

MAMA News

March 1, 2019



Museums Advocacy Day 2019

AAM's Museums Advocacy Day 2019 was February 25-26. MAMA sent President Sara Wilson, Treasurer Linda Endersby and Past President Candy Sall to Washington, D.C. to advocate on behalf of Missouri's museums. They wrote the following report:

Museums Advocacy Day 2019

The Missouri Association for Museums and Archives (MAMA) delegation met with both Missouri Senators and six of the Representatives on Tuesday, February 26, in Washington DC during Museums Advocacy Day, organized by the American Alliance of Museums. Sara Wilson (MAMA President), Linda Endersby (MAMA Treasurer), and Candace Sall (MAMA Past-President) all met with the Missouri legislators and their staffs to advocate for their support of museums and archives.

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) was reauthorized by Congress in December for the next 6 years. Both Missouri senators and all eight representatives voted in favor of reauthorization, and the MAMA delegation thanked them for their support. We also asked them to sign the appropriations letter that came out this week to support funding for the Office of Museum Services at \$38.6 million (full funding).

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) support museums and archives, and we talked with them about how these directly impact our museums, archives, libraries, and more. The Missouri Humanities Council sponsors MAMA workshops and our conference, as well as offers grants to Missouri institutions. We asked for at \$167.5 million for both the NEH and NEA in FY 2020.

We asked for support of the Universal Charitable Giving Act, which would allow donors to deduct their charitable contributions regardless of whether they itemize, and to cosponsor legislation to repeal the

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Unrelated Business Income Tax (UBIT) on expenses that charities incur in providing transportation fringe benefits to employees. Other museum, archives, and education issues were also discussed at several meetings.

Our MAMA delegation visited the offices of Senators Blunt and Hawley, as well as Representatives Clay, Cleaver, Graves, Hartzler, Long, and Smith this year! We plan to visit both senators and all eight representatives in 2020. In the meantime, the MAMA Board would be happy to help you advocate with the legislators in their local offices. Just contact us at advocacy@missourimuseums.org

To see a full list of the issues: <https://www.aam-us.org/programs/advocacy/policy-issues/>

Events

'United We Stand:' Bingham's Election Series as an Argument for the Great American Experiment in Democracy

Saturday, March 2, 10:00-11:00am, Arrow Rock State Historic Site Visitor Center, Arrow Rock

Scholars have long commented on the relationship of George Caleb Bingham's elections series of paintings (*Stump Speaking*, *County Election*, and *Verdict of the People*) to the artist's career as a politician in Saline County. Less attention, however, has been devoted to the broader national and international implications of the series. In this illustrated lecture, Dr. Joan Stack, SHSMO's curator of art collections, suggests that Bingham's series visually argues for the viability of America's constitutional democracy at a time when political disunity cast doubt on its stability. While Bingham mocks the foibles of politicians and voters, the compositional harmony of his series presents a cautiously optimistic vision in which a shared commitment to the democratic process brings disparate partisans together in a unified multi-paneled whole.

<https://shsmo.org/events/>

Women of War

Sunday, March 10, 2:00pm, Soldiers Memorial Military Museum, St. Louis

Join a panel of female veterans from WWII to today to discuss how the sacrifices made by women in the armed forces transcended gender and influenced the lives of American veterans for generations to come.

https://mohistory.org/events/women-of-war_1552244400

Etzanoa Presentation

Thursday, March 14, 6:00pm, St. Joseph Museums, 3406 Frederick Ave, St. Joseph

Join us for a presentation by Sandy Randel on Etzanoa. In June 2015, archaeologist Dr. Don Blakeslee led a wide-ranging field study in Central and Southern Kansas. One of his primary goals was to re-discover the long-lost city of Etzanoa. The location, size and significance of Etzanoa, “the Great Settlement,” as Spanish explorers labeled it after their 1601 expedition there, had become lost in the mists of time. For many decades archaeologists debated these issues. But in recent years, Wichita State University anthropology and archaeology professor Dr. Blakeslee became convinced that the town inhabited by 20,000 ancestral Wichita Indians — the second-largest, or perhaps the largest, settlement in North America in the early 1600s — was hidden in plain site. It was in Arkansas City, Kansas. Tickets are \$5 for non-members (free for museum members).

