

EXCHANGE

Kansas Museums Association

Preserving & Promoting History - Art - Science for Kansas Communities

eNewsletter

August 2010

Greetings!

I hope your summer is going well! At the last Kansas Museums Association Board of Director's Meeting, it was decided that we would do online MONTHLY E-Newsletters in lieu of the quarterly printed newsletters of the past. We felt this was a way to better communicate with our members on a regular basis while saving the printing costs to KMA. We hope this will become a very effective communication tool between the KMA Board of Directors and the Membership. But also we hope the members will use it as a communication tool to share items of interest, helpful websites, meetings & dates to remembers, success stories, horror stories, etc. with all of the other KMA members. Please take advantage of this MONTHLY opportunity to share! It will only be as efficient as the members make it! The deadline for each month will be the first of the month with the EXCHANGE e-mailed out around the 15th of the month.



Also, for those of you using Social Media, watch for the launching of the KMA Facebook page! This is another great way to communicate with fellow KMA members, promote your upcoming events, ask questions of others in the Museum field and get quick professional responses. Remember, this will only be an efficient and effective communication tool, if our members contribute to the content! So please send in your information for the September 15th EXCHANGE by September 1st.

Sincerely,
Kim Legleiter
President



**Refining Your Museum for the
Future Kansas Museums
Association 42nd Annual
Conference
October 27-29, 2010
El Dorado, KS**

Dear Colleagues:

It is my pleasure to invite you to the 42nd Annual Conference of the Kansas Museums Association, October 27-29 in El Dorado. The annual conference is an opportunity for museum professionals from across Kansas to network, learn about new museum trends, meet and reconnect with friends and colleagues and share resources for museum advocacy.

El Dorado boasts of a rich and industrious history. Nestled on the western edge of the Flint Hills, the primary industries of the area are

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**Grants Workshop August
30 - Olathe, KS**

Bring a project idea, grant guide lines, or just your curiosity and learn how grants can grow your programming. In this hands-on workshop staff from the Kansas Humanities Council will answer your questions and offer one-on-one advice about your project.

ranching, farming, and oil. The discovery of the historic El Dorado Oil Field in 1915 changed this quiet community into a bustling oil boom town. Oil still plays an important role in the economy of El Dorado and is home to one of three refineries in the state of Kansas. El Dorado is the perfect backdrop for this year's theme, ***Refining Your Museum for the Future***.

Refining is defined as polishing, improving, and perfecting a product by removing impurities. The ultimate goal is to create a richer, usable product. Museum trends, audience demographics and interests, budgets and staff responsibilities are in constant change. In order to remain sustainable for the future it is imperative arts, cultural, and heritage organizations continually refine their organization.

The Kansas Museums Association looks forward with great anticipation to this year's annual conference. Join us in El Dorado for a conference gushing with rich ideas, networking opportunities and fun. Thanks to all our planning partners, the local arrangements committee, and the community of El Dorado for their support. I look forward to seeing you in October!

Lisa Soller
KMA Vice-President and 2010 Conference Chair

Jamin Landavazo Awarded KMA Professional Development Scholarship to Attend MPMA

Congratulations! Jamin Landavazo, Chief Curator with the Reno County Museum and Kansas Underground Salt Museum in Hutchinson has been awarded a \$300 scholarship to attend the Mountain-Plains Museums Association, 2010 Conference on September 13-17 in Rapid City, South Dakota. Jamin says, "As a relatively new museum professional, I still have a lot to learn and am eager to gain advice from more experienced professionals while sharing innovative ideas to propel museum into the future. Jamin plans to share the knowledge she learns as "a jumping off point to become more involved with KMA, including writing an article for the newsletter that distills some of the practical tips I learn at the conference."

KMA offers scholarships for professional development, including attending national and the state KMA conference. Application forms are available on the KMKA website at ksmuseums.org.



Dan Carey-Whalen and Jim Schere of Dodge City

Grants Workshop in Morton County: Improves Funding Opportunities

The Morton County Museum rolled out the red carpet for participants in the July 12 Grants Workshop offered by the Kansas Museums Association (KMA) and the Kansas Humanities Council (KHC). Participants had the opportunity to tour the museum exhibits of life on the prairie in the Old West and enjoy a delicious "home-cooked" meal.

