

MUSEUM OF THE SOUTH DAKOTA STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SDSHS Board of Trustees Report

June 21, 2024

Education

The Society has begun site visits to local history organizations across the state. Executive Director Dayton Canaday began site visits in the 1960s, and the Society has continued them since.

Offsite attendance seems to be growing with 648 students served in 2024 so far. Education Kits have gone to 47 venues, mostly schools and libraries. Staff will continue to monitor this trend.

Exhibition

Dan Moeckly is coordinating the exhibit on behalf of the Society.

Staff began in-person meetings with cultural advisors and the first language advisors will meet on June 27, 2024. The area of the exhibit formerly titled "Wounded Knee" was relabeled as "Lifeways Interrupted." Cultural advisors first completed a series of questions. Based on answers, staff drafted text for Lifeways Interrupted to present to the Cultural Advisors. The Advisors made minor edits to two of three panels and have more structural editing to do on the third panel. Language Advisors have completed answering their questions and a similar process will follow. The nature of the funds requires this expeditious manner of advisement.

State Buildings & Grounds crews finished demolishing the former exhibit. The space has been temporarily used as staging for other renovation projects but will be ready for new exhibit construction.

Staff began pulling artifacts to populate the exhibit. To date, about half of the objects needed for the exhibit have been pulled, and then photographed for the contractor.

Collections

Work continues to update the collections management system. Currently the Society uses PastPerfect, but this system is ultimately too small to manage the state's museum collection property. The Society issued a request for proposal and the winning bid was from Collector Systems. The process of conversion is underway and expected to last into next year.

The following collections were evaluated using the board authorized collection rubric.

1. Is the object authentic?
2. Is the object relevant to the museum's mission?
3. Can the museum acquire clear title?
4. Does the object have good provenance?
5. Would the object be redundant?
6. What is the condition of the object?

- Joanne Lomback, Norwegian cookie iron
Action: Decline for Permanent Collection as it does not have any provenance and similar items are present in other collections.
- Matthew Reitzel, Trapper Keeper 3-ring binder, 1990s
Action: Accept for Education Collection.
- Kristin Noem, inaugural ball gown (potential donation), 2019
Action: Accept for Permanent Collection.
- Cal Christianson, Alfred Dahlin Purple Heart, 1918
Action: Accept for Permanent Collection.
- Stephanie Sauder, headdress given to Gov. Warren Green, 1932-1933
Action: Accept for Permanent Collection.
- Christy Bailey, quilted bag, date unknown
Action: Decline for Permanent Collection as the object does not have provenance and the collection has many examples of beadwork.
- David Grabitske, US semiquincentennial logo pin, 2023, 2024
Action: Accept for Permanent Collection.
- Glen Denke, minuteman missile challenge coin, 2000s
Action: Accept for Reference Collection.
- Corey Christianson, patch, Deadwood police, 2024
Action: Accept for Permanent Collection.
- Sandra Kangas, gavel, Women's Club of Pierre, early 1901
Action: Accept for Permanent Collection.
- Dan Manning, coat, copy of one designed for First Lady of the US Pat Nixon for her visit to China, 1970s
Action: Accept for Permanent Collection.
- Linda Horn, ceremonial war club, buffalo horn Governor Warren Green, 1930s
Action: Accept for Permanent Collection.
- Bonnie Wagner, poster, US Army Parachute Team, Carole Hilliard, 1980s-1990s
Discussion: Using the board authorized collection rubric, the committee discussed the
Action: Decline for Permanent Collection as the object does not have provenance and the and Carole Hilliard is excellently represented in the collections.
- Pat Lanners, hair wreath belonging to Mary Seeman Manning, Seeman Family, 1874
Action: Accept for Permanent Collection.
- Collected by staff, challenge coin, Minuteman Missile NHP, 2024
Action: Accept for Permanent Collection.

Submitted by

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