THE DURHAM MUSEUM

DEEPLY ROOTED



ANNUAL REPORT 2024





THE DURHAM® MUSEUM

A Smithsonian Affiliate

MISSION

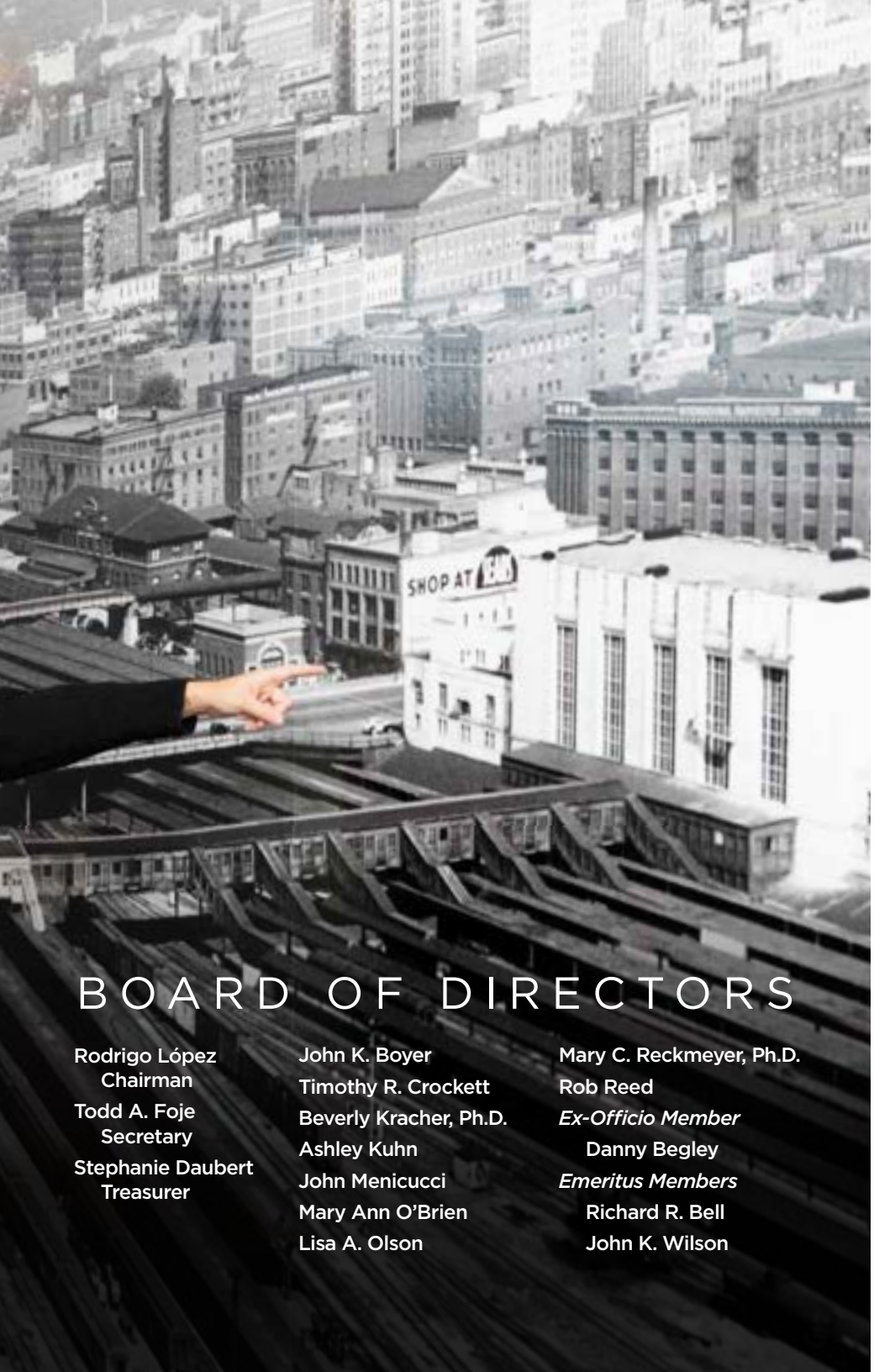
Provide relevant educational and entertaining opportunities within the region that exceed customer expectations, while preserving our community's vibrant cultural history.



VISION

The Durham Museum will serve as a recognized, premier resource for education, entertainment and historical preservation in our region. We will be the venue of choice in our market by providing a unique, engaging and memorable experience professionally presented to every customer.





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STRENGTHENING OUR ROOTS





FROM THE CHAIRMAN AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR





The Durham Museum's annual report theme, "Deeply Rooted," serves as a powerful reminder that our work is deeply connected to the history we preserve and share.

Throughout 2024, our community's engagement was a clear testament to this connection. For the second consecutive year, we welcomed over 200,000 visitors and served 9,000 household members. This incredible support allowed us to continue our important preservation work while presenting impactful exhibitions and programs that brought history to life for all ages. Further, robust collaborations with partners across the region were essential to creating these opportunities and cultivating a profound sense of shared heritage.

