New Law Benefits Many Oklahoma Museums

Great news! Governor Stitt signs into law SB909 that allows Oklahoma museums with budgets less than $1 million to be exempt from paying sales tax on sales of tangible personal property or services to a museum.

SUBJECT: Sales tax exemption BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA: SECTION 1. AMENDATORY
68 O.S. 2011, Section 1356, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 413, O.S.L. 2019 (68 O.S. Supp. 2020, Section 1356), is amended to read as follows:
Section 1356. Exemptions - Governmental and nonprofit entities. There are hereby specifically exempted from the tax levied by Section 1350 et seq. of this title:

81. Effective November 1, 2021, through December 31, 2024, sales of tangible personal property or services to a museum that: a. operates as a part of an organization which is exempt from taxation pursuant to the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code, 26 U.S.C., Section 501(c)(3), b. is not accredited by the American Alliance of Museums, continued on page 2

Back to School Bash Registration Open for Participating Museums

Oklahoma Museum Educators, through the organization of National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum, Oklahoma History Center and Science Museum Oklahoma, present Oklahoma Museum Association’s Back to School Bash on Thursday, August 19 from 5:30pm-7:30pm at Science Museum Oklahoma.

Back to School Bash is an opportunity to engage educators in your area and share resources that your museum or organization have available to support learning in the classroom.

For 2021, in addition to hosting an in-person event, all participating organizations are encouraged to supply information for a virtual Back to School Bash resource page for educators as they prepare for the 2021-22 academic year. This page will become available to educators on July 29. In addition, a virtual showcase will occur on August 19 in addition to the in-person event.

Please fill out this form and submit pictures, short videos and files you would like featured for your organization by July 9.
As summer is here, I hope you plan to find some time to take off and enjoy traveling or being together with your family and friends. I recently read about a new trend called pop-up holidays.

Pop-up holidays are spontaneous days off generally when a place of business offers extra days off on Friday and Monday, making for a long weekend for everyone. It does not count toward your paid time off, but rather everyone in the organization gets a few extra surprise days off to help with the burn out that so many people are experiencing from overwork during the pandemic.

If you are interested in learning more about pop-up holidays, here is one article that might be of interest. Whether you are enjoying a planned vacay, a pop-up holiday or something totally different, I hope you will find the summer sunshine a time to renew your energy and practice gratitude, which studies have shown can increase your happiness levels by 25%. And take it from me, happy is a great way to be.

Brenda Granger
Executive Director

Watch your email inbox in July for your electronic ballot to vote for 2022-2023 OMA Board of Directors!
Museum Virtual Summit on Creative Aging July 29

The American Alliance of Museums is thrilled to announce a new virtual summit offering you a chance to explore with colleagues a compelling vision of how museums can foster healthy aging for those “55 and better” in America. Registration is open for The Museum Summit on Creative Aging on July 29!

Join them and Aroha Philanthropies for a highly interactive, half-day program including a keynote on aging and equity, an interactive workshop on creative aging program development, and panel and breakout discussions to connect with speakers and panelists. Space will fill up fast—register today to ensure you don’t miss out on these critical conversations.

The half-day program will include:
- A keynote on aging and equity by Daphne Kwok, Vice President of Diversity Equity & Inclusion, Asian American & Pacific Islander Audience Strategy at AARP
- An interactive workshop by the staff of Lifetime Arts—national leaders in creative aging program development.
- Learning from Experience: Older Adults, Ageism and What Museums Can Do About It, a panel discussion featuring Toya Northington, Community Outreach Manager at the Speed Art Museum; Eli Burke, Education Director at the Museum of Contemporary Art Tucson; and Jill N. Smith, Director of the Union County Heritage Museum.
- Breakout discussion rooms will give attendees the opportunity to engage more deeply with the speakers and panelists.

Register here today.

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Oklahoma National History Day Award Sponsored by Oklahoma Museums Association

Each year, the Oklahoma Museums Association sponsors the Best Exhibit Design award during the Oklahoma National History Day contest. This award is given to one Junior Division and one Senior Division entry exemplifying the best exhibit design practices in creating their National History Day entry.

Junior Division Winner
“Silent Communication: The Language of the Fan” by Memphis Hoover from Morrison High School

Senior Division Winner
“The Original Code Talkers” by Hollie Courtney from Muskogee High School

Congratulations to all of this year’s winners!
It comes a time when something that appears to be a “fad,” or “new technology” transforms into a mainstay in our daily lives. Adam Curry and Dave Winer are credited with the invention of podcasting in 2004. Who exactly did what is up for dispute, but in the end, these are the two who got it rolling. The term podcasting was mentioned by Ben Hammersley in The Guardian newspaper article later the same year. Podcasting has come a long way since the first podcast 17 years ago and if you aren’t producing one, you are probably missing an opportunity to engage with your consumers and stakeholders.

Recording a podcast has gone from needing a set up similar to a full on sound studio to now a basic microphone and computer. Lauren and I actually record our weekly podcast through our telephone system, and it works really well. There are a variety of ways to record the podcast, but just remember, getting something recorded is more important that getting it perfect the first time around. That is where editing comes into play.

Editing a podcast may seem like a daunting task, but it is fairly straightforward. There are a variety of programs, free and pay ware, which can be used to edit your podcast file. The best part is, you can correct any mistakes you might have made during the recording, add music, sound effects and even change the speed at which answers are asked and answered by deleting awkward silent moments. A few titles for free software include GarageBand, Audacity, Music Maker, Studio One and WavePad. Once you have a great podcast, the next step is getting it distributed to your audiences.

