OKC
Scott Metelko, Duncan*
Greg Miller, OKC
Susan Morton, Chandler
Leah Mulkey, Duncan
Melody Muniz, OKC
Kathleen Noble, Fort Towson*
Shannon Olson, OKC
Lina Ortega, Norman
Karen Paul, OKC
Norm Pence, Hugo
Patti Pouncil, Drumright*
Harold Powell, Temple
Lois Powell, Temple
Rachel Reichert, OKC*
Shannon Rich, OKC
Cathy Riggins, Frederick
Jody Risley, Boise City
Lucas Ross, OKC
Carney Sauplity, Lawton
Courtney Selking, Tulsa*
Marty Sellers, Eufaula*
Carla Shelton, Stillwater
Pat Smith, Clinton
Rob Smith, Cushing
Calista Stephens, Broken Bow
Clint Stone, OKC
Stephanie Tannehill, McAlester
Candy Taylor, Lawton
Lindsay Thomas, OKC
Michelle Timbo, Lawton
Sharon Townes, Oologah
Jaynie Turner, Norman
Ray Vandiver, Tulsa
Jay Villemarette, OKC
Allen Voyles, OKC
Laura Warriner, OKC
Deborah Wilson, Drumright
Kevin Wilson, OKC
Joe Wynn, Frederick
Doug Zook, Broken Bow

Institutions

Pinnacle
Chisholm Trail Heritage Center
Claremore Museum of History
Comanche National Museum and Cultural Center
Drumright Historical Society Museum
Fort Towson Museums Association
Institute of the Great Plains
National Weather Museum & Science Center
Oklahoma Hall of Fame | Gaylord-Pickens Museum

continued on page 18
New and renewed members December 1, 2019 - February 29, 2020

Oklahoma Railway Museum
Oklahoma Route 66 Museum
Oologah Historical Society Museum
Pottawatomi County Oklahoma Historical Society & Museum
Science Museum Oklahoma
SKELETONS: Museum of Osteology
University of Oklahoma Libraries

Elevated
American Banjo Museum
ARTSPACE at Untitled
Choctaw County Historical Society Frisco Depot Museum
Discovery Lab
Eufaula Area Museum
No Man’s Land Museum

Oklahoma Forest Heritage Center Museum
Oklahoma State University Museum of Art
Pawnee Bill Ranch and Museum
Will Rogers Memorial Museum

Ground Floor
Billboard Museum Association
Cimarron Heritage Center
Lachenmeyer Arts Center
Lincoln County Historical Society Museum of Pioneer History
Oklahoma Blues Consortium
Tannehill Museum
Temple Museum Association
Tillman County Historical Society
Willard Stone Museum*

Affiliated Organization/ Corporate
Level II
Oklahoma Humanities
Southwest Solutions Group, Inc.
University of Tulsa Museum Science and Management Program

Level I
Collections Research for Museums
ITIN Museum Services
Joy Reed Belt & Associates, Inc.

Museums 2020: Changing Your Perspective Theme of Oklahoma Museum Conference

Planning for the 2020 Oklahoma Museum Conference at Stride Bank Center in Enid on September 16-18, 2020 is underway. The theme is Museums 2020: Changing Your Perspective and will features great sessions and workshops.

A preliminary conference program listing all educational sessions and events will be available in May. Registration will open at that time so check the website for the most current information. We look forward to seeing you in Enid!

Conference sponsors to date:
Oklahoma Arts Council
National Endowment for the Arts
Kirkpatrick Family Fund
Oklahoma Humanities
Visit Enid
Oklahoma Historical Records Advisory Board
Oklahoma Today Magazine
Vann & Associates
Citizen Potawatomi Nation Cultural Heritage Center
Exhibit Concepts, Inc.
Jasmine Moran Children’s Museum
Oklahoma City National Memorial & Museum
Route 66 Alliance
The Springer Company

Conference sponsorship and advertising information is available here.

Conference Hosts
Visit Enid
Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center

Exhibitor spots still open. Interested in being a conference exhibitor, exhibitor information available here.

Conference Exhibitors to date
Certified Folder Display Service, Inc.
Exhibit Concepts, Inc.
Martin&Martin Design
Oklahoma Arts Council
Oklahoma Department of Libraries
Oklahoma Historical Society
Oklahoma Humanities
Rebecca Elder Cultural Heritage Preservation
Southwest Solutions Group
University of Oklahoma Press
Vann & Associates
Western Center for the Conservation of Fine Art

Oklahoma Museum Conference
September 16-18, 2020
Stride Bank Center, Enid

Museums 2020
Changing Your Perspective

OKMuseums.org
We’re Counting on You This 2020 Census

The Board of Directors of the Oklahoma Museums Association met on February 18 and voted unanimously to provide the following email template to our 509 museums, historic sites, and cultural institutions across the state, encouraging them to share the message with their members and visitors about the importance of completing the 2020 Census.

Thank you for proactively approaching your community with this vital information.

[Insert Your Museum Name] is counting on you!

The 2020 Census will be available to complete on April 1, 2020, and nonprofit organizations like ours are depending on you for an accurate count! Each undercounted person means an estimated $1,800 less per year to our state in lost funding, grants, and support for our community - so accurate representation is important!

The 2020 Census takes less than 15 minutes to complete, and the impact it has on our community is far-reaching and long-lasting.

Here are some things to keep in mind....

The Census determines funding for vital programs and services in our community like roads, hospitals, schools, and emergency services. To put this in perspective, undercounting our population in Oklahoma by just two (2) percent (80,000) people, would mean a loss to our state of $144,000,000 a year! That’s significant!

The number of federal members of the House of Representatives our state receives is determined by the Census.

School districts and voting districts will be updated based on the results of the 2020 Census.