The museum achieved a significant milestone in our stewardship of Union Station by securing more than $1.8 million from local and national supporters to fund the replacement of Union Station's roof in 2025. This is a critical step in a nearly 10-year, $10 million effort to safeguard our National Historic Landmark building. Meanwhile, vital additions to the photo archive and permanent collection will ensure that important community stories are preserved for future generations.

As we celebrate 50 years of serving Omaha, we are reminded that our growth is built on a strong foundation of support from countless friends, partners, and patrons. Looking ahead, we are excited to continue evolving – embracing new opportunities and meeting challenges with confidence.

Your commitment to the museum is the catalyst for our success. For that, we offer our deepest and sincere gratitude.

Sincerely,

Rodrigo López
Board Chair

Christi Janssen
Executive Director



Julia Child: A Recipe for Life



Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration



Community Art Project

YEAR IN REVIEW

In 2024, The Durham Museum deepened its community roots, using history as a bridge to spark meaningful connections with visitors near and far. Riding a wave of momentum from a record-shattering 2023 in membership and attendance, the museum stepped into the new year with remarkable energy. January was one of the busiest on record, as crowds flocked to experience the final weeks of the much-loved ***Julia Child: A Recipe for Life*** exhibit and the crowd-favorite ***White Christmas – The Exhibition***. Despite a cold snap, the community turned out in force for the museum's fifth annual **Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration**.

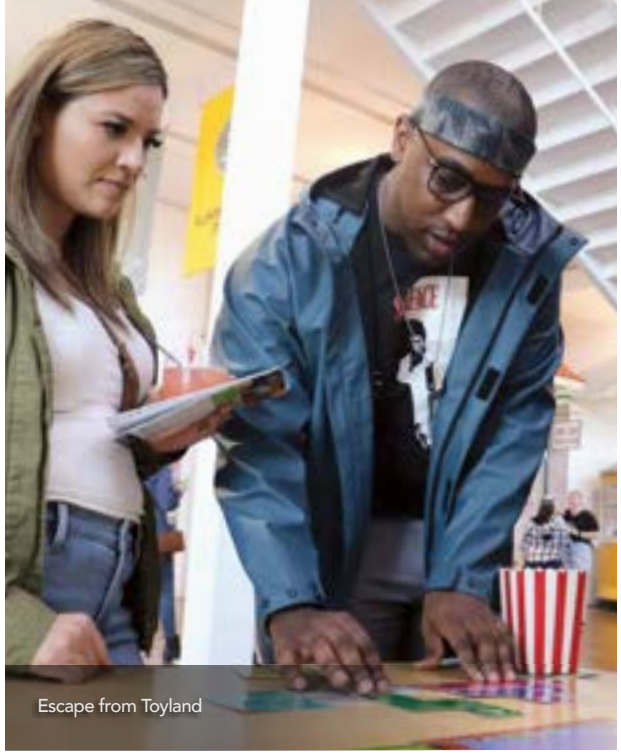
As winter wound down, spring bloomed with new experiences. ***TOYTOPIA*** debuted in March, taking visitors of all ages on a nostalgic, hands-on journey through a century



TOYTOPIA



TOYTOPIA Member Preview



Escape from Toyland



Play Clothes: Celebrating Rose Theater Costume Designer Sherri Geerdes



Escape from Treblinka: The Joseph Polonski Story

Photo by Mark Kirchhoff

> "I love seeing how toys through the ages connected generations – especially how grandparents showed their excitement with their grandchildren."
>
> – Museum Visitor

of iconic toys. This exhibition proved to be a massive hit, especially with families and student field trips. Adults weren't left out either, with over 400 participating in a toy-themed **escape room event** – our first of three new experiences designed to engage adults. The Durham complemented the traveling national exhibition with local partnerships such as a private collector who generously loaned over a dozen vintage Barbie dolls from the 1950s and 60s. What's more, The Durham **collaborated with The Rose Theater** to spotlight the artistry and imagination costume designer Sherri Geerdes brought to children's theater in Omaha during her 40-year career. March also saw the continuation of the museum's vital partnership with the **Institute for Holocaust Education**, featuring a powerful presentation by Rose Viny, who shared her father's story of survival in ***Escape from Treblinka: The Joseph Polonski Story***.

April showered visitors in glamour with a showcase of three dresses designed by the pioneering designer Ann Lowe for the 1961 Ak-Sar-Ben Coronation Ball. Two of these gowns had recently returned from a prestigious loan to the Winterthur Museum, Garden and Library in Delaware, allowing local audiences a rare glimpse before returning to rest in the permanent collection.

“This tour was an exceptional means to learn and see the history of our city — a thoroughly enjoyable experience. Sign me up for the next one!”
– River City History Tour Guest

By May, the Education Department was in full stride, rolling out innovative programs. Adults eagerly embraced new **River City History Tour** offerings and a new local history series, **Chattin’ with Dr. Chattleton**, which explored topics from the Pacific Railway Act to Lewis and Clark. Young learners weren’t forgotten, with **new merit badge workshops** for Scout troops selling out, and a combined 20,000 students participating in field trips and virtual learning programs through the spring semester alone.

