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State Historical Society Adds New Smithsonian Affiliation benefits to Membership Program

PIERRE, S.D. – Membership does have its privileges at the South Dakota State Historical Society.

Beginning in October, the society is launching its new membership program which features the addition of Smithsonian Affiliate Member benefits for all new or renewing members at the Heritage Circle level. Benefits include:

- * Membership in the Smithsonian Institution
- * One-year subscription to Smithsonian magazine
- * 10 percent discount in Smithsonian stores, catalog or online
- * 10 percent discount on Smithsonian Folkways recordings
- * Smithsonian Journeys travel and study tour opportunities
- * Free admission to Smithsonian Affiliate Reciprocal Member Institutions

There are approximately 80 other reciprocal members around the country and visitors can check the society website at www.history.sd.gov/membership to obtain a list.

The society has been working on a new membership program for the past 12 months. It includes slight increases in membership level costs at some levels and some different benefits, other than those that come with the Smithsonian Affiliation benefits. Members receive free admission to the museum at the Cultural Heritage Center, subscriptions to “South Dakota History” and “History Notes” and a 10 percent discount at the Heritage Stores at the Cultural Heritage Center and state Capitol, among other benefits. Please visit www.history.sd.gov to view the details of the new membership program.

“This is a great opportunity for our members to increase the return on the investment they make in us by becoming members,” said Jay D. Vogt, director of the State Historical Society. “We are excited to increase our collaborative relationship with one of the great museums in the world.”

Also in October, the society will provide a new membership brochure for new or renewing members to use. The new brochures should be available in time for the Great Sioux Horse Effigy Return Celebration beginning Oct. 10. A photograph on the front panel of the new brochure was supplied by Brady Gill and Lee Zion from the Pierre Capital Journal.

The South Dakota State Historical Society has over 2,000 members around the nation and world. It became a Smithsonian Affiliate in January 2013 and is the only affiliate in South Dakota.

About the South Dakota State Historical Society

The South Dakota State Historical Society is a division of the Department of Education. The State Historical Society, an Affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution, is headquartered at the South Dakota Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre. The center houses the society's world-class museum, the archives, and the historic preservation, publishing and administrative/development offices. Call (605) 773-3458 or visit www.history.sd.gov for more information. The society also has an archaeology office in Rapid City; call (605) 394-1936 for more information.

About Smithsonian Affiliations

Established in 1996, Smithsonian Affiliations is a national outreach program that develops long-term collaborative partnerships with museums, educational and cultural organizations to enrich communities with Smithsonian resources. The long-term goal of Smithsonian Affiliations is to facilitate a two-way relationship among Affiliate organizations and the Smithsonian Institution to increase discovery and inspire lifelong learning in communities across America. More information about the Smithsonian Affiliations program and Affiliate activity is available at <https://affiliations.si.edu>.