



Fall on the Farm at Hunter's Home

Learn about 19th-century living patterns at Hunter's Home working farm on Saturday, October 5, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. as staff work on fall chores. There will be plenty of apples, animals, demonstrations, and storytime. Observe the changing seasons at the historic home while enjoying the fall weather. Hunter's Home, located in Park Hill, is the only remaining pre-Civil War plantation home in Oklahoma. A kitchen garden, field crops, animals, a log cabin, and the historic home give visitors a window into life on an antebellum Cherokee plantation.

When the Cherokee were forced to leave their homes during the Trail of Tears 1838-39, George Murrell chose to move with his wife's family to the new nation in the West. In Park Hill, Indian Territory, the family established a plantation, built a large frame home, and later constructed a rock building beside the creek branch over a cold spring to preserve food. Other outbuildings included a barn with stables for horses. The property had a smokehouse, grist mill, blacksmith shop, corn cribs, and small cabins for enslaved persons and employees. No reservations are needed for Fall on the Farm, but regular admission fees apply. For more information, call 918-456-2751.

Doaksville Candlelight Tours



The annual Doaksville Candlelight Tours will be held at the Doaksville Archaeological Site in Fort Towson on Friday, October 11, and Saturday, October 12.

Guests will cross the Works Progress Administration wall to enter the historic town and begin their guided walking tour. Each tour will last approximately one hour. This event is first come, first served, with advanced ticket holders seated first. Guests should be aware that the terrain is rugged.

This year's tours will focus on the first five years of Cantonment Towson from the perspective of nearby Doaksville. The scenes will draw from actual events from the time, including a scandal that connected Cantonment Towson with New York.

Tours begin at 7 p.m. on both nights, with the last tour starting at 9:30 p.m. Tours will leave from the Fort Towson cemetery every 30 minutes. The cost for admission is \$8. Guests aged six and under will be admitted for free. Visitors can pre-purchase tickets at the Fort Towson Historic Site or by calling 580-873-2634.

Nominations open for the 2025 Oklahoma Historical Society Awards

The OHS is now accepting nominations for the following awards through November 15.

Oklahoma Historians Hall of Fame – Honors individuals for distinguished and long-term contributions to Oklahoma history. Inductees receive the Oklahoma Historians Hall of Fame medal and their biography published in *The Chronicles of Oklahoma*.

Bruce T. Fisher Award – Awards the significant contributions of an individual or organization for Oklahoma history projects completed in the previous year with a budget of \$20,000 or below. Recipients receive a commemorative plaque.

Linda Williams Reese Award – Recognizes an outstanding dissertation or thesis on Oklahoma history completed in the previous year. Recipients receive \$500 and a plaque of recognition.

Joseph B. Thoburn Award – Awarded to a junior or senior high school student who exhibits outstanding achievements in the presentation or interpretation of state and local history. Recipients receive \$500 and a plaque of recognition.

William D. Pennington Award – Presented to an outstanding social studies teacher who demonstrates effective teaching by any measure of excellence. Recipients receive \$500 and a plaque of recognition.

The Oklahoma Historical Society encourages individuals and organizations to nominate others or self-apply. Membership to the OHS is not required to nominate or receive an award. Awardees will be honored at the annual OHS Awards Banquet on Thursday, March 20, 2025.

Visit okhistory.org/awards for full details and to download nomination forms. Instructions for submission are included on forms. For more information, contact Angela Spindle at angela.spindle@history.ok.gov or 405-522-0472.



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Students and teachers are invited to share studies and programs and to duplicate content as desired. Editors are welcome to reprint materials with credit.

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FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



By Trait Thompson

In 2009, the Oklahoma History Center unveiled a new exhibit on Oklahoma’s rock and roll roots entitled *Another Hot Oklahoma Night*. This wildly successful exhibit opened many people’s eyes to the invaluable contributions of Oklahomans throughout the years, not just to rock and roll but to all musical genres. The enthusiasm surrounding the exhibit highlighted an area of Oklahoma history that was not being adequately explored in our museums. Nobody was telling the story of Oklahoma’s creative community, which had blazed trails in filmmaking, literature, theater, television, and comic books. It was then that the idea for OKPOP was born.