[Enrollment Form](#)

Awards for Excellence & Distinguished Service Awards Nominations Open

Deadline:

September 30, 2010

[Awards for Excellence Nomination Form](#)

[Distinguished Service Awards Nomination Form](#)

Institutional Grant Applications

Deadline:

September 30, 2010

Grant monies can be applied to any project-specific expenditure.

[Application Form](#)

Conference Sponsors and Vendors Invited to KMA Conference Sponsorship Form and Booth Rental

Contact: Lisa Dodson,
Executive Director,
316-765-9197 or
director@ksmuseums.org

Exchange Submissions

Newsletter Submissions are due the first of the month.

Newsletter is published monthly around the 15th of each month.

Send information to director@ksmuseums.org

Employment Listings

[Development Director - The Kansas African American Museum](#)

Send employment listings to director@ksmuseums.org

[KMA Links](#)

Dan Carey-Whalen, KHC Director of Programs, reviewed the Humanities and Heritage grants available to museums and offered tips on what criteria reviewers consider when evaluating a grant. Participants reviewed actual grants and had the opportunity to serve as grant evaluators. This instruction helped hone participants' abilities to critique grants and improved their skills in writing grants for submission to the KHC and other funding agencies. Participants were asked to evaluate grants on the actual criteria used by evaluators for the Kansas Humanities Council.

www.ksmuseums.org

[Board of Directors](#)

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

If you missed this workshop you have a second chance in Olathe on August 30. The registration form is at [Enrollment Form](#). For more information contact Lisa Dodson, Executive Director, at 316-765-9197 or at director@ksmuseums.org.



Loading Grasshoppers Photo provided by Morton County Museum

Ken Burns Seeks Kansas Dust Bowl Photos

Acclaimed documentary filmmaker Ken Burns is looking for pictures and home videos of southwest Kansas, southeast Colorado, and the Oklahoma Panhandle to be included in the historical documentary film, The Dust Bowl.

Focusing on the areas most affected by the disaster, The Dust Bowl tells

the story of life, death and perseverance during the late 1920's and 1930's.

The documentary combines personal narratives, archival footage, and photography to bring the story of The Dust Bowl to life-and your help is needed! The research team is looking for any images of local towns, people, and farms taken during the 1930's. Images of street scenes, farmers in the field, the interiors of houses, schools, and makeshift hospitals, people covering their faces with dust masks or handkerchiefs, women cleaning their homes, and farm scenes are of particular interest.

If you have a collection of photographs from the late nineteen twenties or anytime during the nineteen thirties, The Dust Bowl research team wants to hear from you! For additional information contact:

Susan Shumaker at sshumaker@florentinefilms.com or

Katelynn Vance at kvance@florentinefilms.com.

The mailing address is Florentine Films, P.O. Box 613, Walpole, NH 03608.



Professor Jay Price

Directors' Forum Discusses Museums of the Future

The 2010 KMA Directors' Forum in McPherson on July 21 explored trends in museum of the future. Jay Price, Associate Professor and Director of Public History lead the discussion, assisted by George Laughead, President, Ford County Historical Society and Mueller-Schmidt House.

Museum directors discussed building a county museum from the ground up, using Ford County as a case study. A few of the questions discussed included:

- Do you have to have a collection to be a museum?
- What artifacts today should be kept to illustrate our stories for future generations?
- How do you include the entire community's perspectives and stories in the museum?
- How does a museum add value to the community?
- How do you define your community, or re-brand the community, in broader terms than stereotypes?
- Are there cultural assumptions about a museum? How does this impact museum exhibits?
- Who are the audiences of the future?

Discussion was lively and participants shared innovative exhibit ideas, fund-raising events, the future of the museum profession and museums relevance to communities.

Upcoming Events

- [Aug. 30 - KMA Grants Workshop in Olathe, KS](#)
- [Sept. 2 - Historic Preservation for the Arts: Kansas Arts Commission in McPherson, KS](#)
- [Sept. 20 - KMA Board of Director's Meeting in Salina](#)
- [Sept. 13-17 - MPMA in Rapid City, ND](#)
- [Sept. 22-25 - AASLH in Oklahoma City, OK](#)
- [Oct. 10-12 - Kansas Tourism Conference in Kansas City](#)
- [Oct. 27-29 - KMA Conference in El Dorado](#)
- [Oct. 27-30 - National Trust for Historic Preservation in Austin, TX](#)

Contact Information

Lisa Dodson, Executive Director
316-765-9197
Email director@ksmuseums.org

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