

2019



ANNUAL REPORT 2019

Dacotah Prairie Museum

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"Sky Woman" By Rebecca Mulvaney

Dacotah Prairie Museum Permanent Art Collection

A Year of Transition

Welcome to the annual report for the Dacotah Prairie Museum. Our institution has seen many changes in its 50 years as Brown County's history museum and 2019 certainly had big changes for the staff. Sue Gates, after nearly 30 years with the DPM and 25 of those as director, retired with fanfare and accolades in June. During her tenure she oversaw the transformation of the entire building; from tried and tired exhibits in a closed-in building to a Main Street showcase of history, art and education that has touched patrons of all ages from near and far.

As the new director, I hope to build on the solid footing and creative depth the DPM staff has established. Sue Gates has left us with an awesome legacy and a launch pad for the future. The sky's the limit! As the former Museum office manager, I feel that I am well acquainted with the day-to-day operations of our institution. I will be meeting with staff to plan out the next set of projects and upgrades that will take our museum and its historic building well into the next 50 years.

Our Challenges

With Sue's departure, the Museum experienced a set-back when the Brown County Commission declined to replace the office manager position with my promotion to director. This required staff to take on additional duties and to operate day-by-day with daily tasks that usually fall under the office manager's full-time position. This included: volunteer coordinating, gift shop management, opening/closing routines, account/bill management, museum boards, and data keeping. Staff has stepped in to keep up with the most immediate needs until a replacement is hired. As of the beginning of 2020, the commission approved hiring a part-time replacement for this position.

The weather was not cooperative in 2019 as January and February were dramatically cold and March and April experienced above average snowfalls. Several days during that time, schools were closed and there were few visitors brave enough to go out. Once summer came, the city commenced street and sidewalk work on First Avenue, effectively cutting off our street parking and making entering our front entrance an orange cone maze. Attendance picked up in the fall and our annual holiday open house was again well-attended, a nice ending to a challenging year.

"Sue Gates has left us with an awesome legacy and a launch pad for the future. The sky's the limit!"

Our Accomplishments

This past year also saw some improvements to our largest artifact, the DPM building; fresh paint for the common areas, from the front door to the top of the third floor staircase; new pedestal sinks in the second floor bathrooms; replacing the remaining skeleton-keyed locks in the building; and upgrading the majority of the lighting in common areas and exhibits with new LED fixtures.

The Dacotah Prairie Museum Foundation gifted Brown County with a 15-person passenger van for the Museum. This \$35,000 investment in the Museum's programming is greatly appreciated and will be used to transport campers, junior docents and Museum patrons on local historical excursions.

Looking Ahead

The coming year will be a celebration of the Museum's 50th anniversary (see page 6 for the story of the Museum's beginning). With grant monies from 3M Corporation, the staff are planning a new exhibit on the history of the DPM, museum workshops for adults on how to preserve family heirlooms, an open house later in the year and behind the scenes tours. Stay with us for the next chapter in the Museum's history book.

Patricia Kendall, MSA

Director

Dacotah Prairie Museum

BOARDS

Foundation Board

“The Board of Directors shall have general power to control and manage the affairs and property of the corporation, and shall have full power, by majority vote, to adopt rules and regulations governing the actions of the Board of Directors and shall have full authority with respect to the distribution and payment of monies received by the corporation. The ownership of the collection of the Dacotah Prairie Museum shall vest in the Dacotah Prairie Museum Foundation, Incorporated.” – Bylaws of the Dacotah Prairie Museum Foundation, Inc.

Carmel Heyd, President

Jan Erickson

Jason Pettigrew, Vice President

Matthew Scott

Nancy Clark-North, Treasurer

Christopher Stocklin

Molly Dahme

Aaron Darling

Museum Board (Board of Trustees)

“The purpose of the Board of Trustees shall be to discover, preserve, and disseminate knowledge about the history of Brown County and South Dakota through operation of the Dacotah Prairie Museum, hereinafter referred to as the “Museum”. Additionally, the Board of Trustees shall determine and direct the policies of the museum involved in collecting, preserving, and interpreting objects of cultural and historical importance.” – Bylaws of the Dacotah Prairie Museum Board of Trustees

Mike McCafferty, President

Shannon Imberi-O’Keefe

Gayle Bortnem, Vice President

Lee Schinkel

Kathleen Daly, Treasurer

Chuck Welke

Wes Elliott

Duane Sutton, County Commission Liaison

Kathy Johnson

Laura Ptacek, Aberdeen Area Convention and Visitors
Bureau (ex-officio member)

Alan Neville

STAFF



Staff photo, l to r:

Front row: Sherri Rawstern, Curator of Education, Lora Schaunaman, Curator of Exhibits, Patricia Kendall, Former Office Manager & Current Director, Marianne Marttila-Klipfel, Curatorial Assistant Exhibits

Back row: Dick Schooley, Custodian, Sue Gates, Former Director, Jackie Ormand, Curator of Collections, Mary Baird, Curatorial Assistant Education

Retirement



Sue Gate's retirement party was well-attended and many long-time friends and associates of the Museum came to share their appreciation of Sue's years of service. Jason Pettigrew, Foundation Vice-President, presented Sue with a framed print of an original watercolor of the Museum building by local artist Phoebe Dawn and announced that the Museum's conference room would be named after her. Sue spoke of her affection for the Museum, its mission, its supporters and staff and how much it had made a positive impact on her life and career. It would be hard to give up but she looked forward to the next step and what the future might bring.

