

Free DCCI workshops offer opportunities for collections care

In need of collections assistance? Do you have questions about how best to handle issues that keep creeping up in your collections area at your local library, archives or museum? If so, please sign up for a free (yes that is \$0.00) workshop with a professionally trained conservator. The workshops are open to board members, volunteers, paid and unpaid staff, or anyone with oversight of collections in a South Dakota archives, museum or library.

Rarely will one find an opportunity to work closely with fellow volunteers and professionals at a three-day workshop with no fee other than your personal expenses, so please share this information with your friends and colleagues. Each workshop will feature a morning and afternoon session addressing new topics so there is no repetition in any three-day session. Each organization that has a representative sign up for the workshop will also receive a unique “takeaway” of supporting resources related to collections care management.

The workshops are hosted by the Dakota Collections Care Initiative (DCCI), a partnership between collections care professionals at museums, libraries and archives in South Dakota and North Dakota to improve collections care and emergency preparedness and response for the small and mid-sized collecting heritage institutions across the two states. In addition to the South Dakota State Historical Society, other DCCI partners include the Association of South Dakota Mu-

seums, North Dakota Library Association, Plains Art Museum in Fargo, South Dakota State Library, and State Historical Society of North Dakota. Terri Schindel, a conservator affiliated with the Museum Training Network, will lead the workshops.

Although the workshops are free, registration is required online at <http://dcciworkshops2012.eventbrite.com/>. Registration for each workshop closes one week prior to the start date.

The project is made possible by a two-year Connecting to Collections implementation grant from the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). The IMLS is the primary source of federal support for the nation’s 123,000 libraries and 17,500 museums. The Institute’s mission is to create strong libraries and museums that connect people to information and ideas. To learn more about the Institute, please visit www.imls.gov

South Dakota workshops

- Aug. 8-10: Gregory County Historical Society, Dallas
- Aug. 15-17: Yankton County Historical Society (Dakota Territorial Museum), Yankton
- Aug. 22-24: Fort Sisseton Historic State Park, Lake City
- Aug. 29-31: Timber Lake & Area Historical Society and Museum, Timber Lake
- Sept. 12-14: Tri-State Museum, Belle Fourche
- Sept. 19-21: Keystone Area Historical Society Museum, Keystone

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Field Reports

The Dakota Discovery Museum in Mitchell has changed its hours of operation as of May 1.

In May and September, the museum will be open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., closed on Sunday and Wednesday.

During June, July and August, the museum will be open from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., closed on Sunday and Wednesday.

The museum complex includes the six galleries of the Randall Building and four buildings within the Historic Village. The galleries of the Randall Building include the Middle Border History Gallery, the Charles Hargens Studio & Gallery, the Oscar Howe Art Gallery, the Case Dakota Gallery and the Terrace and Gates Changing Galleries. The Historic Village holds the 1886 Italianate Beckwith House, 1885 Territorial School, 1908 Country Church and 1914 Milwaukee Depot.

The Dakota Discovery Museum is located on the campus of the Dakota Wesleyan University at 1300 McGovern Avenue, Mitchell. For more information on current exhibits and events visit www.dakotadiscovery.com or call 605-996-2122.

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The Brown County Historical Society met on Saturday, April 14, 2012 at the Dacotah Prairie Museum. Robert Russell, director of the Beulah Williams Library at Northern State University,

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Clay County Historical Society receives Governor's Award

The Clay County Historical Society, based in Vermillion, was presented the 2012 Organizational Governor's Award for History by the South Dakota State Historical Society during the society's annual history conference in April in Pierre.

The award is presented annually to honor organizations whose efforts demonstrate outstanding dedication and commitment to the collection, sharing and preservation of South Dakota history.

The Clay County Historical Society has an active membership that supports a variety of activities that preserve and publicize the history of Clay County and its inhabitants. These activities include a June ice cream social, a tour of local historical homes in early December, a regularly published newsletter, and a weekly newspaper column devoted to excerpts from historic newspapers. The society recently published an outstanding book on the history of Vermillion and the University of South Dakota, which is located there.

The volunteer society is headquartered in the Austin Whittemore House, which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.



Accepting the 2012 Organizational Governor's Award for History from the South Dakota State Historical Society on behalf of the Clay County Historical Society were, center from left, Thomas Thaden, Cleo Erickson and Maxine Johnson. Presenting the award were, from left, Brad Tennant, president of the SDSHS board of trustees; Jay D. Vogt, SDSHS director; and James Hagen, secretary of the Department of Tourism, of which the SDSHS is a division.

Workshops

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Volunteers and staff at South Dakota organizations may also attend workshops in North Dakota for free as well.

North Dakota workshops

- May 16-18: Griggs County Historical Society, Cooperstown
- May 23-25: Ox Cart Trails Historical Society, Drayton
- June 6-8: Northwest Art Gallery at Minot State University, Minot
- June 13-15: Lewis and Clark Trail Museum, Alexander
- June 20-22: Stoxen Library at Dickinson State University, Dickinson

June 27-29: Pioneer Trails Regional Museum, Bowman

"These assessments and hands-on workshops will increase understanding of the best practices in collections care at small- and mid-sized heritage institutions and build a network of individuals committed to good stewardship of collections," said Chelle Somsen, state archivist for the SDSHS.

More Field Reports

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discussed the library's work in creating digital images of text, photographs, and artifacts. The 2012 BCHS Award for Historical Research and Writing went to JoLavae Gunville (Presentation College) for her paper on "More Than Names: Soldiers of The Great War from Dewey and Ziebach Counties, South Dakota – Honoring Lakota Warriors of World War I from Cheyenne River Sioux Reservation." Second place went to Cindy Schnabel (Northern State University) for her paper on the women's suffrage movement. Both students received cash prizes and certificates.

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A new horse racing exhibit "At the Drop of a Hat" has opened at the Casey Tibbs SD Rodeo Center in Fort Pierre. The proverbial "At the Drop of a Hat" title represents how horse races

were originally started. The Rodeo Center displays written recollections of racing available from the late 1800's to the present. Contact the Rodeo Center at (605) 494-1094 for museum hours.

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A new exhibit at The Journey Museum in Rapid City discusses the 1972 Rapid City Flood and the possibilities of such a disaster happening again. "Megafloods: The 1972 Awakening" details the scientific study of flooding in the Black Hills and future flood preparation. The exhibit runs through Aug. 10, in connection with the 40th anniversary of the flood. The museum will also host sessions throughout the summer covering different aspects of the flood and its impact. For more information, contact The Journey at (605) 394-6923.