

Heritage

The Wichita-Sedgwick County
Historical Museum Association



The original Santa that was the centerpiece of the Innes/Macy's window is now on display at the Historical Museum during the Christmas season.

MERRIMENT at the MUSEUM

The days may be shorter, the skies may be grim, but people from near and far can depend on the Historical Museum to always be a warm and inviting destination. As we near the holiday season, expect the cheer-levels to double, even triple, in Old City Hall.

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Macy's Department Store
Christmas window circa 1960.



Eric Cale

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Mission, vision, diversity, equity, and inclusion

As a community, we are fortunate to have this accredited museum that offers us the opportunity to understand how we got to where we are today. Such a place is not a common boast for most cities. It is thanks to the continuous effort by generations of devoted supporters who believe in the perpetual power and importance of the past.

Through the years, the Museum has honed its focus, creating a Mission Statement to express its purpose:

The Wichita-Sedgwick County Historical Museum's mission is to educate the community and its visitors about local history by collecting, preserving, and interpreting materials reflecting the heritage of Wichita and Sedgwick County.

Later, a Vision Statement was created describing what success in meeting our mission provides:

To provide a world class Museum experience, advancing the understanding and exploration of the rich historical and cultural heritage of Wichita and Sedgwick County Kansas.

Core Values of Discovery, Creativity, Empathy, Authenticity, Integrity, Service and Collaboration were identified, to guide the activities and planning that goes into the day-to-day work at the Museum.

Most recently, the Museum has adopted, a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion statement ensuring an environment that respects and values all perspectives, and that those within historically underrepresented groups are included and represented:

The Wichita-Sedgwick County Historical Museum recognizes that the values of diversity, equity, and inclusion are critical to our mission and are necessary to ensure progress toward the objective interpretation of history and a more just future. We are committed to the preservation of a collective history of the people of Wichita and Sedgwick County. We are guided by the belief that an inclusive interpretation must include critical thinking and different perspectives to forge a deeper understanding of the past, illuminating the present and elevating the future.

Thank you for your support of this great American local history museum,
Eric M. Cale,
Museum Director



Miniature Christmas trees created by Sylvia Jackson.



A portion of the Moore Family Santa Doll collection.



The Victorian Cottage welcomes guest for Christmas.

MERRIMENT

continued from page 1

The Museum maintains its holiday decorating tradition with garlands and ornaments strewn over the stairs and throughout the second floor. There, visitors will find an exhibit of miniature Christmas trees, created by Wichita artist Sylvia Jackson. With incredible detail and creativity, these trees may serve as inspiration for any Christmas enthusiast.

In our lobby, visitors will find the Moore Family Santa Dolls on display. As a yearly tradition that's continued for 15 years, the Museum has exhibited a small selection of the Moore's collection – which is about 150 in total – for the public to admire. These antique Santas come in various sizes, colors, and expressions. It's hard to pick a favorite! Also featured will be the animatronic "Innes' /Macy's Santa" who waived to passers-by from the downtown store window during the 1960s. These Santas welcome all to a merry museum visit.

On the third floor, the immersive Victorian Cottage exhibit has been decked out for Christmas jubilation. Visitors will get a glimpse of how people celebrated the season over 100 years ago. All that's missing is a roaring fire and a cup of hot cocoa!

So help spread the cheer! Gather your friends and family and head to the Museum before the New Year.

The Importance Of Year-End Giving – An Annual Gift

Your support of the Historical Museum through membership is appreciated. If at the end of the year you can help further, thanks again! The Museum's annual gift appeal is an essential source of funding for the Museum in the coming year. These gifts support the Museum's unique mission to educate the community and its visitors about Wichita and Sedgwick County history from a world-class museum setting. Please be a part of next year's success with your annual gift. Look for the annual appeal letter in the mail soon. Your gift to the Museum, a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization, is tax deductible. 13. Retirement Accounts

IF YOU ARE 70 1/2, PLAN A QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DEDUCTION GIFT FROM YOUR TRADITIONAL IRA IN 2022.

Federal law allows people age 70½ or older to make direct transfers up to \$100,000 per year per person to charitable organizations from their Individual Retirement Account (IRA), without the withdrawal being treated as taxable income. The withdrawal can also be counted toward your Required Minimum Distribution.

