





Highlights:

Financial Report

Center for Missouri Studies

Research Centers



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## From the President:

Dear Member,

What

A

Year

This

Has

Been!



We are making history today.

A year ago, your State Historical Society of Missouri was outwardly conducting business as usual in the recesses of the Ellis Library, our home for more than a century. At our annual meeting, author Caroline Fraser spoke of untold stories about Laura Ingalls Wilder as we gathered at a Columbia hotel several miles from our home.

Downtown, along Elm Street, girders covered in Tyvek gave us a hint of the shape of our new building.

Behind the scenes, the staff was doing the equivalent of taking apart a giant 3D puzzle and packing it up to be unpacked and put in a new place—in order. The organizational skills required of these folks overwhelm this observer, who is surrounded in his home office by stacks of paper, boxes of research records, and things so carefully filed away that he forgot where he put them. Some of you easily can identify with the situation.

We closed for a few months to make the move. At times, those of us who regularly dug around in old newspapers and other records felt a bit lost because we couldn't answer a seemingly burning question by heading to the State Historical Society.

But for goodness' sake, didn't it all pay off? I got to be the president for all of this. You got to be members. And, together, we have shared what Trustee Bea Smith calls "The Miracle on Elm Street."

Today might be the first visit some of you have had to the magnificent Center for Missouri Studies. It's OK, even if you've been here several times since our ribbon cutting, to be amazed.

Today is the first time we will hold our annual meeting IN OUR OWN BUILDING. And do you know one of the best things about it? We have our own parking lot!

From what we were to what we are and the possibility of what we will be are things all members of this society will celebrate in this place on this day. We're sure glad to see you here.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bob Priddy". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

Bob Priddy

President, Board of Trustees

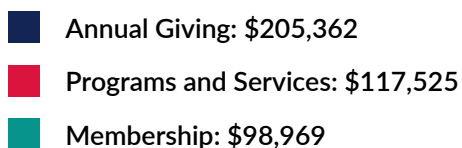
# Financial Report

## Fiscal Year 2019

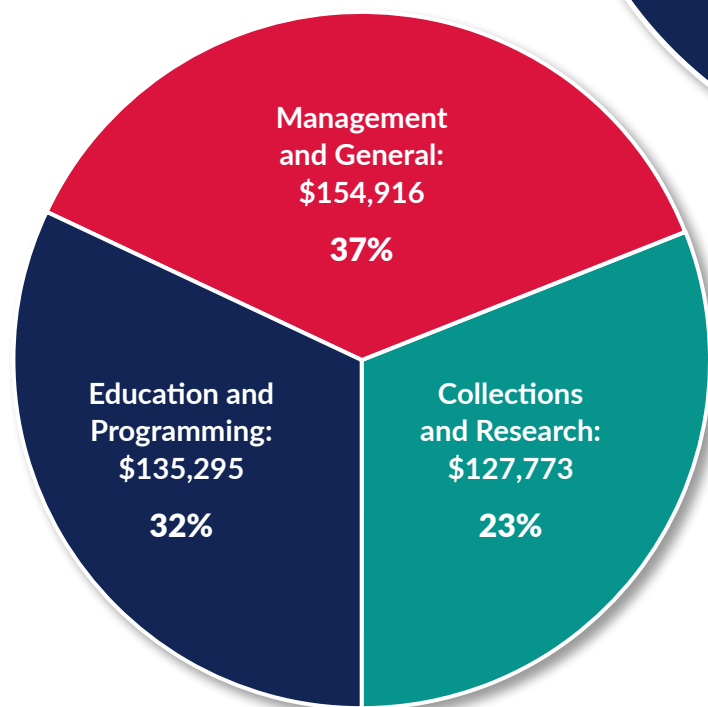
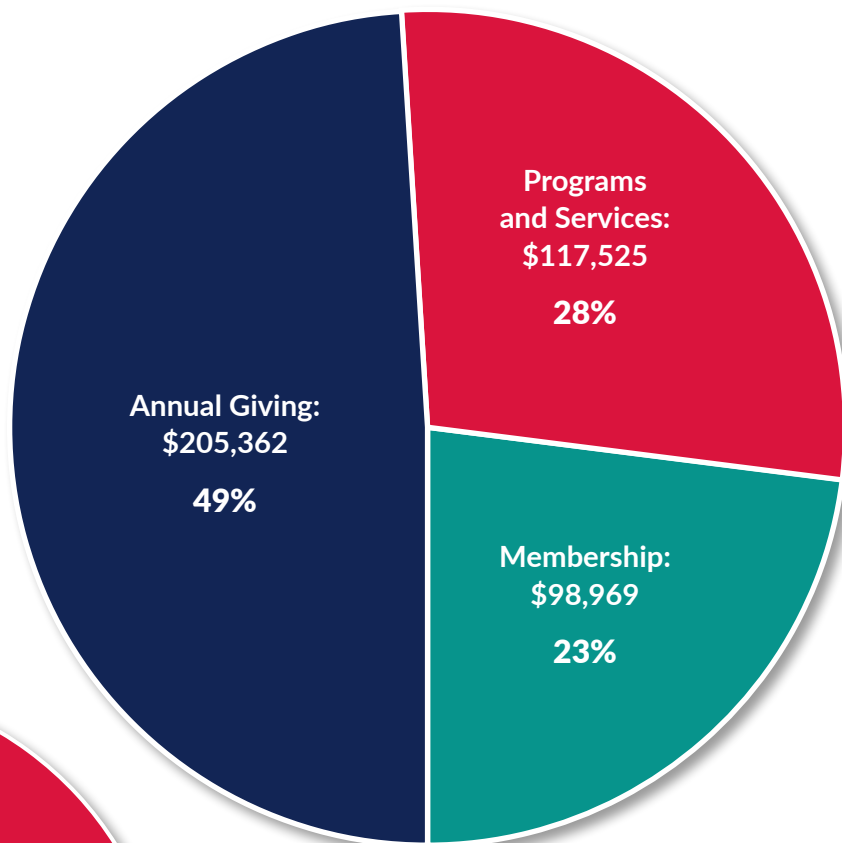
July 1, 2018, to June 30, 2019

The State Historical Society of Missouri is funded through appropriations from the State of Missouri and the University of Missouri, as well as with revenues from its Membership Trust Fund. A complete accounting of all funding sources is available in the audited financial statements available online.