VISION & MISSION

Our Mission

- To facilitate conversation of the prairie and its people, cultivate insight, and curate its collections as a catalyst for inter-generational exchanges to inspire children, connect families, and build community through education, programming, exhibits, and its collections.
Amended and Approved 05.26.2015

Our Vision

- The Dacotah Prairie Museum, a non-profit, permanent learning center in service to all people, is committed to the continued growth of its collection of material evidence representing the ongoing history of its region. This collection will be used by present and future generations to study and interpret the lives and accomplishments of previous generations inhabiting the Dakota Prairie. Through these endeavors the Museum will continue to advance itself as a cultural, educational and economic asset to South Dakota.
Adopted 11.18.2008 & Amended 08.23.2011

Our Values

- **Respect:** For people, their stories, their artifacts
- **Excellence:** In personal and institutional performance
- **Achievement:** Through timely accomplishment of stated goals
- **Responsibility:** To ourselves, to each other, to the institution and to the public
- **Fairness:** In judgment and decision making
- **Integrity:** In preservation and presentation

Adopted 11.18.2008 & Amended 08.23.2011



The idea for a Museum

...in Aberdeen originated in **1938** when John Murphy, a Northern State College professor, and Marc Cleworth, a salesman, created the Northern South Dakota History Museum, which was housed in the Central building on Northern's campus.

This Museum closed in **1941** when space was needed on campus to train WWII glider pilots. The nearly 500 artifacts collected were either returned to donors or placed in storage where they remained until **1970** when they were added to the collection of the new Dacotah Prairie Museum.

A New Museum is Born

The idea of a Museum resurfaced in 1963 when a group of past presidents of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) met to consider possible community projects for the group. By **1964** the AAUW committee, along with representatives of other community groups, had chosen a museum as their project and had begun looking for possible sites.

In **April 1968**, the Aberdeen Parks and Recreation Department offered the Anderson Recreation Center (now Senior Center) as a temporary home for a museum. The Museum's board of directors accepted the offer and, in **1969** opened the Dacotah Prairie Museum, but the search for a permanent site continued.

The Museum Finds a Home

On **March 11, 1970**, Fred Hatterscheidt, a local businessman, offered the building at 21 S. Main to the County for use as a museum. The County Commissioners accepted the offer and by mid-summer renovations to the building began.

On **October 25, 1970**, the Dacotah Prairie Museum opened the doors of its new home to the public. Governor Frank Farrar spoke at the opening ceremony.

In **1970** the Museum's exhibit area included only portions of the first floor, as it shared the building with several other tenants. As the decade progressed, the Museum expanded its exhibit space to the entire first floor and half of the second. By **1980** the Dacotah Prairie Museum occupied the entire building. Staff and volunteers worked to ready new found spaces to accommodate staff, exhibits and collection storage.

The 1980s and 1990s

During this time the Museum continued to define itself. A mission statement was adopted, and policies of operation were put into place. Staff numbers increased, as did the Museum's tax-supported budget. The Dacotah Prairie Museum Foundation was incorporated in **1985** to assist the Museum in raising outside funds to supplement the annual budget.

During these two decades, several professional assessments were conducted to help the Museum improve its collection management methods, maintain the integrity of its historic building, and strengthen its overall operations.

The 2000s and 2010s

Renovations to the building's exterior and its major first floor gallery spaces were the focus of work during the early years of this period. The feasibility of an expansion project to double DPM's size was explored in 2007 (and again in 2017). Despite a positive response from the community, a down-turned economy postponed action on the project. To compensate, upgrades to existing spaces were made to maximize their effectiveness.

In 2013 the first floor "Squire Gallery" was renovated with help from the Ka Squire family. It highlights "Opening the Dacotah Frontier" with its full-size Red River cart, fur trading, native Lakota family, Fort Sisseton and fine lady in a carriage vignettes.

In 2016 the former Toy and Fan exhibits gallery was renovated into an open space, removing walls and the "maze" as it was called to create a new space for changing exhibits. Currently, the "Brown County on the Gridiron" exhibit highlights area schools' football history. Other updates include all-new LED lights in the majority of the exhibits and common areas at the end of 2019, and the last two skeleton key locks were replaced at the same time. Also in 2019 new bathroom pedestal sinks in the second floor restrooms replaced the mid-century era versions and all of the common areas on first and second floor, including the stairwells, received a fresh coat of paint. Look for the new vinyl lettering welcoming visitors in the first floor lobby and above the Museum gift shop. *Looking sharp for the new decade!*

SPECIAL EVENTS

Play Date/Date Night

February 12 and March 12

An evening out for couples with a fun history program and refreshments while Museum staff entertain the children in the seasonal children's exhibit, "Fairy Tale Fun." Adults learned about Aberdeen landmarks and the history behind them. Volunteer Marlene Lorenz read fairy tale stories to the children.



Play Date/Date Night

Grandparents Day

February 23

An afternoon for families to explore the Museum exhibits with treats and a fun hands-on activity, a photo booth, and a take-home coloring booklet to commemorate the day. Many families visited and had a wonderful time.



Mondays In March Workshops

Mondays in March Workshop

Every Monday in March

This workshop for school-aged children focuses on the current children's exhibit theme. In 2019 the "Fairy Tale Fun" in-house exhibit provided students with many project ideas, ranging from designing a castle to writing their very own fairy tale.



Holiday Open House

Holiday Open House

December 14

This annual event has been a community favorite since 2014. Nearly 800 people visited that day, enjoying the decorated exhibits, having a holiday treat, listening to live music performed by Sue Gates, and visiting jolly ol' St. Nick (aka Wes Elliott). This event is made possible with help from volunteers who baked treats, helped in the gift shop, and assisted with the make-n-take booths.



Holiday Open House

Off Site Event:

Bridal Show at the Ramkota

February 17

Hosted by Hub City Radio, this annual event draws hundreds of brides-to-be and their entourage. The Granary Rural Cultural Center set up a booth to advertise the advantages of having a unique, rural setting for not only weddings, but reunions, family gatherings and meetings. As of 2019, the Granary has hosted two weddings and a few service group meetings.



Bridal Show



Holiday Open House

A Summer to Remember!