Summer ushered in a season of discovery, kicking off in June with ***Becoming Jane: The Evolution of Dr. Jane Goodall***, an immersive exhibition that took visitors into the life and work of a global icon. The Durham also was honored to welcome Anna Rathmann, Executive Director of the Jane Goodall Institute USA, for its launch in celebration of 20 years of the museum’s philanthropic giving circle, **the Durham Society.**


Chattin’ with Dr. Chattleton


Curious by Nature


Chimp Chat


Becoming Jane: The Evolution of Dr. Jane Goodall


Conservation photographers Joel Sartore and Michael Forsberg with Anna Rathmann, Executive Director of the Jane Goodall Institute USA (center)



Conservation Conversation



Peter Gros and Dr. Rae Wynn-Grant, Mutual of Omaha's Wild Kingdom Protecting the Wild co-hosts



Mutual of Omaha's Wild Kingdom

The warm months also featured the unveiling of a new Scout merit badge workshop, sold-out **summer camps** and **family programming** developed in partnership with local conservation groups. Two **Conservation Conversation speaking events** highlighted the crucial work of organizations like Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo & Aquarium, The Nature Conservancy, The Crane Trust and world-renowned photographer Michael Forsberg.

The museum experience heated up in July with the opening of ***Mutual of Omaha's Wild Kingdom*** an exhibition tracing the legacy of the beloved television program. The exhibit's opening day included two special guests — show hosts Peter Gros and Dr. Rae Wynn-Grant, who charmed families and inspired students from Girls Inc. with tales of careers in science.

The final weeks of summer appropriately included a lively evening with Omaha's **Old School Shakespeare** and its adaptation of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at the museum. This unique night was paired with a special display of 19th-century Shakespeare playbills from the Byron Reed Collection. **Root Beer Float Day** provided a sweet treat before the school bells rang. Then, September showcased ***The Lost World of Dragons***, a mid-year addition to our lineup that captivated audiences and boosted fall attendance.



A Midsummer Night at The Durham Museum



The Lost World of Dragons

The museum's educational offerings also soared in the fall. The award-winning virtual program ***Museum LIVE!*** and popular field trip initiatives reached over 30,000 students in the fall, marking one of the most successful semesters to date. The museum also celebrated educators with its largest **Teachers' Night** yet, welcoming over 700 teachers and community partners for a night of teacher appreciation and resources.

The Halloween season was a hit, with the **11th annual Great HALL-oween Haunt** delighting families, while **Durham After Dark** offered ghoulish fun for our adults-only crowd. November paid tribute to service with the debut of ***Beyond Combat: World War I Through the Lens of "Doc" Cook***. This moving exhibition, launched during **Veterans Day weekend**, offered an intimate look at the non-combat experiences of Rudolph "Doc" Cook and his fellow service members. Images from this treasured collection were digitized and added to the museum's online Photo Archive.



Museum LIVE! collaboration with Morrill Hall



Durham After Dark



School Field Trip



Beyond Combat: World War I Through the Lens of "Doc" Cook



Teachers' Night



Christmas at Union Station Tree Lighting



Holiday Cultural Festival



Family Nights with Santa



Noon Year's Eve

> "I've been bringing my family to the Tree Lighting for 26 years — it's a tradition that started when my dad brought me as a little girl. My kids grew up loving it, especially the confetti! We're so grateful to the museum staff for keeping the magic alive."
>
> – Michelle

No year at The Durham would be complete without the magic of **Christmas at Union Station** – a tradition since 1975. Omaha's official Christmas tree lighting opened another festive season of cherished traditions, including **Family Nights with Santa**, the **Holiday Concert Series** and the community-favorite **Holiday Cultural Festival**. As 2024 closed, an electric **Noon Year's Eve** celebration included 2,000 guests who reveled in a shower of balloons and music, welcoming the museum's landmark 50th anniversary year.

EXHIBIT & EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

Major Exhibitions

TOYTOPIA
Created by Stage 9 Exhibits, distributed by Exhibits Development Group

Becoming Jane: The Evolution of Dr. Jane Goodall
Organized and traveled by the National Geographic Society in partnership with the Jane Goodall Institute

Mutual of Omaha's Wild Kingdom
Developed by The Durham Museum and Mutual of Omaha

The Lost World of Dragons
From Stage 9 Exhibits, distributed by Exhibits Development Group

Beyond Combat: World War I Through the Lens of "Doc" Cook
Developed by The Durham Museum

Local Focus Exhibitions

Play Clothes: Celebrating Rose Theater Costume Designer Sherri Geerdes
From a collaboration of The Durham Museum and The Rose Theater

