Our Mission:
To spark learning, reflection, and inspiration through diverse cultural programming that promotes historical understanding, equity, and empathy.
LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

Looking inward was the prevailing theme of this fiscal year in many ways. The Lane County History Museum responded to challenges and opportunities related to pandemic safety, staffing, the needs of our ever-diversifying community, a need for more intensive community outreach to inform our strategic planning, an unplanned hiatus of our historical journal, and a planned leadership succession as our long-time Executive Director, Robert Hart, retired June 30, 2022. Our organization met each of these challenges with a high degree of skill and optimism, with an eye toward lasting and sustainable change.

With our community taking necessary steps to be safe during the pandemic, we shifted to offering programs and projects online when possible, and planned to remove barriers to in-person visitation when it was safe to welcome the public back into the building. In April 2022 we modified our hours to be open fewer days in exchange for being open later, outside of regular business hours. We also committed to eliminating all admission fees for twelve months and to evaluating the financial feasibility of remaining admission-free permanently. While we have experienced a slow return to normal as our community has become more comfortable being in public venues like museums, it is clear that not only are people returning, but many are coming for the first time.

Of all of our progress and accomplishments over the last fiscal year, this time was used to its fullest potential on completing an organizational diversity, equity, accessibility and inclusion (DEAI) assessment process that culminated in a DEAI Action Plan. Available to the public on our website in its entirety, this plan lays out actionable steps and goals toward becoming a resource that best serves and is accountable to all of the diverse parts of our county community. Related to this work, the Museum staff also planned an intensive outreach effort to include our community as we reflect on what it means to be a history museum, heritage organization, and an educational resource in Lane County today. We plan to continue this process through the next year.

As the new leadership of the Lane County History Museum, we look forward to continuing our organization’s role in preserving the history of Lane County. Our Museum is a community resource that strives to meet the needs of residents, researchers, visitors, volunteers and students by both welcoming people inside of our physical space and reaching out into the communities we serve. With the lease on our building ending in 2025, it is more important than ever that we consider immediate needs and long-term goals and sustainability as we do important planning. We hope to grow our relationship with Lane County because together we can ensure that our collective history is preserved for generations to come and accessible to those who want to remember where we come from.

Sincerely,
Allison Fischer-Olson & Jennifer Yeh
COLLECTIONS

The priority for LCHS’s work in collection management during this period has been to complete a full inventory of all artifacts, which has never been accomplished. LCHS is pleased to have been awarded a $56,276 grant to fund this effort as a subrecipient from the American Historical Association as part of the Sustaining the Humanities through the American Rescue Plan (SHARP) grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. The funded project, The LCHS Artifact Rescue, continues inventory work already accomplished but significantly delayed as a result of staff turnover and the COVID-19 pandemic and is planned for completion in March 2023. A full inventory will bring LCHS closer to being in line with industry standards and best practices, increase accessibility to the artifact collection by staff and the public, help us assess the state of our collections from a diversity and inclusion perspective, inform a collection building plan that better reflects our community today, and help us prepare for an potential upcoming relocation on account of LCHS’ lease for our current facility ending in 2025.
Because the collections in the Research Archive and Library have been well maintained, the priorities for this period were to reduce the backlog of unprocessed accessions and to work toward broadening the diversity of perspectives represented in the material through increased community collecting campaigns, notably a COVID-19 Pandemic Collection Campaign and a more general Share Your Story program. In terms of public access, LCHS staff received 91 research requests which were responded to by setting up an in-person research appointment, providing remote research services by staff, or referring researchers to resources online or other repositories. In this time frame, there were 64 in-person research appointments.

See appendix #1 for all accessions in FY 2021-2022.
During this fiscal year, LCHM partnered with the Oregon Black Pioneers on a new traveling exhibit, “Racing to Change.” Open through April 1, 2023, this exhibit focuses on Black experiences in Lane County. This exhibit was first showcased at the Oregon Historical Society and has traveled through various Oregon museums since. For our iteration, we focused on the story of early Lane County’s racial prejudices, the story of the Mims family, and acts of resistance among Black community members.