Many of us cannot take advantage of charitable deductions because of the high standard deduction (\$29,300 for seniors filing jointly). Paying the donation directly out of your IRA lets you take advantage of this tax deduction by instead reducing your income.

Please visit with your tax accountant to see if this would help you.

There are many ways to support the Museum and contribute to a legacy of saving our history for future generations.

Here are 17:

1. Appreciated Stock
2. Bonds - State, Municipal, and U.S. Government Bonds.
3. CD's, Saving Accounts, Brokerage Accounts, Checking Accounts with P.O.D.
4. Gift Annuity
5. Deferred Gift Annuity
6. Pooled Income Fund
7. Charitable Remainder Trusts (Irrevocable) (Annuity and Unitrusts).
8. Charitable Lead Trust
9. Bequest Through Will
10. Revocable Charitable Living Trust
11. Gift of Life Insurance
12. A New Life Insurance Policy Naming the Organization Owner and Beneficiary
13. Retirement Accounts
14. Personal Property (Collections-Royalty Rights, etc.)
15. Outright Gift of Real Estate
16. Real Estate with Life Tenancy
17. In-Kind Gifts

Traditional Wreath Festival Lunch

The Museum's beloved Wreath Festival Luncheon is suspended this year. However, WHiMS volunteers will offer carryout lunch fare with familiar flair featuring a cranberry chicken salad over greens, croissant, and dessert for \$16. To ensure your lunch order is filled please place it by Monday, November 14th by calling 316-265-9314 or emailing wschm@wichitahistory.org.

Pick-up can be scheduled for Thursday through Saturday. Dine-in options without table service are available at the Museum. It is our hope to return to the traditional luncheon in time for the 40th Annual Wreath Festival next year.

Sponsored by WHiMS, friends and supporters of the Historical Museum.



Wreath Festival

Thursday, Friday, & Saturday
November 17, 18, and 19

The 39th Annual Wreath Festival will be held three days this year. Admission is free to the public.

Enjoy holiday cheer, music, and a wonderful destination for holiday gift buying. The Museum's WHiMS Gift Shop is transported to the 2nd floor DeVore Auditorium, where holiday shoppers are sure to be dazzled by an array of artful wreaths, décor items, baked goods, cards, books, and unique gift items. The festival takes place from 11am to 4pm Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.



**The
perfect
gift for the
person
who is
hard to
find a gift
for!**

A SPELL CREATED

The Museum's new book celebrating Wichita and Sedgwick County's Sesquicentennial is available for holiday gift giving! Shipped to your recipient in the continental United States for the all-inclusive price of \$120. To order, send payment to the Museum (payable to WSCHM) or contact the Museum Office at 316-265-9314 or office@wichitahistory.org.

A SPELL CREATED is a sequel to Wichita Century, 1870-1970 published by the Museum fifty years ago. The new book is a handsome pictorial history in the same tradition.