Mulehead Ranch

Byron Reed: Expressions in Writing

Tailored by Ann Lowe

Paxton & Gallagher Company: Local Values, National Reach

Christmas Day Jailbreak

Pastime Print: Graham's Magazine

Special Programming & Community Events

Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Day
***TOYTOPIA* Member Preview**
SaturPLAY Series
Recess at The Durham!
Chattin' with Dr. Chattleton
Museum Insider Tours
Puppets on The Platform Series
River City History Tours
Escape from Toyland (21-and-older event)
International Museum Day Celebration
Downtown Omaha Walking Tours
Scout Merit Badge Workshops
Nebraska SciFest Expo
$5 after 5 Series
***Becoming Jane* Member Preview**
Curious by Nature Series
International Chimpanzee Day
Root Beer Float Day
21st Annual Teachers' Night
What is it Wednesday Series
Today in History Trivia Series
Durham After Dark (21-and-older event)
Halloweekend
The Great HALL-oween Haunt
Spooky Tales for Tots
Celebrate! at The Platform Series
***Beyond Combat* Opening Day & Veterans Day Celebration**
Sentimental Journey
Coming Home for the Holidays Luncheon & Market
Tree Lighting Ceremony
Holiday Cultural Festival
Holiday Lights Family Festival
Holiday Concert Series
Family Nights with Santa
Noon Year's Eve Celebration

Special Presentations

Institute for Holocaust Education presentation "Escape from Treblinka: The Joseph Polonski Story"
featuring guest speaker Rose Viny

***Becoming Jane: The Evolution of Dr. Jane Goodall* Exhibition Showcase**
featuring Anna Rathmann, Executive Director of the Jane Goodall Institute USA

Conservation Conversation
with Dr. Jason Herrick of Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo and Aquarium and John Cougher of The Nature Conservancy

Conservation Conversation
with Conservation Photographer Michael Forsberg and Amy Sandeen of The Crane Trust

Meet the Co-Hosts of Mutual of Omaha's Wild Kingdom Protecting the Wild
with Peter Gros and Dr. Rae Wynn-Grant

"A Traitorous and Truculent Scoundrel"
featuring Dr. Kyle Chattleton

Sheep to Shawl Demonstration
with the Omaha Weavers and Spinners Guild

Great War Propaganda and the Christmas Truce
featuring Dr. Mark Celinscak

Coming Home for the Holidays presentation "Entertaining at the White House: Decades of Presidential Traditions"
featuring Jennifer Boswell Pickens



Paxton & Gallagher Company: Local Values, National Reach



Holiday Cultural Festival



Sheep to Shawl Demonstration



On Track Guild's Coming Home for the Holidays



Lecture Series



The Great HALL-oween Haunt

2024 BY THE NUMBERS

218,998
Annual Attendance
(fourth consecutive year that attendance surpassed 200,000)

9,062
Household Members
(second consecutive year that membership surpassed 9,000)

64,360
member visits during 2024
(second highest ever)

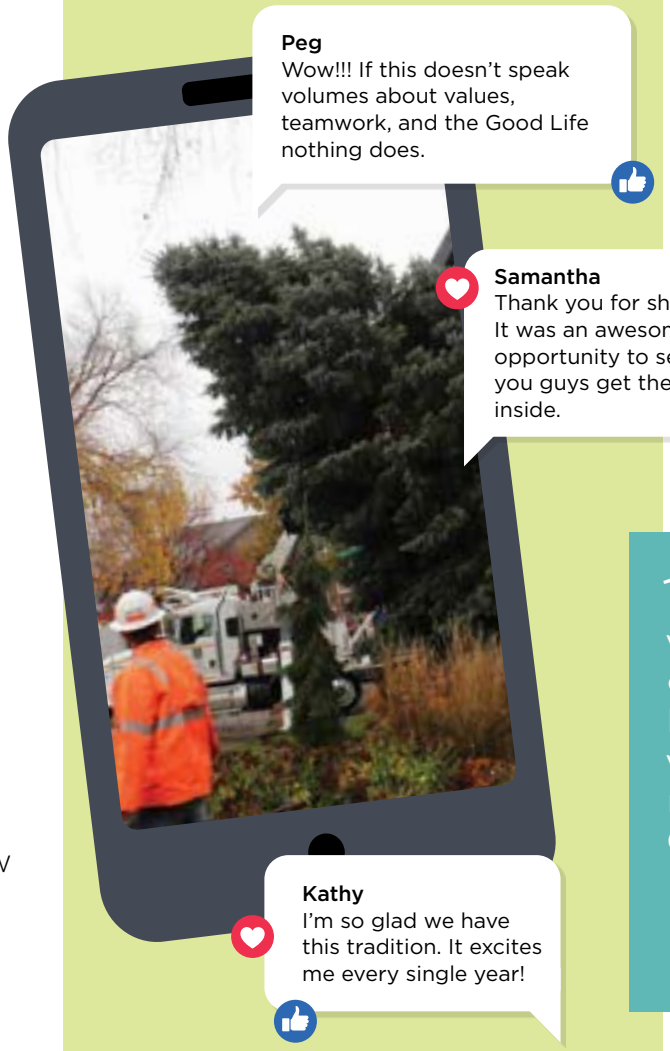
Accessibility programs provided free admission for more than 10,000 visitors from 80 organizations, including local libraries and those serving people with financial constraints and/or developmental disabilities.

