LEADING IN AN EMERGENCY is a series of interactive educational opportunities built to strengthen leadership skills of individuals who work within nonprofit organizations in the state, in turn creating stronger organizations and communities. Programming begins Jan. 20, 2022 and includes both in-person workshops and live webinars. Leading in an Emergency is provided at no cost to participants, however, pre-registration is required and spots are limited.

“Our intention is to assist nonprofits and our communities to be best prepared for unexpected challenges or crises,” said Melody Kellogg, Director of the Oklahoma Department of Libraries. “The diverse programming will cover a range of detailed topics pertaining to emergency preparedness, mindful leadership and key mental health issues that will be beneficial to many individuals and organizations.”

Programming includes a six-part, live webinar series presented by Krista Scammahorn and Meridian Technology Center, “Mindful Leadership During Times of Crisis.” Scammahorn is an author, trainer, speaker and consultant of business training with more than 20 years of experience. The series will cover topics including “What is Mindful Leadership and Why is Mind Management Needed?,” “Focus and Attention Control,” and “Reducing Stress and Burnout with Mental Toughness, Grit and Resilience” and will take place once a month from January to June.

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WE ARE PROUD TO ANNOUNCE the Oklahoma Arts Council granted OMA an Arts and the Military Grant to present Museums Serving the Military via Zoom on February 24 from 10:00am-11:30am.

We have two fantastic speakers lined up for this important program. Jim Burns will speak on how to attract and serve the military connected audience at your museums including what to think about when the museum is planning exhibits and programs about the military (and beyond) and specifically for the military audience. It will be good insight as well as top level strategic thinking as how to build and reach the military audience. A few topics that Mr. Burns will touch on with his vast years of experience includes the basics such as military 101; military branches, ranks and titles; military terms; how to build a connection; developing a relationship; understanding the military culture; assessing your potential role and your organizational capabilities in serving the military audience; designing your offerings; implement, observe and adapt and lastly, having a positive impact on the military audience by engaging them with museum programs and exhibits. Douglas Shaw Elder will speak to what it takes to facilitate a military community arts program, including partnerships. He will also discuss how museums can begin a relationship with a veterans coordinator as museums are planning their arts-based projects for veterans and military personnel. He will then continue his discussion on how museums can offer a variety of hand-on arts programming.

The program is free, but you must register in advance for this meeting here. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

You will not want to miss these two excellent speakers sharing their knowledge on how your museum can reach and serve the military audience. I look forward to “seeing” you on February 24.

PS If you would like to view more information on this program, including the speakers bios, please click here.

Save the Date

Smarties Virtual Trivia Night
Mark your calendar and plan to attend Smarties Virtual Trivia Night on June 10, 2022. More information coming soon!

Arts & Culture Day 2022
Oklahomans for the Arts has announced that Arts & Culture Day will be celebrated on March 23, 2022. More information to come soon.
“Emergency Preparedness” in-person workshops will be presented by Rebecca Elder and will provide tailored content for nonprofits such as libraries, museums and archives with information focused on preparing for and responding to emergencies that might impact their unique records and artifacts. Elder has more than 15 years of experience as a cultural heritage preservation consultant and also serves as an adjunct instructor at Kent State University and The University of Texas at Austin. Workshops will take place at four locations across Oklahoma May 23-26.

Participants may choose to attend one in-person workshop, with a maximum of 25 participants per workshop. This content will also be available as a three-part live webinar June 14, 21 and 28.

Register to participate in the Leading in an Emergency program by visiting OKMuseums.org/leading. Program participation is free, however, in-person workshops are limited to 25 participants per training session. Participants may choose to attend some or all of the series of live webinars and one in-person workshop.

Leading in an Emergency project activities are made possible with funding from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) and in partnership with the Oklahoma Department of Libraries, Oklahoma Museums Association, Institute of Museum and Library Services and Meridian Technology Center. The opinions and content of activities and materials do not necessarily reflect the position or policy of the Oklahoma Department of Libraries or IMLS, and no official endorsement should be inferred. For more information, call (405) 424-7757 or visit OKMuseums.org/leading.
New Year, New Website? Definitely, Maybe.

BY TONY VANN, Principal of The Guild

I VIVIDLY REMEMBER the first website I developed in 1998. What is unbelievable to me is that has been more than 20 years ago. To some, it seems that websites have either “always been around” or the opposite end of the spectrum which is “we just got our website.” Either way, it is difficult to know if you should start the process of building a new website or staying with the one you have. Most clients over-estimate the viability of their websites, however, there are key questions you should ask yourself about the timing of a new website, or continuing with your current site?

A FEW KEY FACTORS TO WATCH FOR:

- Have your services or products changed?
- Are you presenting content as effectively as you can?
- Is the content getting old?
- Are competitors outranking you in search results?
- Have your users’ needs changed since the last redesign?
- Are the images dated?
- Did the museum or organization go through a rebrand?
- Does your current site work and display correctly on all devices?
- Do you need to improve usability?
- Are visitors not finding what they are looking for?
- Does your site load slow?

