This Just In: Hear from Colleen Dilenschneider from Know Your Own Bone at KMA's Virtual Conference!

When you need to know the latest trends in museums, based on facts that you can trust, where do you turn? For almost a decade the place to turn has been Know Your Own Bone, a blog and website that shares up-to-date, real world data related to cultural organizations. Publisher Colleen Dilenschneider uses data and technology to share insights on marketing, visitor experience, fundraising, COVID-19 and more. Now we are excited to bring her expertise to the KMA Virtual Conference!

Colleen Dilenschneider  
Chief Market Engagement Officer

Widely regarded as a leader of the next generation of nonprofit executive management, Colleen Dilenschneider oversees multiple audience engagement initiatives on behalf of clients in the nonprofit and cultural sectors. Colleen uses data to both identify and predict emerging market opportunities, and helps nonprofit organizations maintain their relevance and secure their long-term financial futures by building affinity with their onsite and virtual audiences. Colleen has worked with many of the most admired and successful clients in the nonprofit realm, including projects concerning the Monterey Bay Aquarium, California Academy of Sciences, Carnegie Museums, Stanford University, Exploratorium, John G. Shedd Aquarium, Tennessee Aquarium, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), San Diego Zoo, and Wildlife Conservation Society, and currently serves on the Board of Directors at the National Aquarium.

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Bulletin Board
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 Association for State and Local History Annual Meeting  
September 24-30, 2020 Virtual Meeting

Mountain Plains Museums Association Annual Conference  
Sept. 29 - Oct. 2, 2020 Virtual Meeting

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

American Alliance of Museums Annual Meeting  
May 9-12, 2021 Chicago, IL

Employment Listings
No current openings
To submit employment listings,
Colleen is the author and publisher of the popular website Know Your Own Bone, a data-informed strategic resource for cultural organizations, and has been a featured expert in sources ranging from NPR’s Marketplace to The Wall Street Journal. She has been prominently featured in many national museum publications, and as required reading for museum studies and professional development programs nationwide.

Mark your calendars to join us for KMA’s Virtual Conference, November 4-6, and stay tuned for more information and announcements!

KMA’s Virtual Conference is Coming - Is Your Membership Current?

You won’t want to miss KMA’s upcoming fall conference, where we will provide digital content and time for connection in a virtual format that is available at your fingertips at work or at home. In the meantime... are you wondering if your membership is current, so you don’t miss out on any of the great resources and upcoming conference activities KMA has to share? There is an easy way to check your Institutional KMA membership: click here to visit our membership page, which is updated through the beginning of July. If you find your museum listed, your 2020 membership is current - and we thank you! If not you can renew your membership today! Is there a discrepancy? Contact Jamin and we will work to correct it.

Important:

- Do you need an invoice? Our membership link will generate one! Simply go through the checkout process and when you get to the payment method section, choose "invoice me" from the dropdown list

- REMEMBER: Email is the primary means of communication you will receive from KMA. We collect your email address from this membership registration to keep you informed about resources, grants, scholarships, workshops, conferences and more. When you fill out the individual or institutional membership renewal, please include an up-to-date email so that we can connect with you. If you need to make changes, contact Jamin.

- KMA Membership runs on a calendar year basis, so if you haven’t renewed in 2020 make sure you don’t miss a thing; renew your membership today.

- KMA Membership comes with great benefits - like discounts, the ability to apply for awards and grants, early access to professional development, and more - click here to see!

Purchase a membership or renew online, click here.
News Briefs

AASLH Shares Report on Planning for US 250th Celebration: AASLH has produced a report on planning for the Semiquincentennial, with details on state-level planning, AASLH grant projects, ideas and more. Click here to learn more.

Kansas Digital Access to Historical Records Grant Deadline Extended: Kansas State Historical Records Advisory Board has extended their grant application deadline to October 1. See 2020 KDAHR Guidelines and Application for project ideas and application instructions.

Humanities Kansas Sets Rolling Deadlines for Grants: HK recognizes that it's important for us to be nimble as plans change, especially now. Their Humanities for All and Culture Preservation grants will have rolling deadlines through October. Read more about the grant opportunities, deadlines, and how to apply at the links above.

Invite Congress to Visit Your Museum Virtually in 2020: During the August Congressional recess, AAM encourages museums to reach out virtually to their federal, state and local legislators and stakeholders and invite them to see what museums are do first-hand. This year is especially important, as Congress will be considering economic relief and recovery legislation and continuing appropriations talks for FY 2021. AAM has all the information you need here.