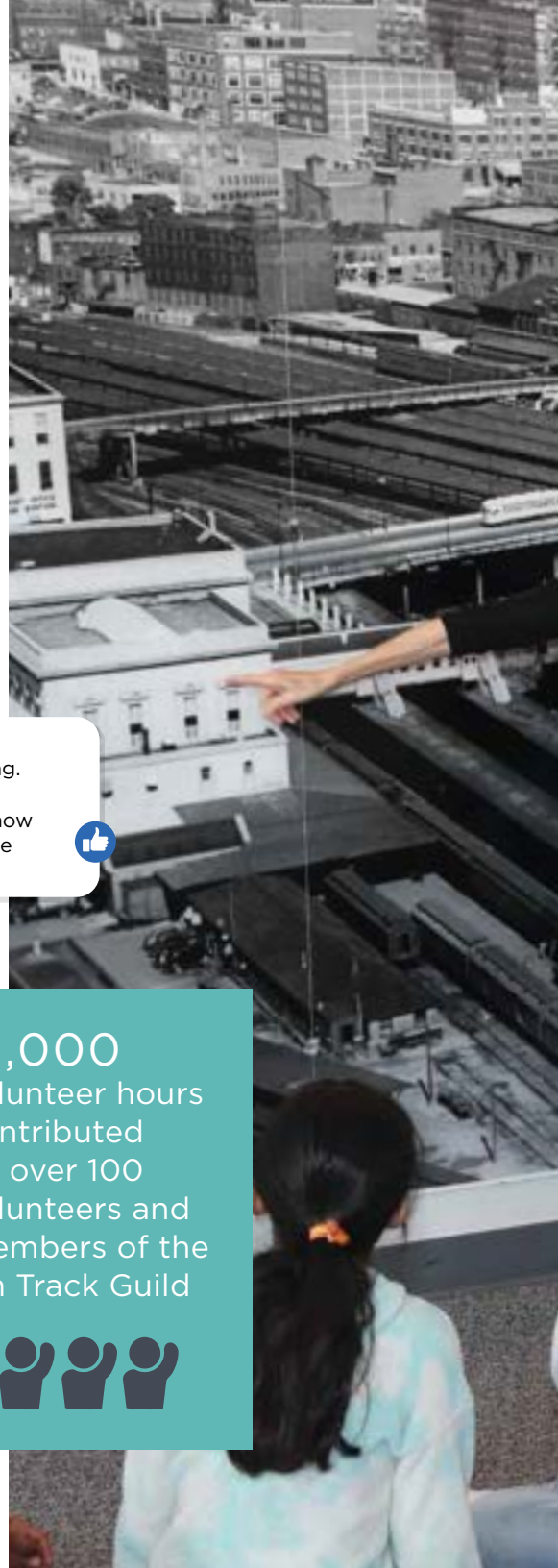
Launched three new adult engagement events that drew a combined 1,000+ people to the museum, 75% of which were not museum members.

SOCIAL MEDIA

32,775
Facebook Followers

9,512
Instagram Followers





12,000
volunteer hours contributed by over 100 volunteers and members of the On Track Guild



LEARNING & ENGAGEMENT

Throughout 2024, the museum continued its innovative approach to student programming. Field trips, long the heart and soul of any student's museum experience, continued to flourish, while our Digital Learning Initiative reached new audiences across the state and beyond. Meanwhile, expanded tours and lectures for adults brought new energy to the museum.

FAR-REACHING IMPACT

57,040	Students, student family members & teachers served
75,555	Total participants across all education programs
70	Of Nebraska's 93 counties served
75	Local and national collaborating organizations
550+	Unique schools
75%	Omaha area Title 1 schools served
75%	Omaha area elementary schools served

PARTICIPANTS IN SCHOOL-BASED PROGRAMS

38,849	*Museum LIVE!* & virtual field trips
15,744	Onsite field trips
1,411	Inclusive Museum Initiative
775	Teachers' Night

PARTICIPANTS IN PUBLIC PROGRAMS

3,910	Summer/Winter Camps
440	Scout Programs
3,128	Lecture and Public Tour Attendees



PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

The 2023–2024 school year marked the second season of the Inclusive Museum Initiative (IMI), a time of both growth and transition. Throughout the year, museum staff collaborated with school administrators and teachers to shape a tailored experience, including field trips, digital programs, summer workshops, camp scholarships and in-school engagements with three partner schools.

By the fall, engagement reached new heights, with overall attendance increasing by 23%. Field trip participation tripled, with each school averaging four visits during the year. Our core goals — fostering strong school communication, engaging directly with classrooms, and creating a welcoming space for families — continued to deepen. We also proudly provided summer camp scholarships to 29 students, who attended sessions in both June and July.

PRESERVING HISTORY

9,624 Historic Photos Digitized

Among these additions to the digitized Photo Archive were 950 images from the Rudolph "Doc" Cook Collection.

The Durham's Photo Archive now has more than 352,700 images available online.

34 accessions added to permanent collection

The Durham Museum continued to expand its permanent collection, accessioning items that reflect our shared history.

This **streetcar operator jacket, cap and patches** were gifted to the museum by John Bell in honor of his mother, Margaret. The objects spotlight women's vital contributions on the home front during World War II. With many men serving overseas, the Omaha and Council Bluffs Street Railway Company (O&CB) turned to women to help continue streetcar operations. In November 1943, the first seven women operators began their new careers. To keep the streetcars moving, they were soon joined by more women. Among them was Margaret Bell who operated streetcars while her husband served overseas.