Each summer the Museum hosts hundreds of elementary and middle school aged children at a variety of camps. In 2019 a new camp was added to the line up: Victorian Girls Day Camp, which was wildly successful and thoroughly enjoyed. What a wonderful way to reach our youngest, and most enthusiastic, patrons.

HISTORY CAMP

Imagine a time from a bygone era and become a pioneer! Games, crafts, old-time chores, campfire popped popcorn, a one-room schoolhouse experience and more. Campers bring a sack lunch. In 2019, 93 campers over 6 days attended camp sessions at Centennial Village located at the Brown County Fairgrounds. Campers that have attended in the past are encouraged to attend Senior History Camp for a varied experience.

ART CAMP

Inspiration awaits! Campers took a field trip to the Granary Rural Cultural Center to be an artist for the day. There were new themes daily, with two weekly sessions available for many options. Campers register for one day or more and bring their own sack lunch. This camp provided shuttle transportation from the Museum to the Granary.

In 2019, 50 campers took 180 spots in two sessions with many repeat campers coming for several days in a row.

VICTORIAN GIRL DAY CAMP

It's 1885 and you've just arrived in Dakota Territory with your pioneer family. It may be wide open spaces and rugged terrain but you still need to be a proper Victorian young lady. Learn all the ways young girls were taught in the Victorian era! Experience tea parties, indoor and outdoor period games, tour a Victorian parlor, learn to write your name with vintage script, have a fun drawing lesson and a piano lesson just like a real Victorian girl.

In 2019, 25 young ladies attended this camp at the Museum. From making their own bonnets to learning how to drink tea, they had a wonderful day. The highlight of the day-long camp was a visit from Alicia Tonsfeldt, Fort Sisseton State Park Manager and Victorian-era enthusiast. She enthralled the campers for over an hour with everything Victorian. This is a camp that staff will definitely consider having again.



EDUCATION

Educational impact

The Dacotah Prairie Museum Education Department is a unique and essential part of the learning community in Brown County. As a repository of local history, the staff, Sherri Rawstern, Curator of Education and Mary Locken Baird, Curatorial Assistant, is uniquely qualified to supplement the current state and national requirements. Teachers are provided with detailed and varied programs that fit the elementary curriculum. For instance, the Museum's program on "Homesteading" fits into the South Dakota history requirement.

Those who benefit from the DPM's educational programs are teachers, students, parents, school administrators and the general public. Teachers have the advantage of using the DPM as an additional resource in their already-strapped budgets as staff bring all the necessary supplies for each visit. Students gain additional knowledge and insights from knowledgeable staff that visit their classrooms and then share with their parents, families and caregivers. School administrators have access to the supplemental learning opportunities provided by the Museum, a county entity. Most of all, the people of Brown County benefit from the Museum's educational programs as students learn about the history of their town, county and state. They gain a connection and understanding to their hometowns. This connection means they will be more committed as adults to understand and protect their communities' histories and will want to be fully engaged members of society. As an added benefit, these students are enthusiastic about the DPM and can't wait to visit again and again and to bring their families.

The goal of the Education Department in 2019 was to visit and deliver programming to as many classrooms in the county as possible. Staff visited 438 classrooms for a total of 10,397 students reached. Of those, most were in Aberdeen but Groton, Frederick and Northwestern schools were visited during the course of the school year. Northwestern's history program was tailored for Spink County.

On-site programming in 2019 included tours, Afternoon in the Past (APAST), and special event programming taken advantage by all of the Aberdeen schools, both public and private, and by 11 out of town

schools and numerous preschools in the area. Junior Docents (see page 11) are instrumental in helping the Education staff with APASTs and classroom visits. They assist with programs by helping younger students with historical toys, using a washboard, churning butter and using a table loom.

The resulting impact of the DPM education programs and staff visits is far reaching. Outcomes are ever generated going forward. They are: Educated citizenry, increased museum patronage, the ability and reputation to bring in outside educational programs from many sources and the reputation of having a robust and meaningful educational impact on the citizens of Brown County.

In 2019 the Education Department had the opportunity to contribute to the South Dakota Public Broadcasting's "Vanished South Dakota: Towns of Yesterday" broadcast. Curator of Education, Sherri Rawstern spoke about James and Putney, two Brown County towns that have passed into history. The Brown County segments, along with the entire program, can be viewed on the SDPB website.

The South Dakota Science Center from Pierre provided two days of programming for area students with their "Stories of the Moon." An inflatable planetarium was brought from Pierre and set up in the Aberdeen Recreational and Cultural Center's second floor auditorium for local 4th and 5th grade classes.

With these partnerships: the Aberdeen public and private school systems, county schools, SDPB and SDSC, the DPM's Education Department's reach is far and wide and will provide ongoing benefits for the community and our patrons.

History never gets old or outdated and every year brings a fresh audience of youth to learn about South Dakota and Brown County history. The Museum staff will be there to bring up the next generation of historians and good community members through our programs.



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South Dakota



Science Center Planetarium

EDUCATION: JUNIOR DOCENTS



Docents have shared 18,044 hours of service since 1993.

Museum patrons in the making.

The Dacotah Prairie Museum Junior Docent program began in 1993 with the Aberdeen Roncalli sixth grade classes. Docents help the education staff with “Afternoon in the Past” programs at the museum and with classroom visits at all of the Aberdeen schools, both public and private. The docents also choose a museum exhibit to present to visitors during Catholic Education Week each year. Previous docents of all ages, who visit the museum, eagerly tell staff which exhibit was “theirs” and what they remember from that time.

The DPM is generating future museum patrons and supporters through this program. These elementary students will always have a connection to the Museum and to Brown County history. Just to make sure, each student receives a copy of the 1980 Brown County History Book upon completion of the year.