Don’t be afraid, this step is easy as well. The first thing you need to decide on is what distribution service you’d like to use. The Guild uses Buzzsprout for The G Factor podcast. There are several others including Audacity, Kitcaster and SimpleCast. We use Buzzsprout because they make it easy to publish on our website as well as on popular podcast hubs such as iTunes, Amazon Music, Pandora, iHeart Radio and others. What is the cost you ask? We pay approximately $15 per month to distribute our podcast. That includes archives of past episodes, artwork for each episode, descriptions and integration for our website and social media.

I can hear everyone reading this asking, “Ok, so if it is so easy, what is the catch?” The catch is, just like everything else in marketing, you can’t just build it and hope people come. You have to promote your podcast early and often. Use your social media channels, e-signatures, email campaigns and other outreach to tell people about your podcast, how they can subscribe and listen as well as when new episodes will air. Also, don’t be afraid to have some fun with this content. We have all listened to lectures and they aren’t always that fun, however, 15 minutes of entertainment peppered with facts is digestible content for almost anyone!

About Tony Vann
Tony Vann is a proven public relations and communications professional with more than 25 years of experience in marketing, branding, media relations, government relations, development, marketing communications and non-profit administration. Before becoming a Principal at The Guild, he founded Vann & Associates | PR + Marketing. He has also served as President of Christian Companion Senior Care, communications director for Oklahoma’s Lieutenant Governor Mary Fallin, development director for the Oklahoma City National Memorial, public relations director at Oklahoma State University in Oklahoma City as well as the legislative assistant to the House Republican Leader in the Oklahoma House of Representatives.
Incident Command System
by Tracy Bidwell, Museum Registrar, Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History

Organized response to an emergency is essential, no matter how minor we perceive the emergency to be. And as emergencies are a given for any museum professional (they say if you haven’t yet encountered one that you’re probably due), it is important that we, as museum professionals and collection stewards, have lots of tools in our emergency response toolkit. One invaluable tool that we should all be acquainted with is the Incident Command System (ICS). ICS is the system used to establish a hierarchical structure for coordinating cooperative response to an emergency. ICS establishes both a chain of command and lines of communication essential to organized response. Effective implementation of ICS is not dependent on a large staff and not all emergencies necessitate the assembly of every major role under ICS.

Under ICS, leadership is centralized under an Incident Commander. Incident commanders are generally appointed at the time ICS is deployed and they oversee all aspects of a response and recovery effort from the mobilization of the effort to the demobilization. The size and scale of an emergency will determine how many components of ICS are needed for the response. If the size of the emergency does not necessitate the complete assembly of all assigned roles under the ICS structure, the Incident Commander will perform the function of any role or responsibility not assigned. Likewise, if the size of an emergency is so great that shifts are required in order to afford responders adequate time to rest, then more than one Incident Commander will be appointed to the effort. During a response and recovery effort, assigned roles under ICS provide for the management of information, safety, operations, planning, logistics, administration, and finance. Without such a system, a response and recovery effort will descend into chaos which will only be to the detriment of the effort and all those involved.

For those of us who have never navigated a response or recovery effort, an understanding of the Incident Command System (acquired in peacetime) will be immensely helpful towards curbing any angst you might feel as you imagine how you might manage a response to a theoretical emergency. The go-to resource on the subject and a must have for any cultural institution is Implementing the Incident Command System at the Institutional Level by David W. Carmichael. This book provides a framework for a response and recovery effort and is widely regarded in the field as being the best resource of its kind. Follow the link below for more information and a place to purchase this resource. Keep on preparing!

https://books.google.com/books/about/Implementing_the_Incident_Command_System.html?id=fcjBcQAACAAJ

About Tracy Bidwell
Tracy Bidwell has worked as a registrar in Oklahoma for more than a decade. She began her museum career as a volunteer in the Registration department at the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art, where she later served as Chief Registrar. In 2019 Tracy joined the staff at the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History where she enjoys serving as Museum Registrar. Tracy has a forever-growing love for the natural world, museums and collections, and for helping those in need.
New Report Explores Capacity Building Opportunities for Museums

The Institute of Museum and Library Services and Partners for Public Good (PPG) are pleased to announce a new report on the state of capacity building in the museum sector and opportunities for further exploration.

Museums serve communities by providing learning opportunities for people of all ages and backgrounds, partnering with other organizations to address community needs, and preserving the objects and artifacts entrusted to them by the public. Just like other organizations, museums must have institutional capacity: the skills, knowledge, and systems to adapt to changes in the environment; operate efficiently; and remain relevant to stakeholders.

IMLS collaborated with PPG to conduct the study, a *Market Analysis and Opportunity Assessment of Museum Capacity Building Programs*, to gain a holistic understanding of the needs for capacity building support, identify potential gaps in the current capacity building offerings, and define new opportunities and approaches for both IMLS and the museum community.

“For decades, IMLS has invested in organizational capacity building programs, such as the Museum Assessment Program, the STEPs program for history organizations, HELP for small Midwestern museums, and Museums Empowered,” said Christopher Reich, Acting Deputy Director of the Office of Museum Services. “This study helps IMLS align its grantmaking with current needs, while helping the entire museum sector better understand the nature of capacity building to assist them in focusing their efforts in a constantly changing world.”

The study engaged a wide variety of stakeholders, with a focus on small and medium sized museums, to capture a range of perspectives throughout the sector. A mixed method approach collected both quantitative and qualitative data through an online survey, interviews, and focus groups with museum leaders, funders, capacity builders, and museum associations. A steering committee of museum practitioners and a Subject Matter Expert Committee provided guidance throughout the process.