Coronavirus

Grants for COVID-19 projects: The Albert Lepage Center for History in the Public Interest at Villanova University announced a new funding opportunity to support historical projects related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Proposals are due August 15. Read more here.

Historical data visualization and COVID-19: On the History Associates Incorporated blog, Mimi Eisen discusses how data visualizations like graphs and charts have helped us make sense of tragedies like war or disease casualties in the past, and how
**Racial Justice and Equity**

**Critical conversations:** The National Council for History Education is hosting a series of webinars in July focusing on race, ethnicity, and history. Upcoming presentations will discuss the Green Book, Confederate monuments, teaching history to English learners, and more. Read more [here](#).

**Tubman statue unveiled:** Cape May, New Jersey, home of the soon-to-be open Harriet Tubman Museum, recently installed a nine-foot-tall statue of the Underground Railroad hero. "Installing this statue in a moment when monuments are such an incredible part of the dialogue in the United States, it's very clear to us what people you praise as heroes, what spaces you preserve as historic and what dates you celebrate as important demonstrate our values." Read more [here](#).

**Documenting today:** "As museum curators and archivists stare down one of the most daunting challenges of their careers-telling the story of the pandemic; followed by severe economic collapse and a nationwide social justice movement-they are imploring individuals across the country to preserve personal materials for posterity, and for possible inclusion in museum archives." Read more [here](#).

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**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!

**Mid-America All-Indian Museum - Wichita**

Blackbear Bosin will now be the focus of the newly renamed Mid-America All-Indian Museum's mission. The Kiowa-Comanche artist, who designed Wichita’s Keeper of the Plains, adopted the city as his home and the museum is now dedicated to collecting and preserving his works. To read more, click [here](#).

**Kauffman Museum - North Newton**

The Kauffman Museum's website has gotten a makeover! Visit [kauffmanmuseum.org](http://kauffmanmuseum.org) to see its updated and streamlined look - congrats to you!

**Coffey County Historical Museum - Burlington**

The Coffey County Historical Museum is taking the old school and merging it with the current day. They are creating a [COVID-19 cookbook](#) to document what people were making - including the substitutions and creative ways they got around ingredient...
scarcity. Merging it with photos and stories of the pandemic, this will serve as a time capsule of a very particular place in time.

Smoky Hill Museum - Salina
A CARES Act Relief Grant has been awarded to the Smoky Hill Museum by Humanities Kansas. As many museums are struggling with closures or decreased revenue, it is good to hear that there are opportunities for some relief. To read the article, click here. They also shared the history of the "Indian Burial Pit." Once a popular site for visitation, the State of Kansas purchased it and it was reburied 30 years ago. You can learn more about it here in the flyer they produced as a part of their "You be the Historian" series of gallery handouts.

Riley County Historical Society - Manhattan
You can now take a virtual tour of the Goodnow House State Historic Site, operated jointly by the Riley County Historical Society, Riley County, and the Kansas State Historical Society. Check it out here!

Shawnee Town 1929 - Shawnee
Shawnee Town 1929 allowed visitors to safely distance AND learn with their Time Travelers - In the Garden program. They learned about growing food, washed and weighed their veggies, churned butter and more!

Kansas Children's Discovery Center - Topeka
The Kansas Children's Discovery Center recently reopened their outdoor learning area for safe, socially distanced fun. Like many museums, their indoor space has been closed since March, but they reopened their 4.5 acre outdoor areas for play and learning with timed tickets and sanitizing between groups.

Museum of World Treasures - Wichita
Connecting to cool things is the name of the game for the Museum of World Treasures, and when that could no longer happen inside their museum walls, they reached out to see what historic treasures ordinary Kansans had at home. The result was an online exhibit, "History from Home" that can be accessed here.

Spencer Museum of Art - Lawrence
Imagine a series of quilts projected on the side of a building underneath the night sky! That's what visitors to the Spencer Museum of Art were treated to a few weeks ago - a neat idea!

Blue Rapids Museum and Historical Society - Blue Rapids
Folks at the Blue Rapids Museum are using this time to move their collections to Past Perfect - great idea!

Johnson County Museum - Overland Park
The Johnson County Museum shared a great history of J.C. Nichols and his role as a suburban neighborhood developer in Johnson County. He built a real estate empire in the early 1900s and was recognized as a community leader, but his legacy is being called into question as he was also a pioneer of restrictive covenants, which effectively segregated many neighborhoods along racial lines. Read more here.
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:**

**Hannah Schifman, Visitor Studies Intern/Museum Studies MA Student, Kansas Museum of History**

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 Hannah Schifman:**

As a current museum studies graduate student and emerging museum professional, going into the conference, I intended to simply attend events as a student, sitting in the back, allowing myself to be a fly on the wall. Not only have I only been in the museum world for less than three years, but I had less than a year’s worth of actual experience in the field. I was there to learn. Which happened, and then some.