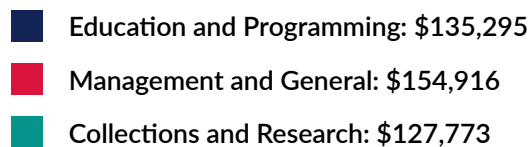
### Membership Trust Fund Operating Revenues



**Total: \$421,856**



### Membership Trust Fund Operating Expenses



**Total: \$417,984**

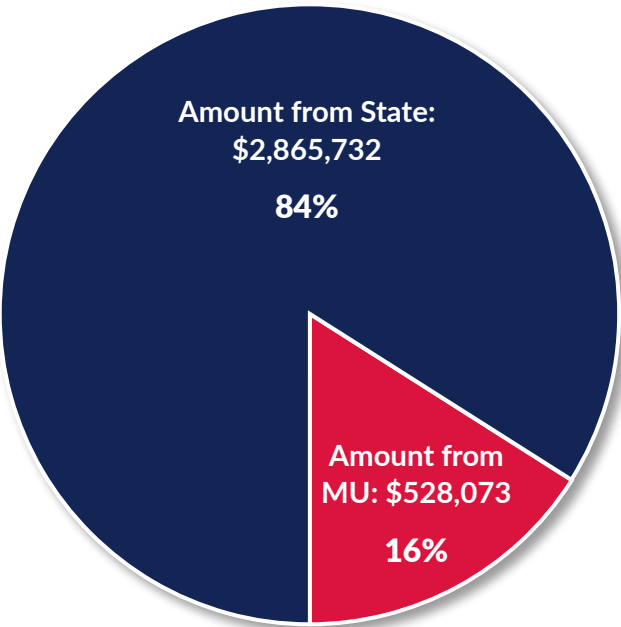


The graph on the left illustrates public funding received by the State Historical Society of Missouri from the State of Missouri and the University of Missouri. The graph on the right is a representation of expenditures of these funds. Both graphs represent the 2019 fiscal year.

### Funding Sources

- Amount from State: \$2,865,732
- Amount from MU: \$528,073

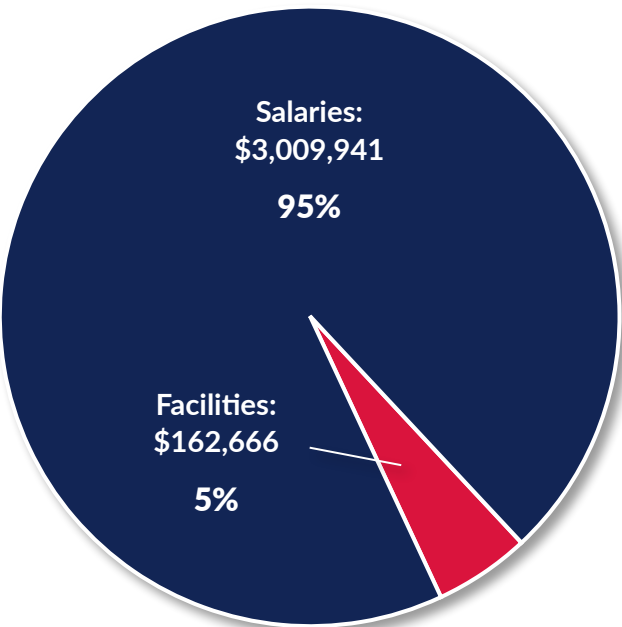
**Total: \$3,393,805**



### Funding Expenditures

- Salaries: \$3,009,941
- Facilities: \$162,666

**Total: \$3,172,607**







# Center for Missouri Studies

The Society's new headquarters opened its doors to the public on August 10, 2019—the 198th anniversary of Missouri statehood—with a celebration attended by about 1,200 supporters. University of Missouri dignitaries and government officials spoke at the event, calling it a historic moment that begins a new era for the State Historical Society. Proclamations marking the occasion were presented by Missouri Lieutenant Governor Mike Kehoe, Missouri Senator Dan Hegeman and Representative Kip Kendrick, Columbia Councilman Clyde Ruffin, and a representative of US Senator Roy Blunt.

Former Governor and US Senator Christopher “Kit” Bond also spoke at the event.

As construction crews worked through the summer to finish the building, SHSMO staff moved collections of books and manuscripts stretching 22,200 linear feet. Not included in this count were the miles of microfilm records, maps, architectural records, newspaper titles, and a 30,000-piece art collection that also moved from the old headquarters in Ellis Library to the new building on Elm Street.

