

NEWSLETTER

FALL 2023



Wade Dillon



ceciliaabad



Stephanie Allen-Givens



Disaster Response Webinar July 2023

COLLECTIONS MANAGERS COMMITTEE

AN AFFINITY GROUP OF THE TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF MUSEUMS

LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Howdyoo CMC!

It may be 100 degrees out, but Fall is right around the corner. And so is HALLOWEEN!

Join us September 21st at 10am on ZOOM for NIGHTMARE AT THE MUSEUM: Nightmare Exhibit Stories! We will talk about collections nightmares and delve into spine-tingling accounts from our Texas museum community. So mark your calendars. This will be the perfect time to grab a blanket, pumpkin spiced beverage, and curl up in your office for a spooky good time. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86180821230#success>

CMC Officers have also planned out the next 6 months of CMC activities. Be sure to follow our new CMC Facebook Group Page for updates <https://www.facebook.com/groups/tamcmc>

All the best,
Wade Dillon
Chair



CMC Member Spotlight

I have loved old houses and the “stuff” inside them as long as I can remember, so it seems only natural that I would grow up to work in historic house museums. I am a native Nashvillian and have lived in the Dallas area for almost 12 years now. I received my BA in Art History from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. I started my museum career at Belle Meade Historic Site in Nashville, TN, working as an Historical Interpreter where I wore 1860s and 1890s period clothing. I moved to New York City for graduate school where I got my Master’s in the History of Decorative Arts & Design from a collaborative program between Parsons The New School for Design and Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum. My primary area of study was 19th-century American historic house museum interpretation with a focus on the visitor-oriented experience and 19th-century American glass. While in New York, I worked at several historic sites including the Bowne House Historical Society in Flushing, Queens - one of the oldest extant structures in the five boroughs, and the Park Avenue Armory in Manhattan - which was the home of the Seventh Regiment for New York and can be seen in many film and tv productions including the Eddie Murphy and Dan Aykroyd movie Trading Places. Prior to my current position, I was the Collections Cataloguer at The Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza in Dallas. Since I have worked at many smaller sites, I am accustomed to the “other duties as assigned” phrase in job descriptions. As such, I have performed in first-person interpretation museum theater pieces, set up and broken down tables for weddings and events, sold tickets to visitors, participated in school field trip days, installed and deinstalled exhibitions in galleries and historic spaces, passed out hors d’oeuvres at gallery openings, and catalogued thousands of historical and archival items along the way. I have worked on extensive inventory projects, including wall to wall inventories of collections of more than 90,000 multi-media objects, and developed preventive maintenance and IPM programs for historic sites. I love watching the recognition cross visitors’ faces when they see an object that used to be in their grandmother’s kitchen or another ancestor’s home. In my current role, I am responsible for the preventive maintenance and seasonal exhibition changes in two historic houses in two separate city parks in Mesquite - Opal Lawrence Historical Park and Florence Ranch Homestead, the regular environmental and IPM monitoring in all of our collections spaces, and ongoing cataloguing and database management of the permanent collection. In my personal time, you can almost always find me knitting. I actually learned to knit as a result of one of my historic house museum jobs where we were required to demonstrate a 19th century craft. When I started that job, all I knew how to do was cross stitch and I hadn’t done that since 4th grade. I had always wanted to learn to knit though, so two of my colleagues patiently taught me over the spring and summer before I went to grad school. I now go almost everywhere with fiber and needles in tow. A friend also convinced me a few years ago to submit some of my finished projects to the Creative Arts Competition at the Texas State Fair. I won two blue ribbons that first year and have submitted winning entries almost every year since - not everything is a winner! This year I have four entries that were awarded ribbons, so if you go to the State Fair you can see them in person. If you’re near Mesquite, please stop by to say hi and see our beautiful historical parks!



Jan Masterson
Curator of Collections and Exhibit
Historic Mesquite Texas

TX-CERA Workshop

**City of Dallas with TXCera
Is hosting a free workshop in October
Emergency Preparedness for the cultural sector (with table top exercises)**

**TXCERA Workshop Introduction for Cultural Object Emergency Preparedness
3535 Grand Ave, Dallas, TX 75210
Two Days October 26/27
Below is the Draft Agenda**



Objectives:

- How to make a cultural/heritage call list?
- What is in a cultural/heritage emergency kit?
- What is a cultural/heritage emergency plan?
- What is an Incident command sheet as related to a cultural/heritage institution or collection?