The Oklahoma Museum of Popular Culture (OKPOP) was conceived with the mission to “inspire new generations of artists, musicians, and storytellers to impact the world through the powerful force of creative expression by showcasing the legacy of Oklahoma artists and their impact on popular culture.” In other words, the goal of this museum isn’t just to tell stories; it’s to instill self-confidence in future generations with similar dreams. In the early 2010s, the OHS asked the legislature to allocate \$43 million to the project. It wasn’t until 2015 that they finally acquiesced, but only at about half of the amount requested.

Nevertheless, the OHS soldiered on. Land was donated across the street from the iconic Cain’s Ballroom in Tulsa, and the project broke ground for the construc-

tion of the building in 2019. The \$25 million from the legislature wouldn’t be enough to complete the museum, and it was known that a daunting fundraising task was ahead. Thankfully, partners in Tulsa, from non-profit organizations to city and county government, stepped up to help. Without them, the project wouldn’t be nearly as far along as it is.

And then the world changed. The onset of the global pandemic reoriented everyone’s priorities. Museums weren’t at the top of everyone’s lists anymore. The philanthropic community turned its attention to meeting the needs of those affected by the virus and related social issues. In the meantime, costs for everything tripled or quadrupled. The original plan to raise ten to 12 million dollars for exhibits went out the window. Since the completion of the OKPOP building in 2021, the OHS and the OKPOP Foundation have been working diligently to identify donors and secure contributions. With the passage of SB 1155, the legislature authorized \$18 million to complete the museum on the condition that we can raise a matching \$18 million by November 15, 2025. Our team is working hard to make it happen.

It’s unfortunate that so many challenges have beset this project because I genuinely believe this museum will be a showplace for Oklahoma when it is completed. No other state has anything close to what OKPOP will be when it is finished, and it will be a source of inspiration for everyone who walks through its doors. We have a short window to achieve our goals, and I hope everyone will do what they can to assist us in making this incredible dream a reality. If you’re interested in helping, please reach out to OKPOP Director Jake Krumwiede at jacob.krumwiede@history.ok.gov.



“Oklahoma, A Toast” sheet music (1979.006, OHS).

The first state song: “Oklahoma—A Toast”

Did you know that in 1935, the state song of Oklahoma was “Oklahoma—A Toast?” Kingfisher native Harriet Parker Camden wrote the song. Its restrained lyrics include the line “Oklahoma, ’tis a toast we all can quaff,” which a young Oklahoma State Representative George Nigh (later the 22nd governor of Oklahoma) thought old-fashioned. He introduced a bill in 1953 to change the state song to “Oklahoma!” after the popularity of Rodgers and Hammerstein’s Broadway musical *Oklahoma!* (1943).

To convince house members, he had performer Ridge Bond and a women’s chorus from Chickasha perform the song on the floor of the house. The body of legislators cheered the enthusiastic performance, the bill passed, and Governor Johnston Murray officially approved it on September 5, 1953.

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

2025 Oklahoma History Symposium

The Oklahoma Historical Society invites proposals for the 2025 Oklahoma History Symposium, taking place on Saturday, May 3, 2025, at the Oklahoma History Center in Oklahoma City. This one-day event, themed “Oklahoma in Context,” aims to explore Oklahoma’s history within broader regional, political, or social contexts. The symposium welcomes scholars, students, educators, public history professionals, and history enthusiasts to share their work and interests with others.

We encourage submissions that reinterpret well-known narratives, highlight underrepresented voices, and connect Oklahoma history beyond the confines of territorial or state boundaries. Session formats include individual presentations, panel presentations, discussion sessions, and roundtables.

Preference will be given to first-time presenters and those who have not recently presented. Proposals are due by November 15, and must be submitted online at okhistory.org/symposium. For more information, contact Angela Spindle at symposium@history.ok.gov or 405-522-0472.

Nominations open: OHS Board of Directors election

As a member of the Oklahoma Historical Society, you can be an active participant in shaping its future by participating in the election of board members. Our board’s decisions influence the direction of our organization and impact how our history is interpreted and shared with future generations.

The Oklahoma Historical Society’s Board of Directors is comprised of 25 individuals, 13 elected by OHS members and 12 appointed by the governor. Members elect one representative from each of the six membership districts and seven at-large, while the governor appoints one from each district and six at-large. The board establishes the districts based on the most recent census data, ensuring fair representation across the state.