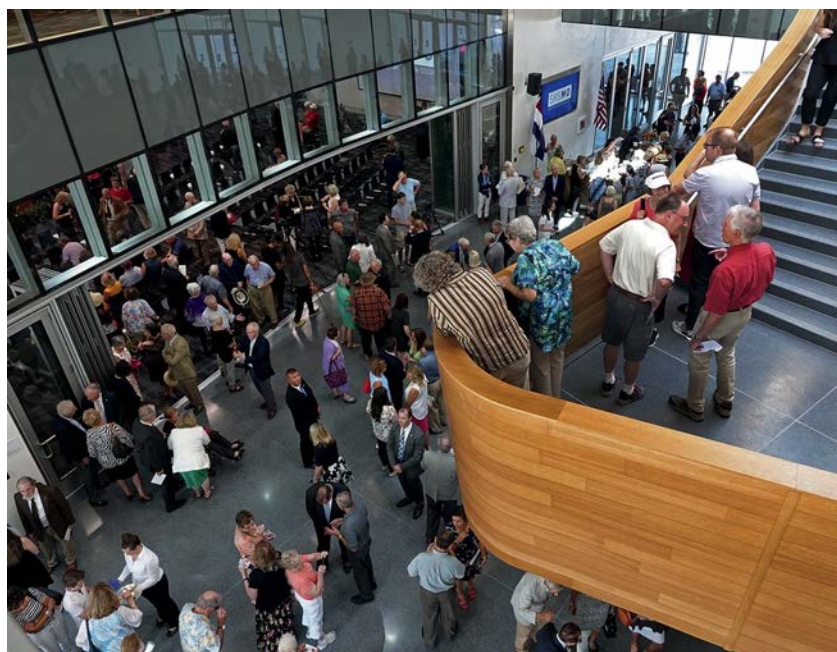
Specialized equipment such as compactible shelving was installed in the new building to increase storage capacity for the Society's holdings. Construction crews also installed more open library shelves. The art galleries were designed with movable walls so that the space can be reconfigured for changing art exhibitions.

River City Construction completed the project using native materials throughout the building. Missouri white oak is featured in the grand staircase, Cook Hall, and the unique wood ceiling in the research center. Limestone panels quarried from southeast Missouri were installed on the exterior of the 76,700-square-foot building. An accessible 48-space parking lot on the building's north

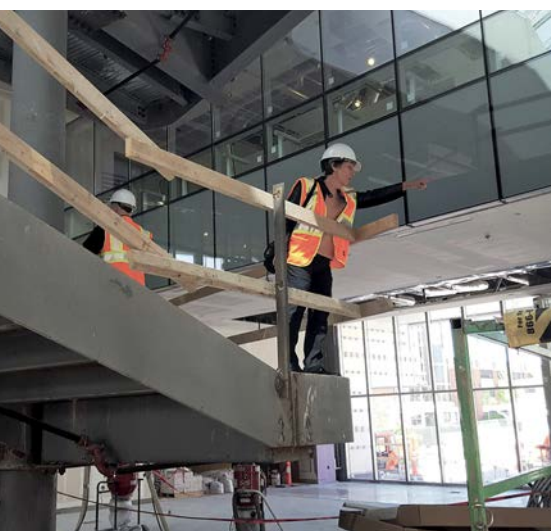


## Comprehensive Campaign

In addition to the \$35 million bond funds provided by the State of Missouri for the Center for Missouri Studies building, SHSMO raised \$1,153,007 toward the Comprehensive Campaign. To date, \$756,644 of that amount has been spent on furniture and equipment, with an additional \$878,951 yet to be paid. The balance needed to cover the costs of furniture and equipment is an additional \$482,587.







side will make it easier for patrons and visitors to come to the Society.

The Gould Evans architectural firm of Kansas City designed the new headquarters. Teams from the University of Missouri System Facilities Planning and Development office and the MU Facilities Management division worked closely with River City Construction, Gould Evans, and the State Historical Society of Missouri to complete the Center for Missouri Studies.



## Educational Programs

The State Historical Society's six research centers provided more than 100 presentations, workshops, tours, and public programs during fiscal year 2019. The programs covered an array of topics for audiences ranging from grade-school students to educators, genealogists, and researchers. Staff-led workshops covered topics such as conducting research with digital collections, incorporating primary sources in classroom instruction, and preserving historic documents.

The 2018 Center for Missouri Studies Fall Lecture featured Pulitzer Prize recipient Caroline Fraser, who presented a program on her award-winning biography, *Prairie Fires: The American Dreams of Laura Ingalls Wilder*. The African American Experience in Missouri lecture series continued in 2018–2019 with talks by scholars Colin Gordon on race, democracy, inequality, and urban crises in greater St. Louis; Gary R. Kremer on the history and legacy of Lincoln University; and Debra Foster Greene on Missouri's African American press. Other

lectures hosted by the Society or presented by its staff included "Building the Bootheel: African American Workers and Waterways," delivered in Cape Girardeau by Heidi Dodson, and "Thomas Hart Benton's Perilous Visions," given in Columbia by SHSMO art curator Joan Stack.

In December 2018 the St. Louis Research Center opened *Marlin Perkins: Wild Life*, an exhibition of photographs, documents, and three-dimensional objects from SHSMO's Perkins Collection. The exhibit highlighted the career and life of the well-known St. Louis Zoo director and host of the long-running *Mutual of Omaha's Wild Kingdom* television series. On May 19, 2019, the Rolla Research Center organized *Ozark Pickin' Time*, a one-day celebration of regional music traditions that featured bands led by Missouri musicians Jimmie Allison, Jerry Rosa, and Marideth Sisco.