Schedule of Events Day 1:

8:30 am Greeting and introduction. - Lynn welcome and thank yous Coffee and tea available
8:45 -9:15 Brief Introduction from about TX-CERA Steve and Olivia Txcera Who we are, what we do, what we don't do, and our goals
Short description of TX-CERA regions with more emphasis on area included in Region 1: Dallas
Overview & Purpose of this Workshop - Introduction to Emergency Preparedness for Cultural Heritage
9:15 -10:00 OEM Introduction to emergency management Cassandra Wallace

OEM -what does OEM do deck

10 Break (snack)
10:10-10:40 Lyzanne go bag
10:40-11:10 how you work with service provider Kirk Lively
11:10-11:20 Walk to Hall of State
11:20 - 11:50 Hall of State tour (Lynn, Dale, Cristiana, Marcel)
11:50 -12:20 Video at the Hall of State auditorium
12:20-12:30 Walk to old Natural History FPF Visitor's center
12:30-1:30 Lunch (Artist rooster engagement)
1:30-2:00 Emergency from Historic and Preservation Construction Dale

Sellers 2- 2:30 Q & A prep template hand out overview of table top Laura

2:30-2:40 Break
2:40- 5:00 pm: Table Top Salvage

25 minutes at each table to discuss wet salvage and rotate

Table 1: furniture/wood objects - Steve
Table 2: textiles - Laura
Table 3 Digital Media- Ian
Table 4 paper books -Olivia

HomeWork: Fill out Prep template

Schedule of Events Day 2

8:30-9:00 am Coffee Prep forms discussion examples and Q&A Laura
9:00 -9:30 How to work with first responders COD OEM and Meet firefighter liaison Developing Relationship: how to respectfully work together Cassandra Wallace
9:30 - 10:30 PPE health and safety in disaster recover environments Steve and Olivia
10:30 -11 Building as Cultural Objects during disaster architect (norm or marcel)
11:00-11:10
11:10- 11:40 Cultural Heritage Emergency Response from Event Venue Perspective Russell
11:40 12:10 Documenting Disasters - Mark Birnbaum
12:10 -1:10 Lunch (Artist rooster engagement)
1:10- 1:40 Psychology of a Disaster - Elizabeth Coe, Baylor Scott and White
1:40-2 condition reports.

2:30 pm Table top scenarios 20 minutes each and rotate:

Table 1: Paintings - Cristiana
Table 2: Objects - Other objects ie stone metal glass ceramic Steve/Laura Table 3 Photos - Lyzanne
Table 4 Option: Historic architecture - baseboards, plaster walls sample -Ron Siebler,

Did Someone Say DEACCESSION!

FORT BEND HISTORY ASSOCIATION

Hello CMC Friends:

The Fort Bend History Association is deaccessioning portions of its collection that no longer fit its mission and scope or are repetitive. These include the wooden top section of a cabinet or desk, a hickory straight chair, 3 wooden kitchen chairs, a Greek-revival slave-made wardrobe, a white iron bed, a rag rug, a collection of wagon wheel hubs and skeins, spoke shaves, wheel oilers, paint buckets, axle grease can, drawknife, print of "The Homelesson" by Albert Anker, and 2 boards with bullets and arrowheads attached to them.

Please contact me at [cgodbold \(at\) fbhistory.org](mailto:cgodbold@fbhistory.org) if you are interested in acquiring any of these. We are located just southwest of Houston. You will need to make arrangements for pick up or shipping.



HOUSTON MUSEUM OF NATURAL SCIENCE.

Hi All, HMNS has three male African Lion mounts that they have deaccessioned. The Lions are beautiful but they do not have space in their already installed African Hall. They would like to see them have a wonderful new home. And as there are so few in the wild, we do not want more of them killed, so teaching about them is important. Interested museums would need to pick them up in Houston. Please contact Gabriela Truly, Director of Collections at gtruly@hmns.org or 713-580-6218 with any questions.



Featured Exhibits

Traveling the World on a City at Sea: The Story of the Battleship Texas
July 1-January 31
The Galveston Railroad Museum

The Battleship Texas State Historic Site currently has an exhibit on display at the Galveston Railroad Museum, *Traveling the World on a City at Sea: The Story of the Battleship Texas*. The exhibit opened on July 1 and will be on view through January 31, 2024. It shares the story of the Battleship on the move from her launching in 1912 through her service in both World Wars, and includes an impressive display of the ship's silver service. The exhibit is a collaboration between Texas Parks & Wildlife Department, the Galveston Railroad Museum, and the Battleship Texas Foundation.