Although there might be some obvious signs your website needs updating (that link to your company’s Myspace page is a no-brainer), your answers to these questions should give you a good idea whether or not a redesign is in order. There are several ways to tackle a redesign based on urgency and severity, but you likely will take one of two paths: incremental changes or a complete overhaul.

If you choose to make changes incrementally, know this is often time an easier process immediately, but can become a difficult pill to swallow over the long-term. Think of this as quilting or patching the website together. A new logo here, new images over there, even some code to make the site more aggressive when it comes to backlinks and search engine marketing. However, remember, this is an incremental process. Be honest with yourself and understand you are either making changes step-by-step within a greater, more global plan or you are just trying to keep the ship sailing without it sinking to the bottom of the ocean. This might seem like the better path, but remember, each change might nickel and dime you over budget rather than buying in on a fixed budget.

Making the decision to go “all-in” on a new website is both exciting and daunting. More impactful that the incremental changes, this is also more in-depth and more expensive in the short-term. The process is a deep dive into your current website, the online traffic you are currently experiencing and a look toward the

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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.
Greetings,

WE KNOW HOW HARD YOU HAVE WORKED to help protect and guide your museum staff, volunteers and visitors over the course of the COVID-19 pandemic. Many of you have been adjusting plans in response to local conditions and policies. Your leadership is so important as all of us continue to navigate this challenging time.

As Director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services, I wanted to make sure that you are aware of research and resources available to help mitigate exposure to the SARS-CoV-2 virus in collections-based institutions. Since May 2020, IMLS has been working on the REopening Archives, Libraries, and Museums (REALM) research project alongside our partners OCLC, a global library research and technology company, and Battelle, a global scientific research and development organization. Project results are intended to help museums, libraries, and archives assess how to handle materials, manage facilities and conduct public operations while mitigating exposure to the infectious virus.

The REALM research team conducted and released findings from eight laboratory tests that studied how long the SARS-CoV-2 virus can remain active on materials and surfaces found in high-trafficked public spaces. The tests found that the amount of SARS-CoV-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19) that was still viable on various materials varies, especially in the unique operational considerations of museums. While the spread of COVID-19 via contaminated objects is not believed to be a primary method of transmission, the practices of wearing a mask and washing one’s hands are emphasized as effective ways to reduce transmission of viruses through public spaces.

The REALM project has also produced a series of research briefings that highlight scientific findings on virus transmission, effectiveness of prevention and decontamination strategies, the SARS-CoV-2 variants, COVID-19 vaccines, and how indoor ventilation affects transmission. These briefings can be accessed at https://www.oclc.org/realm/research.html.

To assist the museum sector, the REALM team has compiled relevant results and resources into a toolkit specifically designed to help museums make informed decisions; this can be accessed at: https://www.oclc.org/realm/resources/museums.html. We are regularly updating the toolkit to reflect where we are in our country’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Resources include information on mask policies, volunteer and docent management, communications and signage, and interviews with museum leaders who describe their decision making and adaptations over the course of the pandemic.

The REALM project is continuing its work into 2022, during which time the project will expand its toolkit offerings and continue to highlight science-based information and resources that are relevant to museum operations. To stay informed of news and information, sign up for the REALM mailing list at https://www.oclc.org/realm/subscribe.html. If you have any questions, please reach out to me at crosby@imls.gov.

While we are all still learning about how to navigate this public health crisis, we hope that the REALM project can be helpful to your members as they determine their local policies and practices that will meet their community’s needs for education, entertainment, social connection, and safety.

Stay well,

Crosby Kemper
Director, IMLS

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future to plan for a website that presents content intuitively, adapts to the changes in the Internet’s structure and coding changes (basically, what Google says is important).

So, the most asked question concerning websites is, “How long do they last?” The reality is it is different for all organizations. It also depends on how flexible and forward thinking you were during the initial development phase enabling your website to grow organically as content grows and needs change. The nitty-gritty is a good website can be completely viable for 36 months. After that time, the changes in technology, the internet and user experience shifts. Once the momentum pivots away from your current website, it is often too late to make critical changes. The best offer is to bridge the gap by crafting limited incremental changes until your budget allows for a new website.
New Year’s Resolution

Stay in Compliance with OSHA in 2022 by attending January 4 presentation

SCIENCE MUSEUM OKLAHOMA WILL BE HOSTING Jason Hudson, Oklahoma Department of Labor, Director, Consultation Services Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), who will conduct an hour-long training in the Goldman room on Tuesday, January 4, 2022, at 10:00 am. Free, but registration is required. Register here.

Mr. Hudson will go over topics like how to stay compliant with OSHA 300A (injury and illness) record keeping, the new COVID Vaccination and Testing Emergency Temporary Standard (ETS) requirements, and what claims are the most common for Oklahoma businesses. Also, he will go over what employers should do and what they should not do, while making the topic fun.

Attend this informative session and stay in compliance for 2022 and have our questions answered. For more information on this meeting, please contact Jasmin Gainey, Human Resources Director, Science Museum Oklahoma, 405.602.3721.

OMA appreciates Science Museum Oklahoma for inviting all museums to this important presentation.
Each year, the OMA Awards Program honors outstanding museum projects and recognizes individuals and groups whose contributions have impacted Oklahoma museums and the museum profession. Entries for the 2022 OMA Awards Program are now being accepted. Download all the information here. The deadline to submit an entry is Friday, May 20, 2022.