“Museums have been adapting to the world around them for centuries,” said PPG’s Tim Hausmann and Samantha Hackney in a statement. “In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic and racial reckoning underscored the need for museums to lean into continual adaptation to ensure they remain relevant to their audiences and vital to their communities. This report highlights the collective capacity building efforts required by funders, museum associations, and museum leadership to support effective museum adaptation.”

For more information and the full report, visit the IMLS website.
OKLAHOMA MUSEUM CONFERENCE

Register by August 6 for the Early Bird Rate
It is time to set sail on one fabulous Oklahoma Museum Conference, September 15-17 at The Grand Casino & Resort in Shawnee. Hosted by the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Cultural Heritage Center and the Mabee-Gerrer Museum of Art, we know that Oklahoma museums professionals, both paid and volunteer, have been keeping the ship steadied over the last year+ and now it is time to navigate new waters and hopefully have some smooth(er) sailing. This year we are excited to return to an in-person conference with on-demand access to the virtual conference website from September 20-October 3. On-demand content will feature select conference sessions as well as additional bonus material not presented at the conference. All registrants can attend in person, virtually, or both!

We understand that museum budgets and staffing are tight but attending the Oklahoma Museum Conference is valuable to you AND your museum. How?

- Expand your network by connecting with a wide range of attendees. A broad network provides a stable base from which to draw when you have questions or need guidance once you return home.
- Build your knowledge and take innovative ideas back to your museum. Conference sessions cover a variety of topics from education to collections, fundraising to preservation, and marketing to best practices.
- Visit with exhibitors to find products/services of value to your museum in the virtual exhibit hall.
- Grow within the profession by learning best practices and ways to increase outreach and services.

Download Preliminary Program Here • Early Bird Registration (ends August 6) Here

Sponsors

- Oklahoma Arts Council
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- Oklahoma Department of Libraries
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- Re:discovery Software, Inc.
- Rebecca Elder Cultural Heritage Preservation
- Southwest Solutions Group
- The Guild
- The Springer Company
- Visit Shawnee
- Western Center for the Conservation of Fine Arts

OKMsueums.org
Conference Hotel
The conference hotel is The Grand Casino Hotel & Resort, 777 Grand Casino Blvd, Shawnee, Oklahoma 74804. Room rates are $99 per night for a king or double queen room. Rate applies to stays on or between September 14-16, 2021. Room rates are subject to applicable state and local taxes, currently 8.5% city tax and 7.77% hotel tax. Rate is available until August 1, 2021. After August 1, room rates will be at the Grand Casino Hotel & Resort current rate. Each room has many luxury features including spacious baths and Serta beds, 42” Flat Panel HD televisions, complimentary wireless & wired internet access, in-room safes, ironing board and irons, and Gilchrest and Soames bath products.

All reservations must be guaranteed with a major credit card. To make a reservation, call the hotel directly at 405.964.7777 and indicate you are with Oklahoma Museums Association Conference. To book online, go to https://www.grandresortok.com/. Click Book a Room on the right-hand corner of the website, then scroll down to Modify Search and enter your information. Use the following group code: 210914OKLA.

Assistive Needs
The Oklahoma Museums Association strives to ensure programs and activities are accessible to all interested persons, including those who are disabled, have impaired vision or hearing, or other sensory impairments. Please notify us no later than August 15 if you have assistive needs at the conference.

Oklahoma Humanities and Oklahoma Museums Association Capacity Building Initiative
The Oklahoma Humanities and Oklahoma Museums Association Capacity Building Initiative is a collaborative effort. 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 Shawnee, Oklahoma, as well as through membership in the Oklahoma Museums Association. In addition, the partnership will support the kickoff session at the 2021 Oklahoma Museums Conference with virtual components. Want to be a part of this initiative? We hope so! The process will be a competitive scholarship application that can be found at https://okmuseums.wufoo.com/forms/zz24xmh0ju2tdl/.

If selected, you will receive one conference registration plus a Wednesday workshop and all special events (September 15-17, 2021 in Shawnee), 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 Tuesday, July 27, 2021.

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.

Conference Scholarships
The following conference scholarship types are available:
- Speaker Session Only Scholarship
- Conference Registration Scholarship (workshops and special events not included)

To qualify for an OMA conference scholarship, an applicant must complete the OMA conference application form here by Tuesday, July 27, 2021. Preference will be given to applicants attending the conference in person.

Scholarships provided by the Oklahoma Department of Libraries and Oklahoma Historical Records Advisory Board with funding provided by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission.
Wednesday Workshops
Wednesday, September 15 from 1:00pm-4:00pm
Workshops have additional fee: $25 OMA Member Discount Rate; $45 Basic Rate. Participants are responsible for transportation.

*Caterpillar Consciousness – Art and Nature in Health and Wellness*
Held at The Grand Casino Hotel & Resort Conference Center, 777 Grand Casino Blvd, Shawnee
This workshop will provide a brief introduction to images and art making as a practice for wellness. Followed by a direct experience in connecting art with nature for restoring our health and the health of the planet. No previous experience in art making is required or needed. Come prepared for to explore and express!

*Native Cultural Centers as Sites of Healing*
Held at Citizen Potawatomi Nation Eagle Aviary, 41910 Hardesty Road, Shawnee • Limited to 30 participants
The Eagle is an integral part of cultural lifeways for the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and many other Native American tribes. They are revered as warriors and messengers to the Creator. Honoring that connection, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Eagle Aviary offers a permanent home for injured Eagles that cannot be returned to the wild, while offering a space for ceremony, healing, prayer, and educational programs to reconnect our people to the living Eagle. Attendees will observe the eagles from our indoor and outdoor viewing areas and get a feel for a day in the life of our eagles and their caretakers. We will also discuss how staff at the Aviary and the Cultural Heritage Center collaborate to create dynamic programming that connects tribal members and guests to our living culture and offers a pathway to cultural healing.