This exhibit showcased not only the history, but also the cultural impact of the Black community in Lane County with two listening stations featuring local Black artists and activists, and an area where visitors could listen to Mr. Mims recount his experiences growing up Black in Eugene.

While we have received some community pushback on highlighting Black history, reviews of the exhibit have been overwhelmingly positive, and we hope that this is just the start of sharing more diverse stories within our museum.
In-person engagement has been challenging as our community continues to adjust to the health and safety needs regarding the COVID-19 pandemic. LCHM reopened to the public in mid-June 2021, making Fiscal Year 2022 our first full year open to the public since FY19. Visitors were understandably slow to return to venues like museums, and school classes ceased taking field trips, decreasing our visitation even more. The museum welcomed 1,841 visitors during FY22, compared to nearly 8,000 in 2019. Programming and events outside the museum moved online, including our popular History Pub Lecture Series, a partnership with the UO History Department. While these changes did reach some in our community, there was a considerable drop in History Pub attendance on Zoom, and our other regular programs and outreach were suspended during this time.

**LCHM.ORG**

- Users: 8,132
- New Visitors: 86.9%
- Returning: 13.1%
- Pageviews: 19,940
- Sessions: 10,477
- Average Session Duration: 1:41
- Total Visitor Time: 12 Days, 5 Hours, 56 Minutes, 17 Seconds

**LCHM.PASTPERFECTONLINE.COM**

- Users: 3,328
- New Visitors: 83.6%
- Returning: 16.4%
- Pageviews: 68,864
- Sessions: 5,201
- Average Session Duration: 6:43
- Total Visitor Time: 24 Days, 6 Hours, 13 Minutes, 23 Seconds
With the reopening of the museum, we started to welcome back our volunteers as they were comfortable. Thirty-two volunteers assisted with collections care, archives, digitization, education, and docenting. Our volunteers truly give the museum so much and make many of our long-term projects possible, including our Don Hunter slide digitization project and the current full inventory of our artifact collection.

In May 2022, we suspended our admission fees for the duration of the “Racing to Change” exhibit in order to lower barriers to access. At the end of this period we will assess how this affected our visitation, as well as the financial feasibility of keeping our museum admission free permanently. We also adjusted our hours to fewer days of the week and extended hours into the evening. Our new schedule is Thursday-Saturday 10AM-6PM. Staff are still onsite Monday through Wednesday to accommodate research appointments, meetings with community members and partners, tours and events, and internal work in all departments. With our efforts to lower barriers and the communities increased comfort going to venues like museums, we anticipate both an increase in onsite visitation and offsite programs and outreach engagement for FY23.
Lane County History Museum recognizes the history of injustice against the diverse peoples of our community by the perpetuation of racist ideologies and by omission from the activities and collections of our organization.

As stewards of history-related collections, we must work to be inclusive and equitable in all aspects of our organization, or otherwise we will be complicit in systemic prejudice. Lane County History Museum is committed to uncovering local history that confronts internal biases and includes what is absent in order to expand our understanding of Lane County’s past.

For more information on our diversity, equity, accessibility and inclusion goals and the actions planned to meet those goals, read our action plan available at lchm.org.
FINANCIAL

INCOME
- Admission and Sales 1%
- Private Support 30%
- Public Support 69%

EXPENSES
- Facilities 10%
- Operations 11%
- General 14%
- Personnel 65%

DONORS

$101,000
Special thanks to the
Larson Family Foundation

$5000 and up
- American Historical Association
- Three Rivers Foundation
- Bart Aikens
- Robert and Linda Hart

$2000-4999
- Lane County Cultural Coalition
- Ted and Stephanie Coopman

$500-$1999
- Jane and Michael Gillespie
- Allan Kluber and Jane Souzon
- Susan Little
- Graham Parker
- Lawrence Williams and Patricia Pride
- Dick and Ty Zeller
- Bill Barrett
- Alice Kaseberg and Rob Bowie
- Patricia Krier and Thomas Connolly
- William and Carolyn Neel
- Natalie G. Newlove
- Rowell Brokaw Architects
- Keith and Kathy Wolf

$200-$499
- Diane DuVal Dann
- Donna Dial
- Doug DuPriest and Rogena Degge
- Adrienne Gaudette
- Steve Graves
- Elizabeth Hall
The Lane County History Museum values our members and donors whose support makes our public programs, projects and exhibits possible. We gratefully acknowledge the following supporters who made contributions during our 2021-2022 fiscal year.

