

SherdsApril - June 2021











Acrofest 2021 had a large attendance this year. Joseph O'Neil with the Dallas Paleontological Society was on site with interactive kids programs and paleohistologist Dr. Holly Woodward with OSU presented a seminar on fossil bone tissue microstructures to understand the groweth and development of extinct animals.

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Annual Dinner 2021

The Museum's **Annual Dinner** for members and guests is scheduled for April 23rd. Speaking at this year's event will be **Dr. Eric Singleton** of the **National Cowboy and West-**

ern Heritage Museum. The event will kick off with food and wine beginning at 6:00 pm with seating in the Jack Bell Hall starting at 6:30pm. Dinner will be served and our guest speaker will begin his presentation at 7:15. If you are not a current member and would like to update your



Dr. Eric Singleton

membership, simply fill out and return the form on page 8 or visit our website at:

www.museumoftheredriver.org/support/membership/

Study Tour: Ireland/Scotland

Travel arrangements are available by contacting the Museum. Early-Bird discount extended until May 2, 2021!

Additional information is available on our website at:

www.museumoftheredriver.org/upcoming-travel-opportunities/



Directions



Henry Moy

After a year of canceled events, it's great to be able to host our ANNUAL DINNER April 23. Invitations have already been sent out to recent and current members. Guest speaker will be **Dr. Eric Singleton** of the **National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum** who will present on its **Spiro and the Art of the Mississippian World** exhibit which he curated, with support from **Wichita and Affiliated Tribes** and **Caddo Nation of Oklahoma**. The **Museum of the Red River** lent ten (10) object to the exhibit, which will subsequently travel to the **Birmingham Museum of Art** and the **Dallas Art Museum**.

The Museum-organized *Precolumbian Lifeways* exhibit is currently on view at the **Museum of the Southwest** in Midland, TX. Thanks again to **Drs. Ernesto and Luisa Lira** (TX) and **Dr. R. and Nancy Weiss** (AZ) for their generous loans.

Fifty-two (52) historic and contemporary ceramic vessels from the American Southwest have returned to the Museum. They had been on loan to the **Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum** in Canyon, TX for the 2020 exhibition **A Legacy in Clay: Pueblo Pottery of the Southwest**. Opening later this year will be the **First Americans Museum** in Oklahoma City. Originally established as the **American Indian Cultural Center**, it will use material culture objects and art to present the history of Oklahoma's 39 recognized tribes. The majority of items exhibited will be borrowed from other museums across the country, including the **Museum of the Red River**.

Photomurals (first installed last year) have proved to be very popular. Serving as "selfie stations" they are available for visitors to take pictures in front of iconic cultural sites. The "You Are There..." images currently include China's Great Wall, India's Taj Mahal, and the USA's Cliff Palace at Mesa Verde in Colorado. Previous images included Egypt's Sphinx and Great Pyramid, England's Stonehenge, and Peru's Machu Picchu. The photomural stations were established In Memory of Gregory Koontz (1962 – 2020) by Janet Herron and Gamaliel Leyva, and is supported by the Greg Koontz Memorial Fund.

People









Staff members Katy Smith (Programs) and Hannah McNutt (Learning Center) using the new photomural stations.

Longtime supporter and volunteer **Sallie A. Webb** retired from service as a board member of Herron Foundation, Inc. in January, moving to Virginia to join family members. She was also a founding member of Idabel Museum Society, Inc. and a mainstay of both the **McCurtain County Art Club** and **McCurtain Gem and Mineral Club**. We regret her leaving and will miss her kind and generous support, valuable advice, and adventurous cooking!

Museum business manager **Vickie Smith** was elected to the Board of Directors of Idabel Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture.



Congratulations to Herron Foundation board member **R. Pete Herron** and wife **Katie** on the birth of their son **Decker**. He joins brothers **Asher** and **Cooper**, and sister **Baylor**.

Museum director **Henry Moy** has joined the Management Board of **McCurtain Memorial Hospital**. He continues as VP/ Treasurer for the **McCurtain Community Fund**, Executive Secretary for **Herron Foundation**, **Inc.**, and Treasurer, **Idabel Regional Arts Council** and the **McCurtain County Art Club**. He is also on the Advisory Board of the **Chinatown Museum Foundation** (Chicago).

Current and Upcoming Exhibits (through July, 2021)

Mary Bratton Curtis Gallery

Contemporary Caddo Art (through May 23, 2021)

Chad Nish Earles, Chase Kahwinhut Earles, Wayne TaySha Earles, Raven Halfmoon, Yonavea Hawkins, Kira Hayen, Jereldine Redcorn, Jennifer Reeder, Alaina Tahlate, and (Mia) River Whittles, have achieved recognition as accomplished artists and craftspersons in their chosen media. All their works are informed by their Caddo heritage, and are presented as such in this cooperative exhibition.