The State Historical Society's educational programs in 2018–2019 also included annual events such as National History Day in Missouri and the Missouri Conference

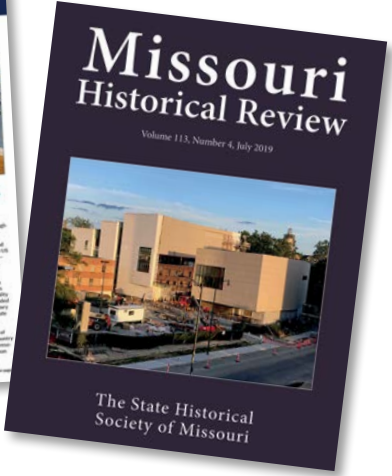




on History, art exhibitions, publications, and the work of Missouri 2021 to commemorate the upcoming state bicentennial.

# Publications

The State Historical Society of Missouri published the 113th volume of the *Missouri Historical Review* during the 2019 fiscal year. The journal has been in continuous publication since 1906. Volume 113 featured topics ranging from Missourians' military experiences during the Civil War and World War I to African American efforts to obtain liberty in antebellum St. Louis, racial violence in early twentieth-century southeast Missouri, the women's suffrage movement in northwest Missouri, and Mexican immigration to Missouri's urban centers prior to World War II. The October 2018 article "The Destruction of the Big Mound: Possessing and Defining Native American



Places in Early St. Louis," by Center for Missouri Studies fellow Patricia Cleary, received the Missouri Conference on History's 2019 Lawrence O. Christensen Award for best article on a Missouri history topic.

The *Missouri Times* kept members informed on the Society's programs, events, and accomplishments, particularly the construction of the Center for Missouri Studies building and the organization's move from Ellis Library to Elm Street. The quarterly newsletter was redesigned in the spring of 2019 to provide an enhanced visual experience. The *Times* also continued to expand online access to its stories.

Work continued on the Missouri Encyclopedia, a comprehensive online general reference source planned to launch in 2021 as part of the state's bicentennial observances. More than 250 encyclopedia articles were in production by the end of the 2019 fiscal year. The project's demonstration site may be viewed at [www.missouriencyclopedia.org](http://www.missouriencyclopedia.org).







## National History Day in Missouri

Sixty-four Missouri students attended the 2019 National History Day contest in June at the University of Maryland-College Park. Missouri students took home six finalists' awards, two outstanding entry awards, and three bronze medals. In addition, NHD students from Columbia showcased their exhibit "The Radium Girls: Triumphant Tragedy of the Girls Who Glowed" at the **National Museum of American History**. Joplin student Josef Schuller's documentary "The Bridge Over Funchilin Pass: The Only Option for Retreat" received a 2019 Next Generation Angels Award from the Better Angels Society. The **Library of Congress** and the **American Film Institute** screened Schuller's film. Bronze medalists at the national contest included Schuller for Junior Individual Documentary, along with another Joplin team, Alizeh Hammad and Sania Hammad, in the Junior Group Documentary category for "Deeds Not Words: The Tragedy Suffered and the Triumph Secured by the British Suffragettes." Aubrey Chrisenbery, also of Joplin, won a bronze medal in the Senior Individual Performance for "A Blessing or a Curse? The Triumph and Tragedy of Thalidomide."

Outstanding entry awards went to Ava Lawless, Rebecca Detweiler, and

Claire Glaude from Columbia and Riley Sutherland from Kansas City. Additional finalists were Michaela Sybert, Kendall Nester, Jaclyn Riedinger, Collin Patterson, and Brylie Brincks of Rosendale; Elana Hadi, Kat Garrison,







Katie Su, and Hannah Young of Springfield; Ashland Wheeler and Elizabeth Arnold of Essex; and Genevieve Huber of Rolla.

NHD was among the sponsors of a special program, the Sacrifice for Freedom: World War II in the Pacific Student and Teacher Institute, which sent 12 pairs of students and teachers to Oahu, Hawaii, in July 2019. One of the teams was from Liberty, Missouri. Katherine Mackenzie, a junior at Liberty North High School, and her teacher, Kimberly Brownlee, studied the life of Carl W. Alderson, a US Army Air Forces corporal from Cass County who died while on duty in 1945. Mackenzie and the program's other students delivered eulogies for their fallen servicemen in a ceremony at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific. The student-teacher teams also visited sites such as the Pearl Harbor National Memorial and the Honouliuli Internment Camp for Japanese Americans, and stayed overnight aboard the USS *Missouri*.

## Missouri Conference on History

The Missouri Conference on History traveled to Kansas City for its sixty-first annual meeting in early March. The 2019 conference drew 200 attendees for a program that included receptions at the Harris-Kearney House, built in 1855 and witness to the Civil War Battle of Westport, and the Kansas City Public Library. The meeting featured a keynote presentation by historian Christopher Phillips, author of *The Rivers Ran Backward: The Civil War and the Remaking of the American Middle Border* and numerous other works, and two days of panel sessions by scholars, teachers, and other professionals in history-related fields. The State Historical Society served as administrative sponsor for the conference, which was also hosted by the University of Missouri–Kansas City, Park University, the Missouri Humanities Council, and the Zeta Omicron Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta.



## Center for Missouri Studies Fellowships

The State Historical Society of Missouri awarded two competitive Center for Missouri Studies fellowships for the 2019 calendar year. Huping Ling, a professor of history at Truman State University, received a fellowship for her proposed study, “The 1965 Immigration and Nationality Act and the Formation of Cultural Community in St. Louis, Missouri.” She will examine the history of St. Louis’s Chinese American community after the 1965 act. Thomas Ringenberg, an assistant professor of political science at Rockhurst University, was awarded a fellowship to study the diverse responses to the Vietnam War by Missouri congressmen in the US House of Representatives. Ringenberg will focus on Democrat Richard W. Bolling of Kansas City, Democrat William Lacy Clay Sr. of St. Louis, Republican Durward Hall of Springfield, and Democrat Richard Ichord of Licking. Each fellowship provides a \$5,000 stipend and the opportunity to publish an article in the *Missouri Historical Review*.