<https://www.stjosephmuseum.org/events-1/etzanoa-presentation>

Frolic of the Mind: The Illustrious Life of Rose O'Neill

Thursday, March 21, 7:00pm, Missouri State Archives, Jefferson City

Before Mickey Mouse, there were Kewpie dolls—the much beloved cherub-faced characters created by Midwest native Rose O’Neill. Introduced to the world in December of 1909 through a cartoon published in *Ladies’ Home Journal*, their frolics and impish pursuits became so popular that they moved off the page into doll form and beyond. The success of the Kewpie doll made O’Neill a millionaire, but it was just one of her many creative pursuits. She was also an important illustrator—the only female on the staff of Puck Magazine; an author of four published novels and several books of poetry; and a sculptor who exhibited her work in Paris. *In Frolic of the Mind: The Illustrious Life of Rose O’Neill*, Sarah Buhr, Curator of Art at the Springfield Art Museum, unites all of O’Neill’s creative endeavors, examining how she pursued these interests and lived life on her own terms, all in spite of the strict social rules placed upon women at the turn of the century. Join us as Buhr discusses the incredible life and work of artist Rose O’Neill.

<https://friendsofmsa.org/events/index.php>

Roots of Wisdom: Native Knowledge. Shared Science. Opening Reception

Monday, March 25, 4:30-6:00pm, Duane G. Meyer Library, Missouri State University, Springfield

Explore how Native people are joining their traditional knowledge with cutting-edge Western science to save cultural practices and local environments.

The exhibition runs March 18-May 24, 2019.

<https://blogs.missouristate.edu/libraries/2019/01/25/rootsowisdom>

Meet Best-Selling Illustrator AG Ford

Thursday, March 28, 2:00-3:00pm, Duane G. Meyer Library, Missouri State University, Springfield

New York Times Best-selling illustrator AG Ford will discuss his career as a children's book illustrator working with personalities such as Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, Nick Cannon, Sharon Robinson, Ilyasah Shabazz and Martin Luther King III—all of whom have written children's books. During his talk, Ford will discuss how he became a professional book illustrator and share tips such as how to develop an art portfolio. The presentation will be followed by a book signing in the lobby outside room 101.

<https://libnotes.missouristate.edu/2019/02/meet-best-selling-illustrator-ag-ford/>

Do you want your event featured in the next newsletter? Send an email to Mary.Stansfield@sos.mo.gov with details.

Fellowships

William E. Foley Research Fellowship

Deadline: March 31

The Friends of the Missouri State Archives offers the William E. Foley Research Fellowship to support the use of public records in scholarly research. Any research project that utilizes the holdings of the Missouri State Archives, and/or its St. Louis branch, to further knowledge of state or national history is eligible for funding.

Fellows receive a \$1,500 award intended to defray expenses incurred when visiting the Archives and/or its St. Louis branch. Distribution occurs in two payments: the first (\$700) upon notification of the award, and the second (\$800) upon completion of research at the Archives and/or its St. Louis branch.

Fellows must complete their research within a year of the award date and are required to submit a final report explaining the work performed. Furthermore, fellows must acknowledge the Friends of the Missouri State Archives' William E. Foley Research Fellowship in any work(s) resulting from the research, as well as provide the Missouri State Archives with a copy of any such work(s).

Applicants for the 2019 William E. Foley Research Fellowship should complete an application form and provide a research proposal, curriculum vitae and list of references.

Review of completed applications will begin on Monday, April 1, 2019. These materials may be sent to Dr. Shelly J. Croteau, Assistant State

Archivist, Missouri State Archives, P.O. Box 1747, 600 W. Main St.,
Jefferson City, MO 65102 or shelly.croteau@sos.mo.gov.

<https://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/education/WEF>

Webinars

Break the Budget Bubble: How to Build and Read Budgets

Wednesday, March 20, 2:00pm

For many people working in the history field, budgeting was not part of their training nor is it in their comfort zone. But financially sustainable history organizations do not happen by chance—it takes planning and regular attention to budgeting.