Photo: Margaret standing in front of a streetcar that operated from 26th and Q streets and 30th and Fort streets.

The Durham Museum Photo Archive, The Bostwick-Frohardt/KMTV Collection, BF6153-183

In 2024, the museum welcomed a **1961 Ak-Sar-Ben princess gown** by famed designer Ann Lowe. The dress was discovered at an estate sale by Kelli Bello, who recognized its historical value and connection to Omaha. Lowe, who created signature pieces such as the dress worn by Olivia de Haviland during her acceptance speech at the 1947 Oscars and the iconic wedding gown of Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy in 1953, created 33 gowns for the 1961 coronation. This donation is the fourth Lowe-designed dress from that year to join The Durham's collection, which helps us showcase Lowe's immense talent and ensures her story is preserved for future generations.

Coronation gown donated by Kelli Bello



1940s sailor suit and photo donated by Virginia Hobbs, suit was made for her husband Nile Hobbs.



PRESERVING THE STATION

The Durham Museum secured $1.87 million in funding to replace Union Station's aging roof, a project that will be complete by the fall of 2025. The museum also installed a **new traffic coating surface** to the parking deck and continued ongoing repairs to the building's terra cotta exterior and terrazzo floor.

BYRON REED SPOTLIGHT

The amazing Byron Reed Collection at The Durham Museum includes a rare 1799 letter between then-Vice President Thomas Jefferson and "scandalmonger" James Callender. Turns out, the history between these two figures is even more fascinating! Durham Museum expert Dr. Kyle Chattleton hosted **Dr. Chattleton presents: "A Traitorous and Truculent Scoundrel" James Callender, Thomas Jefferson and the Election of 1800** on September 5 at The Durham Museum. In the midst of what promised to be yet another season of heavy political campaigning, Dr. Chattleton invited the local community to reflect on what the election of 1800 has to say about the current state of politics.





Thomas Jefferson

THE YEAR IN STORIES

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR: JEANETTE CAPPS



The Durham Museum's Photo Archive houses an enormous repository of images — hundreds of thousands have already been digitized with an equal number to be processed, and new collections being added. Maintaining such a large archive requires time, of course, but also drive, dedication and a love for history.

Those words embody Jeanette Capps, who alongside her husband Hal, has devoted the past two decades to volunteering at The Durham. The growth of our Photo Archive is made possible by the efforts of our volunteers, including Jeanette. "Here in Photo Archive, she does a lot of the work that is time-consuming, but important," a museum staffer said. "Her work ethic is one of her strongest attributes and most of the time I struggle to keep up with her!"

It's the mark of someone who truly cares about her community. And it's the perfect snapshot of Jeanette, our 2024 Volunteer of the Year. "I love volunteering here," Jeanette said. "I love the people. It's a good outlet for Hal and I to get away from the house, and it's so interesting here."





REDISCOVERED IMAGES OF WWI

Local resident Mollie Millie Anderson made an impulse purchase at an Omaha auction house in 2019 and became the owner of an impressive historical treasure. This purchase included a rectangular black box containing nearly 1,000 photo negatives. After buying a lightboard to examine the photos, she discovered what looked like multiple images from World War I. A high school friend of hers, Ken Shuster, confirmed the special nature of these photos and helped her process the many images. Over 100 years after these images were taken, Anderson found herself viewing a personal look into soldiers' lives, beyond combat.

Rudolph "Doc" Cook, a photographer who enlisted to join the war effort, served in the 88th Infantry Division, 313th Engineers of Camp Dodge in Iowa and captured the company's experiences with his camera. Instead of battles, the world through "Doc" Cook's lens included a variety of training regimens, war-torn structures, trenches, celebrations following Armistice Day and the reconstruction of train lines by the 313th Engineers.

After learning more about Cook's life experiences, they wanted to share his story. Some images were first displayed at Gallery 92 West in Fremont, Nebraska. Seeking a permanent home for the collection, Mollie donated it to The Durham Museum in 2023, and in 2024 these rediscovered negatives anchored a temporary exhibition developed by The Durham Museum. Titled *Beyond Combat: World War I Through the Lens of "Doc" Cook,* the exhibit offered an intimate look at soldiers' experiences during this global conflict.

Photo, top left: print shop with World War I 88th Infantry Division soldiers at work, 1918-1919, The Durham Museum Photo Archive, The Rudolph Cook Collection, RC14-152

Top right: "Doc" Cook's nephew, A. Scott Hoyt, and Mollie Millie Anderson next to a photo from the *Beyond Combat* exhibition.

> "Thank you SO MUCH for this exhibit. History books showcase the leaders and the powerful and often skip over the experiences of ordinary folk. As a veteran, I found so much in common with the soldiers in the photos."
>
> – Museum Visitor



Beyond Combat: Through the Lens of "Doc" Cook Exhibit Preview and Lecture featuring guest speaker Dr. Mark Celinscak

THE DURHAM SOCIETY

The Durham Society was established to provide designated support to The Durham Museum and its cultural and educational programming. This philanthropically-minded group is committed to raising the awareness of history's impact on our community and region.