Who can submit?
All current OMA members can submit entries in the individual/group award categories which includes Certificates of Recognition and the Service to the Profession. Nominees for Certificate of Recognition do not need to be members of OMA, however nominees for Service to the Profession must be a current OMA member.
All current OMA Museum members can submit entries in the project award categories. The following types of projects can be submitted: Exhibit, Outreach or Education Program, Promotional Piece, Publication, and Special Project. Projects must have been completed or in use between January 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022.

Why should you submit an entry?
Small museums have just as much chance to win as big museums. For competitive comparison, projects are judged by the size of the overall project expense not the size of the museum.

There are four project expense levels
$0-$5,000
$5,001-$15,000
$15,001-$50,000
$50,001 and over

You can honor a valuable volunteer, board member, or funder in a way that is tangible and memorable.

There is much good publicity for award winners including recognition at the OMA Awards Celebration Dinner on September 15, 2022, promotion on the OMA website and statewide media outlets, and inclusion in the fall issue of the OMA quarterly newsletter.

Contact the OMA office with Awards Program questions at info@okmuseums.org or 405.424.7757.
OMA thanks…
September 1 – November 30

CHAMPIONS ($1,000 AND OVER)
Richard Ellwanger, Wewoka,
in memory of Peggy Ellwanger
Don and Mary Etta Herron, Idabel,
in memory of Mary H. Herron
Oklahoma Department of Libraries
Oklahoma Humanities

SUPPORTERS ($500–$999)
Sherry Marshall, OKC
Oklahoma City National Memorial
& Museum

DONORS ($100–499)
Jan Davis, Norman
Edward & Brenda Granger, OKC
Mijos Taqueria OKC, LLC, Edmond
Melvin Moran, Seminole
Dr. Kelli Mosteller, Shawnee
Henry M. Moy, Idabel,
in memory of Mary H. Herron
Dan Provo, Edmond
Steve Robinson, Claremore
Ruth Ann Rugg, Fort Worth, TX,
in honor of the extraordinary
Brenda Granger
The Guild Agency, LLC
The Kerr Foundation, Inc.
Peter Tirrell, Norman
Visit Shawnee
Valerie and Wade Walters, Ada
Sarah Wright, Tulsa

CONTRIBUTORS (UP TO $99)
AmazonSmile
Maggie Brown, Tulsa
Ken Busby, Tulsa,
in memory of Peggy Ellwanger
Kathy Harris, McLoud
Lisa Henry & Larry Bristow, Norman,
in honor of Jennifer Day and
in memory of Bud & Lawana Henry
Gretchen Jeane, Edmond
Rachel Johnson, Tulsa
Ashley Krivohlavek, Catoosa
Gail Loafman, Duncan
Brittany Molloy-Kenney, Beverly MA,
in honor of Brenda Granger
Müllerhaus Legacy
Mary Owensby, Lawton
Kelli Payne, Mustang
PayPal Giving Fund
Dane & Lynn Pollei, Shawnee
JA Pryse, OKC
Sherry Vance, OKC
Jim & Luann Waters, Wynnewood

IN-KIND
From the Vine Studio
Iris Muno Jordan, Edmond
Nancy Lowe-Clark, Okmulgee
Mabee-Gerrer Museum of Art
Science Museum Oklahoma
The Guild
The Springer Company

New Museum Law Started November 1
501c3 Museums with budgets under $1 million should submit application for exemption

NOVEMBER 1, OKLAHOMA’S NEW LAW 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 took effect.

A museum meeting the criteria must complete the following steps to make application for this exemption from the Oklahoma Tax Commission:

1) Download the Oklahoma Sales Tax Exemption Packet here. You will check non-accredited museums as the type of organization.

2) Complete the entire form and submit it along with the following documentation:
   • 501c3 letter of determination from the Internal Revenue Service
   • Articles of Incorporation
   • Bylaws
   • Previous year’s audit or 990 tax return showing your budget is under $1 million

Once the Oklahoma Tax Commission receives your completed application and documentation, they will be in contact with you regarding your application.

SUBJECT: Sales tax exemption BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA: SEC- TION 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, and c. operates on an annual budget of less than One Million Dollars ($1,000,000.00). SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2021.

We hope you’re enjoying the new newsletter layout as we start OMA’s 50th year. A huge shout out to Scotty O’Daniel for his excellent work.

50 YEARS

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U.S. Department of Education Announces Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) Program Overhaul for Student Loan Debt

IF YOU ARE EMPLOYED BY a non-profit or government and have student loan debt, you may be eligible for loan forgiveness, cancellation, and/or consolidation of federal student loans under the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program (PSLF). Created under the College Cost Reduction and Access Act of 2007, PSLF allows borrowers who work full time for nonprofits and government agencies to have their outstanding debt forgiven tax-free on Federal Direct Loans, after making 120 qualifying monthly payments under a qualifying repayment plan. Borrowers could apply for forgiveness under PSLF starting in October 2017. On October 6, 2021, the U.S. Department of Education announced a temporary expansion to provide more borrowers access to forgiveness. Nonprofit workers who believe they are eligible for forgiveness or wish to have their employment at their current charitable nonprofit employer certified should take action through the PSLF Help Tool, available here.