Mason Berndt
Harley Bode
Olivia Braun-King
Elliot Davis
Matthew Dosch
Ezra Feickert
Elizabeth Jensen
Celton Johnson
Gianna Madsen
AvaMarie Armbright
Madalyn Opitz
Samson Raap
Austin Schmit
Jackson Schwab
Hayden Scott
Julia Swisher

Derek Arunasalam
Beau Binder
Benjamin Bradley
Claire Crawford
Ava Danielson
Joshua Falken
Sophia Feickert
Benjamin Gough
Lucia Gutenkaug
Morgan Helms
Reese Henrich
Jesse Hernandez
Noah Hoerth
Jaxon Keller
Isaac Price
Zacchary Reecy
Rylee Voeller

COLLECTIONS

Every Artifact

The Dacotah Prairie Museum Collections Department touches every artifact that enters the building and ultimately into the collection. A strict vetting process is employed to determine if an object meets the established criteria; it must tell a story about Brown County or a county resident, it must be in good condition, it cannot be a duplicate of an artifact already in the collection (due to space limitations), and it must fit our mission statement. Our Curator of Collections, Jackie Ormand, uses these criteria and a discriminating eye when evaluating new acquisitions. Jackie undertook many collections projects in 2019 to include: Transferred over 700 photos of current and past artifacts in the collection to the museum's collection software PastPerfect; finished organizing 3-D objects in all rooms except one; inventoried and photographed the archival artifacts in the main archival storage area; went through storage rooms and re-organized shelves to make room for more artifacts while planning what to take to the storage unit in the future; organized and created new storage system for the collection's jewelry; and, along with the staff, started making plans to re-organize 3rd floor storage.

Here is a detailed collections report from 2019 with select photos on the facing page.

- **54 Donors - 606 Donated Artifacts Accessioned in 2019**
- **34,128 artifacts recorded in the Past Perfect museum catalogue program at the end of 2019.**
- **No De-Accessions in 2019**
- **Significant Donations/Family Heirlooms:**
 - Snow Queen Memorabilia
 - Martha Kohlhoff Quilts
 - Medical Books from Dr. Redmond's Great-Grandfather
 - Tailor's Ham/Lace Maker
 - American Legion Drum & Bugle Corps Collection
 - 9 Wine Glasses from the wedding of Elsie Williams Draeger ca 1910. (We already have her wedding dress in the collection)
 - Formal Clothing from Louis & Helen Long ca 1960s (owners of Ward Hotel at that time)
 - Sideboard & Table from Cutler Family ca 1880s
 - Commercial Record Player used at the Aberdeen Woolworth Dept. Store
 - Woolly Mammoth Bone Horse Statue
 - 4 Model Replicas
 - Combine
 - Push-Binder Tractor
 - Tacoma Park Pavilion
 - General Store
- **Large Donations:**
 - 112 Storybook Figures from Y Storybook Sewing Ladies
 - 162 artifacts from Richard & Naomi Ratzlaff/Robert & Lynette Rombs/Kari Rombs Kohlhoff : 3 Generations donation – all from Aberdeen including
 - WWII Coast Guard/Vietnam POW/John Morrell/70s Dolls & Toys/Holgate Jr High & Central High Schools
- 14 artifacts from Nash Finch of Aberdeen
- 40 artifacts from Breck/Kelly Family: 4 Generations donation of blouses, hats, collars.
- 61 Collectible Postcards
- 88 artifacts from Kathy Webb: 3 Generation donation - Parents Harvey & Lela Curtice, husband Robert Webb, Kathy as child, Robert & Kathy's children – Boy Scout, Girl Scout, National Guard during Korean War, lots of 70s dolls & toys.
- **Documents**
 - Various Books, Yearbooks & Scrapbooks
 - 48 Bound Newspapers from the old AM Library to fill in spots we were missing ca 1920-1942.
- **Artwork for Permanent Collection**
 - "My Favorite Horses" oil painting by Peter Clausen ca 1912
 - "Sealed with a Shield" linoleum cut print by Cameron Peterson ca 2013
 - "Magic Horses" print from original water color painting by artist DeGrazia – no date
 - Ten prints from original paintings by Oscar Howe
 - "Double Woman"
 - "Children at Play"
 - "Antelope in Flight"
 - "Fleeing A Massacre"
 - "Blizzard Bath"
 - "Mythical Bird"
 - "Sioux Mourning Rider"
 - "Woman Scalp Dancer"
 - "Medicine Man"
 - "Ghost Dancer"



Tailor's Ham/Lace Maker



Breck/Kelly Hats



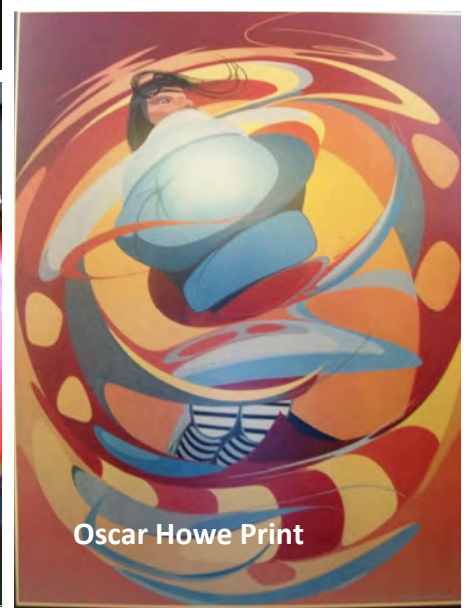
Ratzlaff POW House Sign



American



Legion Drum



Oscar Howe Print



"Majesty"

EXHIBITS: IN-HOUSE

Curating Art and History

The Dacotah Prairie Museum Exhibits Department produced over 20 in-house exhibits in 9 gallery and display spaces in 2019; ranging from local artists to traveling exhibits to interpretive historical displays. In addition to the rotating exhibit spaces, the Museum currently has 11 semi-permanent gallery spaces that are maintained, updated and otherwise redressed as needed during the year. This keeps the exhibits staff of Lora Schaunaman, Curator and Marianne Marttila-Klipfel, Curatorial Assistant busy all year long.

