
Spaces are limited and filling up fast in our pre-conference workshop and pre-conference tours; check out our excellent slate of speakers and sessions here and register today. We are excited to celebrate our 50th Anniversary with YOU in Lindsborg and McPherson November 6-8!

The business side of museums isn't glamorous - very few of us are raking in the big bucks, more of us are raking leaves because we all have to pitch in to keep the museum's grounds maintained. But the principles of business can still have important applications in helping us create an enduring organization that has a real impact on its community. KMA's conference sessions this year include a different way of assessing growth and new, proven ways to recognize and encourage donors - both are sure to help you think like a business leader! Register today!
Thinking Differently: Measuring for Improvement
Assessments, measurements, etc. seem to exist for the purpose of judging and recording how we did and usually doesn't hold a lot of meaning for how we can improve. Well what if we had a different assumption: the primary purpose of assessment is to improve performance? What if what we measured was what we valued and aimed at the future? Learn how formative assessment can help clarify your visions and better achieve your goals.

Creating Big Donor Impact
Creating ways to encourage, grow and recognize donors can be overwhelming, especially alongside other board or staff duties. In this lively TV talk show-style session, Linda Henderson and Kay Quinn share brief case studies and pass-around examples from chart-topping events and promotions designed to make current and prospective donors feel valued and needed. Learn how to build your own high-impact, low-cost donor cultivation programs while saving stress, time and money.

Click here to register - early bird registration ends October 23

You Can Support KMA in Putting Our Money Where Our Mission Is by Joining the High 5 and 1 Up Club for 2019!

What is the High 5 and 1 Up Club? High 5 and 1 Up Club is a way for KMA members to support the mission of the Kansas Museums Association to provide leadership, advocacy, and training in the Kansas museum community. Donations to the High 5 and 1 Up Club help us build a sustainable organization that can continue to offer a high-quality conference, scholarships, grants, awards, and resources for museum workers now and in the future.

How does the High 5 and 1 Up Club work?

- Determine how many years you have been in the museum field
- Choose whether you would like to donate $5 for each year you have been in the field or $1 for each year
- Visit the High 5 or 1 Up Club portal to donate - enter in the number of years of service and it will calculate your total - or donate at the conference via cash, check or card
- At the conference, you will add your name to the board to show that you are a KMA supporter and receive a badge to wear to show you are part of the High 5 or 1 Up Club
- Encourage others to join!

This year, the KMA Board has set a goal to raise $3000 from High 5 and 1 Up Club donations - help us kick off our 50th Anniversary and look to the next 50 years by donating today!
Good News! Museum Happenings Across Kansas

Photo by Kathy Hanks, Lawrence Journal-World

Congratulations to the team at the Watkins Museum of History in Lawrence! They were recently awarded a $145,000 grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services to help fund expansion of their third floor exhibits. The exhibits will add more stories of Douglas County, including those focused on entrepreneurship, railroads, and universities. Kudos to the staff, and we wish you the best as you bring the exhibits to life! To read more, click here.

Calendar Notes

October: American Archives month

From the Society of American Archivists: Join us on Twitter Wednesday, October 2, for #AskAnArchivist Day as staff from across the nation, including our Presidential Libraries, talk...
about what it's like to be an archivist at the National Archives. And on **October 10**, electronic records get their own day-use the hashtag #ERecsDay on Twitter to join the conversation.

**October: National Arts and Humanities Month**

**October 2: Ask an Archivist Day**

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**Spotlight On: Raven Dickson - Coutts Museum of Art, El Dorado**

In 2018, eight deserving applicants received scholarships from KMA to cover their registration for the annual conference, as well as a stipend for travel and lodging. Our scholarship recipients hail from across the state (or just outside!); some are young professionals and some have years of experience but they all joined us in Independence eager to learn and grow with their colleagues in the profession. This is the final article featuring their experiences. We look forward to bringing you insights from 2019's scholarship recipients next year!

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**From Raven Dickson:**

I am always looking for new professional development opportunities. I have been in the museum profession for almost five years, and this was my first KMA conference. The 2018 Kansas Museum Association Conference-Hidden Treasures: Making the Most of Community in Independence, Kansas offered that and so much more.

