

# **EXHIBITIONS RENOVATED**



1939 Monarch Silver King Bicycle

he Museum explores our local story and serves as a sort of community family album. The fact that museums interpret artifacts in exhibits to serve as the medium for story telling sets museums apart from books, videos, and other media. The Historical Museum features two dozen exhibitions at any given time: immersive exhibits such as the Mayor's Office and the Wichita Cottage, traveling exhibits such as Small Expressions and Thrift Style, special exhibits like those found in the Museum's lobby and core exhibits such as Wichita, the Magic City and the Spirit of Wichita. The core exhibits are central to telling our story and are subject to reinterpretation, redesign, and the addition of artifacts from the Museum's collection. Maintaining core exhibits requires ongoing assessment, planning, and fund raising.

Wichita, the Magic City was originally conceived in the 1970s and installed in the Museum when it was located at 3751 E. Douglas. The exhibition was designed to explore the early years of settlement and the establishment of what became the fastest growing city in the United States. When the Museum moved to its current location, the exhibition was redesigned and installed, followed with the publication of a book by the same name written by historian Craig Miner.

The Spirit of Wichita exhibit was conceived as a follow-up to Wichita, the Magic City in 2001. Its concept explored Wichita in the early 20 th century through a series of engaging vignettes, spanning the dawn of aviation until the outbreak of WWII.

### FROM THE DIRECTOR



The past is never finished! Every day we at the Museum ask ourselves "How can we share what we know?" and "How can we build on what's been given to us and accomplished here?" It is gratifying work and when dedicated, capable, inspired people work together, it is exciting. I

want to thank and acknowledge the privilege of working (every day) with professional and volunteer staff who care deeply for what they do in support of the Museum. Thanks goes to our Curator, the Museum Specialists, our Educators, and our Administrative staff; also to volunteers including the Board of Trustees and committee members who include docents, gift shop staff, and event support volunteers; Friends of the Historical Museum. Together we have made great things happen.

We are all gratified to know how the Museum is received by visitors. When we hear comments like the one I heard recently, made by an elementary school student entering the building on tour with his class: "I feel rich!" We feel the same.

Eric Cale Museum Director

# Rickenbacher electric Hawaiian guitar, 1933

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### **EXHIBITIONS RENOVATED**

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Both of these exhibits have been dramatically improved with the addition and conservation of artifacts and the redesign of labels and graphics. Of the new artifacts added and

interpreted, *Spirit of Wichita* received a 1939 Monarch Silver King Bicycle donated by Museum Director Eric Cale, and a 1933 Rickenbacher "Frying Pan" electric guitar donated by Board President Dean Bradley.

These renovations are made possible through generous funding provided by the Charles and Joanne McIlwaine Foundation and the Bill, Donna, and Mike Ard Family.

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# Special Gifts supporting Education Initiatives

The Museum gratefully acknowledges major gifts that expand the breadth of educational programing provided by the Museum.

### William and Ruth Heaston Educational Fund -A gift of Michael D. Heaston

The fund provides support to the Museum to facilitate engagement of Sedgwick County students with the Museum. Special emphasis will placed on local 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. The fund will also provide access and related materials to all visiting students, including transportation reimbursement.

### Gift of Board President Dean Bradley – "Wheels on the Bus"

This gift provides transportation funding to Sedgwick County Public School Students whose teachers arrange class tours of the Historical Museum. Transportation costs can preclude class visits and this gift removes that barrier for this school year.

### McIlwaine Foundation Gift

Charles and Joanne McIlwaine were devoted members and supporters of the Museum. JoAnne McIlwaine volunteered in the Museum's gift shop for years, served as President of WHiMS and on the Museum's Board of Trustees.

The gift received through the foundation they established continues to allow the Museum to provide free public programs exploring engaging topics of significance to local history. These include monthly Senior Wednesday program and a series offered quarterly known as McIlwaine Speakers Series.

## **EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES**

### Teen Program

The Historical Museum's Education Department has assembled a group of students who are gaining museum literacy while working together to plan their own event, a "Teen-night" held at the Museum. This new program is an exciting addition to our customary educational programing. The High School students in this program will learn about the Museum, then design, organize, and host a special event. Group members will also go on to participate behind the scenes in special projects, programs, and other events.