LAMONT GALLERY

“Memories Created, Friendships Made”

January 2 – February 14

This was a special show by the Prairie Stitchers branch of the National Needlework Guild of America. It included stunning individual needlework examples from 14 members, in addition to three “special projects” which were classes taken together. Each special project utilized the same directions, but materials and details were left up to each seamstress, for an impressive gathering of examples.

“Heart of the Prairie” (Women as Art and Artist)

February 26 – May 12

The Lamont next hosted a gallery show composed of 34 pieces of art from the Museum’s “Permanent Art Collection” with the theme of women in art. Thirty of the pieces were executed by women artists, and the other four were by male artists, but with women as the subject. This was a lovely and well-received show; the first time we had ever featured strictly women in art.

“Voices of Conscience: Peace Witness in the Great War”

May 26 – July 7

This traveling exhibit came to us from the Kauffman Museum in Kansas and it was our first experience with their Museum. They sent one of the writers/designers of the exhibit to oversee the set-up, packing and unpacking. It worked so efficiently that

it is a pity more museums cannot offer this valuable service. The Museum analyzed many forms and intensions of peace objects, gave visitors a chance to name their favorite “peace hero”, and offered several thought provoking questions for adults to enter into a deeper contemplation on the price of peace.

“Good Medicine”

July 15 – September 15

Sandy Swallow, the renowned Lakota artist from Rapid City, shared 41 oils, watercolors, and collage’ pieces. Each artwork spoke of the tradition, identity and personal feelings of this accomplished Native American artist. The Gallery took on a colorful glow thanks to the rich vibrant hues and symbolic significance of the art.

“Our Nordic Roots” A Celebration of Our Heritage Series

October 8 – January 12

Nordic countries (Norway, Sweden, Iceland, Denmark and Finland) were the topic of this exhibit drenched in culture, history, and local connections to many of our patrons. Beginning with the ancient Vikings and traveling through traditional dress and evolving cultures, the exhibit tells the similarities and differences of each nation with many hand-made items from our collection. In addition, a home of a Nordic settler family in Brown County was built for half of the exhibit space to highlight the treasures of the Museum and a dozen patrons who offered their possessions on loan to enliven and enrich the scene.

LAMONT ANNEX HALLWAY

“Prairie Sentinels”

January 25 – November 11

Historically, John Eichinger probably knows more about elevators in South Dakota than most of us. He not only included some of his knowledge about the first grain elevators to be built here, but included the years and locations of many. Esthetically, he also stepped up with a medley of lighting for his photographs of elevators - sunrise, sunset, thunder storms, early winter. Each is unique in a way that tantalized your curiosity to learn more or take a short trip to see one!

SUE GATES CONFERENCE ROOM

“Re-Writing History: Who Am I?”

March 14 – May 15

Frederick Area 6th Graders’ History Project. Sherri Rawstern and the Museum Education Department present a program that asks “Who Am I?” The 6th graders choose an unlabeled old photograph and decide who the people in the picture are, when and where they lived, and how their story unfolds in writing. Then the story, the photo they used, and their own picture are all mounted together in a display that is read by meeting groups in the conference room, parents and friends, and all visitors who appreciated their imaginative explanations.

EXHIBITS: IN-HOUSE CON'T

HELEN BERGH EDUCATION ROOM

"Once Upon A Time: Fairy Tales Fun!"

February 10 - April 14

The larger portion of the exhibit was housed in the Education Room. It contained our former train station completely remade into the Witches' House from Hansel and Gretel, complete with games and Hansel and Gretel paper dolls. A large floor pond provided a home for the Ugly Duckling and his family. Painted inside and out as ancient rocks, a roomy castle structure created a space to dress up in finery, color pictures, and even build with castle blocks yourself!

"Memories of the Moon: 50 Years Anniversary of the 1st Steps"

July 5 – November 10

This thrilling look back at one of the most exciting adventures of all time, was a success which included: A life size model of the Mars Rover Vehicle; a to-scale model of the "Eagle" that landed on the moon in 1969, including miniature Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldren; a four foot model of the Saturn V Rocket which launched Apollo 11 (made with Legos); many authentic photographs of astronauts from their space missions; two astronaut costumes by NASA for kids to try on; and large-scale stunning photos of "Earth Rise", "Moon Buggy", "Walking on the Moon", "Saturn V", and the "Cratered Surface of the Moon."

DACOTAH GALLERY

South Dakota Snow Queen Festival Exhibit

January 2 – January 31

Our first year to try the new television provided by the GASM (Guards and Snow Men - past Frostys and Snow Guards) went well. Marianne was able to put together a slide

show of all the Snow Queen's portraits which showed in a continuous loop. Visitors also enjoyed the ten newest and ten oldest hung portraits with room for Snow Queen gowns, snow guard outfits, crowns, programs, buttons, and many other Festival items. The group generously allowed us to use the media for other exhibits when the Snow Queen exhibit was not open. It has been a valued part of four other exhibits this year.

"Beauty in All the Small Things"

February 9 – April 12

This photography show was presented by college student, Isaac Lloyd. Coming to college from out-of-state as an art student, Isaac had discovered a great affinity with picture taking. Even though he did not own a camera, all the exhibit's intricate close-up photographs of nature's detail were recorded on his phone fitted with a macro lens. People seemed to really find the photographs of a freeze frame of a dragon fly's wings or a pollinating stamen in a blooming peony, fascinating.

"Serendipity"

April 16 – June 11

Aberdeen artist JoAnn Jernberg began this project by turning to social media to be inspired by new and experimental art medium. She viewed several artists' platforms on YOUTUBE and was able to witness the artists using "pouring" methods of painting and then making comments about what they had learned. JoAnn invested in canvases, acrylic inks and paint and even a blow torch to try unique methods of pouring paint in her studio. Despite the fact that the paintings were non-objective in subject, many of our visitors invested in artworks of vivid colors and patterns from her striking exhibit.