*Be Prepared! Emergency Response and Salvage of Paper Based Collections*
Held at Mabee-Gerrer Museum of Art, 1900 W Macarthur Street, Shawnee • Limited to 20 participants.
A yearly review and simulations of your disaster plan are critical parts of Emergency Preparedness. In this workshop, you will experience a simulated water disaster salvage, and review what should be in your disaster kit. This will be an opportunity to practice hands-on recovery methods of wet books, flat paper, photographs, and media, and understand how different materials react to getting wet. Thanks to the Oklahoma Department of Libraries, Oklahoma Historical Records Advisory Board, and National Historical Publications and Records Commission for their support with this workshop.

Thursday Kickoff and Keynote
The conference kickoff session at 9:00am on Thursday, September 16 focuses on Idabel artist, Harold Stevenson.

The Museum of the Red River launched a 2020 retrospective of their hometown artist, Harold Stevenson. The museum’s efforts were not unlike those of the artist they featured. Harold Stevenson also had to smooth the waters and chart new courses at every turn of disappointments, failures, and calamities during his eighty-year career as an international artist. In 1963 he was banned from the Guggenheim. In 2005, Stevenson’s ship finally came in when the Guggenheim included him in their permanent collection. This presentation describes how the museum reset their sails when Covid-19 interrupted and still found a way to connect with their community.

Come to this session for a chance to win an exhibition catalog donated by Museum of the Red River. The speaker is Dian Jordan, Ph.D. She is a sociological researcher focusing on qualitative methods relating to rural and disadvantaged populations. When not teaching for the University of Texas Permian Basin, she analyzes oral histories, letters, photographs, exhibition catalogs, and ephemera of the Harold Stevenson (1929 – 2018) archives. In 2019 – 2020, she served as the visiting curator at the Museum of the Red River in Idabel, Oklahoma where she presented Art in Community: The Harold Stevenson Collection. She received her Ph.D. from Texas Woman’s University and a master’s degree from the University of Oklahoma. A special thanks to the Oklahoma Humanities for their support with this session.

The conference keynote address at 12:15pm on Thursday, September 16 will be delivered by Jennifer Randell and Bree Dunham, Managers, Citizen Potawatomi Nation Eagle Aviary and Dr. Kelli Mosteller, Executive Director, Citizen Potawatomi Nation Cultural Heritage Center.

In 2012 the Citizen Potawatomi Nation opened its Eagle Aviary as a permanent home for injured Eagles that cannot be returned to the wild, while also offering a space for ceremony, reflection, and prayer. At the time, it was only the fifth aviary of its kind in the United States. Since then, it has provided a platform for programming focused on rekindling our cultural traditions and educating thousands of visitors about conservation and raptor husbandry. CPN Eagle Aviary and Cultural Heritage Center staff will share some of their greatest trials and successes, and highlight ways our collaboration has furthered the mission of both programs – to reconnect people to our living culture.
The Institute of Museum and Library Services is pleased to announce the launch of a new online resource center featuring dynamic digital museum content for K-12 educators searchable by subject and grade. Teachers across the country can now find resources that feature engaging activities from a growing number of museums all aligned with national education standards.

Originally funded as a pilot project through an FY 2018 National Leadership Grant to the Indianapolis Museum of Art at Newfields, Museums for Digital Learning (MDL) is a collaboration of IMLS, Newfields, the Field Museum, and History Colorado. The project brings together museums of various disciplines, sizes, and geographic regions to contribute to a shared digital platform offering K-12 educational resource kits developed from museum collections.

Over the course of the last two and a half years, the MDL team designed a platform that would build and strengthen the capacity of our nation’s museums to serve the larger K-12 education community. Working with K-12 educators, the team created templates that would be easy for any museum to populate and add to the site as Resource Kits. There are now 23 museums committed to participating and 29 Resource Kits.

With the website’s official launch, hundreds of museums have the opportunity to contribute to MDL, making it a rich resource for K-12. MDL features and opportunities for contributing museums and K-12 educators include:

- Inquiry-Based, Interactive Learning: Resource Kits are made up of several activity types through which museums can choose to present their content. These may include narratives, hotspots, slideshows, annotations, timelines, games, and e-books. Museums decide on the number of digitized objects they want to use in a kit and the types of activities they want to include.
- Curriculum Aligned: All Resource Kits are curriculum aligned and searchable by grade level and subject.
- Collaboration: MDL offers a unique opportunity for two or more museums to co-create a Resource Kit with digital assets from their institutions around a single theme or topic.
- Flexible Content: MDL welcomes museums of all kinds: collecting and non-collecting, and those with inanimate or living collections. Museums can use objects, audio, video, and even exhibition panel texts.
- Power of the Whole: A shared platform makes it easy for educators to visit, browse, and gather teaching resources from one place, rather than having to explore hundreds of individual sites. Time and ease of access are two key needs of teachers.

How to Participate
The MDL team holds regular training webinars for museums who are interested in contributing content, and videos and other resources are in the museum section of the platform.

As the project expands, the MDL team continues to work with a dedicated group of educators to create greater awareness about this resource for teachers and school librarians across the nation.

For more information on becoming a participating museum, visit museumsfordigitallearning.org or contact info@museumsfordigitallearning.org.