Lee Harrison
Dennis and Patricia Hyatt
Marsha Klosterman
Verna Kocken
William McCleary
Theodore and Laramie Palmer
John Parman and Kathryn Snowden
Judson Parsons
David and Catharine Rainwater
John and Carole Rutledge
Jane Scheidecker
Jay Swofford
Jim and Barbara Walker

$1-199

Anonymous
Melvin and Alice Aikens
Bea Allen
Assistance League of Eugene
Steven Bacon
Cheryl Baugh
Richard and Ann Beers
Cathy Bellavita
Joe R. Blakely
Douglas Blandy
Susan Bloom
Mary Cleve Boehi
Audrey Bradshaw
Nancy Bray
Joe Brazie
Bill and Jan Byers
Dr. Robert Carmichael
Bev Chadburn
Dorothy J. Chase
Alice Christianson
Ryan Collay
Linda Danielson
Dorthy Davis
Sally Dietrich
Dottie Dougher
Marianne Dugan
Jim Earl and Louise Bishop
Nancie Peacocke Fadeley
Stanley Finn
Michael and Joyce Fish
Susanne Esch Fountain
John Franklin
Jim and Adriana Giustina
Marjorie Miller Gustafson
Frank Hales and Jerry Miller
Diane Hatfield
Janet C. Heinonen
Bill Henry
Dorlon D. Himber
Leonard and Phylis Hockley
Trudy Hughes
Mary Jaqua
Donna Karter
Bill King
Eunice Kjaer
Sherrene Kulm
Lane County School District
William T. Leslie
Margie Lewis
Kimberly Lowder
Bill and Jennifer McConochie
Duncan and Jane McDonald
Gary and Jane Mertz
Susan Mincks
Cary Mock
John M. Moore
Jeffrey Morey and Gail Harris
Vicki Morgan and Michael Duran
Gay Morgan
Mark Mortenson
Dan Mulholland and Pam Miller
Irwin K. Noparstak
Karen K. Olsen
William and Elizabeth Orr
Randal Painter
Scott Palmer
Wayne Parker
Alice Parman
Sharon and Michael Posner
Judy A. Potter
Sue and Hubert Prichard
Hatsue Sato
Jean Schore
Karen Seidel
George and Judy Shurts
Joyce Sinks
Charles Snyder
Martha Snyder
Betty Spoden
Kim Stevens
Melody Stuart
Christine Thompson
David W. Tobin
Meg Trendler
Maria and Randy Trox
Alan Turanski
David Turner
Gregory Van Tuyle and Carla Campbell
Becky Venice
Wayne Warner
Jim Watson and Beth Naylor
Yvonne Wildish
Ray and Lee Wiley
Tom and Carol Williams
Samuel Williams
Steve and Karen Williams
Patricia Wilson
MEMBERSHIP

Cal Young Society
Mark and Regina Agerter
Margaret Beilharz
Patrick and Ellen Costello
George Korvis and Pam Love
Bart Poston

Century Society
Melvin and Alice Aikens
Bill Barrett
Duane and Bettysue Bischoff
Joe Brazie
Jim Earl and Louise Bishop
Margaret Essenberg
Susanne Fountain
David Gusset
Max and Zella Haussler
Dennis Hebert and Larena Sullivan
Dennis and Patricia Hyatt
Gerry and Carolyn Keener
Bill and Linda William
Jeffrey Morey and Gail Harris
Natalie Newlove
Neff and Dorothy Powell
Floyd and Suzi Prozanski
Jim and Connie Regali
Heinz Selig
Randall Speck
Jonathan and Molly Stafford
Dale Steinhauer
John and Theresa O'Brien
Gregory Van Tuyle and Carla Campbell
Tom and Carol Williams
Edward and Susan Wojakowski