Native North American Baskets (June 1 – Sept 26)

Drawn from the Museum's extensive collections, this exhibit will feature extraordinarily fine examples of native American basket-weaving arts.

Founders Gallery

Inspired by Museum founders **Quintus and Mary Herron**, this exhibit space celebrates the Museum's permanent collections, highlighting some of the finest examples of material culture from around the world available for public appreciation.



Poncho with attached feather strips, ca. 100BC-AD200, South Coast Peru, Gift of **Quintus H. and Mary H. Herron**



Picture enlarged to show detail

Krokroti (ceremonial headdress), Mid 20th Century, Kayapo-Txukahamae (Xingu River Drainage, Para, Brazil) Gift of Cindy Piper

J. Marshall and Sally Gettys Family Gallery

Focused on native technology in the creation of art, this intimate exhibit space honors the work of the late **J. Marshall Gettys**, and acknowledges the continuing generosity of his wife **Sally Gettys**, their extended family, and friends.



< Twined Water Bottle (Tus), ca. 1950, Apache (Arizona), Gift of Diana & Jeni Gettys Bourke, In Memory of J. Marshall Gettys

Current and Upcoming Exhibits (through July, 2021) continued

Lifeways Gallery

Objects from the Museum's collections are used to illustrate the ethnological themes of *Domestic Life, Beliefs, Encounters, and Technology and Art.* This gallery also houses the *Gregory H. Perino Archaeological Study Area* where collections of regional archaeological material are available for research and appreciation. It honors the work of **Gregory H. Perino** (1914 - 2005), archaeologist and the Museum's first director (1975 - 1984). The new *Recent Acquisitions* area is also located here, and for the next decade will honor the ongoing generosity to the collections of **Dr. Richard and Nancy Weiss.**



War Bonnet, ca. 1976, Charles Pratt, (Cheyenne/Arapaho,1937-2017), Bequest of Quintus H. Herron Trust



Plaque: Master of the Cow Sacrifices, early 20th century, Benin-style (Nigeria), Gift of **Dr. David and Karina Rilling**



Luopan geomantic "Compass", 19th Century, China, The Jim and Jeanne Pieper Collection, Gift of Jeff Pieper



Basketry Purse, ca. 2000, Mississippi Choctaw, Gift of **Bob Baker** to the Museum's *Baker*, *Beasley*, *Wetherell* Collection

Nathaniel and Lana Grey Gallery

(in the Mary H. Herron Community Conference Center)

Ancient China (January 12, 2021 – May 2, 2021)

An exhibit drawn from the permanent collections, it features some of the earliest works from China curated by the Museum of the Red River. Many objects pre-date the founding of "historic" China with the 3rd century BC national consolidation by the First Emperor, **Qin Shi Huangdi.**



Bi Disc, ca. 750-220 BC, China, Gift of Drs. Ernesto and Luisa



Halberd Axe, ca. 500 BC, China Museum Purchase

Kuna Molas (May 11 – August 8)

Molas are colorful "reverse applique" textile panels created by the Kuna of the San Blas Islands off the northeast coast of Panama. They were originally decorative shirt panels, with imagery captured from folk and contemporary popular culture. Traditionally a folk craft of women, molas have become a major sale item for tourism dollars, providing significant income. Their creation has since been adopted by all members of society.

Current and Upcoming Exhibits (through July, 2021) continued

Ed and Cindy Fulmer Dino Den

Attached to the gallery housing the cast skeleton of *Acrocanthosaurus atokensis*, this exhibit space provides interpretive materials placing Acro in context with other dinosaurs of the Mesozoic Era. The official State Dinosaur of Oklahoma, Acro lived during the early Cretaceous period, about 110 – 125 million years ago. The original fossil of the McCurtain County specimen was the most complete one ever recovered, and provided paleontologists new information on this "top" predator of its time. The "Den" honors the generosity of the **Ed and Cindy Fulmer** family.



Casts of the skulls of Tyrannosaurus rex (R) and Acrocanthosaurus (L) are displayed in this area for comparison.