For help with Collections Management Training and Services

Contact:
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Learn More about Museums for All at July 13 Webinar

Are you interested in learning more about Museums for All, an initiative dedicated to expanding community access? Join staff from the Institute of Museum and Library Services and the Association of Children’s Museums on July 13 at 1:00pm Central Time to learn more about how and why over 675 museums participate in the program. Find more information and register to attend the informational webinar on the IMLS website.

Museums for All is a way to broaden a museum’s visitor base, and reach out to underserved communities. A museum visit can inspire the development of new skills and interests, and ignite creativity and enrich social connections. Museums for All will help expand access to museums and also raise public awareness about how museums in the U.S. are reaching their entire communities. By addressing financial and logistical barriers to visitation, Museums for All also aspires to be an effective strategy for mitigating the social and academic barriers individuals face when they are not exposed to high quality museum experiences. Learn more about Museums for All, and register today!

A shout out to the following museums for being a part of the Museums for All program.

**Oklahoma**
- American Banjo Museum (Oklahoma City, OK)
- Chisholm Trail Heritage Center (Duncan, OK)
- Edmond Historical Society (Edmond, OK)
- Mabee-Gerrer Museum of Art (Shawnee, OK)
- Oklahoma Hall of Fame | Gaylord-Pickens Museum (Oklahoma City, OK)
- Philbrook Museum of Art (Tulsa, OK)
- Tulsa Botanic Garden (Tulsa, OK)
- Tulsa Historical Society & Museum (Tulsa, OK)

Choosing Materials for Museum Storage Webinar

Presented by FAIC Connecting to Collections Care on July 29, 2021, 12:00pm Central Time

Register [here](#).

One of the most basic ways we can care for our museum collections is by making sure that their long-term storage is as safe as it can be for the materials in our care. This webinar will introduce a wide variety of potential storage materials and work through the decision-making process of why different materials should be chosen for particular storage applications and collection material type.

At the end of the webinar, attendees should feel informed and confident in choosing storage materials for many of the most common types of museum collection materials. Attendees are invited to share examples of specific storage challenges they face.

**Presenter**

Maggie Hill-Kipling is an objects conservator in Minneapolis, MN. She has a MS in Art Conservation from the Winterthur/University of Delaware Program in Art Conservation and a BA in Anthropology and Museum Studies from Beloit College in Wisconsin. Maggie spent the bulk of her career in Tucson, AZ at the University of Arizona working on cooperative agreements with the National Park Service’s Intermountain Museum Services Program, where she conducted collection condition surveys, implemented and advised on storage, rehousing, and move projects, and treated a wide variety of historic, archaeological, and Native American cultural materials.
Oklahoma Open Meeting Act - Virtual Meeting No Longer an Option
Governor Stitt lifted the COVID-19 emergency declaration on May 3, 2021. Organizations who fall under the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act no longer have the option to allow its voting members to attend virtually.

Oklahoma Museums Invited to Participate in the Oklahoma FolkLife Festival
The Oklahoma History Center would like to invite Oklahoma museums to participate in a new festival called the Oklahoma FolkLife Festival, October 16 from 9:00am-2:00pm. The mission is to collaborate with cultural practitioners, communities, and heritage professionals, to spark curiosity, catalyze intercultural exchange, and create participatory experiences about the state of Oklahoma. This event will be held predominately outdoors. In the past, events like this have gathered 3,000+ people. If your museum is interested in participating in this event, please complete the application form.

2021 State of Civil Society Report
A new report by CIVICUS entitled 2021 State of Civil Society Report analyzes how contemporary events and trends are impacting on civil society and how civil society is responding to the major issues and problems of the day. This is the tenth edition of the report, which focuses on civil society action and developments in 2020, looks back over ten years of civil society activity, and highlights key ideas for action in civil society in 2021 and beyond. The report covers topics such as the global struggle for racial justice, democracy under the pandemic, and demands for economic and environmental justice.

Group Travel is Back
Group travel is gearing up and after last year’s shut down it is expected to make a roaring comeback. By supporting the Oklahoma Tourism Group Travel Trade Program you help ensure that those motorcoaches, “rolling ATMs” as Lt. Gov. Pinnell calls them, visit our state, stay in your hotels, eat at your restaurants, and visit your attractions and museums. According to American Bus Association’s most recent research (2018), the total economic impact of the group travel industry in Oklahoma was $1.3 billion. Help Oklahoma recapture those dollars and even more for 2022! For more information on the Oklahoma Tourism Group Travel Trade Program and its benefits please click here. If you have questions email Colin.Murphy@TravelOK.com.

American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) 2021 Annual Meeting
The AASLH is holding their annual meeting in person as well as offering an online conference in 2021. Read more

Museums and Creative Aging: A Healthful Partnership
This landmark report commissioned by the American Alliance of Museums and written by Marjorie Schwarzer is a call to action for museums to change the narrative about what it means to grow old in America. Opening with an overview of aging and ageism in our country, the report documents actions being taken to foster positive aging, profiles the work of museums providing creative aging programming, and shares lessons learned from the Seeding Vitality Arts in Museums initiative of Aroha Philanthropies. Download your free copy of the report here.

OMA Connections Calls
Join your colleagues for the monthly OMA Connections Call which takes place the second Friday of the month at 10am Central Time. Register here. Once you register, the OMA Connections Zoom Meeting information will be sent to you at the email address you provided. There will not be a July OMA Connections Call. The next Call will be on Friday, August 13 at 10am Central.