Family Memberships
Richard and Ann Beers
James A. Chaney
Tim Foelker
Dale and Linda Forrest
Steve Graves
Greg Hadjivassillou
Frank Hales and Jerry Miller
Dennis and Lynne Hellesvig
Leonard and Phyllis Hockley
Steven King
Marsha Klosterman
Sandra Ludeman
Duncan and Jane McDonald
Jim Watson and Beth Naylor
William and Carolyn Neel
William and Elizabeth Orr
David and Kitty Piercy
Larry and Caroline Wehde
Ray and Lee Wiley
Samuel and Carol Williams

Corporate and Institutional Memberships
Heritage Research Associates
Swezey Holdings
Bohemia Gold Mining Museum
Oregon Genalogical Society
Oregon State University
Radio Redux
Springfield History Museum
Wisconsin Historical Society
Willamette Resources & Education Network (WREN)
Individual Memberships

Lynn Ash
Susan Bacina
Cheryl Baugh
Cathy Bellavita
Linda Berg
John Bigelow
Susan Bloom
Ben Bonner
Audrey Bradshaw
Sandra Bristow
Jennifer Chambers
Alice Christianson
Robert B. Coleman
Dorthy Davis
Katya Davis
Donna Dial
Dottie Dougher
Lawrence Dunlap
Nancie Peacocke Fadeley
Anne Fidanque
Stanley Finn
Bernard Fischer
Chelsea Fletcher
Annetta Forrer
Randy Gudeika
Tom Hafferty
Elizabeth Hall
William Henry
Dorlon Himber
Trudy Hughes
David Igl
Kim Kelly
David Klute
Verna Kocken
Sherrene Kulm
Ron Lancaster
John Lashbrook
Ted Lay
Ted Ledgard
William T. Leslie
Clarin Lewis
Kimberly Lowder
Douglas Mann
Jack Mattison
Barbara McClennaghan
Dan McCoy
Lucile McKenzie
Riley McLean
Steve McQuiddy
Diane McWhorter
Sandra Melinder
Susan Mincks
Debra Monsive
John Moore
Gay Morgan
Alan Murphy
Karen K. Olsen
Karen Olsen
Scott Palmer
Wayne Parker
Lisa Ponder
Judith Potter
Camilla Pratt
Marjory Ramey
Linda Reeder
Michael Robinson
Janice Rutherford
John Rutledge
Leslie Sata Fischer
Jane Scheidecker
Jean Schore
Karen Seidel
Suzanne Shannon
Judith Shurts
Janice Sikes
Pauline Silano
Joyce E. Sinks
Charles Snyder
Chris Snyder
Al Soeldner
Betty Spoden
Melody Stuart
Fred Thies
Lowell Thomas
David Tobin
Ellen Todras
Candice Vader
Linda VanOrden
Becky Venice
Pamela Vigil
Sheila Wallace
Wayne Warner
Carole Wells
Mike Whitten
Betty Williamson
Patricia Wilson
JoAnn Zinniker
LCHS Board of Directors

Bart Aikens: President, Treasurer
Alison M. Christianson: Secretary
Steven King
Karen Olsen
Jared Swezey

In Memory of Bill Barrett:
As a commercial broadcaster serving on his first nonprofit board, Bill brought a public relations panache that encouraged us to always aim higher.

LCHM Staff

Co-Executive Directors:
Allison Fischer-Olson & Jennifer Yeh

Lead Historian and Curator:
Marin Aurand

Office Manager:
Adrienne Gaudette

Digital Assets Manager:
Stephen O’Brien

Collections Technician:
Robin Myers

Reception:
Cathy San Filippo

Cover:
GN11109. Southern Pacific Railroad locomotive 2947, ready to roll on tracks through a snow-covered landscape, perhaps at a stop called Cochran, on February 13, 1922.