Candidates must meet certain criteria, including residency in Oklahoma and active membership in the Oklahoma Historical Society for at least two years. Board members serve staggered three-year terms and do not receive remuneration for their service. **Nominations are accepted until October 15 of the year preceding the election.**

Elections for the board are held annually in the spring. Ballots and nominee bios are mailed to current OHS members in March, and must be returned by noon one week prior to the annual meeting of the membership. Next year’s ballots will be due on April 25, and the annual meeting will take place on the day of the Oklahoma History Symposium on May 3, 2025.

Your participation in the OHS board election is vital. By casting your vote, you are contributing to the governance of our organization and ensuring that it remains true to its mission to collect, preserve, and share the history and culture of the state of Oklahoma and its people.

For more information about the election process and nominations, or to view the district map, please visit okhistory.org/about/board or contact Angela Spindle at angela.spindle@history.ok.gov or 405-522-0472.



okhistory.org/about/board

OHS announces the sale of the Jim Thorpe Home to Thorpe Family Foundation

The Oklahoma Historical Society sold the Jim Thorpe Home in Yale to the Thorpe Family Foundation on Friday, July 25. Thorpe—considered one of the greatest athletes of the 20th century—bought the home in 1917 and lived there until 1923.

The OHS has owned the Jim Thorpe Home since 1968. Over the years, the funding and resources to operate the home have dwindled, and deferred maintenance issues have grown. Since 2005, the site has been an OHS affiliate site. The OHS continued to own the home and property while the Jim Thorpe Memorial Foundation provided staffing and covered other daily operational expenses with some financial assistance from the OHS.

In 2023, Thorpe’s grandchildren took a renewed interest in the home. On July 25, the two parties signed paperwork to officially sell the Jim Thorpe Home to the foundation.



OHS Executive Director Trait Thompson, Anita Thorpe, Jim Thorpe, and OHS Museums and Historic Sites Director Chantry Banks at the Oklahoma History Center.

1850s Carpenter Workshop

A workshop on Saturday, September 14, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Hunter’s Home in Park Hill will teach visitors how someone would begin as a carpenter in the 1850s.

Skilled carpenters, both free and enslaved individuals, originally built Hunter’s Home. They constructed the house entirely by hand, and their work remains 175 years later.

A carpenter’s skill was not developed overnight. They spent years learning their trade, usually by becoming apprentices and advancing to be a more experienced carpenter.

The workshop is free, and admission is waived. It will cover basic use and maintenance of hand tools, how to properly “season” wood for a carpentry project, and where to find more information on historic carpentry.

For more details, call 918-456-2751. Hunter’s Home is located at 19479 E. Murrell Home Road in Park Hill. It is Oklahoma’s only remaining pre-Civil War plantation home.





OHS Calendar of Events

September

- 1 *Drummond Heirlooms* exhibit opens, Fred and Addie Drummond Home, Hominy
- 3 Oklahoma Heritage Preservation Grant Program Informational Workshop, Oklahoma Historical Society
- 7 Quilting Workshop, Sod House Museum, Aline
- 7 Settler's Day, Cherokee Strip Museum and Rose Hill School, Perry
- 7 History Alive! on the Cherokee Strip, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 7 Ice Cream Social, Fred and Addie Drummond Home, Hominy
- 9 Oklahoma Heritage Preservation Grant Program Informational Workshop, Oklahoma Historical Society
- 12–28 September Living History programs, Fort Gibson Historic Site, Fort Gibson
- 14 1850s Carpenter Workshop, Hunter's Home, Park Hill
- 14 Cyanotypes with Jim Meeks, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 14 "Pictures on the Plaza," Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 16 "The Great American Songbook" Kilgen Theatre Organ performance featuring Brett Valiant, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 18 Lunch and Learn: "Archaeological Investigations at Tipi Ring Sites in Cimarron County" webinar, State Historic Preservation Office
- 18 Oklahoma Historical Society Executive Committee meeting, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 21 History Alive! on the Cherokee Strip, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 21 Boots, Beer, and BBQ Fundraiser, The Chisholm, Kingfisher
- 24 "2024 Presente in Oklahoma!," Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 24 Everyday Oklahoma: "Calabooses in Oklahoma with Michael Mayes" webinar, State Historic Preservation Office
- 27–28 "Bean and Boone Expedition," Fort Gibson Historic Site, Fort Gibson
- 27 Movie Night featuring *Shaun the Sheep* (2015), Will Rogers Memorial Museum, Claremore
- 28 Cinnamon Roll Social, Fort Towson Historic Site, Fort Towson