The Census Bureau is legally bound to handle all data confidentially, and answers are not shared with anyone - not the FBI, IRS, ICE or any other government agency. In fact, online responses are secured by multiple layers of encryption and isolated from online access as soon as you hit submit.

[Insert Your Museum Name] encourages you to help our state and complete the 2020 Census! Can we count on you? For more information about the 2020 Census, please visit www.OKLetsCount.org.

[Insert Signature]
[Insert Title]
[Insert Your Museum Name]
OMA District Representatives and members submit news for inclusion in MuseNEWS. Contact information appears below. Submission deadlines are March 1, June 1, September 1 and December 1.

**District 1**  
Karen Whitecotton, District 1 Rep.  
OKPOP  
918.282.3317  
kwhitecotton@okhistory.org

**Mexican Modernism:** Revolution & Reckoning, on exhibit at Gilcrease Museum, Tulsa, through August 30.  
https://gilcrease.org/

https://jewishmuseumtulsa.org/

**Tulsa Fire Museum,** Tulsa, will hold their 1st Annual Golf Tournament on April 24.  
https://www.tulsafiremuseum.org/

**District 2**  
Jordan Boyd, District 2 Rep.  
Dobson Museum  
918.542.5388  
jboyd@dobsonmuseum.com

New staff at Museum of the Red River, Idabel, include **Jamie Johnson** as Receptionist and Museum Store Attendant, and **Stephen Ratcliff** as Head of Outreach and Communications.

**Art in Community:** Harold Stevenson on Exhibit on exhibit at Museum of the Red River, Idabel, through July 19.  
https://www.museumoftheredriver.org/

**Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center,** Spiro, will hold its 15th Annual Archaeology Day and Birthday Bash on May 9.  
https://www.okhistory.org/sites/spiromounds

**District 3**  
D’Lese Travis, District 3 Rep.  
General Tommy Franks Leadership Institute and Museum  
580.726.5900  
dlese@tommyfranksmuseum.org

**Steven Groff** is the new Collections Manager at General Tommy Franks Leadership Institute and Museum.

**Photographing the Plains,** Depression Era Oklahoma on exhibit at Chisholm Trail Museum, Kingfisher, through May 31.  
http://www.ctokmuseum.org/

**In the Mind of a Collector** on exhibit at Oklahoma State University Museum of Art, Stillwater, through July 18.  
https://museum.okstate.edu/

**District 4**  
Mark White, District 4 Rep.  
Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art  
405.325.0843 • maw@ou.edu

On May 18, **John Hernandez,** Executive Director, at Museum of the Great Plains will retire and **Bart McClenny** will become the new Executive Director.

**Amanda Boehm-Garcia** is now the Director of Education at Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art.

**Scott Metelko** is the new Executive Director at Chisholm Trail Heritage Center.

**Native Voices Over the Airwaves:** The Indians for Indians Hour Radio Show on exhibit at University of Oklahoma Libraries, Norman, through August 3.  
https://exhibits.libraries.ou.edu/

**District 5**  
Jason Harris, District 5 Rep.  
405.830.6830  
jharris309@gmail.com

**Dr. Michael J. Anderson** is the new President & CEO of Oklahoma City Museum of Art.

(E)MOTION(S) by the Oklahoma City Ballet, is a groundbreaking world premiere created in partnership with the Oklahoma City National Memorial Museum, Oklahoma City, that not only serves as a remembrance of those who were lost, but a celebration of a resilient community that has come together to transform itself in the aftermath.  
https://memorialmuseum.com/

**POP Power from Warhol to Koons:** Masterworks from the Collection of Jordan D. Schnitzer and His Family Foundation opens at Oklahoma City Museum of Art, Oklahoma City, June 6.  
https://www.okcmoa.com/

The Oklahoma History Center recently introduced a new audio tour available in four languages: English, French, German and Spanish. Visitors can access the tour via their phones by scanning a QR code. The audio tour also is available on the Oklahoma Historical Society website.  
https://www.okhistory.org
Be a Member • Build Your Network of Connections

Museum staff, volunteers and board members are encouraged to join OMA as individual members. Museums, historical societies, tribal cultural centers, zoos and other related entities also are encouraged to join as an institutional member. Businesses and affiliated organizations with an interest in Oklahoma museums may join OMA as corporate members. For a complete list of membership benefits or to join online, visit the OMA website.

**Individual membership packages**
- Patron $250
- Friend $100
- Individual $50
- Retired Professional $35
- Student (electronic) $15

**Institutional membership packages**

Pinnacle and Elevated Package dues are based on the staff size you select. Staff may be defined as paid or unpaid individuals with museum responsibilities. Include volunteers or board members as staff if you want to extend benefits to them.

- Pinnacle Package
  - Staff size 0-2 $125
  - Staff size 3-5 $300
  - Staff size 6-10 $575
  - Staff size 11-20 $850
  - Staff size 21+ $1,125

- Elevated Package
  - Staff size 0-2 $100
  - Staff size 3-5 $250
  - Staff size 6-10 $500
  - Staff size 11-20 $750
  - Staff size 21+ $1,000

- Ground Floor Package
  Dues are based on what the museum is able to pay. $_________

**Affiliated Organization & Corporate membership packages**
- Level II Package $500
- Level I Package $250

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**Name**

**Institution**

**Address**

**City/State/Zip**

**Phone**

**E-mail**

**Website**

**Amount enclosed or authorized for charge $**

**Visa, MasterCard, Discover or American Express #**

**Exp.**

**CVV**

**Signature**

**Send payment and form to:**
Oklahoma Museums Association
2020 Remington Place
Oklahoma City, OK 73111
[OKMuseums.org](http://OKMuseums.org)