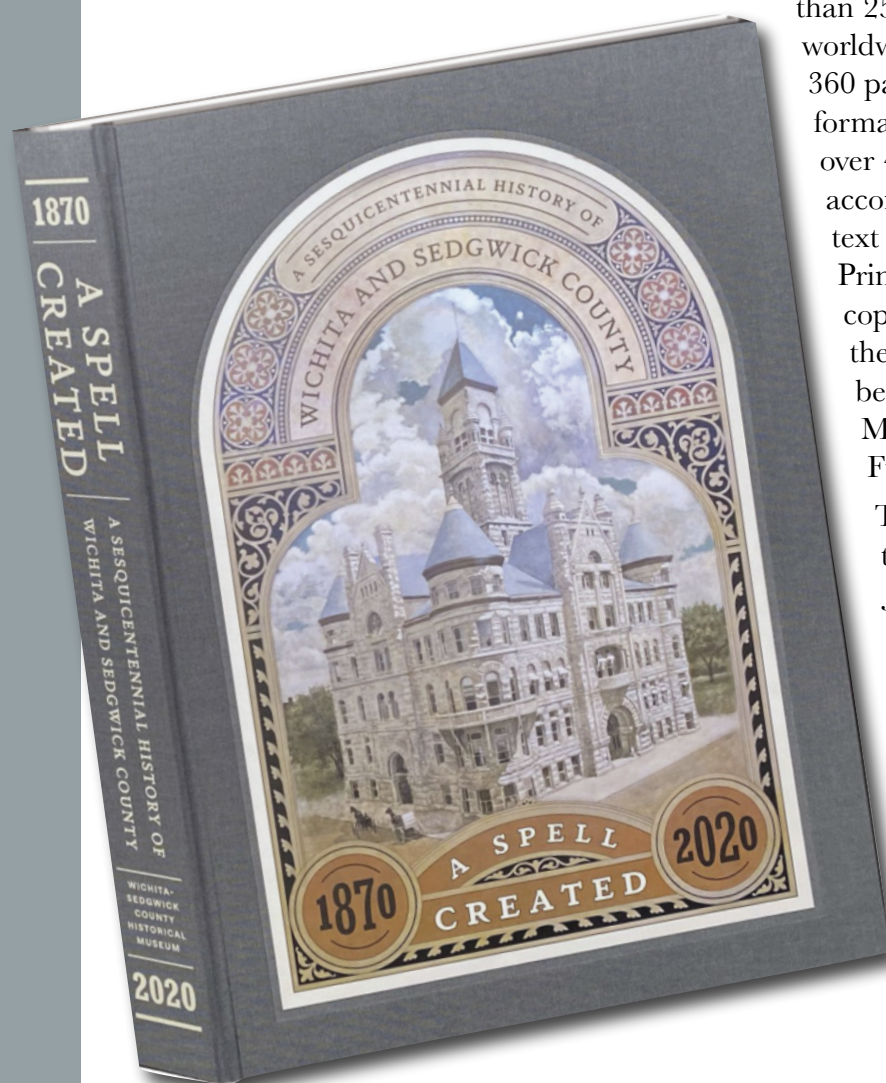
The book's Author, Dr. Judith Heberling, former Curator at the Museum, worked directly with the Museum's current Curator, Jami Frazier Tracy. Together they developed the content of the book based on the Museum's permanent collection of images and artifacts.

The firm charged with the book's design and production is award winning Lucia/Marquand who has designed exceptional books for more than 250 Museums

worldwide. The book itself is 360 pages, hardbound, large format, full color, featuring over 425 images accompanied by scholarly text and fully indexed.

Printing is limited to 2000 copies. All proceeds from the sale of the book will be placed in the Museum's Memorial Fund.

The Museum is grateful to the Charles and Joanne McIlwaine Foundation and the Ross Foundation for their support of this major publishing initiative.





Museum Members Enjoyed a Night at the Museum

Thank you Members for joining us on October 28th for the annual Torchlight Tour. Visitors saw the Museum in a different light: guided by flashlights through darkened exhibits at night. Docents awaited those wandering the exhibits with knowledge and helpful information. We even opened up the Clock Tower for special tours. In Heritage Square, Members enjoyed refreshments in the brisk evening air.

See you again next year!



SOCIAL MEDIA

The Museum has a
profound presence
online.

Visit us and Like us on:



Facebook



Instagram



Twitter



YouTube

Find us listed under:
“wichitahistory”

Online, the Museum's reach so far this year is looking up!

16,400 Website visitors **8,568** Livestream program minutes viewed

15,080 Social Media followers **71,335** All-time YouTube views

And, through our doors we're on track to welcome **10,000** museum guests by year's end!
Members! Please give a family pass to a friend.

The William and Ruth Heaston Educational Fund

*A gift of Michael D.
Heaston*

The fund provides support to the Museum to facilitate local (Sedgwick County, Kansas) history studies and research for students in higher education. The Museum will provide students with guided projects and resources enabling them to realize goals and outcomes. Students interested in this program should submit a letter of introduction, which includes areas of interest and educational goals, to The Wichita-Sedgwick County Historical Museum, attention: Heaston Edu., 204 S. Main, Wichita, KS 67202.



www.sedgwickcountyhistory.org

Designed for use by teachers and students.

Announcing the Sedgwick County Kansas Image Archive

An online local history resource funded through a Rotary Foundation Grant by the Rotary Club of East Wichita, the Rotary International Foundation, the Wichita-Sedgwick County Historical Museum, and initiated with a gift by J. Eric Engstrom

The funding awarded by Rotary enables the Museum to achieve a unique digital education initiative, featuring an archive of historic Sedgwick County photographs and images for use by public and private schools, home educators, and the general public through a free, open access, online resource. Designed for interactive use by students ages 7 through 18, this initiative comes at a time when teachers and schools are seeking easily accessible online content aligned with their curriculum. The site will be expandable to include an unlimited number of images. The site augments an additional online resource, currently under development, which will act as means for educators to help students explore their own local history, which is relevant to their lives.