The group (officially unnamed at this time) meets once a month starting in October, with the event in April.

### Winter Break Programs Free and open to the Public

**Sunday, December 22nd – Christmas Trees.** Drop-in 1-4 pm Have you ever seen so many Christmas Trees in one place? Join us for a tour of our Christmas Tree exhibit and explore the history of such trees. Create your own ornament to take home! All ages are welcome.

**Sunday, December 29th – A Victorian Winter.** Drop-in 1-4 pm Come explore the winter months through the eyes of the Victorians. Enjoy a tour of the Wichita Cottage decorated for the holidays and discover a Victorian family's responsibilities when the weather outside is frightful. Make an articulated doll like Victorian children did! All ages are

### Speakers at the Museum

welcome.

The Charles and Joanne McIlwaine Foundation sponsor programs related to our local history mission. Presented in the Museum's DeVore Auditorium. Presentations are at 2:00 pm.

The Charles and Joanne McIlwaine Quarterly Speakers' Series 2024 Up next:

- Researching Your Home and the People Who Lived There, Diana Staresinic-Deane, Humanities Kansas Sat. Nov. 9 Earlier this year:
- Beyond the Veil: A History of Spiritualism, Katie Keckeisen, Humanities Kansas
- Six Wichita Stories of Aviation, Edward Phillips
- The Women of Brown, Donna Rea Pearson, Humanities Kansas

### **Senior Wednesdays**

Held on the 4th Wednesday at 10 am January through October. Programs are followed by a related tour within the Museum's exhibits. Admission is free to members and their guests, and \$2 for non-members. Doors open at 9:30. Come early for refreshments and grab a seat before they're gone!

Senior Wednesday programs are featured throughout Wichita at ten destination locations. Learn more at www.seniorwednesday.org.

### FRIENDS OF THE HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Since its inception 85 years ago, volunteers have played a primary role in the everyday support and functions of the Museum. As the organization of the volunteers evolved into the WHiMS in 1970 and recently in 2023 as the "Friends of the Historical Museum," their importance has never been more important! From docents, gift shop staff, event and program support, committee members, and even the Museum's trustees, The Wichita-Sedgwick County Historical Museum would not be where it is today without these dedicated individuals to support us through the process.

From the lulls of the pandemic, to the hustle and bustle of summer crowds and field trips, our volunteers have always been here for the Museum. So appreciated are your continued contributions of time and talent. We look forward to your ideas and skills, supporting the Museum for the years to come.

Volunteers meet monthly to discuss the full range of volunteer opportunities and plan for the events and programs ahead. All are encouraged to attend, as new voices are always welcome in the conversation of community building, inside the Museum and out. We appreciate your outreach to friends, family, neighbors, and organizations to help us grow our team of volunteers. Your referral and efforts are a continued encouragement to the advancement of the Museum. See here the ways you can participate!



THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 22, 23, 2024



The 41st Annual Wreath Festival will be held three days this year. Admission is free to the public.

The Museum's 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. With holiday cheer and music filling the air, you'll surely want to bring your friends and family!

A carryout lunch, featuring cranberry chicken salad over greens with croissant and dessert, will be available for \$16. The museum will have limited seating inside with additional seating in Heritage Square, weather permitting. Walk-ins welcome, or place your lunch order by calling 316-265-9314 or emailing wschm@wichitahistory.org.

Thank you to our volunteers, the Friends of the Museum, for sponsoring this event!

### MUSEUM EDUCATION

Museum experiences lead to a student's appreciation and respect for their community while advancing success at school. Students visiting with schools are provided with a family-pass for a return visit with family and friends. All area teachers have the ability to issue family passes through the Museum's website. The Museum's programs and exhibits utilize our local history to grow perspective to and foster appreciation and participation in the community, building self-esteem.



### Student Opportunities and Programs

### **Essay Contest**

Sponsored by the DeVore Family Fund. Based on the 2025 National History Day theme

### "Rights and Responsibilities"

One winner from each of the following grade level (6-8 & 9-12) will receive a \$250 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, 2025.
- Essays will be judged on historical accuracy, originality, content, adherence to theme, organization of material, spelling, and grammar.