During the conference, I was able to attend numerous sessions. I was able to focus on topics that directly, and indirectly, related to my position at the Coutts Museum of Art. A couple of the sessions that I attended included:

- How to Grant with Paula Gangopadhyay
- Priceless Partnerships: Leveraging Your Museum To Do More with Linda Henderson, and Jan Luth
- The Community Chest: Dealing With the Cards You Draw with Samantha Philbrick, Marjean Dienes, and Ann Miner

Although my position at the Coutts is as a Development Director, each one of those sessions offered valuable insight that can be
applied in a small museum. Goodness knows that although we are given official titles, we do so much more than our titles may suggest!

While at KMA, the opportunities to network were endless. From the Meet & Greet to the Annual Dinner and Benefit Auction, time was always allotted to connect with old friends, and make new ones! There were many opportunities to visit with vendors, speakers, and the members of the KMA Board. You just never knew when someone from the Board was going to pop by to say a quick hello and chat before heading back to their endless duties.

Of course my most memorial time was spent at the Benefit Auction, bidding against my own husband for goodies to take home as gifts. We knew that our funds were going to help another scholarship winner enjoy KMA in 2019, so we did not hold back. We did, however, laugh at the fact that sometimes we had no idea we were actually bidding against each other until someone asked us about it. I was too busy (having fun as one of the many scholarship winners who got to play the role of Vanna White during the auction) to pay attention!

Overall, I was very pleased with my conference attendance and felt it was well worth the time. I learned new solutions and best practice strategies that can be implemented at the Coutts. In addition, the networking experience was very beneficial. I was able to speak with several industry experts who provided tips and useful information for my particular dilemmas and work projects.

The conference was very organized and the speakers provided candid opinions on the subject matter at hand, making the information extremely valuable. The citizens of Independence were extremely hospitable and made me feel welcome in their community (of course I had to go shopping)!

I appreciate that I was able to attend as a scholarship winner, and look forward to attending again in 2019.

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**Webinars and Continuing Education Opportunities**

**American Association for State and Local History’s Upcoming Webinars**

**History Check-In - Civil Rights and Place: The Importance of Region to Interpreting the Black Freedom Movement of the 1950s-60s**

October 10
2:00 - 3:15 pm Central
[Register](#)

**Connecting to Collections Care’s Upcoming Webinars**

**Practical Book Repair**

October 3
1:00 - 2:30 pm Central
[Register](#)
Cleaning the Museum Without Damage
October 10, 17, 24, 31
1:00 - 2:30 pm Central
Register

Collection Facility Planning: Preparing for the Next Renovation
October 22
1:00 - 2:30 pm Central
Register

Texas Historical Commission's Upcoming Webinars
Se Habla Español: Strategy and Implementation for Bilingual Resources at Museums
October 2
2:00 pm Central
Register

Collections Management Policies 101
October 16
10:00 am Central
Register

National Art Education Association's Upcoming Webinars
Collaborative Tape Art: Facilitating Creative Artmaking Experiences
October 24
6:00 - 7:00 pm Central
Register

Advocacy Connection and Museums in the News

Use AAM's Template to Urge Senate Support of Increasing the Office of Museum Services Funding

How D.C.'s Museums Are Working to Protect Their Collections From More Heat and Flooding - Matt Blitz, DCist

The Future of America's Past - New PBS Series Visits Historic Sites and Discuss Full Histories

Why a Plan to Redefine the Meaning of "Museum" is Stirring Up Controversy - Suyin Haynes, Time

Take Care: Building Resilience and Sustainable Practice - Elizabeth Merritt, Center for the Future of Museums Blog


The Museum Wall That Broke the Art Handler's Back - Zachary Small, Hyperallergic
What Makes a Great Museum Label? - Anna Faherty, MuseumNext

Civil War Cannonballs Found on Beach After Hurricane Dorian - Lillian Donahue, WBTV

Hollywood Art Raids Haul Discovered After 25 Years - James Queally, Stuff

Forget STEM, We Need MESH - Tim Wise, Medium