The Museum has worked for over 80 years to collect, preserve, and interpret artifacts related to local history. In that time, the Museum has become the leading educational institution for learning about our past. This unique resource – a format including text, links, and downloadable lesson plans – meets Kansas' established educational standards. It too will be open access and free of charge. Students will gain a profound appreciation for community, their place in it, and our place in the wider world.

A public reception and program introducing the new archive was held at the Museum on Thursday, October 20.

Dane Estok, president, Rotary Club of East Wichita, noted, "Our membership is excited to help launch this new resource that promises to bring new vitality to local history education in our community." Rotary Club of East Wichita, founded in 1984, is part of Rotary International, which claims 1.4 million members around the world. It is a service organization that brings together professionals for education, community service, and fellowship. The Rotary Club of East Wichita supports its own foundation to award annual scholarships to Sedgwick County high school students attending Kansas colleges. In addition, the Club awards grants to Wichita nonprofit organizations and provides volunteers to a variety of community outreach projects.

Visit the Museum's
website
www.wichitahistory.org
for information about new
tours and educational
opportunities.

The Historical Museum presents our
15th Annual

Essay Contest!

Sponsored by the DeVore Family Fund.

Based on the 2022-23 National History Day theme

“Frontiers in History: People, Places, Ideas”

One winner from each of the following grade levels (6-8 & 9-12) will receive a \$200 prize and a collection of books for their class!

CONTEST RULES:

- All Sedgwick County students in grades 6-12 are eligible.
- The topic must be based on history in Sedgwick County.
- The entire essay must be the student's original work.
- Entries must be 300-600 words in length.
- Any essay with information copied directly from sources without use of quotation marks and cited resource will be disqualified.

FORM:

- The essay is to be handwritten in ink, typed, or prepared on a computer word processor, using black type in a non-script font no smaller than 12 point or larger than 14 point.
- Please include a Title Page with the following information: Title of the essay, contestant's full name and age, contestant's complete mailing address, telephone number, and email address (if available), name of contestant's school with grade level indicated.
- Essays must have a Bibliography listing all references utilized. Internet resources, if used, should be cited in similar format, along with the web address used to access the document online.

CONTEST PARAMETERS:

- Entries may be turned in at the Historical Museum front desk or mailed to the Historical Museum at the following address: 204 S. Main Wichita, Kansas, 67202.
- Entries must be received by April 15th, 2023.
- Essays will be judged on historical accuracy, originality, content, adherence to theme, organization of material, spelling, and grammar.

YOUNG HISTORIANS CLUB!

Each year, hundreds of area students take part in National History Day. The subject of history attracts young people who often grow into teachers, writers, archivists, attorneys, historians, and museum professionals. Through the Young Historians Club, the Museum's Education Team stands ready to assist students and teachers with NHD completion projects and foster student interest in museum work. Club members meet regularly, virtually and otherwise, providing young history enthusiasts with a learning laboratory featuring special behind-the-scenes access to the Museum. Students can utilize our study collection of artifacts as well as resources for special projects of their own design and creation. A student's exhibit may be spotlighted on the first floor in the Museum's Davis Gallery. To participate or for more information, email wschm@wichitahistory.org or call 316-265-9314.



Thanks to the
Museum's
Business
members for
their support

BUSINESS MEMBERSHIP

Business Supporters
enjoy free admission to
the Museum for
employees and clients
as well as other special
recognition.

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Steakburgers
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Kansas
- TSNEWS.COM

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- KU School of Medicine -
Wichita
- Lusco Brick & Stone
- McClelland, Inc.
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CONTRIBUTORS

- Bonavia Properties
- Dondlinger Construction
- Hephner TV & Electronics
- High Touch Technologies
- Juliana Daniel Antiques
- ReeseNichols South Central
Kansas
- Rutledge Property Group
- Senseney Music
- The Carnahan Group
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MEDIA SUPPORTERS

- KMWU
- PBS Kansas
- Radio Kansas
- KAKE - TV
- KSN - TV
- KWCH - TV
- The Times-Sentinel
Newspapers, LLC
- The Wichita Eagle

