

A black and white photograph of flowering branches, likely cherry blossoms, against a dark, textured sky. The branches are filled with small, light-colored flowers and buds, creating a delicate pattern against the dark background.

the ARTIFACT

LANE
COUNTY
HISTORY
MUSEUM

SPRING 2022
NO. 243

LOOKING FORWARD • DIRECTORS CORNER
COVID RELIEF GRANT • THANKS TO OUR DONORS
RACING TO CHANGE

**LANE
COUNTY
HISTORY
MUSEUM**

740 West 13th Avenue, Eugene, OR

MAILING

Lane County Historical Society
P.O. Box 5407
Eugene OR 97405-3819

CALL US

Office (541) 682-4242

FREE ADMISSION

NEW HOURS:
THURS-SAT
10AM - 6PM
Beginning April 28th

LCHM.ORG

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- Free admission to the museum
- Invitations to members-only events
- Subscription to The Artifact & Lane County Historian

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THE ARTIFACT IS PRODUCED BY:

Design: Stephen O'Brien
LCHM staff members and
guest contributors.

Front cover: DH4971. Rose azalea blossoms. April 1965.

LOOKING FORWARD

APRIL

11

History Pub: Dr. Julie Hessler

Russia's War on Ukraine

7:00 - 8:30 PM, Zoom

Co-Sponsored by the UO Department of History
and Viking Braggot.

28

**Racing to Change
Exhibit Opens!**

Open Hours Change to:

Thursday, Friday, Saturday
10AM - 6PM

MAY

9

**History Pub: Zachary Stocks, ED, OR Black
Pioneers**

*Displacing Black Portland: A History of Housing
Discrimination*

7:00 - 8:30 PM, Zoom

Co-Sponsored by the UO Department of History
and Viking Braggot.

JUNE

13

History Pub: TBA

7:00 - 8:30 PM, Zoom

Co-Sponsored by the UO Department of History
and Viking Braggot.

DIRECTOR'S CORNER

by Bob Hart, Executive Director

This is my last *Artifact* director's column. In the July issue you will hear from the new executive team. Executive transitions are frequently rough, resulting in personnel departures and job reshuffling as executive priorities and personalities change.

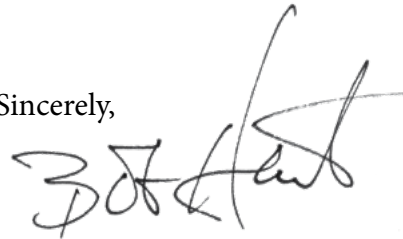
I have been privileged to experience a remarkably smooth transition as Allison and Jennifer have assumed more and more responsibility. I remain in awe of the energy they regularly display and their creativity in approaching both problems and opportunities. The American Historical Association grant you may read about later in this issue, enables the museum to begin to successfully grapple with some of its most pressing storage space issues.

As I look back on almost 19 years with the museum and historical society I can say with assurance that I leave it in considerably better shape than I found it. Our roof no longer leaks. The dangerously unstable nitrate negatives are gone. The staff is professionally competent and has vision. And the board of directors is willing to pitch in, and if not move mountains, move boats!

The next few months will see significant organizational adjustment to new priorities. Not the least of these are represented by the "Racing to Change" exhibit itself (RTC), new open hours to allow visitation later in the day, free museum admission during this exhibit, and a new marketing strategy. Scheduled to run for a full year, RTC will be followed by "Who Is Lane County?," a planned examination of historical and current county audiences, with a definite nod towards under-represented county community stories.

It has been a pleasure to serve as this organization's executive director for these many years. But it is a great comfort to acknowledge that I am leaving the Lane County Historical Society in such capable hands. Go team!

Sincerely,



Bob Hart



Our Stories.

Today's story is still unfolding; tomorrow we will tell it together.

COVID RELIEF GRANT

Museum Receives Large COVID Relief Grant from American Historical Association



The Museum has been awarded funding from the American Historical Association's Grants to Sustain and Advance the Work of Historical Organizations Program, which provides relief to institutions adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. This opportunity was made possible with support from the National Endowment for the Humanities through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.