"Aspire Artists" Exhibition

June 15 – August 15

The Museum welcomed the new group of artists formed last year as a class for art, a creative group, and a venue to aggressively seek public shows and sales for the residents of the Aspire Facility. The artists provided techniques from weaving to painting to printing to sculpture with success in this varied and entertaining art show.

"Arts for Wellness" Studio Group.

September 7- November 3

This fun and unique take on the arts was provided by a group which meets once a week at the Aberdeen Recreational and Cultural Center for the purpose of improving their health through practicing visual arts. Whether the goal is better physical dexterity in the arms, shoulders, or hands or whether it be to stimulate wonderful memories associated with knitted and crocheted projects of years ago, or whether it is just the relaxation of drawing or coloring and how it melts the stress away, this group is finding their answers in practicing arts.

Christmas Tree Lane

November 22 – December 30

"Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree." In addition to the appeal of the Christmas trees and wreaths from area groups, organizations and individuals, this year "Santa's Workshop" was featured at the west end of the Helen Bergh Education Room. It was designed to accompany Santa's appearance at the Holiday Open House, but the workshop became a draw for old and young alike as it remained the entire Christmas Season. Antique tools, vintage toys being wrapped, and dolls and games from our Collection were fascinating to behold.

EXHIBITS: IN-HOUSE CON'T

PRAIRIE LANDING GALLERY

"S.D. Snow Queen Festival"

January 2 – January 31

Our exhibit made a departure from hanging all 72 portraits in our gallery, in light of our new media, to just highlighting varied groups of Snow Queens each year. This year, we presented the earliest portraits of the Queens who provided a following of interest and loyalty for the Festival in its beginning years. Also shown were the ten newest portraits of the Queens who are becoming the new role models for young girls in our area, who can conduct themselves publicly with grace and confidence and can speak in front of a crowd and convey subjects of relevance and importance that they feel strongly about.

"Once Upon a Time: Fairy Tale Fun!"

February 10 – April 14

The exhibit staff created and fabricated this children's exhibit based on fairy tales from books found in our collection. The Prairie Landing contained a four-sided tree activity center with four games, each one related to a specific tale or fable. The glass case by the stairs also held original books from collections along with some of the artifacts that related to them, bringing them to life.

"Aspire Artist" Exhibition

June 15 – August 15

The Prairie Landing provided the perfect venue for the Aspire group to showcase their 3-D wood sculptures, several ceramic pieces and a macramé and feather bag.

"A World Awakening"

September 7 – November 10

Featuring images from exotic places as well as everyday moments, this photography show specialized in taking a unique look at the world around us. It is the work of high school student, Majesta Schaunaman. Seeing the beauty in fall leaves suspended on the water or the reflection of clouds in a mirrored skyscraper wall causes us to reflect on the magic that might be missing in our own worlds.

"Vintage Toys (But New to Us!)"

November 19 – December 27

Our toy exhibit celebrated the banner year for toys our Collection Department had received in 2019. From just three donors, the Museum added a great assortment of toys from the 1950s through the 1990s. Some are still being produced and in demand today, like Barbie Dolls and Legos! These toys, many of them collector items, are in excellent condition and will enrich our collection's toy offerings for generations to come.

OUTREACH EXHIBITS

ATTENDANCE

"Snow Queen Festival" Exhibit

ABERDEEN CIVIC THEATER

Saturday, January 5, 2019-Junior Festival 587

Saturday, January 12, 2019-Senior Festival 721

"What A Winter"

ABERDEEN REGIONAL AIRPORT

February 14 – May 19, 2019 6,366

"Flights into History"

ABERDEEN AIRPORT, HANGER 9

Saturday, June 8 810

"Voices of Conscience" Review Meeting

HUTTERVILLE CONFERENCE

July 29 43

"NSU Constitution Day"

NSU STUDENT UNION CENTER

September 17 412

"Oktoberfest"

RAMKOTA CONVENTION CENTER

October 5 11-5pm 301

"Summer at the Movies"

ABERDEEN REGIONAL AIRPORT

June 6 – October 8 4,863

"Stories of the Moon"

SD SCIENCE DISCOVERY CENTER

PIERRE, SD AT THE ARCC

October 9 & 24 202

SD Snow Queen Fund Raiser - "Williams & Ree"

RAMKOTA CONVENTION CENTER

November 29 310

"Bethesda: 50th Anniversary Celebration"

BETHESDA LIVING CENTER

December 26 200

"Aberdeen – Railroad's Hub City"

ABERDEEN REGIONAL AIRPORT

December 16 – Jan 1 670

EXHIBITS



"Fairy Tale Fun"



"Fairy Tale Fun"



"Prairie Sentinels"



"Memories of the Moon"



Christmas Tree Lane



"Good Medicine"



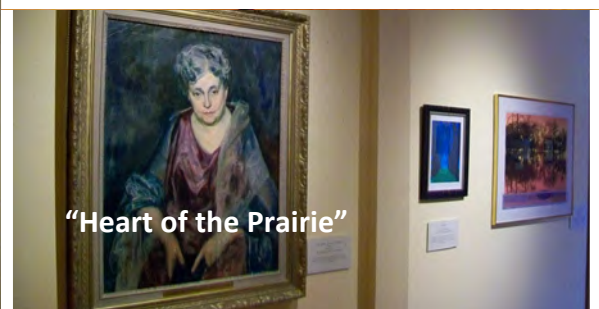
"Nordic Roots"



"Serendipity"



"Voices of Conscience"



"Heart of the Prairie"

