



WINTER/SPRING 2017

Timelines

CALLING ALL SECRET AGENTS PAGE 8

AMELIA EARHART TAKES FLIGHT AT THE DURHAM PAGE 11

SPEND YOUR SUMMER WITH US PAGE 12

Searching for the Seventies:
the **DOCUMERICA**
photography project

FEBRUARY 18 - APRIL 30, 2017



Smithsonian

THE **DURHAM** MUSEUM

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Admission
Adults \$11
Seniors (62+) \$8
Children (3-12) \$7
Members and children 2 & under are FREE

Hours
Sunday 1-5PM | Tuesday 10AM-8PM
Wednesday – Saturday 10AM-5PM
Closed Mondays and Major Holidays

Address
801 South 10th Street
Omaha, Nebraska 68108

Contact
402-444-5071 | DurhamMuseum.org

ARE **YOU**
FOLLOWING **US?**



@TheDurhamMuseum

Letter from the executive director



Earlier this month, my daughter and I found ourselves frantically searching for a misplaced school worksheet. We had looked at it nearly every day during the holiday break and now that it was time to be turned in, it was nowhere to be found. During our search, we uncovered many other items that had been gone so long, we didn't even know they were missing. Our lives are so busy, we just stopped noticing.

It's amazing what you'll find if you just take the time to look.

Our upcoming exhibition from the National Archives, in partnership with the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service, was born out of a desire to take a closer look at the 1970s. In 1971, the Environmental Protection Agency initiated a federal photography project called Project DOCUMERICA. Its goal was to document the on-going environmental crisis in much the same way as the Farm Security Administration captured the Great Depression of the 1930s. Organized by Gifford "Giff" Hampshire, this endeavor resulted in a collection of images that went far beyond creating "a visual baseline" of pollution and pesticide. It captured our connection to it.

The Durham Museum was given an exciting opportunity to supplement this exhibition with our community's own slice of the '70s. In our first-ever crowdsourcing effort, we are collecting objects and creating installations that will further capture the era's fads and fashions. We offer our sincere thanks to those people who took the time to look for these treasured items. With your help, Searching for the Seventies: The DOCUMERICA Photography Project is certain to be an inspiring and immersive display.

To our members, volunteers, supporters and friends, we invite you to take the time to visit and have a look at all your museum has to offer in the months ahead. You'll be amazed at what you'll find!

With sincere appreciation,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christi Janssen". The script is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'C'.

Christi Janssen
Executive Director

The 1970s were more than leisure suits, platform shoes and disco. It was a decade that witnessed profound changes in politics, society and the economy. Images of everyday life in 1970s America evoke disco dancing and inflation, protests and bell bottoms, gas shortages and suburban sprawl. At a time when the Vietnam War and the Watergate scandal wore on the national psyche, a burgeoning movement to protect the natural environment was gaining force.

Searching for the Seventies:
the **DOCUMERICA**
photography project

FEBRUARY 18 - APRIL 30, 2017



Searching for the Seventies: The DOCUMERICA Photography Project takes a look at the '70s using 90 remarkable color photographs taken for a federal photography project called Project DOCUMERICA (1971–1977). Created by the Environmental Protection Agency, Project DOCUMERICA was born out of the decade's environmental awakening, producing striking photographs of many of that era's environmental problems and achievements. DOCUMERICA photographers created a portrait of America in the early and mid-'70s. About 70 well-known photographers, including John Corn, Lyntha Scott Eiler, Danny Lyon, Flip Schulke and John H. White, completed 115 separate assignments between 1972 and 1977. What emerged was a moving and textured portrait of America. The photos capture the decade's fashions, trends and lifestyles. From smokestacks to leisure suits, these images are a fascinating time capsule of '70s America.

