



Our Mission: "To celebrate and perpetuate the history, art and culture of the Chisholm Trail, the American Cowboy and the American West."



Progress is all around us this month at the Heritage Center. After nearly three years of preparation, the T.H. McCasland Jr. Experience Theater is getting a much needed upgrade. For over ten years the system has been in continuous operation. The system components and lighting are being brought up to current standards. Now, don't think you will see a lot as a visitor, your "experience" won't be much different. Just know that the "brains" have been replaced and we are ready for the next ten years!

Once the dern weather starts to cooperate, you will see excavation and construction equipment tearing up and reinstalling portions of our parking lot. Again, much loved and used, it needs a touch up and refresh. I am so

excited to tell you we are starting preparations for the 150th anniversary Celebration of the Chisholm Trail in 2017.

We've been working with the other CT museums and communities and this is going to be so much fun!

There will be opportunities for all kinds of groups and individuals to participate.

A giant thank-you to those who contributed to our annual campaigns. This year we are raising money the tear down our dreadful shed and build new museum quality storage. We also had several members sponsor a Heritage HUB middle schooler to attend that program at no charge to their family.

Be sure to sign up for the newsletter or join us at: [facebook.com/onthechisholmtrail](https://www.facebook.com/onthechisholmtrail) for all our upcoming events.

Stacy Cramer Moore, Executive Director

ON THE CALENDAR

Experience Theater closed for upgrades; Jan 5-11

Trail Dance Film Festival
Jan. 24-25

Heritage Hub, 3 to 5 p.m. every Wednesday for middle school youth. No charge for members.

"Brunetta Bernard Griffith's Native American Art" from the vault of the Garis Gallery of the American West. January 3-March 14.

Coming Soon:

Jason Cytacki exhibit, March 21-May 23. Jason is an artist from Norman, Oklahoma.

Allan Houser: Legend Born Free exhibit, June 1-August 15

National Day of the Cowboy, July 26

Williams trades museums, Hopper joins CTHC

Cova Williams resigned in November to take on the role of executive director of the Stephens County Historical Museum in Fuqua Park.

Cova was museum coordinator and worked here for 13 years.

Cova was fundamental to the development of the museum and was a valuable player in its progress. We look forward to working with her to enhance the museum partnerships within Duncan.

Toni Hopper joined us in November as our new Public Relations & Marketing Coordinator.

She worked at The Duncan Banner for 13 years and is an award winning reporter, news editor, and fine art photographer.

Her work can be found online at Fine Art America, including photographs from the 2007 Chisholm Trail Centennial Cattle Drive.

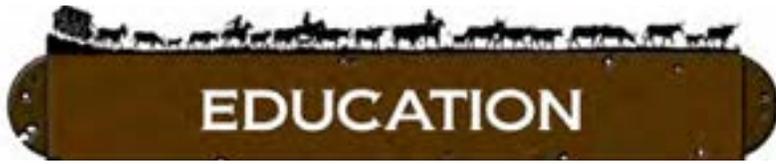
toni@onthechisholmtrail.com.



Book of the Month

With this month the start of our Native American session, "*Quannah Parker, Comanche Chief*" by William T. Hagan gets our pick of the month. It was published in 1993 by the University

of Oklahoma Press and still continues to be a much requested title in our gift shop. It also holds title to the Oklahoma History Book of the Year by the Oklahoma Historical Society.



EDUCATION

Only Great Expectation Certified Non-Profit in Oklahoma for 8 years

The Chisholm Trail Heritage Center is a unique mix of western history and modern technology. Making History with the Arts, an education program for 3rd, 4th and 5th grade public, private and homeschool students is not a typical “stop and stare” museum or “free day” field trip. Student groups are met at the door by one of our certified educators who have prepared an age appropriate lesson plan in conjunction with the child’s traditional teacher. The center has

five umbrella sessions: Abernathy Boys, Holidays on the Chisholm Trail, Native Americans, Oklahoma Land Giveaways and Allan Houser: Legend Born Free. Within each of these umbrellas, modules are chosen. The modules focus on learning while having fun and incorporate Oklahoma Academic Standards and Texas TEKS skills. The Enhanced Field Trip is for grades K-12 and features an educator in period dress. As Oklahoma’s only non-profit certi-

fied as a Great Expectations Model School, we are constantly evaluated and critiqued on our programming and educational interactions by professional mentors. The founders of GE believe, while there is talk of educational reform, not enough is being done to positively affect student achievement. The main objectives of GE are to increase students’ self-esteem, intellectual knowledge, and social competencies.

WISH LIST:

As an interactive learning museum, we have items we need! If you have any of these taking space in your attic or garage, consider donating them to us. If you want to make a cash donation, we can do the shopping. This benefits our educational programs.

Table Top Easels. \$50-100 each. For our youth art programs.

Antique Woodburning Stove. This is used in our “Dugout” where students learn about the dugout homes of the 1800s.

Buffalo hide. An imitation hide is acceptable. This is used in our Native American education session that begins in January and continues through March.