ATTENDANCE SUMMARY

	2017		2018		2019	
In-House Programs	Events	Participants	Events	Participants	Events	Participants
Tours						
Local Schools	11	269	9	198	13	240
Out of Town Schools	15	373	16	274	11	239
Adult Groups	8	211	0	0	10	198
Children's Museum	28	588	17	274	6	98
Children Preschool	9	160	9	154	3	41
Other Youth Tours	3	80	1	45	4	135
Misc. Tours	10	268	19	391	8	137
Afternoon Into The Past						
Local Schools	20	485	14	325	19	430
Out of Town Schools	6	161	14	180	6	159
Programs/Events						
Youth In House Programs (not APAST)	30	708	42	624	12	251
Adult In House Programs	3	85	6	101	4	102
Receptions	3	110	10	417	6	413
Meetings/Parties/Conference Room Use	58	717	40	404	35	389
Training	6	125	8	193	12	263
Downtown Events	2	130	0	0	6	0
Volunteer Appreciation	1	25	1	24	1	28
Children's Open House	1	190	0	0	0	0
Holiday Open House	1	721	1	793	1	796
Other	0	0	1	65	1	42
In-House Events & Programs Totals	215	5,406	208	4,462	158	3,961
DPM Walk-Ins	17,053		17,684		14,680	
Adjusted Walk-Ins	11,647		13,222		10,719	
DPM OUTREACH						
School Visitations	396	9,410	400	9,361	438	10,397
Youth Programs	5	260	5	410	6	261
Adult Programs	33	922	10	189	25	1,021
Exhibits	15	1,163	17	27,813	13	17,395
Kits/Check out Materials	1	30	1	50	0	0
History Camp	8	173	6	176	6	131
Brown County Fair	6	27,000	5	13,500	3	5,400
Other Outreach	2	490	0	0	1	200
Totals DPM Outreach	466	39,448	444	51,499	492	34,805
Granary Outreach						
Granary Walk-Ins	X	366	X	229	X	259
Granary Events/Tours	11	720	9	305	8	302
Granary Art HS Show* At ARCC in 2019	12	114	12	167	2	128*
Granary Art HS Show Exhibit/Reception	2	63	2	29	2	36
Granary Art Camp	12	178	12	178	11	180
Granary Rental Event	1	40	0	0	2	245
Granary Fall Festival	1	150	1	303	1	275
Totals Granary Outreach	39	1,631	36	1,211	26	1,425
Outreach Events & Programs Totals	505	41,079	480	52,710	518	36,230
TOTAL EVENTS & PROGRAMS ATTENDANCE	720	46,485	688	57,172	676	40,191
TOTAL ATTENDANCE	60,140		71,834		50,910	

ATTENDANCE HISTORICAL

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
DPM IN HOUSE																		
WALK-INS	9,193	7,475	8,764	9,770	10,030	10,324	9,008	9,660	9,366	11,054	11,106	10,503	12,143	10,321	11,617	11,647	13,222	10,719
EVENTS	288	202	252	250	306	271	296	240	273	274	253	249	241	257	286	215	208	158
PARTICIPANTS	6,117	4,664	5,074	5,341	5,460	4,712	6,234	4,489	5,686	4,962	4,592	4,305	4,744	5,703	5,759	5,406	4,462	3,961
TOTAL IN HOUSE	15,310	12,139	13,838	15,111	15,490	15,036	15,242	14,149	15,052	16,016	15,698	14,808	16,887	16,024	17,376	17,053	17,684	14,680
DPM OFF-SITE																		
EVENTS/ EXHIBITS	311	324	289	269	239	246	193	266	257	315	334	353	331	368	410	505	480	492
PARTICIPANTS	66,351	69,706	56,018	54,018	60,534	59,356	50,903	45,128	57,730	55,633	62,572	61,668	54,467	43,628	38,181	41,090	52,710	34,805
GRANARY																		
WALK-INS												482	226	245	157	366	229	259
EVENTS												42	25	35	32	39	36	26
PARTICIPANTS												642	939	1,189	856	1,631	1,211	1,425
GRAND TOTALS																		
EVENTS	599	526	541	519	545	517	489	506	530	589	587	644	597	660	728	759	724	676
PARTICIPANTS	81,661	81,845	69,856	69,129	76,024	74,392	57,173	59,277	72,782	71,649	78,270	77,600	72,519	61,086	56,570	60,140	71,834**	50,910

**Closure of some long-term outreach exhibits at the end of 2018.

2019 Average Daily Walk-in Museum Attendance = 48.097

Our Visitors in 2019

COUNTRIES

20 Countries

Argentina
Australia
Brazil
China
Colombia
Cuba
England
France
Germany

Ireland

Italy

Japan

Mexico

Russia

Scotland

South Korea

Spain

Sweden

Venezuela

CANADA

4 Provinces

Manitoba

Ontario

British Columbia

Saskatchewan

UNITED STATES

46 states & Washington DC

(missing: DE, ID, HI, & NH)



GRANARY RURAL CULTURAL CENTER

A time well spent

The Granary Rural Cultural Center was gifted to Brown County in 2012 with the intention of the Dacotah Prairie Museum staff maintaining it and providing programming. In the years since, the Museum staff has brought many events to the Granary and has continued to hold the All Dakota High School Fine Arts Exhibition that first began there.

In 2019 the Granary hosted Magic Joe and Rockin' Red for the Ice Cream Social and Family Music Fest. The Living History Fall Festival invited Mr. John Timm, sponsored by the South Dakota Humanities to portray South Dakota's first governor, Arthur C. Mellette. Musical guest at the festival was Eliza Blue, a folk singer from west river South Dakota.

The season's exhibits were "Create! On the Prairie" the third year of installment for this group art show. Many artists from the area and South Dakota participated, held in the Granary Gallery. Putney Hall hosted the local quilt guilds with a show of many forms and styles of fiber arts.