Professional Development Calendar
The professional development calendar is a listing of training opportunities, for those in the museum field, hosted by either the American Alliance of Museums or museum service organizations, professional training programs, colleges/universities, government agencies and other nonprofit organizations working for the success of museums. Read more

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

August 19
Back to School Bash at Science Museum Oklahoma

September 1
Kendra Scott Gives Back event benefiting Oklahoma Museums Association

September 15-17
Oklahoma Museum Conference in-person, Shawnee

September 20-October 3
Oklahoma Museum Conference on-demand

October 28
Building the Foundations of Distance Learning in Your Museum Webinar
recent gifts

Contributions, donations, grants and sponsorships received
March 1, 2021 - May 31, 2021

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Citizen Potawatomi Nation
Martin & Martin Design
The Anne and Henry Zarrow Foundation
The Chickasaw Nation

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West Oklahoma City Rotary Club

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Oklahoma Hall of Fame | Gaylord-Pickens Museum
Patrick & Lacey Raymer, Tulsa
Kevin Richardson, OKC
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WCCFA
Western Center for the Conservation of Fine Arts
Professional Conservation for Paintings and Painted Surfaces
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Wheat Ridge, CO 80033
(303) 573-1973
wccfa@wccfa.com
www.wccfa.com

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.

Please 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 and select the blue Online Giving button; or at OKmuseums.org.
## New and renewed members March 1, 2021 - May 31, 2021

New members are indicated with an asterisk.

### Individuals

**Patron**
- Ken Busby, Tulsa

**Friend**
- Deborah Burke, Tulsa
- Kathy Dickson, OKC
- Gayle Farley, OKC
- Maury Ford, OKC
- Robin Hohweiler, Fargo

**Individual**
- Ernestine Berry, Park Hill
- Chandra Boyd, OKC
- Cheyenne Caraway, Astoria NY
- Jessica Cavin, Norman
- David Davis, Tulsa
- Valerie Duncan, Guthrie
- Rudy Ellis, Ardmore
- Heath Jones, OKC*
- Kay Little, Bartlesville
- Julie Lyles, Bethany
- Sarah Milligan, Stillwater
- Eric Singleton, OKC
- Phyllis Wahahrockah-Tasi, Norman

**Retired Professional**
- Glen McIntyre, Kingfisher
- Dianne Moore, Mineral Wells, TX
- Sarah Wright, Tulsa

**Student**
- Brandy Ball, McLoud*
- Ella Crenshaw, Norman
- Madiha Saleem, Edmond*
- Josie Sneed, Edmond*

**Designated Staff/Board/Volunteer**
- Mattie Barlow, OKC
- Laurel Benson, Tulsa
- Leslie Bonaventura, Tulsa
- Dianne Braden, Blackwell
- Julie Brown, Broken Arrow
- Laura Bryant, Tulsa
- Susan Buchanan, Tulsa
- Lisa Burchfield, OKC*
- James Burnes, Norman
- Jack Carnefix, Stillwater
- Anne Chilton, OKC
- Allie Cloud, Broken Arrow
- Cathy Cornwell, Claremore
- Drew Diamond, Tulsa
- Joanna Didik, Tulsa
- Mike Doak, Henryetta
- Stephen Dock, Mangum
- Mark Dolph, Tulsa
- Marci Donaho, Seminole
- Diana Folsom, Tulsa
- Sandi Freeman, Tulsa
- Todd Fuller, Norman
- Laura Fry, Tulsa
- Garrett Gibson, Tulsa
- Renee Harvey, Tulsa
- Tammy Hawbaker, Woodward
- Chelsea Herr, Tulsa
- Robin Hohweiler, Woodward
- Jennifer Holt, Claremore
- Melissa Hudson, Blackwell
- Stephanie Hunter, Claremore
- Maxine Jackson, Elk City
- Mike Jeffries, Sapulpa
- Rachel Johnson, Tulsa
- Tad Jones, Claremore
- Glenda Kuhn, McLoud
- Emma Leach, OKC
- Marnie Leist, Miami
- Justin Lenhart, OKC
- Kerry Magruder, Norman
- Frank Mulhern, Tulsa
- Susan Neal, Tulsa
- Mildred Nesser, Elk City
- Lina Ortega, Norman
- Alicia Perkins, Tulsa
- Veronica Pipestem, Tulsa
- Paula Reding, Geary*
- Shannon Rich, OKC
- Jodi Risley, Boise City
- Melanie Rosencutter, Tulsa
- Alison Rossi, Tulsa
- Shaylynn Sawyer, OKC
- Cynthia Short, Elk City
- Lee Roy Smith, Stillwater
- William Smith, Tulsa
- Gordon Stewart, Mannford
- Charlotte Thomas, Elk City
- Jaymie Turner, Norman
- Natalie Wadle, Miami
- Brian Whinery, OKC
- Beth White, Mangum
- Marcus Whitworth, Henryetta*
- Tracey Herst Woods, Tulsa
- Marvin Woodworth, Minco

**Institutions**

**Pinnacle**
- Canadian Rivers Historical Museum*
- Elk City Museum Complex
- Gilcrease Museum
- Henryetta Historical Society & Territorial Museum
- Jasmine Moran Children’s Museum
- National Wrestling Hall of Fame and Museum
- Oklahoma Hall of Fame | Gaylord Pickens Museum
- Oklahoma Railway Museum
- Oklahoma Sports Hall of Fame
- Plains Indians & Pioneers Museum
- The Museum Broken Arrow
- Top of Oklahoma Historical Society Museum
- University of Oklahoma Libraries

**Elevated**
- American Fidelity Heritage Center
- Ninety-Nines Museum of Women Pilots
- Old Greer County Museum & Hall of Fame
- Sapulpa Historical Society Museums
- Shawnee Tribe Cultural Center
- The Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art
- Tulsa Fire Museum
- Will Rogers Memorial Museum

**Ground Floor**
- Cimmaron Heritage Center
- Mannford Museum
- McLoud Historical Society Museum and Heritage Center
- Minco Historical Society and Museum
- Oklahoma Blues Consortium

**Affiliated Organization/Corporate**

**Level II**
- The Springer Company

**Level I**
- Re:discovery Software, Inc.
- Western Center for the Conservation of Fine Arts
Blue Star Museums

The National Endowment for the Arts and Blue Star Families are pleased to announce the return of the Blue Star Museums program for summer 2021. Museums in all 50 states, plus the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and U.S. Virgin Islands are registered as Blue Star Museums, with more museums signing up to participate throughout the summer. For a complete list of participants, visit arts.gov/bluestarmuseums.

