



6425 SW 6th Avenue
Topeka KS 66615-1099

785-272-8681
kshs.information@ks.gov
kshs.org

Patrick Zollner, Acting Executive Director

Laura Kelly, Governor

NEWS RELEASE

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For immediate use

Changes Coming to Kansas Museum of History

TOPEKA, KS— The Kansas Historical Society announced today that major changes will be coming to the Kansas Museum of History. Now that the Kansas Historical Foundation's Honor · Educate · Inspire Capital Campaign to raise \$6 million is nearly complete, the Museum is ready to move to the next phase toward new exhibits.

"We are excited to take the next step toward new exhibits at the Kansas Museum of History," said Patrick Zollner, acting executive director of the Kansas Historical Society. "This project began more than 10 years ago under the leadership of Jennie Chinn. We are grateful to all who have contributed so far. The museum galleries will soon be temporarily closed for renovations. Exciting new exhibits are on the horizon."

From August 17 to September 3, 2022, Kansans are invited to say, "Goodbye to the Past," when admission will be free. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday. Visitors are invited to make a financial contribution to help complete the capital campaign. Reopening is projected for late 2023 or early 2024. While the Museum Store has already closed for the project, the Capitol Store at the Kansas State Capitol Visitor Center will continue to be open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, offering Kansas books and gifts. The State Archives will continue to be open to the public 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 to 4 p.m. Wednesday to Friday, and 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. on the last Saturday of the month. The research room provides resources for those interested in family history, house history, and Kansas history in general. The 2.5 mile nature trail will still be open dawn to dusk.

Partnering with the Kansas Historical Society and Kansas Historical Foundation for this project is Dimensional Innovations, an industrial design company in Overland Park. Among the major contributors to the campaign are the Dane G. Hansen Foundation; Sunderland Foundation; Merle and Ruby Chaney Trusts; Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway Foundation; Lewis H. Humphreys Charitable Trust, Bank of America Trustee; Marie McMinn Estate; Robert Quinn Rohde Trust; Marty and Mary Vanier; Bart and Mary Davidson Cohen Charitable Trust; Willard J. and Mary G. Breidenthal Foundation; Capitol Federal Foundation; Anderson Chandler; Carl and Mary Ice; Security Benefit Life Charitable Trust; and several major anonymous gifts.

The Kansas Museum of History opened in west Topeka in 1984 and has served more than 2 million people. The new exhibits will honor the stories of Kansans across the state, through the breadth of time, for today's audiences. They will highlight the rich collections of the Kansas Historical Society, which was organized in 1875. The Kansas Historical Foundation was created to help further the mission of the state agency through fund raising, retail, and membership.

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