In addition to the photography exhibition, visitors will find a 1970s-themed living room and authentic artifacts within the three galleries of the museum's Velde Hall of American History. Sample artifacts include 8-tracks and vinyl records of the era, bell bottom jeans and other fashion trends, and everyday household items and décor, as well as an early electric car on loan from the Museum of American Speed in Lincoln. These items will be drawn from the museum's own collection as well as personal collections of area residents and businesses and will help tell the story of the '70s. An interactive children's space will focus on toys of the 1970s, including vintage Star Wars collectables. Try your hand at Atari, Simon and a custom 60-foot-long Hot Wheels track.

Searching for the Seventies:
The DOCUMERICA Photography Project
is an exhibition created by the National
Archives and Records Administration and
organized for travel by the Smithsonian
Institution Traveling Exhibition Service.



Smithsonian



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DurhamMuseum.org 3

Searching for the Seventies Programming

Up Close with the 1970s

Saturdays, February 25, March 25 and April 29, 9-10AM

Join local experts on the last Saturday of the month for a special tour and commentary of Searching for the Seventies. Space is limited on these tours (25) so please make reservations by calling 402-444-5071 or email reservations@DurhamMuseum.org. For a complete list of speakers visit DurhamMuseum.org.

Teacher Workshop

Tuesday, February 21, 5-7PM

Secondary education teachers are invited to a “far out” night at The Durham Museum! Join us for a cocktail hour before getting the “skinny” on Searching for the Seventies: The DOCUMERICA Photography Project. Learn about this fascinating exhibition that explores the social, political and environmental events and issues of this unique decade. Learn how to book a tour for your students and receive materials that you can take back to your classroom! This event is provided at no cost to secondary education teachers, but registration is required. “Do us a solid” and call Grace Sullivan, Education Programs Coordinator, at 402-444-5027 or e-mail gsullivan@DurhamMuseum.org to sign up!

What did Archie Bunker say? How entertainment shaped our national identity in the 1970s*

Presented by Shannon Perich • March 21, 5:30 Reception, 6:30 Lecture

This talk will explore intersections of subjects in The DOCUMERICA Photography Project and artifacts from the National Museum of American History to examine how art, sports and entertainment embody, propel, affirm and challenge individual and national identity.

Shannon Thomas Perich is the Curator in the Photographic History Collection at the Smithsonian’s National Museum of American History. She is also the Project Director for a new floor dedicated to the history of American Culture opening in 2018. She has curated many exhibitions and authored several books including *The Changing Face of Portrait Photography from Daguerreotype to Digital* and *The Kennedys*, featuring Richard Avedon’s photographs of JFK’s family just before his inauguration. She is an occasional blogger for americanhistory.si.edu. Her collecting focus aspires to triangulate photography with an exploration of individual stories and lives, and a larger national narrative.

*Reservations are required and regular museum admission applies; free for members. Please call 402-444-5071 or email reservations@DurhamMuseum.org to reserve your spot.



Upcoming Events

Breakfast & BELL BOTTOMS

MEMBERS ONLY
Saturday, February 18, 8-10AM



Calling all of our groovy members! Join us for a first look at *Searching for the Seventies* on opening day, before the museum opens to the public. Wear your best bell bottoms or that perfect pair of platforms and take a trip down memory lane. A breakfast spread of gnarly goodies will be provided. To reserve your spot please call 402-444-5071 or email reservations@DurhamMuseum.org

On Track Guild Spring Fundraiser

Tuesday, April 18, 6PM

In celebration of the museum's exhibition *Searching for the Seventies: The DOCUMERICA Photography Project*, come celebrate "Good Times" with the On Track Guild at The Durham Museum! Wear your disco threads and dance to the funky beats. Tickets start at \$100 per person. For more information or to make a reservation, call the museum at 402-444-5071 or email reservations@DurhamMuseum.org.



Hanging with Heroes

Saturday, May 13, 10AM-5PM

Come celebrate the opening of our newest community exhibition partnership, Omaha Police: Answering the Call Since 1857. Visit with uniformed officers, explore department vehicles and equipment, pet a police horse and much more. Admission is free - invite your friends! Visit DurhamMuseum.org for more information.

