The Legacy of Nebraska exhibition and educational art project is a monumental exhibition heralding the nostalgia and history of Nebraska. Internationally recognized Nebraska native, artist Todd Williams started about 5 years ago with a mission to depict significant historic, geographic, and figurative elements from each of the 93 counties. He worked with historians, sponsors, and leaders in each county to help him determine significant subjects.

A regional selection of Todd A. Williams collection is on exhibition at Bone Creek through the end of 2017. The museum was selected as one of five small Nebraska museums to feature this special Sesquicentennial project. The collection of paintings has received tremendous accolades in 2017 as all of the 123 paintings have traveled the state. These paintings have inspired thousands of people in Nebraska to reflect on the journey of notable people and the evolution of notable places in the state’s history.

To give you a perspective of the full project, Todd partnered with the Nebraska 150 Foundation to produce the exhibition and publish a Legacy of Nebraska commemorative collectors art book. NET, Nebraska’s public television affiliate, also got involved and produced a documentary film exploring Nebraska’s history through the lens of Williams’ paintings.

On Oct. 26th, Todd Williams will be giving an artist talk, open to the public, at East Butler H.S. gym in Brainard. Beginning at 2:00pm, the talk will last about an hour and will explore his inspiration for doing this project, some of the most significant historical places and people he discovered and some technical conversation about his painting methods. The artist talk, sponsored by Humanities Nebraska, is a great way to learn about art directly from the artist himself. Later that afternoon, Bone Creek will host a free reception at the museum for those who’d like to see the show and visit with the artist more casually. Please consider attending both programs.
2018 Upcoming Exhibition Schedule

The exhibition staff and committee has tried to think strategically about what exhibitions to bring to Bone Creek in 2018. Being our 10th anniversary year, it felt important to have some extra special agrarian art on view. The year will open with a survey of some recent gifts of art now in Bone Creek’s permanent collection. The blockbuster exhibition of the year will be a survey of Dale Nichols and Terence Duren.

At the close of 2018, the museum is excited to host its first exhibition from Museum on Main Street, a branch of the Smithsonian Institution and sponsored by Humanities Nebraska. Water/Ways dives into water—an essential component of life on our planet, environmentally, culturally, and historically. Water should not be ignored when focusing on an agrarian mission. Water plays a practical role in American society. The availability of water affected settlement and migration patterns. Access to water and control of water resources have long been a central part of political and economic planning. Human creativity and resourcefulness provide new ways of protecting water resources and renewing respect for the natural environment.

Bone Creek is also planning a retrospective exhibition to remember some of the best shows and events from our last years. We also are planning some interactive elements that asks you, our visitors and patrons, how we should envision the next 10 years.

Membership

About the same time you are reading this newsletter, you will also receive in the mail an invitation to become a member of Bone Creek for 2018. New perks of Membership in 2018 include a magnet of this beloved image from 2017’s “150 for Nebraska’s 150th” exhibition, if you renew or become a new member by the end of the year.

Dale Nichols Corner

The museum is working with guest curator Cole Sartore to plan a special exhibition of two local, rival painters, Dale Nichols and Terence Duren. The exhibition will open May 2, 2018 and run through September. We are quickly finalizing our exhibition list for each artist, but we’d like to know about a Nichols or Duren artwork you might have in your collection, which you’d be willing to lend. The premise of the exhibition is a news article published in Time magazine in 1945, to set the stage to explore when these artists were painting, art movements at the time, and their relationship to each other. Contact the museum if you know the whereabouts of “Art Heritage”, pictured below.

HALLOWEEN 2017

Join us for the annual Halloween at the Museum on Tuesday, October 31st following the parade around the square sponsored by the library. Children always enjoy the scavenger hunt and showing their parents artwork in the museum that they have seen during a school fieldtrip.

Cornfest

On Sept. 16th, Bone Creek hosted its second Cornfest, a tribute to all things agrarian. This year again, District 10 schoolhouse in conjunction with the Nebraska exhibition, show were so generous to life on the schoolhouse painting demo and Jan Chism from the makers of that exhibition brought that exhibition to life on the schoolhouse grounds. John Lokke did a live painting demo and Jan Chism brought her musical partners Jeff and Mary Barker to accompany her poetry reading with live music. This year’s corn plates were made by Nate Knots Pottery of Seward. Roughly 9” in diameter, they subtly mimic the rows of corn in Lokke’s paintings.

One Creek’s first exhibition was by V…Vaughan in March 2008. Since that time, more than 50 exhibitions have been presented at Bone Creek. That makes for a lot of great memories to share. Like us on Facebook to follow our page this coming year to recap 10 years of exciting history, with throw-back photos such as this one, and much more.

Museum Excellence

Mound-Plains Museums Association awards were just announced at the annual conference in Denver, Colo. Since the museum joined the association we have been recognized numerous times for our quality of work, especially as a small leading museum. In the Publication Design Competition, Bone Creek received First Place for Invitation, Development or Promotional Package, 2017. In the Technology Competition, we received First Place for Online Presence, 2017. Much credit for these awards is due to our graphic designer Ashley Cameron (ashley-cameron.com) and marketing consultant Julia Katz, of Main Street Consulting Group.

Shop

- 2017 Cornfest Plates

$25 each

Contact museum to purchase

Bone Creek Museum of Agrarian Art

Museum Hours

Wed, Fri, Sat 10am-4pm
Thursday 10am-8pm
Sunday 1pm-4pm

FREE admission

Appointments and tours available

402.367.4488
www.bonecreek.org

575 E Street | David City, NE 68632

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