HERITAGE CIRCLE
$25,000

Anonymous
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Patricia K. and Richard R. Bell
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Holly and Michael Boyer
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Elizabeth and Michael S. Cassling
Trish and Richard K. Davidson
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Bruce R. Lauritzen
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Christy and Robert W. Turner
Mary L. and James P. Verhalen
Laura and William Vodvarka
John W. Webster and the late
Nancy C. Webster
Christine A. Webster and
Randall Bruhn
Frank P. Willkie
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Beth and Tim Wilson
Janice A. and Thomas C. Wilson
Janet and Henry E. Wojdyla
Nancy L. and Philip M. Wolf



Red Poppy Veterans Rememberance Activity



Becoming Jane: The Evolution of Dr. Jane Goodall

2024 PATRONS

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Thomas D. Thalken
Donna and James C. Trojanowski
Susan A. and Michael E. Vanhessche
Joan and William Vobejda, Jr.
Kate and Roger Weitz
Michael Zack

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Nancy C. and John W. Webster
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Mary A. and John K. Wilson
Nancy L. and Philip M. Wolf

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Gail Yanney

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A Hill of Beans
AAA Rents
Bellevue Berry Farm
Big Fred's Pizza
Bob And Willies Wonderbowl
The Bookworm
Brickway Brewery and Distillery
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The Cheesecake Factory
Conagra Brands Foundation
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Flagship Restaurant Group
Hardy Coffee Co.
Hiland Dairy
Hollywood Candy
HyVee
Debra Kaplan Photography
Kiewit Luminarium
Massage Envy
Mormon Trail Center
Mutual of Omaha
Nothing Bundt Cakes
Olsen's Bake Shop
Omaha Athletics
Omaha Performing Arts
Omaha Police Department
Omaha Storm Chasers Baseball
On Track Guild Board
Ooh De Lally
Oriental Trading Company
Pettit's Pastry
Physician's Mutual Insurance Company
Sips on 10th
Smash Park
Spielbound Board Game Cafe
Ted & Wally's Ice Cream
Terry McGill Inc.
Trader Joe's
Tupelo Honey
Upstream Brewing Company
Vala's Pumpkin Patch
Vic's Corn Popper
Village Pointe Shopping Center
WoodmenLife
Yoshitomo

COLLECTION DONATIONS

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John Brian Beilman
John Bell in Memory of Margaret Bell
Kelli Bello
The Burton Family in Memory of Judith Ann Flansburg Burton
Lukas Cammarota
Frederick J. Echternacht in Memory of Betty Collett
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Mary Jo and Jack Fisher Family
Florence Home
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Virginia Hobbs
Dianne and Robert C. Kimball
Theresa Kraw
Helena "Laina" Modjeska Chase Family
The Hank Moberg Family
Rick Murphy
Haiden Nelson
Matthew A. Schultz
Sara and David Sharpe
Marie A. and Lee G. Simmons
Sumner County Kansas Historical Society
Robert E. Turk, Sr.
Karen Wali
The Wood Family

2024 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Durham Museum and The Durham Museum Foundation
Combined Statements of Financial Position

FINANCIAL POSITION

	2024	2023
Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents [A]	$4,968,189	$3,563,470
Investments [B]	19,200,340	19,130,874
Receivables	83,419	88,263
Contributions receivable [C]	878,325	821,538
Accrued interest	172,229	163,255
Inventory	52,097	51,138
Prepaid expenses	255,111	202,062
Property and equipment, net	7,061,014	7,464,934
Total Assets	**$32,670,724**	**$31,485,534**
Liabilities & Net Assets		
Liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	$1,158,476	$894,891
Total Liabilities	$1,158,476	$894,891
Net Assets:		
Unrestricted	$12,128,001	$11,797,505
Temporarily restricted	4,013,364	3,422,255
Permanently restricted	15,370,883	15,370,883
Total Net Assets	$31,512,248	$30,590,643
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	**$32,670,724**	**$31,485,534**

(A) Cash and cash equivalents include $1,200,229 and $1,288,023 in 2024 and 2023, respectively, which is restricted with donor stipulations that limit the use of the funds.

(B) Investments include $15,370,883 and $15,370,883 in 2024 and 2023, which have donor restrictions that require the funds to be maintained permanently but permit use of income earned from the investments.

(C) Contributions receivable include $700,000 and $25,000 in 2024 and 2023, respectively, which is restricted with donor stipulations that limit the use of the funds.



Veterans Day Celebration



WAYS TO GIVE

Each year, gifts from supporters and friends help us sustain the key activities of the museum, from maintaining historic Union Station to presenting first-class exhibits and education programs. You can help us bring history closer to thousands in our community by supporting our efforts in any of the following ways:

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

Members enjoy free general admission and other benefits, while their support provides year-round operating funds for the museum. Many tiers are available, including Individual, Family and Patron, to fit the interest of every member.

THE DURHAM SOCIETY

Our highest level of membership, the members of The Durham Society share a philanthropic vision for the museum and its services to the community. Contribution levels include the Heritage Circle ($25,000), Founder ($5,000) and Member ($1,000) and are fully tax-deductible. The funds are distributed as directed by the Board of Directors and are used to secure, present and enhance future exhibitions and educational opportunities.