- 28 Parlor Jam at Horizon Hill, The Chisholm, Kingfisher
- 29 *Drummond Heirlooms* exhibit closes, Fred and Addie Drummond Home, Hominy

October

- 1 Annual Quilt Show opens, Pawnee Bill Ranch and Museum, Pawnee
- 2–5 Research Center Book Sale, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 3 October Living History programs begin, Fort Gibson Historic Site, Fort Gibson
- 5 Fall on the Farm, Hunter's Home, Park Hill
- 5 2024 Oklahoma Folklife Festival, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 5 History Alive! on the Cherokee Strip, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 5 Family Farm Day, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 5 Carved in Stone: Gravestone Symbols and their Meanings workshop, The Chisholm, Kingfisher
- 11–12 Doaksville Candlelight Tours, Fort Towson Historic Site, Fort Towson
- 12 Quilting Workshop, Sod House Museum, Aline
- 16 Oklahoma Historical Society Executive Committee meeting, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 17 Historic Preservation Review Committee Meeting, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 17 Small Canvas Painting Workshop with Jasmine Jones, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 18 Overnight at the Museum, Will Rogers Memorial Museum, Claremore
- 19 History Alive! on the Cherokee Strip, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 23 Oklahoma Historical Society Board of Directors meeting, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 25 Movie Night featuring *Frankenstein* (1931), Will Rogers Memorial Museum, Claremore
- 26 Parlor Jam at Horizon Hill, The Chisholm, Kingfisher
- 26 "History Never Dies" Halloween Carnival, Oklahoma Territorial Museum and Carnegie Library, Guthrie
- 26 Halloween at the Fort, Fort Gibson Historic Site, Fort Gibson



- 26 Ghost Stories Tours, Pawnee Bill Ranch and Museum, Pawnee
- 30–31 Will Rogers Motion Picture Festival, Claremore (continues through Nov. 2)
- 31 October Living History programs conclude, Fort Gibson Historic Site, Fort Gibson
- 31 Pawnee Bill Annual Quilt Show closes, Pawnee Bill Ranch and Museum, Pawnee
- 31 Halloween Night at the Museum, Will Rogers Memorial Museum, Claremore

Please visit okhistory.org/events for additional information about OHS events, programs, and exhibits.



Calling all musicians!



On the last Saturday of September and October, from 1 to 3 p.m., The Chisholm in Kingfisher will present free jam sessions in the parlor

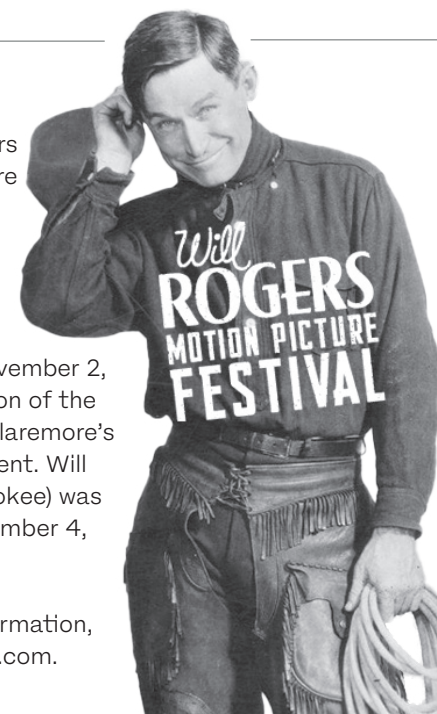
room of Horizon Hill, the home of Territorial Governor A. J. Seay.

Each session will start with a performance by Wayne Cantwell, "the Flyin' Fiddler," followed by an old-time jam session. Musicians of all levels are encouraged to participate in this excellent learning opportunity to sit and play alongside seasoned performers! New players are encouraged to watch, listen, join in, and jam.