Dance like a bear

The Native American education session begins January 20 and runs thru March 14 and features historical interpreters who will bring the stories to life. As part of the program, students will create a parfleche which was essential for transporting personal belongings, food and household supplies. The Native American Bear Dance gives students a chance to get up and move. They will learn the importance of the buffalo and how every part was essential to the livelihood of the Native American.



Winter sessions host more than 1,000 students

Molly Bugbee time traveled into our Interactive Children’s area and delighted more than 1,000 youth with the tales of life on the Trail in the 1800s, during our Christmas on the Trail education session. Using interesting props, like “cooked bacon and bugs” historical interpreter Beverly Scott brought the history of Molly’s love story and travels to life. Beverly dresses in ‘historical’ clothing while playing her roles. She had students and parents and teachers laughing. She is now preparing for her story as Toe-Pay, a wife of Quanah Parker. Acting as a historical character helps the students understand the stories easier.

GALLERY & EXHIBITS

Now Showing!

The collection of the late Brunetta Bernard Griffith is on display this month as we begin our education focus on Native American history and culture. Brunetta was a native Oklahoman of Choctaw heritage. Her work includes five famous Apache warriors and women important in the history of Native Americans. Come see this colorful work exhibited through March 14. *Above: oil portrait of Hyaka Hutcuce-Creek, Susanne Burnett Strouvelle.*



Duane Paul has gift of music for the museum

In December, local flute maker and player, Duane Paul, gifted the museum with one of his handcrafted wooden flutes. Duane is a vendor at some of our events, and recently, he's taken to visiting and playing his melodies in our museum. We've discovered our museum is a great indoor "amphitheater" with the music filling the facility as if we had a built-in sound system. Duane has been making flutes for about 15 years.



Local quilter Jackie Neely gave us a temporary loan of antique quilts for the Dugout for Christmas on the Trail.

Instructor Philonda Heilaman gave students magnifying glasses to count stitches in the quilts after explaining the process of 1800s quilting and the uses of quilts. It was quite fun to see the youth try to count stitches.

Couch's Corner

Andrew Couch is our Assistant Curator & Programs Coordinator.

This December was my first time to participate in our "Christmas on the Trail" education session. I taught students about Frank Lloyd Wright during our stained glass art projects.

The Heritage Hub, our middle school art program, has been great. Students get a hands on involvement learning about illustration, collage, sculpture, cartooning, painting and more. Each month is a different art subject. Guest artists come and talk to the youth about their work and seeing art as a career. We teach them techniques and how to explore their creativity through different mediums.

It happens each Wednesday after school and is free with membership. Duncan

Middle School students only have to walk across the street, but the program is open to all middle school aged youth in the area, including homeschoolers. The classes are from 3 to 5:30 p.m. I'm discovering talented youth.

We have many exciting exhibits scheduled.

This month, we are showing some of the late Brunetta Bernard Griffith's work that has been hiding in our vault. Brunetta, 1919-2006, was from Rush Springs.

Western artist Jason Cytacki from Norman will be having a solo exhibition in the spring.

www.jasoncytacki.com

During the summer, we celebrate the 100th anniversary of Allan Houser's birth, in a first, statewide collaboration of Oklahoma museums and cultural institutions. Watch future newsletters for information on these exhibits as opening dates near.

Andy Couch

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Groups of seniors, adults and kids can book a session by contacting Leah at 580-252-6692.

THE 8TH ANNUAL
TRAIL DANCE
FILM FESTIVAL
 JAN 24-25, 2014 - DUNCAN, OK



<http://www.facebook.com/onthechisholmtrail>

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What is Trail Dance Film Festival? Enjoy two days of high quality independent films – right here in Duncan! Suspense, drama, comedy, family. Something for every interest.

Venues: Chisholm Trail Heritage Center and Simmons Center.

Mark your calendar! Kick off party is Jan. 23 at Chisholm Trail Heritage Center. Films will be shown Jan. 24-25. Don't forget to attend the grand finale of the free "Golden Drovers Awards" night.

Visit www.traildancefilmfestival.com or just come by!



1000 Chisholm Trail Parkway, Duncan, OK 73533
 Address Service Requested

Thank You!

Chisholm Trail Farm Credit Duncan & Cotton Electric



The Chisholm Trail Heritage Association is a 501c3 non-profit. Your contributions to our programs and exhibits are tax deductible. Consider the Center in your estate and planned giving allocations. stacy@onthechisholmtrail.com or 580-252-6692.



Wayne Harris, Assistant Vice President, left, with Chisholm Trail Farm Credit's Duncan Lending Office, made a \$500 donation to the Chisholm Trail Heritage Center for its education programs. Bryce Hooper, right photo, Director of Marketing and Economic Development for Cotton Electric, also made a \$500 donation on behalf of the CE Charitable Foundation. Assisting CTHC Executive Director Stacy Cramer Moore with the acceptance is Lathe Benton and Acie Rodriguez, from Waurika Elementary School.