Don and Mary Etta Herron Reception Hall

The main reception area at the front entrance to the Museum, this hall honors the generosity of **Don and Mary Etta Herron**. It houses the glass and steel sculpture *Raven Kachina* by the late Quinault/Isleta Pueblo artist **Marvin Oliver**(1946-2019), the patinated steel sculpture *Solitude Falls Summer* by **Donnie Wanner**, two (2) large Talavera-style lidded jars, the "rabbit sculpture" *elizabeth* by Ft. Worth artist **Chris Powell** (b.1960), and an untitled multimedia piece by **Robert Rivera** (b.1950). Also installed are four wood works by sculptor **James Strickland** (b.1945), created during his time as visiting professor/artist in residence at the University of Oklahoma in the late 1970's, and the large mural *Coming to Oklahoma*, created in 2017 by pastel artist **Bill Baker** (b.1961). Large ethnographic wood carvings from the *Nupe* and *Dogon* peoples of west Africa and the *latmul* peoples of New Guinea round out the artworks on view.

Outside, visitors using the parking lot are greeted by the large aircraft-aluminum sculpture *So Many Friends* by Choctaw-Pottawatomi artist and educator **George M. Cramer** (1938-2004).



elizabeth, by Chris Powell (American, b. 1960)

Chris Powell Associate Professor of Art at *Texas Christian University* (Ft. Worth, TX), created *elizabeth* from the sculptural medium of "staff" (a compound of plasters and straw) which was widely used at the end of the 19th century for "temporary" buildings and constructions, e.g., pavilions at world's fairs.

Rabbits (and hares, family *Leporidae*) are included in the folklore of many of the world's cultures. It was identified by both the *Maya* of central America and the Chinese as a magical animal living on the moon. Ancient Egyptians worshipped the hare-headed fertility goddess **Wenet**.

In Greece, it was associated with Artemis, the moon goddess and **Aphrodite**, goddess of love. In northern Europe, the Norse goddess **Freyja** was served by hare attendants and the Siberian goddess **Kaltes** transformed into a hare when walking the Earth. Among northeastern and midwestern native American tribes, the rabbit is a creator figure and mystical warrior. It is also seen as a "trickster" figure, equivalent to Coyote or Raven in other areas, whose comedic antics lead to destroying pride and arrogance. The initial inspiration for *elizabeth* was a Chinese toggle from the 8th century.

Holland and Sally Webb Family Learning Center

Located off the *Lifeways Gallery* is the *Holland and Sally Webb Family Learning Center*. This area is a place where kids and families can come together and learn about other cultures and natural history through interactive activities such as crafts, books, and toys. Through media we hope to spark curiosity, encourage education, and aid multiple generations of people to express themselves creatively.



Diorama of Hopi Village, 1973, by Preston Monongye (Hopi, 1927-1987), Gift of Dustin Victor Ochoa



"Pow-wow" Style Drum, Cottonwood tree trunk with stretched American buffalo (*Bison bison*) hide



Children interacting with dinosaur figures



Paper and wood *House Model*, ca. 1970, Gift of Chinese American Museum of Chicago, Raymond & Jean T Lee Center



Head of *Acrocanthosaurus*, ca. 2000, Gift of the artist, **Kelly Persinger**



School group exploring books and coloring activities in the childrens library area of the learning center

Gifts and Support (2020; names in bold are of donors whose gifts were received in the most recent quarter)

Grants

Herron Foundation, Inc.

Membership General Support, plus donors to other Museum funds, who are provided membership benefits at equivalent levels; active after October 1, 2020) (c) represents gift to collections, (+) represents additional gift

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Idabel Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture, Ducks Unlimitied, Rotary Club of Idabel, McCurtain County Historical Society, McCurtain Memorial Hospital Foundation

Gifts to the Libraries (including Research and Learning Center/Public Reference)
Henry Moy, Lee Spruell, National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum

Gifts In-kind

McCurtain Memorial Hospital

Other Cash Gifts

Sandra & Bruce Jackson to the *Ann Graham Education Fund*, Kama Koontz, Dr. Nira Levine, Lynn & Dane Pollei, Dr. David Rilling, Julia & Forrest Sewell *In Memory of Greg Koontz*, Vickie & Scott Smith, Ronny & Doris Smithee, Carolyn and Eddie White to the *Ann Graham Education Fund*

Recent Acquisitions (January-March, 2021)

Gifts to the Collections

Four (4) decorated, carved **wood chests**, early – mid 20th century (Swat Valley, Pakistan); two (2) carved **wood beds**, mid-20th century, *Nupe* (or *Tapa*), Nigeria Gift of **Dr. David & Karina Rilling** (PA)

Two (2) yarn "paintings," 1992 by **Rosendo Carillo de la Rosa** *Huichol*, (Nayarit, Mexico)
Gift of **Lee Spruell** (LA)

Two (2) bone-ivory *okimono* carvings, **Jurojin** and "Watchman with Lantern," late 19th/early 20th centuries, Japan Gift of **Robert Howell** (TX)