"The past two years have been challenging for small history organizations," said James Grossman, executive director of the American Historical Association. "Our awardees have made compelling cases for their status as essential resources, making vital contributions to public culture. The American Historical Association is pleased to provide funding for our colleagues to promote historical work, historical thinking, and the presence of history in public life."

This grant will make it possible for us to hire additional staff to complete a collection-wide inventory of all artifacts in their collection that was delayed because of the pandemic. This work will be valuable for staff, and make artifacts more accessible for community members and researchers.

Our new Collections Technician, Robin Myers, will be responsible for inventorying each remaining artifact's storage space, to ensure our records include accurate locations, descriptive and condition information, any storage improvement needs, and a photograph of every artifact. The project will run April 2022 - March 2023.

As we strive to be more inclusive and community-centered, knowing what we have in our collection and what has been excluded is essential knowledge. This work, along with a robust community engagement process starting later this year are part of our larger commitment to integrating diversity, equity, accessibility and inclusion into everything we do.

The Lane County History Museum is one of fifty grant recipients, the only one in Oregon, which received a grant through this program. We were awarded just over \$56,000 to cover much of the cost for this eleven month project. This project will lead to the next steps of improving the storage conditions of our artifacts, identifying gaps in our collection, and planning for future storage capacity needs so that the museum can continue to collect new items and grow in how we represent the history of our communities.

Robin Myers inventorying a box of mason jars.



THANKS TO OUR DONORS

July 1, 2021 - December 31, 2021. We can't do it without you!

\$5,000 and above

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RACING TO CHANGE OPENING

The collaborative exhibit *Racing to Change*, is opening at the Lane County History Museum April 28th. In order to remove barriers to this important exhibit, the Lane County History Museum will be open free of charge for the duration of the exhibition.

“The museum is striving to be a community-centered place that is welcoming and inclusive,” said Jennifer Yeh, Membership & Volunteer Coordinator. “Removing barriers to information is part of that work.”

Racing to Change tells the story of Black experience in Oregon highlighting experiences right here in Lane County. The original exhibit was created by the Oregon Black Pioneers with added content by the Museum of Natural and Cultural History. New content added by the Lane County History Museum includes historic photographs and videos, an oral history listening station, and an interactive poetry wall.

RECEPTIONIST NEEDED

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Receptionist, Part-time, 27 hrs/wk. \$16.50/hr. One year appointment. Must be Covid vaccinated and boosted. Interest in local history and previous receptionist experience preferred.

Thurs-Saturday hours. Responsible for greeting the public, museum opening and closing procedures, operation of the cash register software, conducts museum store sales, answers multi-line telephones.

Cover letter and resume to: Office Manager, Lane County History Museum, 740 W. 13th Ave, Eugene, OR 97402 or officemanager@lchm.org.

Deadline: 5:00 PM, April 15.



RACING TO CHANGE



Smelling the flowers isn't baking advice!

Donate an Artifact

In response to the historic events and changes to our ways of life in 2020, LCHM is adding new materials to our collection to document how COVID-19 has affected Lane County community members, small businesses, and local organizations. To contribute to this history for future generations, visit lchm.org/covid-collection/. You can print the form or fill it out online.

Share your Story

Do you have a story to share? As history unfolds around us, we are asking for community submissions to our digital archive. Eye-witness accounts, personal stories and insights will help inform future interpretation of our local story. Visit lchm.org/share-your-story/ to submit.

Help support the telling of

Our Stories

with a donation!

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- ☐ Put this donation in the scholarship fund
- ☐ I would like my gift to remain anonymous
- ☐ Name as it should appear for recognition

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Or tell a friend to become a member!

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P.O. Box 5407,
Eugene, OR 97405-3819

Questions? Call (541) 682-4242 or
email volunteers@lchm.org



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the ARTIFACT

EXHIBITS, EVENTS, AND HISTORICAL HAPPENINGS

SPRING 2022 NO. 243

The Artifact is produced quarterly and distributed to members of the Lane County History Museum

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