The PSLF Program forgives the remaining balance on Direct Loans after 120 qualifying monthly payments have been made under a qualifying repayment plan while working full-time for a qualifying employer, which includes most 501c3 museums. The form can be found here. More information on the PSLF can be found here.

Much of the information above is taken from the National Council of Nonprofits website.

Commemorating America’s Semiquincentennial

From the American Association for State and Local History

ON JULY 1, AASLH PUBLISHED Making History at 250: The Field Guide for the Semiquincentennial, a new resource with guiding themes and inspiring ideas to help you prepare for 2026. Whether you’re already planning or are still unsure if you’ll take part, this publication will help all of us fulfill the potential of this anniversary. Complete the form here to download your free copy of the guide. To view a recording of the virtual launch event, click here.

The United States will commemorate its 250th (or “Semiquincentennial”) anniversary in 2026. AASLH is providing key leadership for the history community as we all prepare for this once-in-a-generation opportunity. We are monitoring national, regional, and state commemoration plans as they develop, serving as a clearinghouse of information for history organizations and practitioners at the local, state, and national levels. We are publishing resources to help guide commemoration planning, like webinars, blog posts, and other publications. We are in communication with other national initiatives, including the U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission, to help ensure that the values and goals of the history community are represented well in national commemoration efforts. We have organized a national coordinating committee, facilitating communication and collaboration among major organizations, institutions, and agencies. Finally, we are outlining major goals and themes for the anniversary that can help align the work of a diverse and dynamic field over the next several years.

View AASLH’s resources to support 250th planning.
View the U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission’s Report to the President.
View the 2020 report on the status of 250th planning.

Looking for a job? Have a position open at your museum?

OKMuseums.org/jobs

OMA museum members at the Elevated and Pinnacle levels and museum partner members may post FREE of charge.

ALWAYS FREE TO LOOK.

Edward W. Granger, CPA
5100 N. Brookline Ave., Suite 1000
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73112-3627
Telephone (405) 272-1040 • Fax (405) 235-6180
1-800-570-1040
egranger@smithcarney.com
District 1
Karen Whitecotton, Dist. 1 Rep.
kwitecotton@okhistory.org

Another World: The Transcendental Painting Group on display until February 20 at Philbrook Museum, Tulsa. More

Discovery Lab, Tulsa, is opening the doors to their new building. Kick off the New Year by visiting their beautiful new location! More

Want to become a part of the Bixby Historical Society’s lasting legacy? Buy a personalized brick to add to their building! More

Greenwood Cultural Center offers a resource portal on the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre and Black Wall Street. More

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

Brianna Teel is the new Administrative Assistant at Oklahoma Forest Heritage Center.

The Life of Roy Clark on exhibit at J.M. Davis Arms & Historical Museum, Claremore, until late 2022. More

Come make shadow puppets to celebrate the Chinese New Year on January 29 at Museum of the Red River, Idabel. More

Darryl Starbird’s National Rod & Custom Car Hall of Fame is hosting a Custom Car Show in Tulsa February 18-20. More

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

Woolaroc Museum, Bartlesville, recently opened their new welcome center. More

Red/Green/Cow on display at OSU Museum of Art, Stillwater, until January 22. More

A Winter Mood: Time for the Season on display at The Wigwam Gallery, Altus, until February 25. More

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

Museum of the Great Plains, Lawton, recently welcomed Kevin Lawrence as Assistant Director and Taylor Larson as Curator/Archivist. In January, Deborah Baroff, Senior Curator, will retire.

Recent new hires at Sam Noble Museum, Norman, include Curator of Ethnology, Dr. Claire Nicholas; Collection Manager, Ethnology, Ella Crenshaw; Coordinator, Special Events and Facility Rentals, Tiffany Orr; Head of Education, Danny Mattox; Information Technology Lead, Matt Copeland; Manager, Paleontology Collections Program, Tia Ruppert; Public Programs Coordinator, Lisa Ratliff; Volunteer Coordinator, Jessica Cavin; and HR Lead, Anna Steele.

The Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art, Norman, recently welcomed Thomas Brent Smith as the Wylodean and Bill Saxon Director and Lindsey Burbridge as Assistant Registrar.

District 5
Jason Harris, Dist. 5 Rep.
405.830.6830
Jharris309@gmail.com

Aliessia Jones is the new Curator at The American Pigeon Museum, OKC.

The Oklahoma City Metropolitan Library System has a new program that allows library card holders to visit three local museums: Oklahoma City Museum of Art, Oklahoma History Center, and SKELETONS: Museum of Osteology. Passes are available first come, first served. Availability can be checked by calling the library at 405.231.8650.