Blue Star Museums is a collaboration among the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, the Department of Defense, and museums across America offering free admission to the nation’s currently-serving military personnel and their families, including National Guard and Reserve.

Participation in Blue Star Museums is entirely voluntary. By registering, museums express their appreciation for the nation’s military and their families, while acknowledging the hardships that come with that service. Blue Star Museums include children’s museums, art, science, and history museums, zoos, gardens, lighthouses, and more. Military families can plan their summer move or vacation around visits to Blue Star Museums, and explore new places in their community with outings to local Blue Star Museums. There is no limit to how many museums a family can visit during the summer.

The free admission program is available for those currently serving in the United States Military - Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard as well as Active Duty and Reservists, National Guardsman (regardless of status), U.S. Public Health Commissioned Corps, NOAA Commissioned Corps, and up to five family members. Qualified members must show a Geneva Convention common access card (CAC), DD Form 1173 ID card (dependent ID), or a DD Form 1173-1 ID card for entrance into a participating Blue Star Museum. Visit arts.gov/bluestarmuseums for a complete list of participating organizations.

Follow Blue Star Museums on Twitter and Instagram @NEAarts, BlueStarFamily, #bluestarmuseums.

It is not too late for museums to sign up. Museum registration can be found at https://apps.nea.gov/bluestarsignup/mainpage.aspx.

The Oklahoma Museums Association appreciates the 15 Oklahoma museums participating in the 2021 Blue Star Museums Program.

OKLAHOMA
ARDMORE
Greater S.W. Hist. and Military Memorial Museum

CHEYENNE
Washita Battlefield National Historic Site

CHICKASHA
Grady County Historical Society

CLAREMORE
Will Rogers Memorial Museum

GROVE
Har-Ber Village Museum

IDABEL
Museum of the Red River

MIAMI
Dobson Museum

OKLAHOMA CITY
American Banjo Museum
National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum
Oklahoma City Museum of Art

PAWNEE
Pawnee Bill Ranch and Museum

SHAWNEE
Mabee-Gerrer Museum of Art

TULSA
Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art

WEWOKA
Seminole Nation Museum

WYNNEWOOD
Wynnewood Historical Society

Blue Star Museums
Smarties Virtual Trivia Fundraiser A Success

Smarties Virtual Trivia Fundraiser is in the books and it was a ton of fun. A huge shout out to Ken Busby for his continuing talents as the best Trivia Master of Ceremonies ever.

We appreciate all the sponsors and donors for their support of OMA and Oklahoma museums. We also appreciate The Springer Company for offering a $1000 match, which was fully matched thanks to the generous trivia players.

Thank you to the Smarties Committee for planning such a fun fundraiser with Trivia Hub. Committee members include Ken Busby • Richard Ellwanger • Brenda Granger • Jennifer Holt • Jordan Hopkins • JA Pryse • Stacy O’Daniel • Melissa Owens • Jeremy Springer • Heidi Vaughn • Emily White • Karen Whitecotton

We look forward to Smarties 2022 and hope you will participate. More information to come once the planning begins.

This year’s winners are:
1st place
Oklahoma smARTS Council - Oklahoma Arts Council

2nd place
Cerebros de los Muertos - Oklahoma History Center

3rd place
Quizzards of Oz - Friends of Maggie Brown

Thank you to our sponsors and donors

Ellis Annett
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egranger@smithcarney.com

OKMuseums.org
Oklahoma Humanities Accepting Grant Applications

You’ve developed the perfect project. Now find the perfect grant!

Oklahoma Humanities (OH) is accepting applications from Oklahoma nonprofits wishing to apply for Major Grant awards of up to $10,000 or Challenge Grant awards of up to $20,000. Grant applications are reviewed by the OH Board of Trustees in late September and applicants are notified of funding decisions by October 1.

WHAT THEY’RE LOOKING FOR
Cultural programming on the local level that supports our mission to strengthen communities by helping Oklahomans learn about the human experience, understand new perspectives, and participate knowledgeably in civic life. The humanities—disciplines such as history, literature, film studies, ethics, and philosophy—offer a deeper understanding of ourselves and others by confronting us with the questions, values, and meanings of the human experience. As the nonprofit, state partner for the National Endowment for the Humanities, OH brings people together to explore these ideas through programming and community grants that support book discussions, exhibits, film festivals, teacher institutes, and more. OH engages people in their own communities, providing forums for education, critical thinking, and productive civil discourse.

HOW TO SUBMIT
• Visit our website and explore the grant process and its guidelines
• Using our online grant system, complete and submit your mandatory draft application no later than August 1
• Submit your final application no later than September 1

Applicants must allow at least 90 days between the final application deadline and the starting date of the proposed project. Contact Senior Program Officer, Kelly Burns at kelly@okhumanities.org with any questions.