The event is free for musicians who want to participate (acoustic instruments only) and will be open to museum visitors. For more information, contact the museum at 405-375-5176.

This year, the Will Rogers Motion Picture Festival will run from Wednesday, October 30, through Saturday, November 2, in a celebration of the birthday of Claremore's favorite resident. Will Rogers (Cherokee) was born on November 4, 1879.

For more information, visit dogirons.com.





Looking at the *Broader View: The 1893 Land Run*

A new exhibit, *A Broader View: The 1893 Land Run in an Era of American Change*, will open at the Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center in Enid on Tuesday, August 13. It pinpoints the era of the Cherokee Outlet Opening to examine the broader changes occurring across the nation.

Comprising approximately seven million acres, the Cherokee Outlet was ac-

quired by the Cherokee Nation under the Treaty of New Echota in 1835. Following the Civil War, the United States forced the Cherokee Nation to relinquish some lands in the Cherokee Outlet to create reservations for other tribal nations. The remaining lands in the Outlet opened to settlement at noon on September 16, 1893. Tens of thousands of individuals participated in the most extensive land run in Oklahoma history.

The Cherokee Outlet Opening occurred in a year that marked immense change throughout the United States. A stock market crash and widespread bank closures triggered the Panic of 1893, the worst economic depression until the Great Depression in the 1930s. At the same time, the Columbian Exposition in Chicago sought to highlight American progress and ingenuity; while an agricultural crisis and widespread labor unrest exposed growing inequality. Immigration was also an important issue, specifically an influx of migrants from southern and eastern Europe.

A Broader View will expand visitors' understanding of the context in which the 1893 land run occurred. The exhibit will display advancements in mass production while speaking to contributions made by industrialists and labor organizations. Deteriorating work conditions prompted many to take a chance on the land run, where men and women assumed new roles to promote political causes and establish homesteads and businesses. The exhibit will be open through Saturday, November 2. Call 580-237-1907 for more information.

Drummond Heirlooms exhibit

From Sunday, September 1, through Sunday, September 29, family heirlooms belonging to the Fred and Addie Drummond family will be displayed at the Victorian-style home they built in Hominy in 1905. Clothing, school memorabilia, sheet music, quilts, toys, and numerous artifacts will be on view.

Once a year, the historic home displays artifacts belonging to the successful Osage County ranching family. Call 918-352-5583 to learn more.



“The Great American Songbook” Kilgen Theatre Organ performance featuring Brett Valliant

On Monday, September 16, from 7 to 8:30 p.m., a Kilgen Theatre Organ performance at the Oklahoma History Center (OHC) will feature organist Brett Valliant. The theme for his appearance will be “The Great American Songbook,” when Valliant will perform popular all-time favorites. Kilgen fans will remember that Valliant was the guest organist at a previous performance at OHC dedicated to “Discovering the Unit Orchestra.”

Today, Valliant is one of two resident organists at the iconic Organ Stop Pizza in Mesa, Arizona, where he accompanies and scores silent films. The artist has played at many national venues and has performed for international audiences. Tickets are available online. They are \$10 for Oklahoma Historical Society members and \$20 for the general public. Purchase your tickets online by visiting okhistory.org/tickets.



Stories from the Road: Here Lies Old Santa Fe Bo

Managing the OHS historical marker program is among my responsibilities as the state historian. This work includes maintaining a comprehensive inventory of existing historical markers. As this position takes me across the state, I will occasionally use this column to highlight a marker, monument, or something else entirely that piqued my interest.

A modest headstone nestled near Shawnee's Centennial Monument indicates the resting place of Santa Fe Bo. Local history abounds with stories of this dog's origins and exploits. One rail worker called Bo “the greatest dog that ever lived!” Another described him accompanying laborers to restaurants and the movies. Accounts differ slightly as to exactly how Bo lost his hind leg (an obstinate hog may have been involved). Regardless, rail workers helped Bo heal from his accident and he was a common sight in the Santa Fe railyard and throughout Shawnee.

There are even stories of Bo accompanying train conductors as far as Kansas and Texas. Bo was popular enough that the *Shawnee Morning News* reported he fell ill in September 1919, and the newspaper published a long obituary upon his death in July the following year. Rail workers gathered to observe his burial and collected funds for a marble headstone. According to reports, this headstone was later vandalized and replaced by the existing marker.