## Annual Awards

At each Annual Meeting, the State Historical Society of Missouri recognizes individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the Society’s mission to collect, preserve, and disseminate Missouri history. In 2018 SHSMO awarded the Distinguished Service Award, its highest honor, to Ron Richard of Joplin. Richard, a former legislator who is the only person to serve as both Speaker of the Missouri House and President Pro Tem of the Missouri Senate, was essential in the effort to obtain funding for

the Center for Missouri Studies building, and a principal force behind the Society’s designation as the planning agency for Missouri’s bicentennial in 2021. Richard also was elected to the Society’s Board of Trustees in 2018.

The State Historical Society’s Board of Trustees recognized three other Missouri officeholders in 2018 for their key contributions to the Society and its mission. Lieutenant Governor Mike Kehoe was recognized for his long-term support in the Missouri Senate. State Representative Lyle Rowland was honored for his instrumental role in the effort to fund operating costs for SHSMO’s new Columbia headquarters, while State Representative Glen Kolkmeier was recognized for his role in creating Missouri’s bicentennial license plate, released in October 2018.

The Society awarded Brownlee Grants for 2019 to 10 Missouri cultural heritage institutions. Recipients of the grants, which provide up to \$500 per institution per year, included the Clay County Archives and Historical Library; the Cole County Historical Society and Museum; Historic Florissant, Inc.; the Jackson County Historical Society; the Lawrence County Historical Society; the Randolph County Historical Society; the St. Joseph Public Library; the St. Louis Genealogical Society; the Ste. Genevieve County Library; and the Sappington-Concord Historical Society. The grants support efforts to preserve historic material or provide programming on local history topics.

The State Historical Society also provides annual awards to scholars in recognition of outstanding work. In 2018 the Society presented the Missouri History Book Award to Keona K. Ervin, author of *Gateway to Equality: Black Women and the Struggle for Economic Justice in St. Louis*, and the *Missouri Historical Review* Article Award to Luke Ritter, author of “Mothers against the Bomb: The Baby Tooth Survey and the Nuclear Test Ban Movement in St. Louis, 1954–1969.”



## Missouri Bicentennial

Planning for Missouri's bicentennial continued throughout the 2019 fiscal year in preparation for a statewide commemoration of the 200th anniversary of statehood on August 10, 2021. As of June 30, 2019, SHSMO had made contacts in all 114 Missouri counties and the independent City of St. Louis to coordinate projects for the bicentennial. Outreach meetings have included arts councils, chambers of commerce, colleges and universities, community betterment organizations, historic sites and museums, historical and genealogical societies, public libraries, state government agencies, volunteer organizations, tourism and convention bureaus, and others. The State Historical Society's efforts involve helping individuals and organizations across the state to advance the state's bicentennial planning as they move from the "thinking" stage to the "doing" stage.

Bicentennial programs and projects fall along three lines: community engagement projects, local and regional commemorations, and statewide opportunities to learn about the history, life, and culture of Missouri. Current projects include:

**Missouri Bicentennial Quilt:** Selections will be made at the end of 2019 from nearly 200 quilt blocks, including a block from each county in the state. The quilt will tour Missouri during the bicentennial. It will eventually become the property of the State Historical Society.

**My Missouri 2021 Photograph Project:** Photographs reflecting the diversity of Missouri's cultural and geologic landscape are being sent in by amateur and professional photographers to be considered for a curated collection marking the bicentennial. As of early September 2019, more than 660 submissions had been received. Two hundred images will be selected at the end of the year for the exhibition, which will travel across the state in 2020-2021. The final selection will also remain part of SHSMO's permanent collections for public, noncommercial use.

**Missouri Community Legacies:** This project provides an opportunity for local groups and school classes to document local traditions, creative expressions, and meaningful places around Missouri. SHSMO has developed a field kit that provides instructions for participating, along with three model programs, including Kansas City's annual Juneteenth festival and the Greater Kansas City Black History Study Group. Another program was developed by the Rolla Research Center for the Phelps County Historical Society.

**Missouri Bicentennial Paint for a Cause:** Two artists in Cape Girardeau began an effort to create a mural depicting their community for the bicentennial. The project has grown to become a mobile mural to be painted across the state. The large mural will include Missouri state symbols. Sections will travel across Missouri leading up to the bicentennial. The founding artists are encouraging people of any age or ability to participate in painting the mural, which they hope will find a permanent home in a state office building in Jefferson City.

A complete list of Missouri 2021 Bicentennial events, projects, and updates are online at [Missouri2021.org](http://Missouri2021.org).