# Young Historians!

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. The Museum's Education Team stands ready to assist students and teachers with NHD completion projects and foster student interest in museum work. Educators work with students for senior projects or internships, where they can utilize our study collection of artifacts and resources for special projects of their own design and creation. Student exhibits are featured in the Museum's Davis Gallery located on the 1st floor.

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# The Importance of Year-End Giving with 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.

Your gift to the Museum, a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization, is normally tax deductible.

IF YOU ARE 70 1/2, PLAN A QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DEDUCTION GIFT FROM YOUR TRADITIONAL INDIVIDUAL RETIREMENT ACCOUNT (IRA) IN 2024.

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 payment from your Traditional IRA must be made directly by the IRA Trustee. You cannot personally touch the money.

The withdrawal can also be counted toward your Required Minimum Distribution.

The advantages are that many of us cannot take advantage of charitable deductions. This is because of the high standard deduction (\$31,400 for seniors filing jointly). Paying the donation directly out of your IRA lets you take advantage of this tax deduction by instead reducing your adjusted gross income by the amount donated. Reducing Adjusted Gross Income has other potential tax benefits as well.

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

### Ways to Give

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

Here is a list seventeen possibilities:

- 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



### **MEMORIALS**

The following have been honored with gifts to the Museum made in their memory:

Stephen G. Gleissner Robert Monroe Hughes Kathy Knorr James Laubach

Mary Nelson
Elfrieda Schellenberger
Robin Spurrier
John & Marjory Talbott

### Heritage Square Concert Series 2024

The free public Heritage Square Concert Series was well attended again this year thanks to excellent local musical talent (Mariachi Jalisco, Pretend Friend, The Radio Orchestra, and Dear Friends), exceptionally pleasant September weather and the support of the Museum's Business Patron Members.

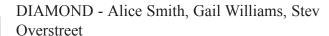


at the Museum



# Thanks to all who attended the Blue Moon Party!

It was great to reunite for an evening of music and dining as though we were back at the Blue Moon, a popular nightspot of the 1940s and 50s. The music of Donna Tucker and her quartet (comprised of Wichita's finest jazz musicians) made for a most memorable evening. Thank you sponsors!



SAPPHIRE - Martha & Daniel Housholder GOLD - Karen Pollock, Foulston Attorneys at Law, Jay and Barbara Fowler, Lusco Brick & Stone, Bruce & Cecilia Gilkeson, Michael Heaston

SILVER - Sean & Melissa Conley, CGP Group, Steve & Starla Criser, Dondlinger Construction, Tom & Colleen Dondlinger, James & Sara

Farley, Hew & Judy Goodpasture, Minter & Pollak, LC, Robert and Karen Minter, Tom & Rita Montgomery, Jim & Terry Pfister, Trip & Nancy Shawver. Also Fidelity Bank and Walker's Jazz Lounge Here, the Museum gratefully acknowledges much of the support received to sustain its work.

# Celebrating the support of the Business Community through Business Memberships

### **PATRONS**

- CGP Group
- Devlin Enterprises, Inc.
- Dondlinger Construction
- · Freddy's Frozen Custard and Steakburgers
- INTRUST Bank
- Mitchell & Richards, CPA's
- The Trust Company of Kansas
- TSNEWS.COM
- KMUW

Sponsoring the Heritage Square Concert Series and City/County **Birthday Celebration** 

### **SUSTAINERS**

- Candle Club
- · Cozine Memorial Group
- · Fidelity Bank
- Foulston Attorneys at Law
- Hatman Jack's, LLC
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- · KU School of Medicine Wichita
- Lusco Brick & Stone

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- Platt, Adams & Bradley
- R & J Discount Liquor
- The Spice Merchant

Sponsoring the City/County Birthday Celebration

### CONTRIBUTORS

- Bonavia Properties
- Hephner TV & Electronics
- High Touch Technologies
- Juliana Daniel Antiques
- Rutledge Property Group
- Kendra Scott Jewelry
- Palen Music Center
- The Carnahan Group
- The Wichita Independent Business Association

### MEDIA SUPPORTERS

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- PBS Kansas
- Radio Kansas
- KAKE-TV
- KSN-TV

