In Case You Missed It:
KMA 2020 Conference Goes Digital

The KMA Board and staff are pleased to announce that the 2020 KMA Conference will be held in an online format November 4-6 to ensure the safety of our members and expand participation opportunities.

Click here to read the full announcement. We will provide more details as they become available on our website, Facebook, and via email.

Coronavirus Updates: Conferences and More

Do you have a request or something to share? Deaccessioned artifacts, props, storage furniture, or other items? Let KMA get the word out!

E-mail Jamin with information.

Important Dates

American Alliance of Museums Annual Meeting
May 18, June 1-4 2020
Virtual Meeting

***Postponed***
Mountain Plains Museums Association Annual Conference
September 2-5, 2020
Sioux Falls, SD

American Association for State and Local History Annual Meeting
September 23-26, 2020
Las Vegas, NV

Kansas Museums Association Conference
November 4-6, 2020
Virtual Meeting

Employment Listings
The American Alliance of Museums has rescheduled their annual meeting to be held virtually, May 18 and June 1-4. Click here for details and to register.

The Mountain-Plains Museums Association has also postponed their Sioux Falls conference and is exploring ways to move to an online format. More information will be available on their website as it is available.

KMA continues to share resources related to the COVID-19 response for museums - webinars, funding opportunities, articles and more - on the main page of our website, which is updated regularly.

Calendar Notes

May - Blue Star Museums: The Blue Star Museum program is exploring virtual options for the launch of the program this summer. More information will be available in May on their website.

May 1: May Day is the day for disaster preparedness, and the American Institute for Conservation has suggested preparedness activities on their website, as well as a chance to win gift certificates for Gaylord Archival for sharing your plans!

May 18: International Museum Day is celebrated to raise awareness that, "museums are an important means of cultural exchange, enrichment of cultures and development of mutual understanding, cooperation and peace among peoples." More information is available from the International Council of Museums website.

Good News - Museum Happenings Across Kansas

We could all use some good news now, right? Here are a few examples of our Kansas museums developing new programming, new ways of reaching their audiences, and new ways of helping their communities in this month's edition of Good News!

Johnson County Museum, Overland Park
The Johnson County Museum has launched a virtual tour of their 1954 All-Electric House, and features an audio tour of the Lanesfield Historic Site outside of Edgerton. They have also started a coronavirus collecting project. One more piece of good news - at the beginning of April they welcomed Mary McMurray, a 20th Century U.S. historian from Prairie Village, as the new...
Director of the Johnson County Museum. Welcome Mary!

Kauffman Museum, North Newton
Thinking outside their space led Kauffman Museum to install a pop-up exhibit on the OUTSIDE of their building - "Behind the News: Viruses." They have also produced a new podcast, "Bird Bytes," and the associated Flint Hills Design Team has shifted gears from exhibits to producing aerosol boxes for hospitals and checkout barriers for stores - well done!

Stanton County Museum, Johnson City
Stanton County Museum used this time to share with their Facebook followers some of the practices they use to preserve archival materials, as well as a video about a mask in their collection - great job!

Mahaffie Stagecoach Stop and Farm Historic Site, Olathe
The animals at Mahaffie sent out a call for pen pals, and local school children are delivering! They can write with questions for the goats, sheep, horses, oxen, and a rooster, and will receive an answer back in the mail. In addition, they held a virtual lamb yoga class that our very own KMA board member Alexis Radil and a yoga instructor from the Olathe Community Center hosted - fun!

Last, but certainly not least, we extend our congratulations to KMA's Past President of the Board, Bob Workman, on his induction into the Wichita State University College of Fine Arts Hall of Fame. Bob is recognized for his leadership as a museum director, arts administrator, and educator. He along with 4 others in the 2020 class of inductees will be honored in a virtual Hall of Fame gala May 12. Cheers to you, Bob!

Do you have more good news to share with us about what your museum is doing during this time - or anything else? Send us an email and we will feature you in next month's newsletter!

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**Spotlight On: Skye Conley, Graduate Student, University of Kansas**

In 2019, ten 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; some are young professionals and some have years of experience but they all joined us in McPherson and Lindsborg eager to learn and grow with their colleagues in the profession. We will be sharing recaps of their experiences throughout the year as we look forward to the 2020 conference.