Calling all sleuths! Join the Edmond Historical Society Museum, Edmond, for a free Nancy Drew-inspired adventure on January 8 from 10:00am-12:00pm in honor of Detective Day. More

Western Wares opens February 11, 2022 at National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum, OKC. More

Oklahoma Railway Museum, OKC, will resume its normal Thursday-Saturday hours beginning January 6. More
CALLING ALL STORYTELLERS

STORYTELLING PROVIDES MEANING, creates context, and helps us understand others as well as ourselves. As the Oklahoma Museums Association begins its 50th year, we ask for your help in telling the story of OMA. How? By sharing a video of your favorite OMA memory, we will compile a visual record that we will share in celebration of our anniversary.

IDEAS TO GET YOUR STORYTELLING WHEELS TURNING
Use the following questions to inspire your video. You can begin by using a one-line phrase to help you get comfortable being on camera.

POSSIBLE STATEMENTS THAT WE ENCOURAGE
Hi, I am (name) and I love museums.
Hi, I am (name) and a proud member of OMA.

POSSIBLE QUESTIONS FOR INSPIRATION
How did you first get involved in museum work?
What situation have you or your museum found yourself in where OMA was a helpful resource?
Why do you believe OMA is the voice of Oklahoma museums?
What is the best benefit of being an OMA member?
What would you like OMA to know as they celebrate 50 years championing Oklahoma museums?

EASY WAYS YOU CAN RECORD YOURSELF
You can use the camera on your smartphone, Apple or Android, and filming is as easy as pressing a button. Just remember to hold the phone side-to-side instead of up-and-down.

You can use a video or DSLR camera. You’ll have that professional look and sound in hi-def. If you’re not a professional vlogger, have a friend or co-worker nearby to help make sure you are in frame and push record.

You can use the video camera function on your computer. You’ll know exactly what you look and sound like, and thanks to so many virtual meetings, we’re all used to looking our best for the computer’s camera.

HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR RECORDING
Once you’ve got your recordings ready, upload your video here. We’ll then begin the process of watching and editing to help make your video part of the OMA story! You can submit as many videos as you like through March 15, 2022.

THE DETAILS ON CONTENT CONSENT
By providing your recorded image and voice via the upload link above, you consent to the use of the submitted content as seen allowable by Oklahoma Museums Association in any and all media throughout the universe in perpetuity, of your appearance, voice and name for any purpose whatsoever in connection with The Digital Project for Oklahoma Museums Association. All permissions for use are fully granted to OMA so as they pertain to the stated mission and vision of the organization.

FINAL NOTE
We can’t wait to hear your stories and be able to share them as part of the OMA 50th celebration. Thank you to those who recorded a video during the Oklahoma Museum Conference and those who uploaded video since the conference. Extra appreciation to The Springer Company for making this digital project possible.

OMA Welcomes New Staff

MY NAME IS SYDNEY FANCHER
and I am so excited to be working with OMA. I am finishing up an AA in history from OCCC and am concurrently attending the University of Oklahoma for a BA. At OU I am majoring in history with a women’s and gendered history specialty and minoring in Native American studies. I have a passion for history and study it for fun when I have free time. I became interested in museum work while interning at the Oklahoma History Center during the summer of 2021. This opened my eyes to the amazing world of working in museums and set me on the path of becoming a museum professional. What I love most about museums is how no matter how many times you walk through the same gallery you notice something new or learn something new each time.

Thank You!
As private historians, our work depends heavily on the museums, historical societies, and libraries that keep Oklahoma’s history alive and accessible. We esteem the OMA and its members for your service to history.
Raising Funds for Your Museum  BY SYDNEY FANCHER

THE COVID ERA HAS TAUGHT us a lot about re-imagining how we bring our museums to the public. Online platforms were created, safety measures implemented, and new ways to connect with guests were designed. We got our creativity flowing to ensure success during a really rough time. That same creativity mindset will help with fundraising. Did you know there are many ways to raise funds for your museum?

GRANTS
Grants are a great way to raise funds for your museum. There are several foundations in Oklahoma that offer grants to charitable organizations, including museums. There are grants for many purposes including creating a digital platform, updating your museum, digitizing collections, implementing Covid procedures, and more. OMA suggests you research a foundation’s purpose, restrictions, geographic focus, deadlines and application process before applying. You can find a list of top giving foundations here. We also suggest you polish up your grant writing skills to give you the best possible chance of receiving a grant. Check out this grant writing guide for some great tips and advice on writing grants.

EVENTS
Events are a great way to engage the public during your fundraising efforts. Events not only help you get your museums in front of your target audience but they also create a community bond. Here are some innovative event ideas.

CALENDAR PHOTO CONTEST
The calendar contest is a great peer-to-peer method of fundraising while also promoting up and coming local talent. Invite people to take photos of the area where your museum is, inside the museum, or an art contest. When people submit the photo, their family and friends pay to vote for them by donation. The 12 that raise the most money will be published in the yearly calendar. These calendars can also be sold year-long to continue raising funds. The best time to run this fundraiser is in the late summer or early fall.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS SHOWDOWN
Get your museum’s board members involved in the fundraising process. Turn their fundraising efforts into a competition with a grand prize!

DINE OUT FOR CHARITY
Partner with local restaurants to earn a portion of proceeds raised there. Ask to set up a small information booth inside to tell people about your museum. This is a great way to build partnerships with your community!

