

PRESS RELEASE – for immediate release

Tuesday, August 9, 2022

From: The Wichita-Sedgwick County Historical Museum  
204 S. Main St. - Wichita, Kansas

**Special Exhibition Presentation: Deke Dickerson “History of the Electric Guitar and its Early Players”**

Saturday, August 13<sup>th</sup> at 2pm in the DeVore Auditorium  
This presentation is also available online.

Museum Admission is \$5 for Adults, \$2 for Children – free to Museum Members and their guests.

Dickerson, known as a historian and writer, is more widely appreciated as a guitarist and performer presenting American Roots Music to an international audience. More information at [dekedickerson.com](http://dekedickerson.com)

“Turn it up to 90! The Electric Guitar and the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its WICHITA WORLD DEBUT”  
A story told through dozens of rare and historic guitars – Running through October.

Over the past ninety years the Wichita-Sedgwick County area has produced a number remarkable electric guitarists as well as a few electric guitar luminaries. This is perhaps because the genesis of this instrument is uniquely tied to Wichita. In 1932, Gage Brewer of Wichita staged the world’s first performances featuring the electrically amplified guitar. In this exhibition, we follow the fundamental development of the electric guitar starting from its invention in Los Angeles, and its public debut in Wichita. Today electric guitars are a ubiquitous mainstay of popular culture as the world’s most popular musical instrument. Featuring dozens of historic electric guitars, exploring Wichita’s connection to the most popular musical instrument of our time. The Museum has produced several exhibitions revealing Wichita’s unique place in the instrument’s history.

The Museum thanks exhibit sponsors: Bonavia Properties, Devlin Interiors, David & Barbara Rolph, Ron & Lee Starkel, and collectors who have loaned instruments for exhibition.

The Wichita-Sedgwick County Historical Museum is one of America’s leading local history museums and accredited by the American Alliance of Museum since 1972. It has served the community since 1939 and since 1980 has occupied Wichita’s original 1890 City Hall building.

Submitted by Eric Cale, Museum Director: [ecale@wichitahistory.org](mailto:ecale@wichitahistory.org)  
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Museum Hours: Tuesday – Friday 11:00 am to 4:00 pm; Saturday & Sunday 1:00 to 5:00 pm.

Supported in part by the City of Wichita and the Board of Commissioners of Sedgwick County Kansas