Rail workers cared for Bo's gravesite in an act of solidarity toward an animal who shared in their labor. The site is still maintained today, waiting for the next curious visitor.

-Matthew Pearce, Ph.D.

Annual Giving Campaign

The Oklahoma Historical Society is pleased to announce the launch of the Annual Giving Campaign. Through your generosity, this campaign provides essential support to our twenty-four museums and sites that collectively help tell the story of our state. From museums and historic homes to forts and battlefields, we are committed to collecting, preserving, and sharing the history of the state of Oklahoma and its people.

Your contributions make this mission possible. By supporting the preservation of artifacts, the digitization of historic records, and educational programming across Oklahoma, your gift to the Annual Giving Campaign helps ensure that our past is preserved for future generations to experience and learn from. With your help, we strive to foster meaningful engagement with our state's history for learners of all ages.

Each donation, no matter the size, significantly impacts our ability to safeguard Oklahoma's heritage. Together, we can continue to inspire and educate communities through our unique and invaluable historical resources. To make a tax-deductible contribution to the campaign, please visit okhistory.org/support.

“2024 Presente in Oklahoma!”

September 15 to October 15 is National Hispanic Heritage Month.

On Tuesday, September 24, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., the history, heritage, and contributions of the Hispanic/Latino community will be celebrated at the Oklahoma History Center at the “2024 Presente in Oklahoma!” event.

This Oklahoma Historical Society (OHS) event includes a book signing, art performances, and esteemed guest speakers to honor those individuals of Hispanic/Latino heritage who have contributed to shaping Oklahoma's culture. The program will start with a book signing by author Mariana Llanos, an award-winning bilingual children's book writer, poet, and translator of Peruvian heritage. Jesse Guardiola, a Tulsan of Mexican heritage, will be the keynote speaker. Monica Ybarra-Weedn will be the event's emcee. Jorge Hernandez will share some closing remarks.

The registration deadline is Thursday, September 19, at 11:59 p.m. Tickets can be purchased online. Registration is \$50 for OHS members (apply the OHS25 discount code at checkout) and \$75 for nonmembers. Visit okhistory.org/presente to purchase tickets to this event.

Overnight at the Museum

The Will Rogers Memorial Museum in Claremore will host “Overnight at the Museum,” an activity-filled sleepover. Children and a parent or guardian can stay all night, sleep where they choose, and play into the early hours.

The event will begin Friday, October 18, at 6 p.m. with supper from Ike's Chili—a Will Rogers favorite. There will be games, a campfire with s'mores, cowboy sing-a-long, movies in the theater, glow-in-the-dark activities, and more. The event will wrap up with breakfast on Saturday morning. The event is for children five to 12 years of age and one adult per family. Space is limited, and registration is required. The cost is \$45 per person or \$35 for museum members. Both adults and children must pay the registration fee and sign a waiver form. Visit willrogers.com/overnight-at-the-museum to register.

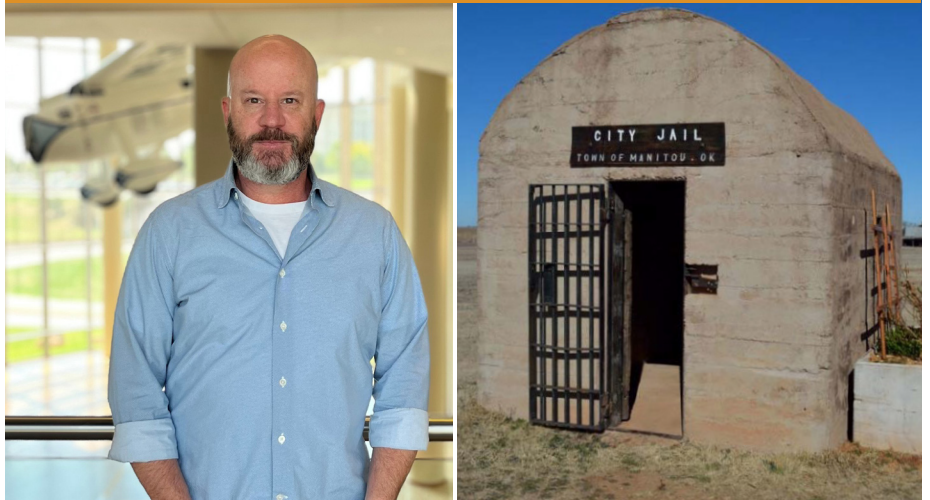
LUNCH AND LEARN



“Archaeological Investigations at Tipi Ring Sites in Cimarron County”