I attended the preconference workshop with Jim Richardson and Cole Finley. That was a fun, hands-on morning activity that was gave me a few ideas to work into my phone photography and social media skills, even as a millennial! That evening, I was pleasantly surprised at the history and richness of the Birger Sandzén Memorial Gallery. As someone with an art history background, I spent a lot of time exploring their galleries.

Thursday morning I sat in on The Future of Etzanoa session, and found it to be the most rewarding breakout session of the entire conference. From this, I not only learned about the particularity of the site, but the handling of community engagement and partnerships for the future. I even considered the possibility of pursuing independent consulting as a career venture.

I loved Dylan’s keynote presentation! Because I studied in Florence, Italy and visited Museo Galileo on multiple occasions for class, I was joyous when he chose to share Galileo's middle
finger as a prime anecdote. I preferred the organization and casualness of the roundtables. I visited the 'Museums in Historic Buildings', 'The Kansas African American History Trail Project', and the fundraising roundtable from Eric Cale. I took a lot from the concrete ideas and order of these topics.

Friday morning's session of 'Human-Purposed Integrated Design & Construction' energized me for the rest of the day. One of the institutions that kept coming up was Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art down in Bentonville, Arkansas. I have interned there for a summer and was excited to hear other people in the room learn about the museum and get a sense of how special it is to the region.

After our compelling keynote from Dr. Wes Jackson, the momentum moved forward into the 'Public Investment Building Around Museums and Beyond' session. I felt like this session condensed all of my previous life experiences and interests with my intentions of going into the conference with my fresh set of eyes. The future of museums are co-dependent on the well-being of society, which can only be done through the constant collaboration and partnership with institutions serving the public.

For future conferences, I believe that there needs to be opportunities to discuss accessibility, diversity, and the needs of ALL visitors. As a current visitor studies intern at the Kansas Historical Society, I have focused most of my research to breaking down what makes a museum visit a success. No matter how big or small a museum may be, you must be an accommodating and welcoming institution.

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**Webinars and Continuing Education Opportunities**

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

*Time Management for Interpreters*
August 11
12:00 pm Central
[Register](#)

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

*250th Anniversary and African American Museums: A Listening Session*
August 17
2:00 - 3:00 pm Central
[Register](#)

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

*Care and Curation of Archaeological Collections for Museums*
August 26
1:00 - 2:30 pm Central
[Register](#)
Texas Historical Commission's Upcoming Webinars
Best Practices for the Nonprofit World
August 19
10:00 am Central
Register

Humanities Kansas's Upcoming Webinars
Writing Strong Grant Narratives
September 2
2:00 - 3:30 pm Central
Register

Society of American Archivists Virtual Conference
August 5-7
Register here

Federation of Genealogical Societies Virtual Conference
Starting September 15
Register here

Advocacy Connection and Museums in the News

Preservation Profiles podcast - A new podcast from the National Preservation Institute

Episodes of Change: A Long View of Museum-Making in America - Avi Decter and Ken Yellis, AASLH Blog

Field Services Alliance Tips: Re-Opening Museums During COVID-19 - Laura Casey, AASLH Blog

People Are Calling for Museums to be Abolished. Can Whitewashed American History be Rewritten? - Brian Boucher, CNN

Most People Want Cultural Entities to Require Masks - Colleen Dilenschneider, Know Your Own Bone

After Finding No Evidence Hat was Abe Lincoln's, Illinois Historian is Out of a Job - Tony Arnold, NPR

The Overlooked Importance of Non-Local Members to
Cultural Organzations - Colleen Dilenschneider Know Your Own Bone

Decolonisation: We Aren't Going to Save You - Puawai Cairns, AAM's Center for the Future of Museums Blog

Civil War Vaccination Kits, Discovered in a Drawer, Yield Genetic Clues to How Smallpox was Defeated - Elizabeth Cooney, STAT

One-Third of US Museums May Not Survive the Year, Survey Finds - Neda Ulaby, NPR

Race to the Bottom: Curators in Battle for Best Museum Bum - Helen Sullivan, The Guardian

Penn Museum to Remove Skull Collection of Enslaved People - Hakim Bishara, Hyperallergic

Van Gogh: Postcard Helps Experts 'Find Location of Final Masterpiece' - BBC

How Historical Societies are Bringing Their Recipes to Pandemic Cooks - Anne Ewbank, Atlas Obscura

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