Current Exhibits



Ak-Sar-Ben: A Good Place to Race
January 21 - May 28, 2017

Catch a glimpse of one of the nation's premiere racing tracks of yesteryear. Ak-Sar-Ben: A Good Place to Race explores the sprawling field and track that brought racegoers and horsemen from across the Midwest to compete in Omaha. Through both photographs and objects from The Durham's collection, see the excitement, learn of the legends and connect to the memory of this unique 'only in Omaha' story.



Ak-Sar-Ben Field
c. 1925
The Bostwick-Frohardt/KMTV Collection
The Durham Museum Photo Archive | BF771-348

Current Exhibits

Zoo Revolution: The '70s at The Henry Doorly Zoo

January 21 - May 7, 2017

Developed by Durham Museum Intern and University of Nebraska at Kearney undergraduate, Katy Anielak

Zoo Revolution celebrates the habitat advancements of The Henry Doorly Zoo. In the 1970s, public support for natural animal enclosures encouraged nationwide changes to animal environments in zoos. Using a series of photographs from The Durham's Photo Archive, this local focus project illustrates how Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo acted ahead of its time in placing an emphasis on conservation, research programming and improving the quality of life for its animals.

Renovated Sea Lion Enclosure, 1972

The Robert Paskach /Omaha World-Herald Collection | The Durham Museum Photo Archive | RP-35mm-3659-009



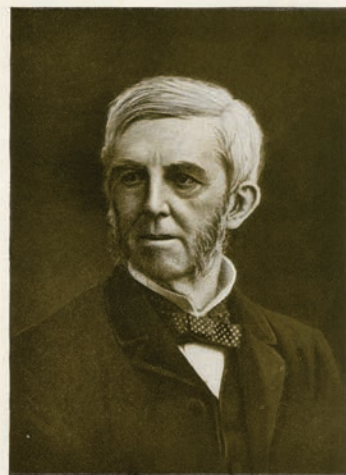
Through the Perilous Fight: "The Star-Spangled Banner" and the Civil War

January 21 - June 18, 2017

Developed by Durham Museum Intern and University of Iowa undergraduate, Allison Buser

Learn, through materials from the Byron Reed Collection, the history of how America selected its national anthem. Discover how the song motivated both Confederate and Union soldiers and how each side sought to use it to inspire support for its cause. In one such instance, Oliver Wendell Holmes added a new verse that politicized the anthem to be anti-slavery. Following the Civil War, the Star-Spangled Banner came to illustrate the shared ideals of a united country.

Portrait of Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes Sr., undated | The Byron Reed Collection | 5C14.36



Orchestrating a Nation: Musical Nationalism in the Nineteenth-Century

January 21 - June 18, 2017

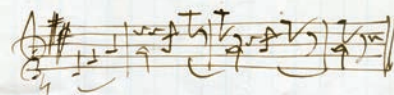
Developed by Durham Museum Intern and University of Nebraska at Omaha history MA candidate, Christina Atkins

Featuring original documents from the Byron Reed Collection, Orchestrating a Nation illustrates how music brings the many different people of one country together. Nations represented in this exhibit include Germany, Ireland, Italy, Norway and Austria. Each object illustrates how the composer connected the listener to something unique about their culture and inspired feelings of patriotism.

Autographed Musical Score from Johann Strauss Jr., July 11, 1882 | The Byron Reed Collection | 22.7