# Research Centers

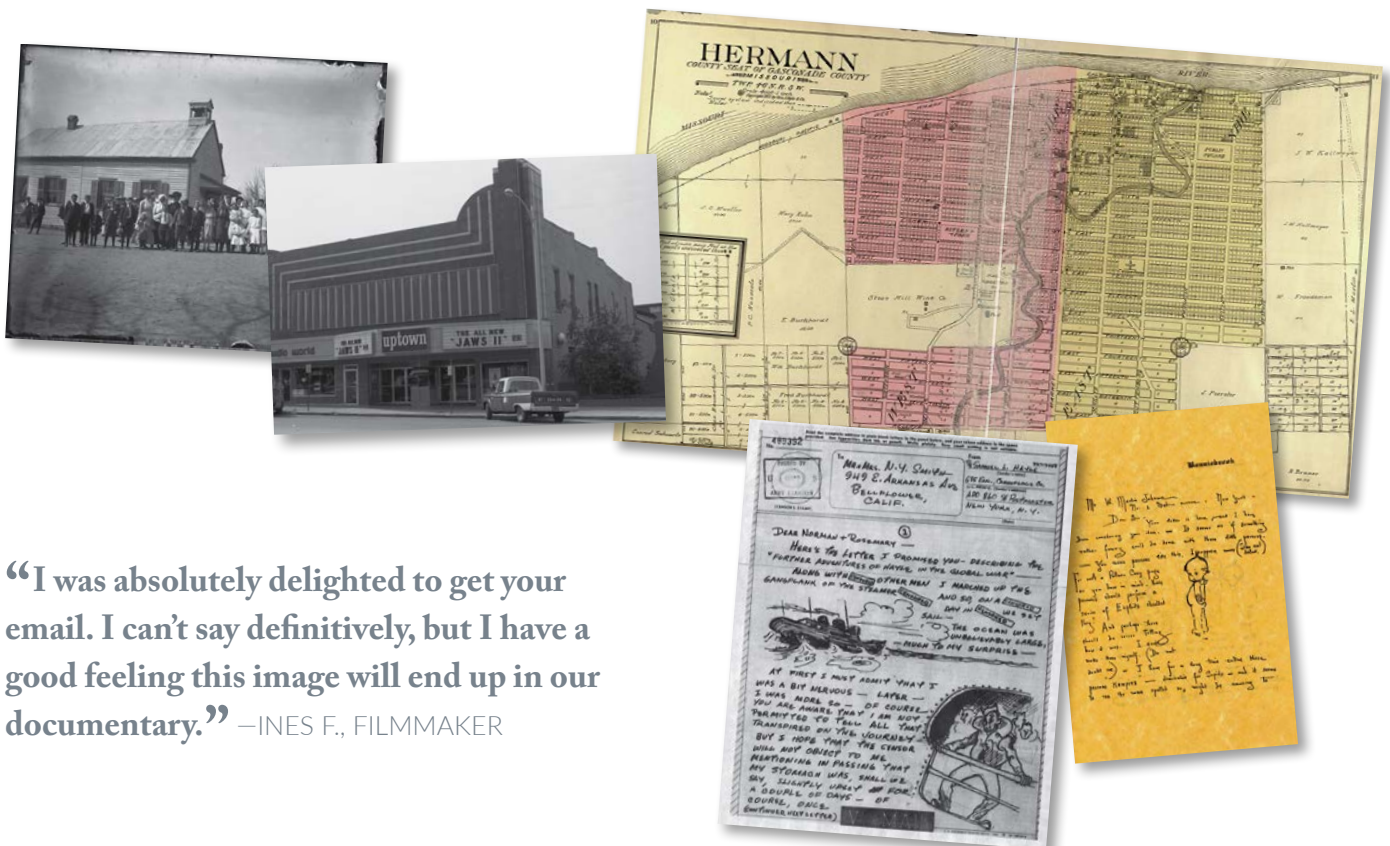
The State Historical Society of Missouri's 2019 fiscal year was notable for the transformative move from Ellis Library to the Center for the Missouri Studies, with no part of the relocation more demanding and intensive than the transfer of the Columbia Research Center's books, manuscripts, newspapers, artworks, photographs, maps, and other holdings. Despite the Columbia center's closure for nearly four months while staff members carried out the move, the Society's six research centers across the state continued to expand their collections and resources while ensuring high-quality service to patrons.

Collectively, the six centers responded to more than 3,300 requests for materials or other research assistance, while recording approximately 3,500 in-house patron visits and answering about 3,000 phone or email queries. In addition, visitors came to the Society's website 1.2 million times and viewed more than 5 million pages during the 2019 fiscal year. More than 90 percent of FY 2019 visitors were new users.

The Missouri Encyclopedia demonstration website launched in the fall of 2018 and has averaged more than 350 visits and over 1,200 page views per month. The previously established Missouri 2021 bicentennial website saw a nearly 500 percent increase in traffic over the past fiscal year.

A redesign of the main SHSMO site was completed between April and August of 2019, making it more easily accessible on devices ranging from desktop computers to mobile phones. Traffic to the site increased by 11 percent over the fiscal year, and the number of users increased by 15 percent.

The Society's large-scale efforts to make materials more widely accessible online continued throughout the fiscal year. Major projects included digitization of the World War II Letters Project Collection, with approximately 3,000 of the collection's 4,000-plus letters uploaded online; digitization of the Rose O'Neill Papers; and the addition of approximately 1,600 images to the Society's



**“I was absolutely delighted to get your email. I can’t say definitively, but I have a good feeling this image will end up in our documentary.”** —INES F., FILMMAKER

online photo collections, including the entirety of the Alice Bock Heckmann Glass Plate Negatives Collection documenting early twentieth-century Hermann, Missouri.

Other major projects for the fiscal year included:

- Adding records for 2,063 monographs and journals to the Society's catalog, as well as 13,883 records for newspapers on microfilm or previously uncatalogued as hard copy. Records for 20 maps were also added, and 105 records were compiled for electronic items such as DVDs, VHS recordings, cassettes, and online materials.
- Collecting feedback from 219 patrons who answered the SHSMO Patron Satisfaction Survey. About 93 percent of the respondents regarded their experience as "excellent," and more than 99 percent regarded their experience as "good" or "excellent."
- Completing a comprehensive inventory of the Columbia center's holdings in preparation for the move, resulting in more efficient cataloging and storage.
- Concluding data entry for the Surname Index, which has 498,256 individual records. The project's next phase is data cleanup.



