Executive Director Lisa Dodson and Board President Zan Popp (middle) were part of the Kansas delegation meeting with staff from Senator Jerry Moran’s office.

Executive Director Lisa Dodson and Board President Zan Popp took Kansas museums’ concerns to Capitol Hill for Museums Advocacy Day 2019. Meeting with our representatives and senators gave them an opportunity to remind the officials of the importance of the work you do and the challenges facing museums in our state. At times like these when federal funding for arts, humanities, libraries and museums is not guaranteed, KMA’s advocacy on behalf of Kansas Museums is more crucial than ever!

Want to add your voice? Humanities Kansas has developed infographics that highlight the impact of the humanities in each
Good News! Museum Happenings Across Kansas

\[\text{HUMANITIES SNAPSHOTS of Kansas District 1}\]

- **217** Humanities events planned and presented in 2018
- **27,290** Kansans served in 2018
- **52** communities hosted humanities events in 2018
- **$163,557** generated in community matching funds in 2018

#movementofideas #supportNEH #humanitieseveryday

Humanities Kansas supports these programs through funding received by the National Endowment for the Humanities, corporate contributions and private donations, and the state of Kansas.

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**Exchange Submissions**

Newsletter submissions are due the 15th of the month. The newsletter is published on the last business day of the month. Send information to asstdirector@ksmuseums.org

**Facebook**

Click on the icon above to find the Kansas Museums Association on Facebook

**KMA Links**

- www.ksmuseums.org
- Board of Directors

**Join Our Mailing List!**

Email asstdirector@ksmuseums.org
Congratulations to eight historic sites across Kansas, which are now linked by The Kansas African American History Trail! This project, funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, allowed the sites to collaborate under the guidance of a project manager and included the installation of signage at each location and a website to guide visitors. For more information, visit the website [here](#).

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**The Short List - Links to the Opportunities You Need, Without the Stuff You Don't**

We want to connect to the resources you need so you can take what is helpful and get on with your day. Here, we’ve categorized the information to help you find what you’re looking for, provided the essential facts at a glance, and linked to the details. Short, sweet, and to the point!

**Grants**  
*Humanities Kansas:* Humanities for All (mini grants up to $3500 and major up to $10,000) and Culture Preservation Grants (up to $3500). Draft applications due April 24.

**Awards**  
*Mountain Plains Museums Association:* Individual, competitive, and special interest awards open [here](#). Nominations due June 1.

**Scholarships**  
*Kansas States Historical Records Advisory Board:* KSHRAB is offering archival training scholarships to pay the fees for online classes through the Northeast Document Conservation Center. Click [here](#) for a list of classes, and [here](#) for scholarship application information. Scholarship applications...
Local Workshops

Museum Association for Museums and Archives: MAMA's Spring Workshop, **Sharing Community Stories: Storytelling and Effective Interpretation in Exhibits**, will be held in Kansas City, Missouri on April 16. Registration is $15 for members, $50 for non-members.

Celebrations
National Parks Week: April 20-28. Visit one of the 10 sites in Kansas - or plan a trip, find out which days entrance fees are waived, and discover NPS events [here](#).

May Day: May 1st is the day we are reminded to do one thing for disaster preparedness. Find ideas and resources [here](#).

Traveling Exhibit
Smithsonian Crossroads: Change in Rural America: Humanities Kansas is accepting applications to serve as one of six host locations for a Smithsonian exhibit in 2020. Details and application [here](#); deadline to apply April 26.

2017 Grant Update: Geary County Historical Society

Each year, KMA awards grants to museums to help fund small projects that improve their museum operations. The museums, in turn, share a summary of their projects with the greater KMA membership as a way to give back and spur
Geary County Historical Society: Exhibit Soundscape Project

Thanks to the Kansas Museums Association, the sounds of hoofbeats, train whistles, and children's voices now echo within the halls of Geary County Historical Society, a three-story limestone museum located in Junction City.

Geary County Historical Society, a 501(c)3 nonprofit membership organization, was lucky to be selected in September 2016 for a KMA Institutional Project Grant for a project designed to add sound to our exhibits. Our museum is housed in a limestone building originally constructed in 1903 as the local high school, and although the building has been updated many times over the years, there is no integrated sound system, and adding one to the building would be costly. Nevertheless, we wanted our exhibits to communicate more than words and pictures - we wanted our visitors to experience not just the words and sights but also the sounds of the past. Our limited budget encouraged us to get creative with technology, and KMA’s Institutional Project Grant offered us the perfect opportunity to achieve our vision.