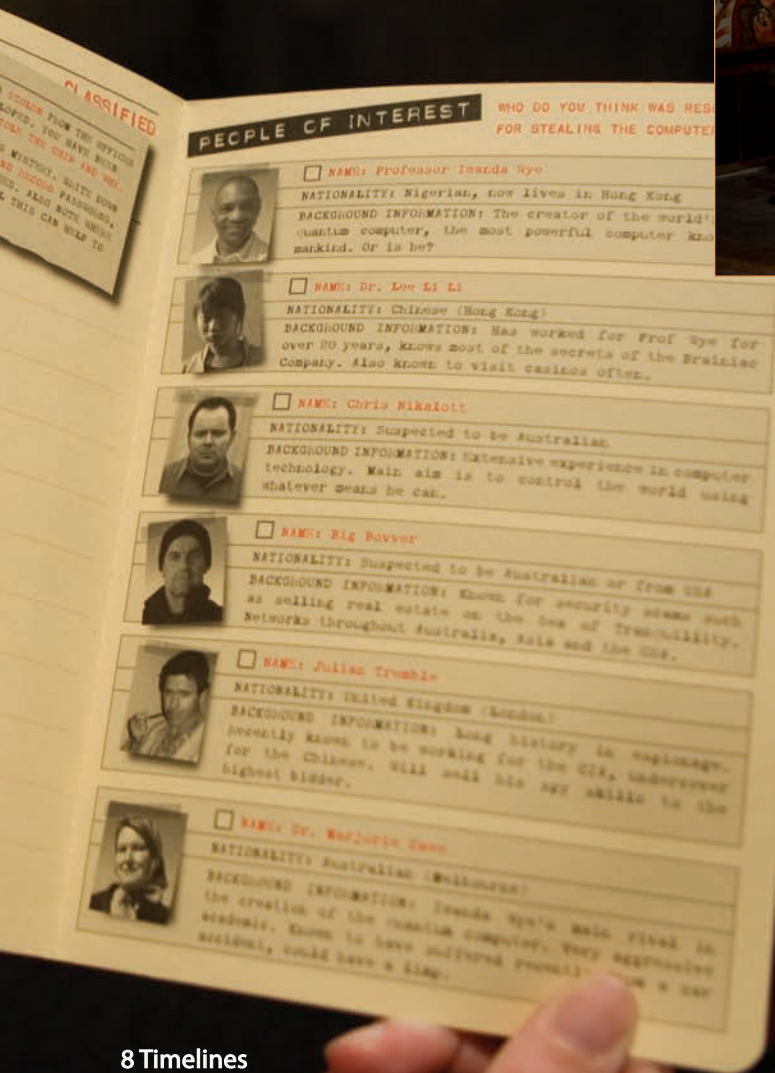


*Respectfully,
Oliver Wendell Holmes*



Johann Strauss
New-York 11.5 July 82

A Look Ahead



Top Secret: License to Spy

May 20 – September 17, 2017

Secret agents, suspects and science converge for a family adventure unlike anything you've experienced in Top Secret: License to Spy, The Durham Museum's summer 2017 exhibition. This engaging and highly interactive exhibit will put visitors' skills to the test as they experience the science, technology and psychology employed in the intelligence field.

Upon arrival, each visitor receives a "Spy File" containing their scenario and a list of six suspects. You are challenged with gathering intelligence from selected exhibits to uncover information on the suspects, leading them on a journey of discovery, puzzles and intrigue. Hands-on activities include cracking the code on the lock of a transparent safe and using an oscilloscope to find a hidden bug. Use a night vision camera to see in the dark and dodge laser beams without setting off alarms. Never before has an exhibit been so...Top Secret!

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Exhibitions

A Look Ahead

Omaha Police: Answering the Call Since 1857

May 13 - September 24, 2017

For 160 years, the men and women of the Omaha Police Department have been keeping Omaha's citizens safe. This spring, The Durham Museum will honor their service with an exhibition drawn from the department's historic archive of original artifacts including firearms, clothing, photographs and more.

Omaha Police Headquarters Building, 15th and Farnam Streets, May 1970
The Robert Paskach Collection / Omaha World-Herald Collection
The Durham Museum Photo Archive | RP-35mm-2567-001



Omaha Steaks: Serving the Heartland for 100 Years

June 10 - November 11, 2017



In 1898, J.J. and B.A. Simon journeyed to the U.S. to escape religious persecution and arrived in Omaha. They began working in the meat business and eventually started their own company – Table Supply Meat Company, which was renamed Omaha Steaks International in 1966.

Family-owned since 1917, today Omaha Steaks employs over 1,800 people and its facilities include three manufacturing plants, two distribution centers and a freezer warehouse. This exhibition pays homage to this fifth generation family business and will showcase photographs, archival documents and historic artifacts from the company archive.