Attendance for walk-ins was at 259 for the season (June – Sept.), events and tours brought in 302 people while Art Camp saw 180 campers (some were repeat visitors as campers can sign up for more than one session). The Fall Festival saw 275 visitors, about 60 of which took the trolley from the Museum to the Granary. A wedding was held in July and the Granary provided a beautiful, rural background to their ceremony.

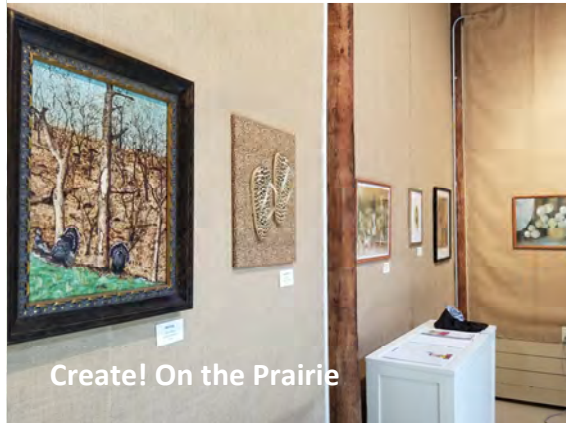
Due to cuts in staffing, and a county-wide need to trim budgets, the Granary had its final season in 2019. Over the course of eight years, the Granary hosted many cultural, musical, and art-filled events and exhibits, in the true spirit of prairie artistry inspired by the original founder, John Sieh. The Granary will be gifted back to the Sieh/Johnson family through the Dacotah Prairie Museum Foundation at the beginning of 2020. The staff of the Dacotah Prairie Museum express their gratitude for the opportunity to be a temporary steward of this inspiring art oasis and wish the family all the best for its future significance in the prairie art world.



GRANARY EVENTS



Living History Fall Festival



Create! On the Prairie



Quilt Guild Show



Rockin' Red



Art Camp



Kampa/Abeln Wedding



Magic Joe



Storybook Land Theatre



Living History Fall Festival



Kampa/Abeln Wedding



School for the Blind & Visually Impaired Tour



Living History Fall Festival

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers Make ALL the Difference

Museum volunteers are the (not so) secret weapon of our industry. Without the smiling face and cheery hello at the front desk, without the helping hands during Afternoons in the Past (APAST) and at camps, without the manual labor of building, hauling and cleaning and every other volunteer act (whew!), the Museum staff would not be able to do the tremendous amount of work required to operate this gem of an institution.

THANK YOU to our volunteers, you are valued more than we can ever express.

HOURS DONATED: Board Attendance - **34**, Front Desk/Gift Shop - **1,169.5**, Education Programs - **52**, Exhibits Assistance - **143**, Collections Assistance - **226**, Granary Events - **60.5**, Junior Docents - **844**, Special Events - **95**

Marcie Andersh
Marty Axlund
Jack Baird
Garriid Baldwin
Betty J. Beyer
Evelyn Blum
Gayle Bortnem
Joan Buntrock
Nancy Clark-North
Molly Dahme
Kathleen Daly
Aaron Darling
Glenda DeVore
David Denman
Betty Dobberpuhl
Wes Elliott
Jan Erickson
Abby Frank
Sue Gates
Susan Gerlach

Carmel Heyd
Shannon Imberi-O'Keefe
Kathy Jackson
Becky Jacobson
JoAnn & Gwen Jernberg
Kathy Johnson
Ellen & Lindsey Kendall
Christie Kiesz
Doug & Family Klipfel
Diana Kopetsky
Elizabeth Leonhardt
Jonnae Liebelt
Marlene Lorenz
Guy Marzenell
Mike McCafferty
Mission Volunteers
Alan Neville
Evan Ormand
Shirley Pelkofer
Jason Pettigrew

Randy Pfutzenreuter
Laura Ptacek
Neil & Family Schaunaman
Mary Raile
Jeanne Rasmussen
Caroline Sahli
Deanna Sanderson
Lee Schinkel
Jacie Schley
Matthew Scott
Carol Sheldon
Mark Simon
John Sullivan
Kathleen Thorpe
Tim Waldner
Kim Weaver
Kathy Webb
Chuck Welke



Ice Cream Social



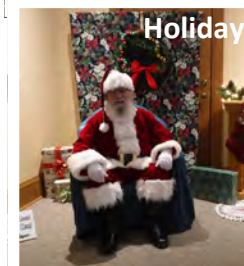
APAST



Living History



Fall/Festival



Holiday



Open House

2,624 total volunteer hours in 2019!



2019 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Brown County Budgeted Funds	\$413,265.31
Aberdeen City Promotional Budgeted Funds	\$12,000.00
TOTAL FUNDS BUDGETED	\$425,265.31

Salaries & Benefits

Salaries	\$219,092.27
Benefits	\$80,269.77
TOTAL SALARIES & BENEFITS	\$299,362.04

Operations

Insurance	\$2,336.10
Professional Fees	\$3,016.20
Cafeteria Flex Plan	\$67.28
Publishing/Printing/Advertising	\$21,363.28
Rentals	\$5,523.20
Building Maintenance	\$15,688.44
Vehicle Maintenance	\$491.69
Supplies & Materials	\$32,125.07
Postage	\$194.99
Copier	\$1,409.44
Travel & Conference	\$1,912.60
Utilities	\$3,438.48
TOTAL OPERATIONS	\$87,566.77

TOTAL FUNDS SPENT	\$386,928.81
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TOTAL FUNDS REMAINING AT YEAR END*	\$38,336.50
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**Reduced staffing for half the year, and other cuts to spending, account for large remaining balance.*

EXPENDITURES THROUGH COUNTY/MAINTENANCE BUDGET

Gas & Electricity	\$14,940.86
Water	\$482.32
Supplies & Maintenance	\$17,871.52
Janitor Salary	\$10,816.00
TOTAL MAINTENANCE	\$44,110.70

