Greetings!

I represented Kansas at the Mountain Plains Museum Association Meeting in February 2011. Below is the report I presented at the meeting.

Kansas Museums Association is currently undergoing a transformational period in which the association is streamlining bylaws, reworking the operations guide-again, and undergoing a strategic planning process. Day-to-day functioning of the organization has highlighted some issues that need addressed and KMA is taking a proactive role this year to ascertain how the association can continue to move forward. Having a part-time employee is one of KMA's greatest strengths.

Kansas Museums Association has 209 institutional members and 126 individual members. The 2010 conference, "Refining Your Museum for the Future," was held in El Dorado. The 2011 conference, "To the stars...Through Art, Culture, History and Science," will be held in Olathe. KMA has a rotating conference schedule that allows members to visit every corner of the state. Membership benefits include professional development grants for individual members and project grants for institutional members. The Museum Training Initiative was founded in 2009 to set guidelines for professional development for museum employees, volunteers and board members who want a greater understanding of how museums work. MTI focuses on these five areas:

- Museum Governance and Administration
- Collections Management
- Interpretation
- Resource development
- Capstone project

Kansas is 150 years old as of January 29, 2011 and many of the state's museums are taking a major role in celebrating the sesquicentennial year. The Kansas Museum of History unveiled a year-long exhibit, "150 Things I Love About Kansas," featuring 150 objects, images, and documents about Kansas. It will present Kansas Symbols and stereotypes while also turning them inside out and inviting publish reaction. The state's history, culture, and traditions will be examined through these common themes. A highlight of the exhibit is a virtual storyteller that features the stories of the territorial days' settler fearful of raiders on the turbulent Kansas frontier; the railroad builder telling his story of hope; and the young soldier talking about the outbreak of the flue at Fort Riley in 1918. This is the first time a virtual story teller has been used in a museum and it is a hit with visitors.

The Kansas State historical Society introduced a redesigned website, www.kshs.org, this year. Kansas Memory is one of the best features of the site. It allows teachers, students and researchers all over the state to access and incorporate materials from the state archives.

Like many of MPMA's member states, Kansas is facing a change in leadership and tough economic
times. The Department of Travel and Tourism is moving into Parks and Wildlife and the Kansas Arts Commission is in danger of losing its status as a state agency. The latter move will jeopardize funding from national and regional organizations. The Kansas State Historical Society has not been full staffed for several years and the legislature has just proposed a 7.5% cut in employee salaries.

Despite these challenges, our Kansas museums, arts and humanities organizations continue to serve the needs of a large and diverse state very well. Kansas Museums association members continue to advocate on a state level and participate in grass roots organizing to keep the needs of our cultural institutions in the forefront.

Respectfully submitted,
Katie Herrick, President
Kansas Museums Association

KMA Request for 2012 Conference Proposal
Deadline May 6

Conference Guidelines

KMA announces re-opening of the RFP for the 2012 Conference. All Kansas regions are eligible to bid for this conference. The conference is anticipated to draw between 125 - 150 participants, use 75 hotel rooms and requires space for a general session and three to four break-out sessions. If your community is interested, contact Lisa Dodson, Executive Director at 316-978-7651 or at director@ksmuseums.org.

Shout Out on a Shoe String: A Kansas Museums Association Marketing/Public Relations Workshop
Kansas Museums Association and Riley County Historical Museum

Registratohn Flyer (pdf)

Monday, March 28, 2011

9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. at Manhattan, Kansas
(Registration available for half day or for full day.)

Hosted by the Riley County Historical Museum at the Riley County Public Works Meeting Room, 6214 Tuttle Creek Avenue Manhattan, Kansas.

Cost: KMA Members (individual member or affiliated with a member institution):
$10.00 for half day; $25.00 for full day (full day fee includes lunch.)

KMA Non-Members: $30.00 half day, $45.00 full day, including lunch.
The Non-Member price includes a KMA individual membership.