Meat Inspection at Omaha Steaks Packing Facility, January 1961
The John Savage Collection / Omaha World-Herald Collection
The Durham Museum Photo Archive | JS11H-042



Educational Programming

Omaha District History Day Competition
March 1-2, 2017

The Durham Museum is proud to host the 27th annual Omaha District History Day Competition on Wednesday, March 1 and Thursday, March 2, 2017. More than 300 students in grades 6-12 from Douglas and Sarpy counties will compete in various categories, including exhibits, documentaries, performances, historical papers and websites. This year, in honor of the sesquicentennial celebration of Nebraska statehood, Douglas and Sarpy county 4th graders will also be participating in the exhibit category.

There are many opportunities to get involved with the Omaha District History Day Competition. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Kim Doubek at 402-444-5027 or kdoubek@DurhamMuseum.org. Help us make history fun for these Omaha area students!



Nebraska Science Festival
Saturday, April 22, 2017

Join us at the Nebraska Science Festival Expo and participate in fun and engaging hands-on learning opportunities. There will be a wide variety of booths to promote science and its impact on our everyday lives. The event is free with a SciFest coupon, found online or in the program guide. Visit nescifest.com for more information.

River City History Tours

Climb aboard and join us for another season of our popular River City History Tours! Select from seven different tours featuring historic Omaha landmarks, mansions, breweries and more. Tours are \$20 for members and \$25 for non-members. Membership discount applies to those in the household. Tours begin May 28, 2017. Or, book a private River City History Tour for you and up to 42 of your friends! Visit DurhamMuseum.org/Tours for a full schedule and to book your seat today.

Guided Tours of The Durham Museum
Sundays, February 5, March 5, April 2 and May 7, 1:30-2:30PM

Join one of The Durham's talented docents the first Sunday of the month for a guided tour of the museum. You will learn about Art Deco architecture, explore the history of Union Station and find a new appreciation for our grand structure during this hour-long tour.





Amelia Earhart, First Lady of the Air*

Presented by Dr. Ann Birney • Tuesday, March 14, 6:30PM

Amelia Earhart is best known as the first woman (and second person) to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean. She was the most famous woman of her day. A daring pilot whose aviation firsts made her a media idol and a symbol of what women could accomplish in a man's world. In this presentation, set on the eve of her attempt to fly around the globe, Earhart speaks candidly about her Kansas childhood, her love of flying and her ambivalence toward fame.

Dr. Ann Birney is an independent scholar of American Studies and a member of Ride into History, a historical performance troupe that has toured throughout the U.S. Her Chautauqua-style performances of Amelia Earhart are based on 20 years of extensive research and study. She holds a doctorate in American Studies from the University of Kansas and, like Earhart, is a native Kansan. 2017 marks the 80th anniversary of Earhart's ill-fated final flight across the Pacific Ocean.

*This presenter is part of the Durham Museum's Scholars in Residence Education Series sponsored by the Lincoln Financial Foundation, Sunny Durham Family Foundation, Carol Gendler and the A. Cydog Charitable Trust. Reservations are required and regular museum admission applies; free for members. Please call 402-444-5071 or email reservations@DurhamMuseum.org to reserve your spot.



Digital Learning Initiative Takes off at The Durham Museum

This past fall, the museum launched its newly reimagined Digital Learning Initiative. Using an internet connection, tablet computers, and popular programs like Skype, museum educators conducted virtual tours and classes to more than 1,200 students in classrooms from across our state. The project will continue this spring and reach another 2,500 students thanks to the support of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Nebraska. Since its inception, digital education programs like this have connected The Durham to classrooms throughout Nebraska and 47 states around the country. What a fun and relatable way to merge history with the technology of today!

THE DURHAM MUSEUM

Summer

2017

CAMP



Take your summer to new heights!

May 30 - August 4, 2017

Join The Durham Museum for a one-of-a-kind camp experience that sparks the imagination! Half-day and full-day programs are available for 1st-2nd grades, 3rd-4th grades and 5th-6th grades. (Please note these are the grade levels your child will be entering in the 2017-2018 school year.) All camps are led by certified teachers with additional staff to create an engaging camp experience.