IN-KIND SUPPORTERS

- Ambassador Hotel
- Bever Dye Law Firm
- Candle Club
- Coleman Company
- CONCO Construction
- Drury Plaza Hotel Broadview
- Fidelity Bank
- Frame Guild
- Hillside Nursery
- Hotel at Old Town
- Hotel at Waterwalk
- Hyatt Regency
- Janet Huber Creative, LLC
- King's North American
- Nifty Nut House
- Old Time Clock Shop
- Old Town Architectural
Salvage
- One Source Technology
- PrimeCoPainting, LLC
- Visit Wichita
- Watermark Books & Café
- Wichita Festivals

Exhibit News

Upcoming: Why We Collect What We Collect – The Museum’s mission is to collect, preserve, and interpret artifacts which can be used to tell the stories illuminating our local history. The Museum’s collection currently includes over 70,000 artifacts with about 3,500 on exhibit at any given time. This will exhibit some of the recently acquired artifacts. Heritage Square will see the addition of interpretive elements related to the built environment.

New: Christmas at Old City Hall – Moore Family Santa Collection, Macy’s Santa, Miniature Christmas Trees, Victorian Cottage with Christmas Décor.

Special Exhibitions: The Artistic Life and Work of Genevieve Frickel – Local artist and teacher Genevieve Frickel had a long career of painting. View a selection of her work and her tools.

Art Deco on the Plains – Learn how the global design movement later known as Art Deco made its way to Wichita and how its influence can still be seen today.

Upcoming Gallery Renovations: Wichita, the Magic City and Spirit of Wichita – made possible through generous support by the Charles and Joanne McIlwaine Foundation and by Bill and Donna Ard.

Wichita Art Museum Collaboration: Wichita: A Century of Fashion – This exhibition will feature costumes from the Wichita-Sedgwick County Historical Museum’s permanent collection. *Wichita: A Century of Fashion* (runs from January 14 through June 18, 2023) brings a Kansas/American perspective to the European paper designs in the Borchgrave exhibition, *Fashioning Art from Paper* (runs from February 18 through May 14, 2023).

WHiMS NEWS

The WHiMS Committee works to provide support to the Museum in ways that reflect its mission and vision while enhancing visitor experience, attracting the public, and providing a dynamic connection to volunteers. We thank WHiMS for their efforts in hosting a range of programs and events and for the operation of the Museum’s Gift Shop. WHiMS provides thousands of hours in volunteer support to the Museum annually.

WHiMS announces new officers and committee chairs.

Officers:

President – Alice Smith

Vice President/Chair of Wreath Festival – Sharon Langley

Treasurer – Gail Williams

Recording Secretary – Rita Montgomery

Corresponding Secretary – Carolyn Gerstenkorn

Committee Chairs:

Gift Shop – Nancy Shawver

Shop Scheduling – Gail Williams and Diana Palenz

Publicity – Janice Van Sickle

Social Media & Membership Directory – Susan Osborne

Volunteer Communications – Sandy Binn

The WHiMS meets monthly and invites Museum Members’ to participate. Visit WHiMS on Facebook – listed as “Wichita Historical Museum Society” and contact WHiMS President Alice Smith through email: wschm@wichitahistory.org for more information about this dynamic friends group.





The Wichita-Sedgwick County
Historical Museum Association
204 South Main • Wichita, Kansas 67202 • 316-265-9314 •
www.WichitaHistory.org

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Wichita-Sedgwick County Historical Museum
activities are made possible in part by the
City of Wichita and Sedgwick County Board
of Commissioners



VISITORS FROM NEAR & FAR

The Museum has attracted tens of thousands of visitors from across our region and around the world, including guests from England, France, Iraq, Mexico, Canada, Puerto Rico, Ukraine, Germany and Thailand. Comments made online and on surveys include:

I love this place!

Glorious! Wow!

Thanks!

AWESOME! LEARNED SO MUCH!

*I always see something I
didn't before. Love it!*

*Best museum
ever! A jewel!*

*From Iraq to Wichita,
you are awesome!*

Great family fun!

Awesome x 1000!

Excellent aviation history!

Best in whole region!

*How marvelous to have
this historic building
and history!*

*Wonderful, I learned a lot
about my home town!*

*We are so happy
to visit Wichita!*