UPDATE YOUR GALA
For many, an annual gala is their number one fundraiser. You can enhance this by adding an online fundraising component for those who can’t make it, can’t afford tickets, or don’t want to attend in person. You can also live stream part of your gala online for donors.

CREATE A FUNDRAISING PLAN
How many of you have a specific fundraising plan implemented? January is the perfect time to start writing a yearly fundraising plan so that you can start the year off strong. You can find tons of useful information to get you started on creating your fundraising plan here.
Visit the OMA website for more fundraising resources.

OMA Endowment Fund
IF YOU WOULD LIKE to make a contribution to the OMA endowment fund at the Oklahoma City Community Foundation, please visit https://www.occf.org/oma/. Alternatively, you may donate directly to OMA at https://www.okmuseums.org/donations/.

Leave Your Legacy
The Oklahoma Museums Association 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.
OMA encourages you to consult your estate planner, tax professional or attorney when preparing your charitable bequest.
**MUSEUMS ADVOCACY DAY 2022**
**FEBRUARY 28-MARCH 1**

Hold the date for Museums Advocacy Day 2022. This year MAD will be held virtually again. Museums Advocacy Day 2022 will be self-paced access to preparation resources, weekly webinars throughout February (live or viewed, plus, access to on-demand recordings), and the live February 28 program. OMA is Partner in MAD, and as such, all OMA members will have access to the AAM-Member registration rate for Museums Advocacy Day. Detailed information is posted on the OMA website. More information

2022 ARTS & CULTURE DAY

This year, 2022 Arts & Culture Day as organized by Oklahomans for the Arts at the Oklahoma State Capitol is March 23. More information to come.

2022 OKLAHOMA CONGRESSIONAL AND LEGISLATIVE REDISTRICTING COMPLETE

The Oklahoma Legislature is tasked with redrawing state legislative and congressional district lines every 10 years, following the federal decennial census. Oklahoma has 101 House districts, 48 Senate districts and was assigned 5 congressional seats following federal reapportionment. According to the 2020 Census, the state’s resident population is 3,959,353, an increase 5.5 percent from 2010. In mid-November, the Oklahoma legislature passed a new redistricting map for both the state’s congressional and legislative boundaries. Governor Stitt signed all six redistricting bills into law on November 22, 2021. The boundaries take effect for the 2022 election cycle and the next redistricting will be in 2030. OMA will be notifying all Oklahoma museums of their elected officials in 2022.

**CONNECTING TO COLLECTIONS CARE ONLINE COMMUNITY**

This online community helps smaller cultural institutions to provide well-informed care for valuable collections. Search the website for preservation and conservation information, links to resources, access to recorded webinars and online discussions. All content in the Community, with the exception of special courses, is provided for free. There will be a webinar on the Introduction to Digital Collection Management on January 19, 2022 at 1:00pm ET. Connecting to Collections Care Online Community is managed by the Foundation for Advancement in Conservation. More information

**COLLECTIONS ASSESSMENT FOR PRESERVATION (CAP) PROGRAM**

The Foundation for the Advancement in Conservation (FAIC) will add your name to their notification list for the next application cycle by please emailing cap@culturalheritage.org A CAP assessment is a study of an institution’s collections, buildings, and building systems, as well as its collections care policies and procedures. The assessment involves a site visit by collections and building assessors, who spend two days touring the museum and interviewing staff and governing officials. The assessors then prepare a comprehensive report that outlines recommendations for improving collections care. A CAP assessment may assist small and mid-sized museums by: Providing recommendations and priorities for collections care specific to your collections; Facilitating the development of a long-range preservation plan; or Serving as a fundraising tool for future collections projects. More information

**CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS MUST ANNUALLY FILE WITH OKLAHOMA SECRETARY OF STATE**

As a reminder, all charitable organizations (which include most museums) are required to submit their registration renewal with the Oklahoma Secretary of State annually. They accept the filing online now. The Charitable Organizations section represents a subsection of the Secretary of State Business Filing Department. More information

**NEA BIG READ GRANT APPLICATIONS DUE JANUARY 26**

The National Endowment for the Arts is accepting applications from non-profits, including museums, for the 2022-2023 Big Read. NEA Big Read is a national program designed to revitalize the role of literature in American culture and to encourage reading for pleasure and enrichment. Organizations selected to participate will receive a grant, access to educational and promotional materials, and online training resources and opportunities. Application deadline is January 26, 2022. More information

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**MUSEUM ASSESSMENT PROGRAM APPLICATIONS FOR THE MUSEUM ASSESSMENT**

Applications due February 1, 2022. MAP offers five different assessments to choose from: Organizational, Collections Stewardship, Education & Interpretation, Community & Audience Engagement and Board Leadership. More information
CALENDAR

JANUARY
Stay in Compliance with OSHA held at Science Museum Oklahoma January 4, 2022 10:00 AM

OMA Connections Zoom Meeting January 14, 2022

Deadline to Register for Mindful Leadership During Times of Crisis Webinar January 18, 2022

Mindful Leadership During Times of Crisis Webinar - What is Mindful Leadership & Why is Mind Management Needed? January 20, 2022 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Deadline to submit proposals for Oklahoma Museum Conference January 31, 2022