Camps will explore a variety of themes including science, art, history and culture. The Durham Museum also offers a "Beyond the Camp" experience for campers who want to arrive early or stay late. Call Grace Sullivan at 402-444-5027 or visit **CampsAtTheDurham.org** today for more information. Online registration is now open!

From the Curator

A Grand Gift

Heirlooms can take many forms and are treasured through generations. Sometimes they get lost or damaged along the way, but occasionally one arrives in the present as beautiful as the day it was made. The Durham Museum had the privilege of accepting a silver tea service into its collection in December that is not only a family heirloom, but a treasure for the city of Omaha as well. This tea set was given as a wedding gift by Senator Gilbert Hitchcock in 1933. Mary Ann May married Gilbert Hitchcock Doorly, grandson of the Senator, in Omaha at St. Barnabas' Episcopal Church. The Omaha World-Herald wrote, "White lilies, white chrysanthemums, smilax, and flickering candlelight made an impressive background for the nuptial ceremony" as two influential families, one from Wyoming the other from Nebraska, joined together.

Equally impressive was the gift given to the bride on that day; a five-piece tea service of sparkling silver, perfect for serving well-wishers and friends. William Adams crafted the set between 1931 and 1933 and all pieces sit on an oval tray made by Rogers of Sheffield. Both Adams and Rogers operated out of Sheffield, England, which had been a noted center for cutlery and silver since the 1300s. In the mid-1700s, a new process for purifying steel and a form of silver plating were invented, making the area a hub for producing metal goods. It is most likely, however, that Senator Hitchcock made his purchase in the United States as William Adams exported much of their work to New York.

This tea service is a great example of how well-traveled some of our objects can be. It arrived at the museum from Canada! This is truly a treasure, not only for its beauty but for the strong connection to an Omaha legacy.



Silver Tea Set, 1931-1933
Gift of Marianna Richardson, 2016

Get Involved



An organization dedicated to the support of The Durham Museum and its educational programming through **volunteerism, fundraising** and promotion of **community awareness.**

Join the On Track Guild!

On Track Guild members make an impact all year long by volunteering their time and talents for exhibits and special engagements, helping with museum mailings and staff appreciation, facilitating key educational and community-based events and raising financial support to advance The Durham's mission. However you choose to help, know that your involvement will make a difference. Please join the On Track Guild today! Contact Kim Henze, On Track Guild Liaison, at 402-444-5071 with questions.

14 Timelines



In Case You Missed It

This past November, The Durham was honored to welcome Nakotah LaRance, a world champion Native American hoop dancer. Nakotah shared his dances with more than 2,500 area students and museum visitors through the Scholars in Residence program, which connects audiences with unique historical and cultural experiences. This spring, the Scholars in Residence series will again visit schools throughout the metro and explore the stories of Amelia Earhart, Rosa Parks and holocaust survivor Eva Weiner.

Nakotah LaRance poses with students from Castelar Elementary



The museum was bustling and full of cheer as we celebrated another festive year of Christmas at Union Station. Visitors from all over the country enjoyed the sites and sounds of the season during the five-week-long celebration including holiday concerts, crafts, reindeer and Santa himself! The centerpiece of this year's event was the gorgeous 45-foot-tall spruce donated from the home of Gary and Marlyss Forman of Omaha and beautifully decorated by David M. Mangelsen's and Union Pacific. Thank you to all who made Christmas at Union Station part of their family's holiday tradition this past year. Join us again next year as we celebrate Nebraska's Sesquicentennial during Christmas at Union Station 2017.

A special "Thank you!" to our valued partners who helped make Christmas at Union Station 2016 possible! Christmas at Union Station was presented by Conagra Brands. Holiday programming sponsored by David M. Mangelsen's, the On Track Guild, Children's Hospital & Medical Center, Pinnacle Bank, Conagra Brands, the Baer Foundation, the Patterson Family, Amtrak, Anne Thorne Weaver, Renewal by Andersen, Baker's Supermarkets and Star 104.5. Media support provided by KETV. Special thanks to Union Pacific, Duke Aerial and Norm's Door Service.