About Oklahoma Humanities
Oklahoma Humanities (OH) strengthens communities by helping Oklahomans learn about the human experience, understand new perspectives, and participate knowledgeably in civic life. The humanities—disciplines such as history, literature, film studies, ethics, and philosophy—offer a deeper understanding of ourselves and others by confronting us with the questions, values, and meanings of the human experience. As the nonprofit, state partner for the National Endowment for the Humanities, OH brings people together to explore these ideas through programming and community grants that support book discussions, exhibits, film festivals, teacher institutes, and more. OH engages people in their own communities, providing forums for education, critical thinking, and productive civil discourse.

OMA Receives RedBud Award
The Oklahoma Museums Association was honored to be presented with a 2021 Merit Award for Best COVID Collaboration, at the RedBud Awards Ceremony on June 29, 2021 for their Museum Open to the Public Guideline Considerations. This resource was developed for Oklahoma museums as part of their toolkit when planning their reopening for business including tourists, following closure from COVID-19.

The Oklahoma Travel Industry Association takes pride in recognizing Oklahoma tourism attractions, destination marketing organizations, and journalists for their outstanding efforts to serve and promote Oklahoma’s tourism industry with the RedBud awards. Lt. Governor Matt Pinnell along with Jennifer Reynolds, emceed the awards recognizing outstanding marketing efforts by leading organizations from across the state.

OMA also congratulates the deserving museums who received RedBud Awards including the American Banjo Museum, Edmond Historical Society & Museum and Oklahoma City National Memorial & Museum.
October 28 Webinar - Building the Foundations of Distance Learning in Your Museum

One result of the pandemic made museums think more about new ways to engage their remote audience. Join us for a continuation of this thought-provoking topic as Emily Kotecki presents an information packed webinar which is designed for any museum wanting to start a distance learning program but asking, “Where do I begin?” Through discussions and interactivity, the webinar will help museums of any size examine the key building blocks for online learning programs.

The webinar will be on October 28 at 10:00am Central Time. Registration is $10 for OMA members and $15 for non-members. The deadline to register is October 25. Register here. Scholarships are available, apply here by October 18.

The webinar will be presented by Emily Kotecki. Emily is a museum learning consultant and podcaster based in Raleigh, North Carolina. She recently published a free, downloadable guide called The Distance Learning Workbook: A Launch Guide for Museums. She is also the host and producer of both the Microsoft Libraries and Museums Podcast and her own podcast, Museum Buzz.

Prior to consulting, she created award-winning distance learning programs and interpretive tools at the North Carolina Museum of Art.

Her career began in political journalism at The Washington Post, where she hosted daily political podcast and weekly show on XM-Sirius Radio. Emily holds a master’s degree in museum education from The George Washington University and a bachelor’s degree in broadcast journalism from American University.

Emily Kotecki
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, Dist. 1 Rep. OKPOP 918.282.3317 kwhitecotton@okhistory.org

Frank Phillips Foundation, which owns/operates Woolaroc Museum and Frank Phillips Home, welcomes new CEO/Director [Kevin Hoch](mailto:kwhitecotton@okhistory.org) on August 1.

The [Gilcrease Museum](http://www.gilcrease.org), Tulsa, will close the doors of its current home to the public at end of day July 4 so that a new facility can be built. The museum will host pop-up art and education experiences throughout Tulsa during the closure.

[Oklahoma Sculpture Society](http://www.oksulpture.org) on exhibit at [The Museum Broken Arrow](http://www.museumbrokenarrow.com), Broken Arrow, beginning August 6. [More](#)

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

[Doug Zook](mailto:jboyd@dobsonmuseum.com) is retiring from the Oklahoma Forest Heritage Center.

[Firewheel Folk: Oklahoma Wildflowers in Poetry](http://www.firewheelfolk.org) exhibit celebration on July 17 at Rural

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

[From Start to Finish: Exploring the Artist’s Process](http://www.jacksonstate.edu) on exhibit through August 6 at [The Wigwam Gallery](http://www.wigwamgallery.org), Altus. [More](#)

[Sun Patterns, Dark Canyon: The Paintings and Aquatints of Doel Reed (1894-1985)](http://www.sunpatterns.com) exhibit opening July 6 at [Oklahoma State University Museum of Art](http://www.okstate.edu), Stillwater. [More](#)

**District 4**
Amanda Boehm-Garcia, Dist. 4 Rep. Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art 405.325.2297 aboehmgarcia@ou.edu

[B. Byron Price](mailto:aboehmgarcia@ou.edu) is retiring from the University of Oklahoma where he has served as Director of the Charles M. Russell Center, Interim Director of Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art and Director of University of Oklahoma Press.

[In the Dark](http://www.billboard.com) on exhibit through September 12 at [Sam Noble Museum](http://www.samnoblemuseum.org), Norman. [More](#)

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

[Edmond Historical Society & Museum](http://www.edmondhistorical.org), Edmond, opens their [Edmond’s Route 66](http://www.edmondhistorical.org) exhibit as part of The Route 66 Blue Hippo Festival on August 6-7. [More](#)

[Women of the Banjo](http://www.americanbanjomuseum.org) on exhibit through May 2022 at [American Banjo Museum](http://www.americanbanjomuseum.org), OKC. [More](#)

[The Painters of Pompeii: Roman Frescoes from the National Archaeological Museum, Naples](http://www.pompeiiart.com) on exhibit through October 17 at [Oklahoma City Museum of Art](http://www.okcmoa.com), OKC. [More](#)

**Assisting Oklahoma museums in their efforts to educate, inform and entertain.**

**That is our mission.**

**Support our mission**

**Donate TODAY!**

OKMuseums.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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