Our grant application requested six small portable speakers with Bluetooth capability and a MicroSD/TF card slot in order to play historic soundscapes, as well as extra memory cards and card readers. We decided on portable speakers for several reasons: they allow us to play media from a variety of inexpensive sources; they are inexpensive; they are simple to use and install; and they will be easy to replace and upgrade as technology advances over time. Last, the portability of these speakers means they can serve multiple functions in our museum, not only for exhibit soundscapes but also for special events and educational programs.

Small speakers are now hidden in five exhibits. Our Main Street exhibit features period artifacts from the shops that once lined Junction City’s historic downtown district, and the Main Street soundscape is a compilation of street-level sounds, including horses' hooves, automobiles, trains, and conversation. Granny's Kitchen relates to the history of home in Geary County, and for our 2017-18 Year of the Soldier program, we added the sounds of war as experienced from the homefront, including war bulletins, 1940s-era music, and an excerpt from President Roosevelt's famous "Day of Infamy" speech. The Train Depot includes furniture, documents, and other artifacts removed directly from Junction City’s Union Pacific depot when it was shut down in November 1984, and its soundscape features the sound of trains pulling into and out of the depot, crowd chatter, and telegraph noises. In our SubMerged exhibit, which dives into the history of floods and rivers in Geary County, the sound of flowing water, combined with lights simulating the effect of water flowing over the floor, helps immerse the viewer in a simulated floodplain. A sixth speaker is used as needed in our traveling educational programs and for special events.
From all of us in Geary County: Thank you, KMA!

Webinars and Continuing Education Opportunities

**National Association for Interpretation’s Upcoming Webinars**
**Visitor Experience Guidelines**
April 16, 2019
12:00 - 1:00 pm Central
[Register]

**Best of NAI 2018 in New Orleans**
April 30
Webinars from 10:30 am - 6:00 pm Central
Registration to come; check back [here](#).

**American Association for State and Local History’s Upcoming Webinars**
**Understanding Provenance**
April 2
2:00 - 3:30 Central
[Register]

**Connecting to Collection Care’s Upcoming Webinars**
**Exploring Old Loans: A Quest for Resolution**
April 16
1:00 - 2:30 pm Central
[Register]

**Wisconsin Historical Society’s Upcoming Webinars**
**Best Practices for Board Service: Historic House Museums, Part 1**
April 10
1:30 - 3:00 pm Central
[Register]

**Best Practices for Board Service: Historic House Museums, Part 2**
April 24
1:30 - 3:00 pm Central
[Register]

**Texas Historical Commission’s Upcoming Webinars**
**Podcasting 101 for Museums and Historic Sites**
April 24
10:00 am
[Register]
Museum topics in the news:

**Residents Try to Repopulate Nicodemus with Tiny Home Project** - Cristina Janney, The Salina Post

**Think Big: How a Museum in Storage Still Connects with the Public** - Susan Froyd, Westworld

**The Price of Fun: How Much Does it Cost to Have a Good Day Out?** - James Tozer, 1843 Magazine

**You Start by Meeting Your Audience** - Mike Hudson, AASLH Blog

**AAM Launches the LGBTQ Alliance** - AAM Professional Networks

**Raise Your Ranking: Kansas Ranks 50th Among States in Estimated Per Capita Funding for the Arts** - National Assembly of State Arts Agencies

**Clean House to Survive? Museums Confront their Crowded Basements** - Robin Pogrebin, The New York Times

"**Does this Board Member Spark Joy?**" **How to Tidy Your Organization Using the KonMari Method** - Vu Le, Nonprofit AF

**Philadelphia Museum of Art is Having a Lightbulb Moment, Swapping Out 11,000 Bulbs and Fixtures for LED Ones** - Bethany Ao, The Philadelphia Inquirer

**Arts Sector Contributed $763.6 Billion to US Economy - More Than Agriculture or Transportation, New Data Shows** - Isaac Kaplan, Artsy

**National Portrait Gallery Becomes First Museum to Forgo a Sackler Grant** - Ruth McCambridge, Nonprofit Quarterly

**OpEd Touts Growing Importance of Arts in Rural America** - Heather Chapman, The Rural Blog


**5 Ways to Prepare for Museum Leadership Change and Transition** - Joan Baldwin, Leadership Matters