2016 tree donors, Gary and Marlyss Forman of Omaha, pose next to their tree



Development Corner

Giving Thanks

As we begin 2017 and celebrate Nebraska's Sesquicentennial year, we want to thank all of the wonderful members, contributors, volunteers and friends who have helped make Omaha's home to history thrive. We have an exciting year in store with plenty of opportunities for visitors of all ages to remember, learn and be inspired. It all starts with your patronage and support and we are grateful for all you do to move the museum forward!



Executive Director Christi Janssen with
Sentimental Journey Honorary Chairs Gerry and Bruce Lauritzen

Sentimental Journey

The Durham hosted its annual fundraising gala, Sentimental Journey, on Friday, November 18, 2016. The theme of the evening was Making Spirits Bright, during which we paid tribute to our region's rich history while unofficially kicking off the holiday season. First National Bank Chairman Bruce Lauritzen and his wife Gerry served as honorary chairs for the evening, which raised more than \$169,000 for the museum. We would like to thank all those who joined us and supported the effort to bring history closer to our community. Mark your calendars for next year's Sentimental Journey, November 17, 2017.

Teaching Our Community History Initiative

This spring, The Durham Museum is teaming up with U.S. Bank to give up to 3,500 area students the chance to experience the museum and its programs. The "Teaching Our Community History" initiative will help underwrite admission, transportation, supplies and museum activities for students attending Title 1 schools, where field trip and special excursion resources are in short supply. You can help us reach our goal with a tax-deductible contribution. Simply return the enclosed envelope with your gift and write "Teaching Our Community" on the envelope or check, and your gift will be designated to the program. Your help will give more local students the chance to learn what life was like 150 years ago and how our community grew!



16 Timelines

Calendar of Events

FEBRUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

- 5 Guided Tour of The Durham Museum (1:30PM)
- 6 Museum Closed
- 13 Museum Closed
- 18 Searching for the Seventies exhibit opens
- 18 Breakfast and Bell Bottoms – members only preview (8-10AM)
- 20 Museum Closed
- 21 Searching for the Seventies Teacher Workshop (5-7PM)
- 25 Up Close with the 1970s Tour (9AM)
- 27 Museum Closed

MARCH

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
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26	27	28	29	30	31	

- 1-2 Omaha District History Day Competition
- 5 Guided Tour of The Durham Museum (1:30PM)
- 6 Museum Closed
- 13 Museum Closed
- 14 Amelia Earhart: First Lady of the Air Lecture (6:30PM)
- 20 Museum Closed
- 21 Shannon Perich Lecture (5:30PM reception, 6:30PM lecture)
- 25 Up Close with the 1970s Tour (9AM)
- 27 Museum Closed

APRIL

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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

- 2 Guided Tour of The Durham Museum (1:30PM)
- 3 Museum Closed
- 10 Museum Closed
- 17 Museum Closed
- 18 OTG Spring Event
- 22 Nebraska Science Festival
- 24 Museum Closed
- 29 Up Close with the 1970s Tour (9AM)
- 30 Searching for the Seventies exhibit closes

MAY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

- 1 Museum Closed
- 7 Zoo Revolution exhibit closes
- 7 Guided Tour of The Durham Museum (1:30PM)
- 8 Museum Closed
- 13 Omaha Police exhibit opens
- 13 Free Admission: Hanging with Heroes Omaha Police Celebration (10AM-5PM)
- 15 Museum Closed
- 20 Top Secret: License to Spy exhibit opens
- 24 Omaha Gives!
- 28 Ak-Sar-Ben exhibit closes
- 28 River City History Tours begin
- 29 Museum Closed
- 30 Summer Camp begins



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Preserve Omaha's home to **history**,
create opportunities for **learning**,
and celebrate our **community**!
Show your support for The Durham
Museum on May 24, 2017.



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