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From Skye Conley:
I had the unprecedented blessing of being a scholarship recipient for the second year in a row to attend the golden anniversary Kansas Museums Association Conference. It was a blessing among a chain of blessings that I have received since last year's conference that helps to validate my purpose and place as a budding museum professional.

When I applied for graduate school last fall and winter, I was able to use many of the notes I took from last year's conference to help me write my required essays. The combination of the knowledge I was able to utilize from my attendance and the networking and labor I have put into the Kansas museum system helped me receive admission to five graduate programs spread out between Kansas, Missouri, Louisiana, and Texas.

But perhaps the greatest blessing of them all was an unexpected occurrence. Even though it had been a full year since I had last seen many of KMA's "regulars," I was pleasantly surprised to not only remember faces and names of those I had met before, but they remembered me, too. I distinctly remember walking into the Sundstrom to check in and Jamin Landavazo knew exactly who I was before I could tell her. I remember talking to Kay Quinn for the first time in a year and I didn't have to reintroduce myself.

Even though this was the first time I had ever been to Lindsborg, and only the third time I had ever been to McPherson, coming back to KMA for my second year felt a lot like coming home. If home is a lot like Cheers, "where everybody knows your name," then KMA is my home. KMA is more than the professional development and outreach opportunities that are wonderfully provided. KMA is about unity, the uniting of like-minded and like-hearted individuals who want to empower each other and the institutions we serve in order to bolster the glory and wonder of what is known as the Kansas museum.

I am incredibly excited that the city where my university is located will be the host of next year's conference, which would put me in playing the role of co-host once again. With my graduate program and my current home museum, the Booth Family Hall of Athletics, acting as some of the sponsors and hosts for next year's attendees, it will become my cause to make Lawrence and KMA feel just like home to everyone who comes.

Webinars and Continuing Education Opportunities
New webinar content related to the coronavirus is being produced all the time. We are sharing as many links as we can on our website, which is updated regularly. Often the webinars are available in an archived format after the initial date and time have passed, so click through or visit the host organization's website to see if it is available. Webinars listed here are new additions.

**National Association for Interpretation's Upcoming Webinars**

**Staying Virtually Connected with your Audiences**
May 5
12:00 - 1:00 pm Central
[Register](#)

**3D Scanning: What Matters in the COVID-19 Crisis and Beyond**
May 19
12:00 - 1:00 pm Central
[Register](#)

**Graphic Design Basics For Heritage Interpreters Series**
**PART ONE: COLOR**
May 26
12:00 - 1:00 pm Central
[Registration coming soon](#)

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

**AASLH-NCPH Conversations: Digital Internships**
May 12
2:00 - 3:00 pm Central
[Register](#)

**How to Build Your Own Successful Traveling Trunk Program**
May 19
2:00 - 3:00 pm Central
[Register](#)

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

**Fire Protection Strategies for Collections and Museums**
May 6
1:00 - 2:30 pm
[Register](#)

**Texas Historical Commission's Upcoming Webinars**

**A Case Study in Creating a Successful Case Statement**
May 21
2:00 pm Central
[Register](#)
Plus find a lengthy list of more coronavirus related webinars compiled by THC [here](#).

**National Art Education Association’s Upcoming Webinars**

**Accessing State and Federal Data Systems for Conducting Research in Art Education**
May 21
6:00 - 7:00 pm Central
[Register](#)

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**Advocacy Connection and Museums in the News**

**COVID-19 Basics: Disinfecting Cultural Resources** - National Center for Preservation Technology and Training

**How Epidemics of the Past Changed the Way Americans Lived** - Katherine A. Foss, Smithsonian Magazine


**The Culture of Earth Day** - Brett Milano, The Harvard Gazette

**YOU Are the Primary Source: These 200+ History Organizations Want Your COVID Story** - Medium

**Intent to Visit by Household Income: What It Means for Reopening** - Colleen Dilenschneider, Know Your Own Bone

**Survey of US Arts Organizations Points to Devastating Losses During Pandemic** - Valentina Di Liscia, Hyperallergic

**Social Distancing and Museums: Don’t Touch the Art … or Anything Else** - Medium

**Short Term Strategies for Museum Workers** - Elizabeth Merritt, The Center for the Future of Museums Blog

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