## Patron Satisfaction Survey FY 2019

Selected comments from anonymous respondents

**"The employees of the SHSMO are always top-notch and so pleasant to deal with. They really go the extra mile."** 8/31/2018

**"My husband and I are grateful for the care of documents maintained at the historical society. Thank you."** 12/14/2018

**"As an educator in Missouri, I use this website every year when my students write a research paper on famous Missourians. It is a fantastic jumping off point!"** 2/20/2019

**"Excellent service. I have many Missouri ancestors and appreciate all of the materials you have digitized."** 5/15/2019



## Manuscripts

In FY 2019 the State Historical Society's six research centers added 205 manuscript collections to the Society's holdings. The new accessions totaled more than 300 cubic feet of materials. Staff at the centers also processed and made accessible to patrons 157 collections totaling approximately 350 cubic feet.

New collections for the fiscal year were highlighted by the Claire McCaskill Papers, which document McCaskill's career as a US senator and include correspondence, photographs, memorabilia, and audiovisual material. The McCaskill Papers contain more than 1.6 terabytes of digital files, making the collection the Society's largest born-digital acquisition to date. Other major collections that were accessioned or processed between July 2018 and June 2019 included:

The Christian Women's Benevolent Association Records, which include admittance ledgers from the Christian Orphans' Home and the Mothers' and Babies' Home of St. Louis from 1899 to 1933 as well as numerous other records.

The Christopher Jackson Clark Papers, containing correspondence, training materials, and other items pertaining to Clark's career with Trans World Airlines.

The Elsey Carriage Company Photographs Collection, which includes images of vehicles built by the company between 1905 and 1927.

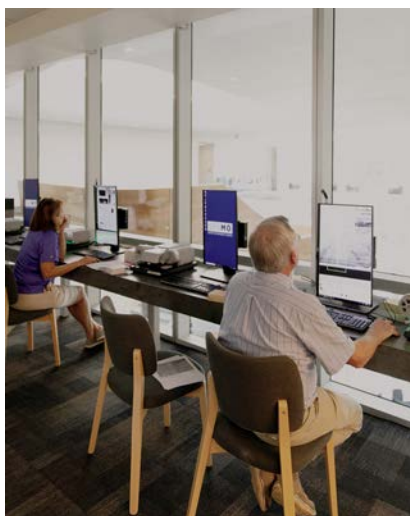
The Alberta J. Meyer Papers, documenting the life of a prominent Missouri public servant.

The Ellen "Nell" Quinlan Donnelly Reed Papers, which contain correspondence, photographs, and other materials related to Reed and the Donnelly Garment Company.

The Regenhardt Family Papers documenting numerous topics including Captain William Regenhardt's service in the Enrolled Missouri Militia during the Civil War.

The Survey of Buildings and Businesses in Columbia, Missouri, Photographs, which includes photographs of Columbia's downtown area in 2018.

The N. Robert Underhill Collection, which contains love letters written during World War II.



## Newspapers

The Missouri Digital Newspaper Project continues to increase its collection of historically significant newspapers in digital format for each county in Missouri. The project is now in its second phase, which targets the addition of Missouri newspapers through 1966. In FY 2019, 387,573 pages were added online, including 32 new titles. These titles were selected from eight counties in the Missouri Ozarks that had no previous digital content. More than 2.2 million digital news pages are now online.

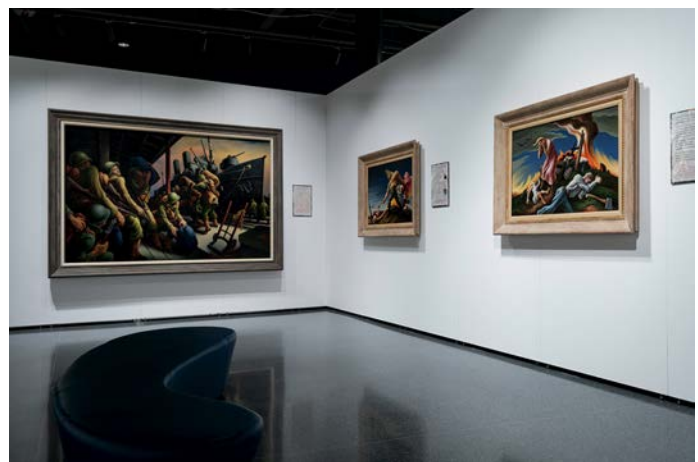
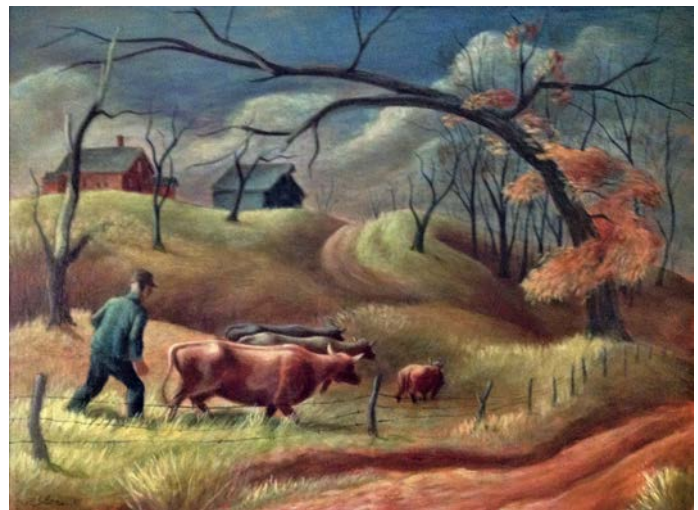
As part of its state bicentennial initiative, SHSMO is digitizing two of Missouri's oldest papers: *The Missouri Gazette* (1808–1823) and the *Franklin Intelligencer* (1819–1830). The Missouri Digital Newspaper Project is supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services Technology Act. The Missouri State Library, a division of the Office of the Secretary of State, administers the LSTA grants. With the 2018–2019 grant year, SHSMO became the sole Missouri recipient of LSTA funds for newspaper content. In addition to digital content, SHSMO offers researchers more than 56 million pages of microfilm. Some 300 current newspapers from every Missouri county are added to the collection each week.