FEBRUARY
Deadline to Register for Mindful Leadership During Times of Crisis Webinar February 15, 2022 All Day

Mindful Leadership During Times of Crisis Webinar - Focus & Attention Control February 17, 2022 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Museums Serving the Military Zoom Presentation February 24, 2022 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

MARCH
OMA Connections Zoom Meeting March 11, 2022

Oklahoma Museums Week March 13-19, 2022

Deadline to Submit Storytelling Video to OMA March 15, 2022

April
Deadline to Register for Mindful Leadership During Times of Crisis Webinar April 19, 2022

Mindful Leadership During Times of Crisis Webinar - Contingency Plans and Crisis Communication April 21, 2022 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Overcoming the Barriers to Museum Fundraising at Science Museum Oklahoma April 27, 2022

MAY
Deadline to Register for Emergency Preparedness In-Person Workshops May 13, 2022

OMA Connections Zoom Meeting May 13, 2022 10:00 AM

Deadline to Register for Mindful Leadership During Times of Crisis Webinar May 17, 2022

Mindful Leadership During Times of Crisis Webinar - Reducing Stress & Burnout with Mental Toughness, Grit & Resilience May 19, 2022 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

June
Deadline to Register for Emergency Preparedness Live, Three-Part Webinar June 12, 2022

Deadline to Register for Mindful Leadership During Times of Crisis Webinar June 14, 2022

Emergency Preparedness Live Webinar Part 1 June 14, 2022

Mindful Leadership During Times of Crisis Webinar - Strategies & Tactics to Rewire Your Brain June 16, 2022

Emergency Preparedness Live Webinar Part 2 June 21, 2022

Emergency Preparedness Live Webinar Part 3 June 28, 2022

Emergency Preparedness In-Person Workshop - Museum of the Red River, Idabel May 23, 2022 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

OMA 50th Anniversary Celebration May 24, 2022 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Emergency Preparedness In-Person Workshop - Museum of the Great Plains, Lawton May 24, 2022 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Emergency Preparedness In-Person Workshop - Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid May 25, 2022 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Emergency Preparedness In-Person Workshop - Bartlesville Public Library, Bartlesville May 26, 2022 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

JUNE
Smarties Trivia Night Fundraiser June 10, 2022

Deadline to Register for Emergency Preparedness Live, Three-Part Webinar June 12, 2022

Deadline to Register for Mindful Leadership During Times of Crisis Webinar June 14, 2022

Emergency Preparedness Live Webinar Part 1 June 14, 2022

Mindful Leadership During Times of Crisis Webinar - Strategies & Tactics to Rewire Your Brain June 16, 2022

Emergency Preparedness Live Webinar Part 2 June 21, 2022

Emergency Preparedness Live Webinar Part 3 June 28, 2022

Deadline to Submit Entries in the OMA Awards Program May 20, 2022
MEMBER RECOGNITION

September 1 – November 30  New and renewing members; new members are indicated with an asterisk.

Individuals

PATRON
Bill Bryans, Stillwater
Jan Davis, Norman

FRIEND
Gini Campbell, OKC*
Lauren Daughety, OKC
Sherry Vance, OKC

INDIVIDUAL
JJ Compton, Edmond
Jennifer Green, OKC
Sandra Hunt-Brady, Edmond*
Gretchen Jeane, OKC
Ashley Krivohlavek, Catoosa
Chenae Lippard, Ada
Denise Nell, OKC
David Peters, Stillwater

RETIRED PROFESSIONAL
John Hernandez, Lawton

STUDENT
Chloe Bean, Edmond
Dakota Britton, Edmond
Lindsey Burbridge, Norman
Dara Butcher, Edmond
Jamie Davenport, Edmond
Bailee Davis, Edmond
Danielle DeFries, Moore
Candice Fields, Edmond
Chad Griffith, Shawnee
Macy Jennings, Stillwater
Alissia Jones, Edmond
Walter Kerrick, Fletcher
Bradon, Melton, Edmond
Julia Moser, Edmond
Amber Pence, Edmond
Kathleen Pitre, Edmond
Marcos Rodriguez, OKC
Kaleigh Russell, Edmond
Hope Suttles, Edmond
Allison Wasiak, Edmond
Mackenzie Williams, Edmond

DESIGNATED STAFF/BOARD/Volunteers
Alora Adams, Tuskahoma
ShaVon Agee, Okmulgee
Christy Alcox, OKC*
Nicole Armitage, OKC
Alicia Ballard, Okmulgee
Chantry Banks, OKC