This 90-minute webinar provides an introduction to budget/financial literacy with guest instructor Becky Beaulieu, author of *Financial Fundamentals for Historic House Museums* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2017). Becky will discuss basic terminology including types of budgets, income, and expenses along with how to create and evaluate a budget so you can prepare for informed and cyclical budget planning. Join us for this valuable lesson on budgeting that will prove useful for years to come.

https://learn.aaslh.org/products/live-webinar-break-the-budget-bubble-how-to-build-and-read-budgets-steps-lab#tab-product_tab_overview

Exhibits

Explosive: Paints by Sterling Witt

February 24 - April 7, Albrecht-Kemper Museum of Art, St. Joseph

Raw and expressionistic, Sterling Witt's large paintings capture a viewer's attention from across the room. Witt's natural sense of design and composition are innate, and it is instinct alone that guides his brush. Although largely self-taught, Witt's work seems to riff on Surrealism, Abstract-Expressionism, and Process art. In his latest series, presented here, Witt has added the element of chance as he utilizes firearms to explode cans of paint marking and marring the surface of the canvas.

<http://albrecht-kemper.org/exhibitions/explosive-paintings-by-sterling-witt/>

El Grabado: Contemporary Cuban Printmaking

Exhibit ends March 17, Springfield Art Museum

This exhibition presents over 70 prints by thirty-three Cuban artists who have all worked, at one time or another, at the Taller Experimental de Gráfica de Habana – the oldest, continuously running print workshop in Cuba. The Taller was established in 1962 by muralist Orlando Suarez with the help of Che Guevara, who was then Cuba's Minister of Industry. From its inception, the workshop has focused on connecting artists with traditional printmaking techniques and fostering a dynamic artistic community based on the sharing and exchange of ideas, experimentation, and art criticism. This supportive community has allowed Cuban artists a relative freedom of expression, even amid the country's larger political and cultural issues. It continues to be one of the most important workshops in Cuba.

The exhibition is pulled entirely from the collection of Drs. Antonio and Luz Racela.

Esta exposición presenta más de 70 grabados de treinta y tres artistas cubanos que han trabajado, en un momento u otro, en el Taller Experimental de Gráfica de Habana– el taller en funcionamiento más antiguo de Cuba. El Taller fue establecido en 1962 por el muralista Orlando Sánchez con el apoyo del Che Guevara, entonces Ministro de Industria de Cuba. Desde su inicio, el taller se ha centrado en conectar a los artistas con las técnicas tradicionales de grabado y fomentar una comunidad artística dinámica basada en compartir e intercambiar las ideas, la experimentación y la crítica de arte. Esta comunidad de apoyo ha permitido a los artistas cubanos una relativa libertad de expresión, incluso en medio de los asuntos políticos y culturales más grandes del país. Sigue siendo uno de los talleres más importantes en Cuba.

La exhibición se ha extraído completamente de la colección de Drs. Antonio y Luz Racela.

<https://www.sgfmuseum.org/237/El-Grabado-Contemporary-Cuban-Printmaking>

Do you want your exhibit featured in the next newsletter? Send an email to Mary.Stansfield@sos.mo.gov with details.

Online Collections - New Stuff!

Missouri Department of Conservation Photograph Collection

Missouri voters passed Constitutional Amendment No. 4 by initiative petition in November 1936 creating the Missouri Conservation Commission and the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC). Then in 1976 voters passed a second initiative creating a 1/8th of 1 percent (0.00125) sales tax to help fund the department. The MDC is

run solely by monies gathered through this tax and the sales of hunting, fishing and other permits. Because the department is not funded through the state budget, it is referred to as a "non-political" organization. This leadership model has been lauded and emulated by other states since its inception. Today, the Missouri Department of Conservation oversees more than 975,000 acres of land with a mission "to protect and manage the forest, fish and wildlife resources of the state and to facilitate and provide opportunities for all citizens to use, enjoy and learn about these resources."

This photograph collection contains 4,524 black and white images taken by MDC photographers. Primary photographers were Don Wooldridge, Jim Rathert, Russ Reagan and Dawn Drainer-Stegeman. Most images are from the 1950s, 1960s and 1990s; however, there are some pre-department images going back to 1903. (The full range is 1903–1995.) Topics include plants, wildlife, hunting, fishing, landscapes and department events and staff. The collection also includes a series of photographs donated to the department by the Missouri Outdoor Writers Association, or MOWA.

<http://cdm16795.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/landingpage/collection/p16795coll24>

Do you want your new online collection featured in the next newsletter? Send an email to Mary.Stansfield@sos.mo.gov with details.

Missouri Association for Museums and Archives

info@missourimuseums.org

<https://mama.wildapricot.org/>

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