On Wednesday, September 18, at noon, the State Historic Preservation Office will hold a free webinar in its Lunch and Learn Series titled “Archaeological Investigations at Tipi Ring Sites in Cimarron County.” Brandi Bethke, laboratory director for the Oklahoma Archaeological Survey, will be the featured presenter. Kristina Wyckoff, the State Preservation Office's historic archaeologist, will help to facilitate the webinar. Register for the webinar by visiting okhistory.org/shpowebinars.

EVERYDAY OKLAHOMA



“Calabooses in Oklahoma with Michael Mayes”

Tiny jails in Oklahoma will be the topic of a free webinar hosted by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) on Tuesday, September 24, at 2 p.m.

There are tiny buildings still standing across the state. Many of them were used as calabooses, also called tiny jails. Michael Mayes, SHPO's survey coordinator, will examine Oklahoma's calabooses and discuss how the state tackled crime decades ago, the integrity of resources, the Oklahoma Landmarks Inventory, and the National Register of Historic Places and its criteria. Registration is required. For more information, contact Michael Mayes at 405-522-6028 or michael.mayes@history.ok.gov. Register for the webinar by visiting okhistory.org/shpowebinars.

okhistory.org/shpo

Subscribe to the Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office's YouTube page to view past webinars and workshops at youtube.com/@okshpo. For more information, please contact Tifani Darata at tiffany.darata@history.ok.gov or 405-521-6249.



OHS fall events and programs!



RESEARCH CENTER BOOK SALE

The Oklahoma Historical Society's (OHS) John and Eleanor Kirkpatrick Research Center will host its book sale Wednesday, October 2, through Saturday, October 5, at the Oklahoma History Center in Oklahoma City. The sale is open from 10 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday and from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday.

The sale will include books on several topics and feature many rare and out-of-print titles. Visitors can shop for reproductions of historic posters, maps, photographs, and collectibles. For family history researchers, several genealogical publications will be for sale.

This event is free and open to the public! The book sale is a fundraiser for the OHS Research Center. Proceeds will support the center's efforts to collect items of historical significance, provide programming for researchers and school groups, and offer resources online.



OKLAHOMA Folklife Festival

The 2024 Folklife Festival will be held at the Oklahoma History Center in Oklahoma City on Saturday, October 5, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. It is free and open to the public. This festival is designed to engage visitors with opportunities to experience a variety of cultures and traditions through observation and participation.

This community-wide event will include dancing, singing, and crafts of many cultures. Educational resources and craft opportunities for attendees of all ages will be offered at the festival. Food vendors will be on-site at the event. Call 405-522-0765 for more information.

CINNAMON ROLL SOCIAL

The Fort Towson Historic Site will host a Cinnamon Roll Social on Saturday, September 28, from 10 a.m. to noon. The public is welcome to attend this free event. Cinnamon rolls will be cooked on-site in cast iron Dutch ovens under the cooling shade of walnut trees. Guests can tour the museum, explore the grounds, and learn about the significant impact of the fort. The informal event will be a time for visitors and staff to get to know one another and share ideas to better the community. For more information, call 580-873-2634 or email fttowson@history.ok.gov.



HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL

The Oklahoma Territorial Museum and Carnegie Library in Guthrie will host its "History Never Dies" Halloween Carnival on Saturday, October 26, from 4 to 7 p.m. This free, family-friendly event will have an *It's the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown* (1966) film theme. Families can enjoy carnival games, treats, prizes, and a cake walk at the event. For more information, please call 405-282-1889.

CARVED IN STONE: GRAVESTONE SYMBOLS and THEIR MEANINGS



On Saturday, October 5, explore the meaning and history of gravestone symbols in the "Carved In Stone: Gravestone Symbols and their Meanings" workshop at The Chisholm in Kingfisher. Over time, headstones often feature more than just names and dates. The language of symbols is international, representing social memberships, occupations, hobbies, beliefs, and more.