John Beaver, Okmulgee
Roger Bell, Muskogee
Gordon Blaker, OKC
Steve Boyd, OKC
Lillie-Beth Brinkman, OKC
Lori Brooks, OKC
John Brown, Okmulgee
Maggie Brown, Tulsa
Michelle Brown-Burdex, Tulsa
Erica Buckwater, OKC
June Carpenter, Tulsa*
Amelia Chamberlain, Stillwater
Nancy Crites, OKC
Patricia Cunningham, Chickasha
Matthew Davids, Altus
Jeremiah Davis, OKC
Mary Early, OKC
Lisa Escalon, OKC
Carina Evangelista, OKC*
Jeff Ewing, OKC
Jarrod Ferguson, OKC
Ken Ferguson, Altus
Kaci Fouts, Bartlesville
Kelly Frye, OKC
Christine Gibson, OKC
Edward Granger, OKC
Regina Green, Tuskahoma
Melessa Gregg, OKC
Tahnee Growingthunder, Carnegie
Marcelle Ahtone Harjo, Carnegie
Greg Heanue, OKC
Don Herron, Idabel
Kevin Hoch, Bartlesville
Amanda Hodges, Tulsa
Wesley Hull, Ardmore
Mary Irby, Idabel
Amy Johnson, Enid
Frances Jordan-Rakestraw, Tulsa
Rachel Keith, Tulsa
Kay Kilpatrick, Tuskahoma
Lyndsey Kopas, Hennessy
Jacob Krumwiede, Enid
Kevin Lawrence, Lawton
Dwight Lawson, Ph.D., OKC
Donald Lynch, Alva
Michele Mabry, Lawton
Marcia MacLeod, Tulsa*
Neal Matherne, Enid
Tina McKinney, Okmulgee
Hannah McNut, Idabel
Kayla Morris, Tulsa*
Henry Moy, Idabel
Scott Neel, Ph.D., Lawton
Kera Newby, OKC*

Megan Nesbit, Tulsa
Salvador Ontiveros, OKC
Neal Pascoe, Tulsa
Dennis Peterson, Spiro
Melissa Peterson, OKC
Judy Pete, Idabel
Michelle Place, Tulsa
Dustin Potter, OKC
Harold Powell, Temple
Lois Powell, Temple
Aaron Preston, Enid
Bonnie Prigmore, Poteau
Stephen Ratcliff, Idabel
Mary Jac Rauh, Okeene*
Rachael Robinson, OKC
Jena Rulo, Bartlesville*
Angie Rusch, Okeene*
Angie Rush, Muskogee
David Sapper, OKC
Marty Sellers, Eufaula
Diane Shen, Tulsa
Natalie Shirley, OKC
Frank Siltman, Lawton
Troy Simmonds, OKC*
Diana Simon, Perry
Katy Smith, Idabel
Vickie Smith, Idabel
Seth Spillman, OKC
Helen Stiefmiller, OKC
Linda Stone, Bartlesville
Scott Stulen, Tulsa
Melinda Taylor, Wilson
Brianna Teel, Broken Bow*
Jaime Thompson, OKC*
Shiloh Thurman, Bartlesville
Tracy True, Tulsa

Preservation Consulting, Assessments and Training

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Meet Dustin Potter

Dustin Potter is the Chief Technology Officer of the Oklahoma City National Memorial & Museum. Prior to his employment at the Memorial, he was an Information Technology Specialist at the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum. Throughout his 15 years at the Memorial, Dustin has implemented the latest engaging technology for staff and visitors. From 2013 to 2015, he oversaw the development of new digital exhibits in the Memorial Museum – adding over 30 new touch screen interactives, dozens of new videos and the Responsibility Theater which asks visitors to vote on difficult choices. The Theater won a Gold MUSE from AAM for outstanding achievement in museum media design and development. In 2019, he oversaw the creation of a new augmented reality app for Museum visitors. He has served on the Program Committee for the Museum Computer Network. Using technology to reach the generations that weren’t alive during the bombing continues to be a focus for his work at the Memorial. In addition to guiding the digital strategic direction for both the Memorial and Marathon, Dustin created both social media accounts and oversees digital communications.

Stillwater History Museum at the Sheerar
Tulsa Historical Society & Museum
U.S. Army Fires Center of Excellence

GROUND FLOOR
McCurtain County Veterans Memorial Museum
Military Memorial Museum
Oklahoma Blues Consortium
Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center
Temple Museum Association
Wilson Historical Museum

Museum Partners
LEVEL I
Müllerhaus Legacy*
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OMA MISSION: Supporting Oklahoma museums in their efforts to educate, inform and entertain.

MEMBERSHIP + CONNECTION
OMA offers a variety of programs, services, and networking opportunities that benefit the Oklahoma museum community. The financial support of membership from our 700+ members ensures we remain a strong and thriving organization. OMA members are an important part of the collective Oklahoma museum voice, so be a member and get connected!

FOR INDIVIDUALS
Whether you are museum staff, a volunteer, board member or student preparing for a career in museums, OMA is for you. Membership provides learning and networking opportunities to help you grow in your role and feel connected to the Oklahoma museum community. Full details here.

FOR MUSEUMS
Oklahoma has over 500 museums, historic homes, tribal cultural centers, botanical gardens, zoos, science centers, historical sites and more! Membership is for every type and size of museum with resources that help strengthen the museum to better engage citizens and enhance their community. Full details here.

FOR MUSEUM PARTNERS
Museum Partners are the businesses, consultants, and organizations that offer programs, products and services of interest to museums. Membership provides the opportunity to be seen and recognized as part of the Oklahoma museum community. Full details here.

OMA is a member of the American Alliance of Museums, American Association for State and Local History, Coalition of State Museum Associations, Arts Council of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma Travel Industry Association, Oklahomans for the Arts, and Oklahoma Center for Nonprofits.

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