**Morning**

**Session 1:**
9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. - "Newsletters - Electronic and Otherwise" Penny Senften, Manhattan Arts Center; Linda Glasgow, Manhattan/Riley County Preservation Alliance; Martha Scott, Beach Museum of Art; 10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. - "You Need Me, and I Need You: Working with Your CVB" Karen Hibbard, Director, Manhattan Convention and Visitors Bureau

10:30 - 10:45 break

**Session 2:**
10:45 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. - "Who Are You? Branding and Understanding Your Audience" Bobbie Athon, Kansas Historical Society Public Information Officer

11:45 - 12:00 questions/discussion

12:00 - 1:00 lunch for full day participants

**Afternoon**

**Session 3:**
1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. - "Presenting the New You" Branding and the Marketing Plan. Bobbie Athon, Kansas Historical Society Public Information Officer

2:00 - 2:15 break

**Session 4:**
2:15 p.m. - 2:45 p.m. - "Media- What They Want, When, Where and Why" (panel newspaper, radio, T.V.) moderator: Gloria Freeland, Assoc. Professor of A.Q. Miller School of Journalism, KSU, and Director of the Huck Boyd National Center for Community Media.

2:45 p.m. - 3:15 p.m. - "Life in the Digital Age-Columns and Cell Phones" Gloria Freeland, Assoc. Professor of A.Q. Miller School of Journalism, KSU, and Director of the Huck Boyd National Center for Community Media; "Cell Phone Tour" Bob Workman, Director of the Flint Hills Discovery Center

3:15 - 3:30 - questions/discussion

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KMA Annual Conference
October 26-28 - Olathe

**To the Stars.... Through Art, Culture, History and Science**

Kansas Museums Association Annual Conference
October 26-28, 2011
Olathe, Kansas

Join museum professionals in celebrating the Kansas 150 Anniversary! Prepare for the next 150 years! Explore new perspectives in museum practices, participate in relevant educational sessions, visit area museums and exchange best practices with museum professionals.
Host Museums:
- The Mahaffie Stage Coach Museum and Farm Historic Site
- Deaf Cultural Center/William J. Marra Museum
- The Johnson County History Museum
- Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art

Host Hotel: Holiday Inn - Olathe Regional Medical Center
101 West 151st Street, Olathe

Call for Session Proposals
Download Proposal
Deadline March 31, 2011

The Kansas Museums Association invites you to submit session proposals that explore the successes, challenges and opportunities available to Kansas museums. We are seeking sessions related to collaboration, marketing and public relations, collections care, exhibits, education, volunteer management and any other topic related to the diverse and dynamic work of museums.

For more information contact Shannon Hsu at 913-248-2360 or shsu@cityofshawnee.org.

The Proposal Form is located on the website at ksmuseums.org or download now.

Before Disaster Strikes: an Emergency Preparedness Workshop for Kansas Cultural Collections: DVD

DVD's featuring Julie Page, noted preservation consultant are now available free of charge to Kansas Museums and historic houses. This is a videotapping of the October 2009 workshop.

If you would like one of these DVD's contact:
Cindy Roupe
Director of Public Services
State Library of Kansas
785-296-3296 ** 800-432-3919
http://www.kslib.info

$$$$$...MONEY...MONEY...MONEY...$$$$

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Kansas Arts Council Grants Open

- Operational Support Grant Deadline is May 5, 2011
- Kansas Art on Tour Grant Applications are accepted April 13, 2011, until May 31, 2012, or until funds reserved for this program are expended.

For more information see Kansas Arts Council

The KMA Web page is evolving and wants to feature photos and news articles from your museum. Send information to director@ksmuseums.org

Important 2011 Dates
Kansas Humanities Council Grants Open

- **Humanities Grants**
  Project Outline Due May 6, 2011
  Final Application Due June 3, 2011

- **Heritage Grants**
  Project Outline Due May 6, 2011
  Final Application Due June 3, 2011

- **Short Film Grants**
  Project Outline Due May 6, 2011
  Final Application Due June 3, 2011

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**Tru Vue® Optium® Conservation Grant**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**
Contact: Eric Pourchot
Phone: (202) 661-8061
Email: epourchet@conservation-us.org

FAIC Announces May 1 Deadline for Tru Vue® Optium® Conservation Grant

Tru Vue® Inc. has partnered with the Foundation of the American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (FAIC) to offer grants to support projects in glazing applications for preservation of museum and library collections. Funds are to help defray direct project costs, including supplies and publicity. Projects must be supported by a conservator and demonstrate conservation goals. Up to four awards will be made each year. Each award includes a cash amount of up to $4,000 and donated Tru Vue® Optium® acrylic glazing materials.