SPONSORSHIP/UNDERWRITING

Sponsorship and underwriting opportunities enable our corporate, foundation and individual supporters to demonstrate their interest and passion in the museum's many world-class exhibits, education programs, preservation initiatives and event opportunities made available to the community.

ANNUAL FUND

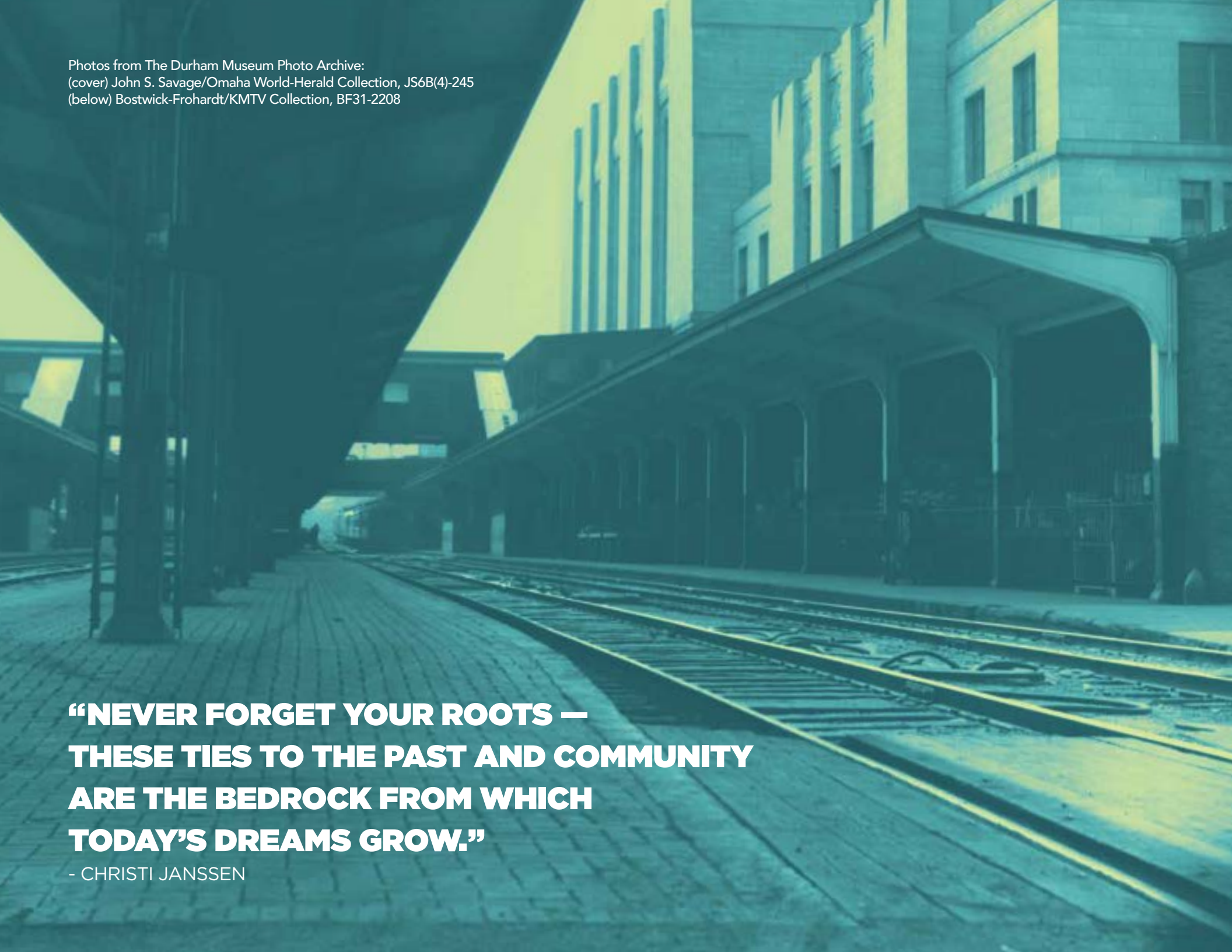
Separate from memberships, the annual fund strengthens departments, programs and projects within the museum by bridging the gap between our membership and admission revenue and the costs involved in operating this remarkable institution.

Gifts can be made online, over the phone, in person, in conjunction with a membership renewal or by mail. You may also choose to honor or memorialize a friend or loved one with a direct gift to the museum, or by commissioning an engraved brick in our permanent exhibit galleries.

PLANNED GIFTS

The museum offers many planned giving opportunities including bequests, life income plans, charitable lead trusts and gifts of life insurance policies. By including The Durham Museum in your estate plans, you will help to sustain Union Station, The Durham Museum and its collections and programs for generations to come.

For more information on these giving options, please contact the museum at 402-444-5071.



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"NEVER FORGET YOUR ROOTS — THESE TIES TO THE PAST AND COMMUNITY ARE THE BEDROCK FROM WHICH TODAY'S DREAMS GROW."

- CHRISTI JANSSEN