**“The newspaper research is fantastic. The turn-around time is usually short and the researchers always send whatever they can find.”** —SHARON P., PATRON

## Art

The State Historical Society acquired 74 artworks during Fiscal Year 2019. The works included:

- A bronze sculpture of artist Thomas Hart Benton by Charles Banks Wilson, acquired at auction with donations from SHSMO members.
- A drawing by Jerry Berneche, donated by the artist's wife.
- The painting *Landscape with Cows* by Fred Shane, donated by Boyd O'Dell.
- 28 drawings by Marguerite Lawrence, donated by Bill Clark.
- 43 drawings and paintings of birds by Missouri wildlife artist David Plank, donated by the artist.



The galleries received 2,350 visitors, who participated in group tours. All visits occurred before April 19, when the galleries were closed for the remainder of the fiscal year to prepare for the move.

SHSMO's art collection staff presented five exhibitions during the fiscal year, including two at off-site venues. The exhibitions included the following shows:

- *Missouri County Courthouses: Building Memories on the Square Revisited* (January 23–September 8, 2018), in partnership with Dr. Carol Grove and the Missouri Alliance for Historic Preservation.
- *Thomas Hart Benton's Perilous Visions* (August 11, 2018–April 19, 2019).
- *Endangered: Fauna and Fashion* (September 20–21, 2018); Gwynn Hall, University of Missouri, in partnership with the Missouri Historic Costume and Textile Collection; online exhibition September 1–December 31, 2018.

- *Work Artwork: The State Historical Society of Missouri Staff and Volunteer Exhibition* (December 1, 2018–April 19, 2019).
- *Exodus: Images of Black Migration in Missouri and Beyond, 1860s–1940* (January 11–March 11, 2019), Ellis Library Colonnade, University of Missouri.

The Society also continued to exhibit artworks related to Missouri's history and cultural heritage that were made available through loans from other institutions and individuals. Of particular significance, the Society kept on display Chester Harding's portrait of Daniel Boone, on loan from the National Portrait Gallery in Washington, DC, and four painted portraits and three other artworks by George Caleb Bingham related to the James Rollins family, on renewed loan by Rollins's direct descendants in the Mering family. These loans will continue until 2021.





## Oral History

Oral historian Sean Rost conducted 31 interviews for nine different collections during the 2019 fiscal year. Notable interview subjects included Betsy Aubuchon, the current clerk of the Missouri Supreme Court; Ralph Kalberloh, a military serviceman and prisoner of war during World War II; Janet Kavandi, director of NASA's Glenn Research Center; and Joseph Waeckerle, a Kansas Citian known for his work in emergency and sports medicine. An interview with Jack Miles, the former executive director of the Missouri State High School Activities Association, was added to the Missouri Sports and Recreation Oral History Project, a new collection established during FY 2019. Another 23 oral history interviews from previous years were processed, with 14 of the transcripts placed online.

The Women as Change Agents Oral History Project completed 19 interviews in FY 2019. The interviews, conducted by Blanche Touhill, a State Historical Society trustee and chancellor emerita of the University of Missouri–St. Louis, feature women in the St. Louis area who have provided leadership in a wide range of professions and community activities. The program is funded in part by a grant from the St. Louis chapter of Zonta International.

**“Outstanding! This is the first time in my genealogy research that I had a reply and referral to my question during my family’s genealogy research. I’m impressed. Thank you.”** –JOYCE N., PATRON

The *Our Missouri Podcast* was launched in September 2018 and premiered 19 episodes by the end of the fiscal year. Season 1 featured topics ranging from programs on genealogy and public history to discussions of the centennial of World War I, the Missouri bicentennial, and the history of Kansas City. Listeners downloaded the podcasts approximately 3,700 times. Interview subjects included Caroline Fraser, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of a biography on Laura Ingalls Wilder, and Teresa Parson, first lady of Missouri.

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## Conservation

The conservation lab completed treatment on 447 objects at four of SHSMO's six research centers during the 2019 fiscal year. More than 300 collection objects as well as approximately 55 boxes of newspapers were rehoused in more stable conditions for preservation. The lab, run by conservator Erin Kraus with assistance from student interns, completed all projects needed to move materials to the new Columbia headquarters, including treatment of a set of 750 architectural plans in the Cochran Construction Company collection that had been inaccessible due to mold contamination. The lab also constructed custom boxes for 75 library volumes.

In FY 2019 the conservator responded to more than 20 public inquiries and worked on conservation projects with other organizations such as the University of Missouri School of Journalism and Central Bank of Boone County. Kraus also collaborated with the MU Archaeometry Laboratory on a project involving SHSMO's art collection and presented a preservation workshop for MU Extension's Grundy County office.



Gasconade School, 1907, Alice Bock Heckman Glass Plate Negatives.

Cover: *Center for Missouri Studies, View from Peace Park*,  
oil painting on canvas by Byron Smith, 2019.

**SHSMO**

605 Elm Street, Columbia, MO 65201 | (573) 882-7083 | [shsmo.org](http://shsmo.org)

CAPE GIRARDEAU COLUMBIA KANSAS CITY ROLLA ST. LOUIS SPRINGFIELD