Recent recipients of the grant include the New York State Office of Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation, Bureau of Historic Sites, The Harry Ransom Center of The University of Texas at Austin, The Fairbanks House and The Phillips Collection.

To be eligible,

- The applicant must be a not-for-profit collecting institution (museum or library) with active exhibition programs and located in one of the 50 U.S. states, the District of Columbia, or U.S. territories.
- The institution must have at least one full-time conservator on staff, or a conservator who will be on contract for the project.
- Projects should be completed within 12 months of the award date.

The deadline for receipt of all materials is May 1 and November 1 of each year. Electronic submissions are encouraged but not required. Guidelines and forms are available on both the AIC/FAIC website, www.conservation-us.org/grants and Tru Vue, www.tru-vue.com/museums/grants, or by calling the FAIC office at 202-452-9545.

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March 28
**Shout Out on a Shoestring - Marketing Workshop**

March 31
**Deadline for KMA Annual Conference Session Proposals**

May 22-25
**American Association of Museums Conference - Houston, Texas**

July 19
KMA Director's Forum

September 14-17
2011 AASLH Annual Conference Richmond, Virginia

October 17-21
MPMA Conference - Helena, Montana

October 26-28
KMA Conference - Olathe

Employment Listings

- **Tourist Counselor First Territorial Capitol State Historic Site Fort Riley, Kansas**
- **High Plains Museum Director-Goodland**

Send employment listings to director@ksmuseums.org

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KMA Professional Development Scholarships

Applications are available for professional development education to enhance skills of museum personnel are available for up to $300.

Scholarship Application

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Exchange Submissions
**About FAIC**
FAIC, the Foundation of the American Institute for Conservation of Historic & Artistic Works, supports conservation education, research, and outreach activities that increase understanding of our global cultural heritage.

**About Tru Vue**
Tru Vue is a manufacturer of high performance glazing products for the custom picture frame and museum markets. Tru Vue is a leader in both UV protection, as well as anti-reflective and specialty glazing products for these markets. The company is located in McCook, Illinois and Faribault, Minnesota and is a subsidiary of Apogee Enterprises, which is traded under "apog" on the NASDAQ. For more information on Tru Vue, visit the company website at [www.tru-vue.com](http://www.tru-vue.com).

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**American Association of Museums Reports**
**Museums Going Mobile in 2011**

The online survey of nearly 2,300 AAM members, representing more than 1,000 museums across all 50 states, revealed that 42% of museums currently offer mobile technology to visitors to enhance their experience. The majority of mobile technology in museums today is still used to provide audio-only guides, with emerging tools such as Smartphone apps and multimedia tours represented in just one in 20 museums. However, the future holds exceptional growth, as one-third of both Mobile and Non-Mobile museums plan to introduce a new mobile platform this year - with "Smartphone apps" projected to grow the fastest in 2011 (with 21% of museums planning to expand in this area), followed by "traditional cell phone tours" (17%).

[Read more....](#)

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**Scouts Visit the Lansing Historical Museum**

On February 28th, some very excited first grade scouts and their parents visited the Museum to learn about local history. Site Supervisor Laura Phillippi gave the scouts a tour of the exhibits and a behind-the-scenes tour of the Museum's storage area. The boys' favorite artifacts were the typewriter, telegraph, switchboard, and prison contraband. The scouts earned a bead for exploring local history. Scout leader John Kotzman presented the Museum a certificate of appreciation "For a most wonderful museum presentation."