Nineteen (19) items collected in West Africa, in 1972 including ethnic clothing, historic trade-bead jewelry, and handicrafts
Gift of Ron Engel-Wilson (OK)

Broken, flaked obsidian **tool**, surface-collected (associated with *Totonac-Maya [Nopiloa]* complex, Veracruz, Mexico)
Anonymous Gift

Wood and stretched hide dance **drum**, 2013 by **J. Archuleta** (*Taos Pueblo*), carved wood **cradleboard** mid-20th century (*Navajo*)
Gift of **Sandra Riley** (TX)

Group of identified fossil and mineral specimens collected in the central US, focusing on the immediate area Gift of **Kathy & Terry Stricker** (TX)

Museum Purchases

Globular, polychrome enameled porcelain **vase** mark and period of Emperor Xuantong (Puyi), reigned 1908 -1912, China



Yarn Painting,1992, by **Rosendo Carillo de Ia Rosa**, *Huichol*, (Nayarit, Mexico), Gift of **Lee Spruell**



Bone-Ivory *Okimono* Carvings, **Jurojin** and "Watchman with Lantern" late 19th-early 20th century, Japan Gift of **Robert Howell**



Yarn Painting, 1992,

Gift of Lee Spruell

by Rosendo Carillo de la Rosa, Huichol, (Nayarit, Mexico),



Dance Drum, ca. 2013,by **J. Archuleta** (*Taos Pueblo*) Gift of **Sandra Riley**



Vase, ca. 1908-1912, China, Museum Purchase

Annual Membership

Registration Form

Complete this form and mail it to 812 East Lincoln Rd., Idabel OK 74745. Make checks payable to Idabel Museum Society Inc. The information provided below will be used to send you the Museum's quarterly newsletter and your membership card. Please allow 2 weeks for your membership card to arrive. Membership status can be confirmed at the Museum Receptionist's desk during normal business hours.¹

Name:	Email:
Mailing Address:	Phone:
I want the Museum's quarterly newsletter	e ☐ Emailed to me
☐ New Membership OR ☐ Membership Renewal	OR
Tier I Memberships	Tier II Memberships
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 Keeping the arts freely accessible to the people of, and visitors to, McCurtain County Invitations for two (2) to select members-only events including Museum annual dinners Specially guided tour through the Museum for you and your guests. (Reservation required) A copy of SHERDS, the Museum's quarterly newsletter 	 All the benefits of being an Associate plus 10% off regular purchases in the Museum Store The opportunity to visit the Museum on Monday, by appointment, when it's closed to the public. Reduced registration fees for select programs and events
 Associate (\$100) All the benefits of being a Donor plus Membership in the North American Reciprocal Museum (NARM) program, which provides free admission to over 1,000 museums² Membership in the Reciprocal Organization of Associated Museums (ROAM) which provides benefits from over 300 museums in North America.³ Invitation to a behind-the-scenes tour that explores the Museum's collections. 	 All the benefits of being a Contributor plus An invitation to view new acquisitions before they're available for public viewing An additional 5% off in the Museum store (15% total) A private, annual reception featuring international cuisine Director's Circle (\$1,000) All the benefits of being in the Curatorial Circle plus Two (2) extra invitations for events An additional 5% off in the Museum store (20% total)

scholars

¹ Eighty-five percent of each membership is deductible for federal income tax purposes

² Locate other NARM institutions at narmassociation.org/map. Show your membership card with ID to receive free admission and other discounts. Please contact the institution you plan to visit for more information.

³ Locate other ROAM institutions at sites.google.com/site/roammuseums/home/list-of-roam-museums. Benefits may vary. Please contact the institution you plan to visit for more information.



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Return Service Requested

Open 10 AM to 5 PM Tuesday through Saturday and 10 AM to 3 PM on Sunday. Closed Mondays and national holidays. **Admission is free**.



Located in Idabel, Oklahoma, the Museum of the Red River is the largest cultural institution in a 150-mile radius. Its mission is to preserve and celebrate the world's artistic heritage, while emphasizing the contributions made by native American groups. Its exhibition program includes temporary and permanent displays, most using objects drawn from its collections. The Museum also installs off-site exhibits throughout Southeast Oklahoma.

It offers dozens of educational programs each year, often in partnership with local organizations. It also houses a Public Reference Library and Research Library, which contain over 6000 volumes and printed materials illustrating cultural history. Hands-on, interactive learning opportunities are available year-round in the Holland and Sallie Webb Family Learning Center.

The Museum neither solicits nor accepts government funding. It is supported by earned and investment income and the ongoing support of individuals and organizations. Admission to the Museum is free, thanks to its Corporate Partners. To keep up with the latest Museum news, visit www.museumoftheredriver.org.

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