Please get in touch with a staff member to register for the class at The Chisholm by calling at 405-375-5176.



FAMILY FARM DAY

On Saturday, October 5, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., celebrate northwest Oklahoma's proud agricultural heritage at the Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center in Enid. Family Farm Day allows families to experience hands-on activities like shelling and grinding corn, churning butter, planting seeds, and milling wheat. In addition, guests can visit a farm animal petting zoo, participate in pumpkin decorating, and much more! To learn more about this event, call 580-237-1907.

GHOST STORIES TOURS

Visit the Pawnee Bill Ranch and Museum for Pawnee Bill Ghost Stories Tours on Saturday, October 26, from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Guests will hear spine-tingling, ghostly tales about Oklahoma, the surrounding area, and the Pawnee Bill Ranch. Tours will leave the museum every 30 minutes, so bundle up for cold weather. The Ghost Stories Tours will be held rain or shine. Visit the ranch or call 918-762-2513 to purchase tickets or set up tours for large groups.



HALLOWEEN NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM

The Will Rogers Memorial Museum (WRMM) in Claremore will host Halloween Night at the Museum on Tuesday, October 31, from 6 to 8 p.m. This event combines trick-or-treating with an opportunity for children and their families to visit the WRMM. Businesses and individuals will share treats, and a costume contest will be held with prizes for the best costumes. Halloween Night at the Museum is free and open to all ages. For more information, call 918-341-0719.



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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PERIODICALS

Mistletoe Leaves

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OHS Oklahoma Heritage Preservation Grant Program applications open

The Oklahoma Historical Society (OHS) will open applications for the 2024/2025 Oklahoma Heritage Preservation Grant Program grant cycle on Monday, September 2. This grants-in-aid program will set aside \$600,000 to award grants ranging from \$1,000 to \$25,000 to municipal, county, or tribal governments, not-for-profit historical organizations, and support groups for these entities. All not-for-profit applicants must be registered and in good standing with the Oklahoma Secretary of State. The grants will be specific to four categories: collections, exhibits, programs, and capacity building.

The online application process will open on Monday, September 2, and close on Friday, November 1, at 5 p.m. Draft applications are due Monday, October 7, for applicants wishing to receive optional draft application feedback. Award announcements will be made in late January 2025.

“The Oklahoma Heritage Preservation Grant Program continues to impact our local communities significantly,” said Nicole Harvey, director of strategic initiatives and grants administrator for the OHS. “As we enter our sixth year of funding, this program remains dedicated to empowering local and tribal governments and historical organizations to preserve and celebrate Oklahoma’s rich heritage. This initiative is crucial in ensuring that the stories and histories of our state are preserved for future generations.”

The OHS will host two online workshops on Tuesday, September 3, at 1 p.m. and Monday, September 9, at 3 p.m. to inform the public about the Oklahoma Heritage Preservation Grant Program application process. To see the program’s official rules and register for the online workshops, scan the QR code to the left, visit okhistory.org/grants, or contact Nicole Harvey at 405-522-5202.



okhistory.org/grants



75 Years of Television in Oklahoma

A new exhibit, *75 Years of Television in Oklahoma*, is now open at the Oklahoma History Center Museum.

On June 6, 1949, WKY-TV went on the air, introducing television to Oklahoma audiences. At the time, television was a new medium, touted as “a modern miracle” by *The Daily Oklahoman* newspaper. While technicians and photographers grappled with cameras and equipment, reporters wrote and rehearsed their scripts to make the newest means of communication a reality. As Oklahoma began the new venture, the invention of television became a real turning point in American culture, effectively improving the economy and creating a paradigm shift in how people experienced entertainment and shared information.

The new trend came to life in people’s living rooms. The small screen suddenly brought singers, entertainers, and performances to life that could only previously be seen in an auditorium or heard on the radio.

This exhibit features a collection of images from early post-war black-and-white sets that revisit the era when a generation of Baby Boomers was raised on the innovative creativity of television.



The Claremore Museum of History (MoH) expanded the installation of personal artifacts and paintings in its Lynn Riggs Gallery with assistance from the Oklahoma Heritage Preservation Grant Program.

