

# STILLWATER HISTORY MUSEUM AT THE SHEERAR

SHEERAR CULTURAL & HERITAGE CENTER

702 S. DUNCAN STREET

STILLWATER, OKLAHOMA 74074

PHONE 405-377-0359

## STILLWATER MUSEUM ASSOCIATION

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Amy Loch  
*Director*

Debbie Williams  
*Program Coordinator*

July 1, 2019

Norman McNickle, City Manager  
City of Stillwater  
P.O. Box 1449  
Stillwater, OK 74076

Dear Mr. McNickle,

This letter is to serve as the July 2019 Quarterly Report for the Stillwater History Museum at the Sheerar.

### Second Quarter Visitation

In April the museum was open 24 days with 423 museum visitors and 1238 auditorium visitors. In May the museum was open for 24 days and had 451 museum visitors and 1038 auditorium visitors. June included 26 days with 140 museum visitors and 1052 auditorium visitors.

### School Programs and Auditorium Use

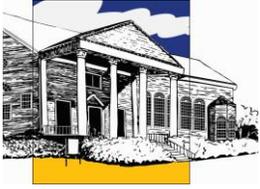
Our award winning school program, "How Oklahoma Began," in partnership with the Wondertorium, served over 625 school children this April and May. This year's program was sponsored by BancFirst, which is celebrating its 120<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Spring is also a popular time for recitals, with fifteen recitals held in the auditorium. We also continued our partnership with the Stillwater Children's Theater this summer to host their day camps during the month of June.

### New Exhibit

Our new exhibit, "Kappa Kappa Psi & Tau Beta Sigma in Stillwater," is now on display at the museum. This exhibit was put together by Rachel Cox, one of the museum's history students. Rachel is also a member of the OSU Marching Band. She shared that the 2019 Kappa Kappa Psi & Tau Beta Sigma National Convention will be held in Stillwater this July. The exhibit looks at the history of music at OSU, in Stillwater, and the history of Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma. It also includes a QR code to link to a map that will take visitors to visit many Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma significant sites right here in Stillwater.

### Children's Activities

In conjunction with our new exhibit, the museum created four stations of musical exploration for children of all ages, including Native American instruments, creative pioneer musical options, marching band fun, and make-and-take popsicle stick harmonicas for our 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday program. The



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hands-on carts will be on display until mid-July when our Curator Camp students will decide what each hands-on cart will feature next. This is the first year the museum is hosting a Curator Camp for children ages 6-12. This year's theme will be childhood and campers will get learn about the inner workings of the museum and create their own mini exhibits.

## **Cool Classics**

In July, the "Cool Classics" summer concert series will return to the Sheerar Auditorium. This will be the 13th season of this summer tradition, and all concerts within the series take place at 7:30 pm. Each concert will be approximately one hour in length. Admission is completely free, but seating will be limited to the first 200 people in attendance. Each concert will be followed by a reception sponsored by local community groups, including the Daughters of the American Revolution on July 12th, League of Women Voters Stillwater on July 19th, and the Payne County Historical Society on July 26th.

A new addition to this year's Cool Classics series will be a performance by Erin Yeaman, an award-winning classical cellist, who will be accompanied by pianist Monica Tessitore and flutist Jennifer Peck on July 12<sup>th</sup>. The OK Strings will be joining us on July 19th. This group was put together by Kaleb Benda who is accompanied by Assistant Conductor of the Enid Symphony Orchestra, and Director of the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma Concert Band. The series' final performance will be on July 26th when Trio Aleszky hits the stage. This group is made up of Allyson Eskitch on piano, Paulo Eskitch on violin, Krassi Figg on cello.

## **Datebook**

The Stillwater Museum Association Board of Trustees continues to work on the 2020 Datebook, which is the third datebook fundraiser for the museum. Books are currently available for pre-order for \$20 each on the museum's website.

## **Conclusion**

This will be my final city report, as I transition to my new position as the Director the Wyandotte County Museum in KC,KS. The Stillwater Museum Association Board of Trustees is in the process of searching for a new director and hope to have someone in place by August. I want to thank the City of Stillwater and the entire community for all of your support for the museum and our activities during my time here in Stillwater. Over the past two years, I witnessed the museum's community impact expand as new visitors of all ages and backgrounds came through the doors. It is always exciting to see a place's potential expand and I believe Stillwater is on a path to success with many of its cultural organizations and activities. I wish the museum and the city the best in its future endeavors.

Sincerely,

Amy Loch, Director