Steve & Carla Jacobs

Kay & Peter Janssen

- KWCH-TV
- The Times-Sentinel Newspapers, LLC
- The Wichita Eagle

### **IN-KIND SUPPORTERS**

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

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

### Special Git this year from the following donors have helped the Museum sustain various initiatives.

Mrs. Edward (Mickey) Armstrong Clark & Sharon Bastian Clay & Kate Bastian Martin & Ann Bauer Fred and Sue Berry (Berry Foundation) Gregory Brown Cynthia & Richard Carl

Rosemary Cauley Steve Criser Myra & Tom Devlin Lisa & Dave Dodson Tom & Colleen Dondlinger Nick & Sarah Dondlinger Martin and Melodee Eby Stephen A. English J. Eric Engstrom

James & Sara Farley Gil Guthrie Greg Gilmer

Michael D. Heaston Daniel & Martha Housholder

Robert & Rosalie Goebel

Carolyn Lindsey Buz & Katie Lukens Jim Mason Bob and Karen Minter Rita & Tom Montgomery Jerry Olson Steven L. Overstreet Diana G. P. Palenz Terry & James Pfister TeOndra Phillips Jav Price Barbara McCune Jane McHugh David & Rynthia Mitchell J.R. and Rhita Muci Pat Myers Tom & Rita Montgomery Megan Pinkerton & Caleb Miller Michael & Sheila Nally Karen Pollock Scott and Betsy Redler

Barbara & David Rolph

Edward Salguero Colby B. Sandlian Dwayne & Dottie Shannon Kent & Marty Shawver Alice A. Smith Sarah T. Smith Ron and Lee Starkel Georgia & Keith Stevens Bill and Lynne Tinker Janice & Jeff VanSickle Gail Williams The Barton Foundation The Bonavia Family Charitable Trust Cars for Charities The Charles and Joanne

McIlwaine Foundation The Darrel and Dee Rolph Family Fund The DeVore Family Fund Goodwill Industries of

Kansas The Mosby Lincoln Foundation

The Reifsneider Memorial The Ruth Spooner Stone Charitable Trust The SJL Foundation The Sheppard Foundation **Humanities Kansas** 

Thanks to all who sustain the Museum through their contributions.

Also for the public operational funding invested over the years through the City of Wichita and the Sedgwick County Board of Commissioners.



### Woodman Initiative Realized

HANNAH REA WOODMAN 1870-1951
AUTHOR POET & TEACHER,
PIONEER WICHITA RESIDENT,
PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH AT:
GARFIELD UNIVERSITY
(NOW FRIENDS) 1892-1893
FAIRMOUNT INSTITUTE
(NOW WSU) 1893-1895
DRAKE UNIVERSITY 1898-1903

An inscription in granite was added to Wichita State University's Plaza of Heroines for Hannah Rea Woodman who was born 10 February 1870 in Jacksonville, Illinois to Mr. and Mrs. William Clayton (W.C.) Woodman. The family moved to Wichita, Sedgwick County, Kansas

soon after that, and at the age of three Rea Woodman was abducted by Arapaho Indians. She was peaceably returned to her parents, through the help of William "Buffalo Bill" Mathewson.

Rea attended Garfield (later Friends) University, finished her BA at Drake University, received her MA at the University of Kansas, and did graduate work at the University of Nebraska and the University of Minnesota. She was a member of Phi Beta Kappa and taught English and English literature at many universities and schools, including where she studied.

In 1927 Woodman returned to Wichita and finished her life writing and teaching private classes. She died in Wichita at the age of 81 in 1951.

Link to Woodman's book "Wichitana" was made possible by the Museum (who originally published the book in 1940) and the efforts of Museum Member Jack Kane, who is responsible for its recent transcription. It can be found through the Museum's student resource website: Sedgwick County Image Archive, and resides at www.archive.org https://archive.org/details/wichitana-rea-woodman

The inscription was funded through contributions received through the Wichita-Sedgwick County Historical Museum and the efforts of Jim Mason, committee chair.

### Come check out our revitalized Magic City exhibit!



- Canoe made for the Ray Ellie Company, Wichita, circa 1910
- 2 Canoe paddles, early 20th century
- 3 Wichita postcard, 1912
  - Ceramic Coca-Cola syrup dispenser, circa 1900
- Walnut Grove bathing beach, Wichita circa 1912
- 6 Woman's bathing suit circa 1915
- Riverside Boathouse, Little Arkansas River south of Murdock Avenue bridge, Wichita, circa 1898
- Bicycle produced by the M.H. Burt Cycle Manufacturing Company, Wichita, circa 1897
- Entrance to Riverside Park on Murdock, Wichita, circa 1900
- Wichita Baseball Park, near Main and Levy (Mt. Vernon), Wichita, 1910

- Entrance to Wonderland Park on Ackerman Island, Wichita, 1909
- Wooden roller-skates, circa 1900
- B Croquet set, circa 1900
- Games: Lotto, circa 1900; The Instructive Game of Magic Spelling, 1889; Flinch, 1903; Panic, 1903; Pit, 1904; Trix, circa 1900; The Improved Game of Star Authors, 1887
- Books: Children's Block Picture Book, 1895; Poetry and Pictures for the Little Ones, 1889; The Children's Museum, late 19th century; Our Little Darlings, 1910
- Tennis racquet, golf bag, golf clubs, golf tally booklet, all early 20th century
- Wichita Country Club, 303 Circle Drive, 1901
  - Water fountain, circa 1890

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### **Exhibit News**

In the Galleries:

Being Modern (Slawson Gallery 4th floor)

As a follow-up to *Art Deco on the Plains*, this exhibit explores how the Modern design style of the 1950s and 1960s found its way into Wichita fashion, furniture, art, and more. A feature of the Lois Kay Walls Local Visual Art Series.

Holiday Seasonal: Christmas at Old City Hall

The Museum will offer a little extra cheer this holiday season with the Moore Family Santa Collection, Macy's animatronic Santa, Miniature Trees, and Christmas décor in the Victorian Cottage.

*Thrift Finds*, artifacts from the permanent collection found at local Thrift Stores – on view through January (3rd floor)

Our Jones Six automobile (4th floor) is the only example on public exhibit and one of six known to exist. It is arguably the single most appreciated artifact in the Museum's collection.

Congratulations to museum member Jeff Breault who has recent-

ly acquired four examples, long kept by a collector in Tennessee. All six of the Jones cars now reside in Wichita and include one owned by Museum Trustee Myra Devlin.



Renovations of *Wichita, the Magic City* and *Spirit of Wichita* were made possible through generous support by the Charles and Joanne McIlwaine Foundation and by the Bill, Donna, and Mike Ard family.

### Recently concluded:

The Artistic Life and Work of Genevieve Frickel – Lois Kay

Walls Gallery

Small Expressions – West Gallery

*Thrift Style* – West Gallery – Thank you Sponsors: Alice Smith, Stev Overstreet, the Family of Kenneth E. Gerhardt, and Goodwill Industries of Kansas

# Carillon Concerts from the Museum's Tower

The 2024-25 Season will be presented under the direction Lynne Davis, Robert L. Town Distinguished Professor of Organ Wichita State University – School of Music, funded by The Sam & Rie Bloomfield Foundation.

THANKSGIVING

Wednesday, November 27, 2024

Lynne Davis

CHRISTMAS Friday, December 20, 2024

Dean Roush

EASTER

Tuesday, April 22, 2025

Lynne Davis

MEMORIAL DAY

Friday, May 23, 2025

JuleAnn Troutman

INDEPENDENCE DAY

Thursday, July 3, 2025

JuleAnn Troutman

### The Museum could receive a donation every time you shop through the Dillons Community Rewards Program

Anytime you shop at Dillons a portion of your purchase can go to help the Museum.

Here is how you can make that happen, the Community Rewards section on the Dillons website www.dillons.com makes it easy:

Using your Dillons Plus Shopper's card number simply enroll in the program www.dillons.com/communityrewards

-The Museum's exclusive Community Rewards identification number is XL394. You Can search for Wichita-Sedgwick County Historical Museum by name or by XL394.

-The Museum will receive a donation from Dillons every time you shop.

Dillons is committed to community engagement,

positive social impact, and charitable giving at the local level.





### The Wichita-Sedgwick County Historical Museum Association

Non-Profit Organization U.S. Postage PAID Permit 759 Wichita, KS





204 South Main • Wichita, Kansas 67202

316-265-9314 • www.WichitaHistory.org

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