Cey Adams, Departure: 40 Years of Art and Design
August 22 – December 15, 2023
College of Visual Arts and Design Galleries at UNT
1201 W. Mulberry St, room 160
Denton, TX 76201
<https://cvad.unt.edu/galleries>

The exhibition examines Cey Adams' illustrious career as a visionary artist, cultural pioneer, and innovative designer. For forty+ years, Adams has been at the forefront of multiple cultural art movements. Organized by the Boston University Art Galleries, the highlights of his journey will be on display for all to see here in North Texas. A graffiti and design legend, Cey Adams (American, 1962) honed his art skills painting graffiti on the streets and trains of New York City in the late 1970's before moving downtown where the street art was leaking into the city's high-end galleries. Like his pop art contemporaries of the time, Adams understood the power of images, media and advertising -- a position that left him uniquely suited to give visual life to a new movement called Hip-Hop.



Featured Exhibits Continued



Our Haunting Tales of The Texas Coast Exhibit returns for its' 3rd year from October 1st to Halloween! Learn about local ghost stories that have haunted the Texas Coast and Brazoria County!



Día de los Muertos, Day of the Dead, is a traditional holiday honoring ancestors and the cycle of life. In Mexico, families gather in local cemeteries to share food, music, and memories to celebrate their continuing relationship with their ancestors and loved ones that have passed. To educate the community on the history and culture of this holiday, seven organizations have come together in Brazoria County to form the Día de los Muertos Committee. The Freeport Historical Museum is inviting the community and local businesses to participate in the Dia de los Muertos Altars. Commemorate someone special with a traditional altar. The altars are the heart and soul of Dia de los Muertos.

Black Citizenship in the Age of Jim Crow On View Until December 31 Dallas Holocaust and Human Rights Museum

Black Citizenship in the Age of Jim Crow explores the struggle for full citizenship and racial equality that unfolded in the 50 years after the Civil War. By 1868, slavery was abolished and all persons born in the United States were citizens and equal before the law, but efforts to create an interracial democracy were contested from the start. A harsh backlash ensued, ushering in the “separate but equal” age of Jim Crow when a system of second-class citizenship and racial segregation was put in place across the nation. The exhibition takes visitors on a journey from the end of the Civil War to the end of World War I and examines how African Americans advocated for their rights. Art, artifacts, photographs, and media illustrate these transformative decades in American history and their continuing relevance today. Exhibition highlights include:



Portrait of Dred Scott (ca. 1857), a Missouri slave who sued for his freedom and lost after the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that no Black person, free or enslaved, could ever be a U.S. citizen;
Slave shackles (1866), cut from the ankles of 17-year-old Mary Horn, who was held captive even after slavery was abolished the year before, until her fiancé asked for help from a Union soldier who removed the chains and married the couple;
Uncle Ned’s School (1866), a sculpture by artist John Rogers depicting an improvised classroom created by African Americans during Reconstruction;
World War I toy soldier diorama featuring African American troops in the 369th Infantry Regiment known as the “Harlem Hellfighters”; and
Maquette for artist Kara Walker’s *Katastwóf Karavan* (2017), a 2018 public sculpture installed at Algiers Point, New Orleans, featuring provocative silhouettes that depict slavery and racial stereotypes.

Black Citizenship in the Age of Jim Crow concludes with an exploration of Black military service during World War I and the struggle for equality in the decades to follow. The passage of the 1964 Civil Rights Act and 1965 Voting Rights Act, the most significant civil rights bills since Reconstruction, signaled the end of legalized Jim Crow, though the struggle for full citizenship continued. This exhibition has been organized by the New-York Historical Society Museum & Library.

Costumes of the Americas Museum
Soul of the Tehuana
Location: Costumes of the Americas Museum
1004 E. Sixth Street, Brownsville, Texas
Duration: September 5, 2023-January 5, 2024



The Brownsville Historical Association presents Soul of the Tehuana, a textile and Día De Los Muertos exhibition. Soul of the Tehuana, in part, pays tribute to Mexican painter, Frida Kahlo, through her iconic use of the traditional Tehuana traje (outfit). In addition to highlighting the origin of the textiles, the exhibit itself will serve as an altar to Frida Kahlo and implement other customary elements used in celebrating Día De Los Muertos, the Mexican Day of the Dead holiday. The exhibition will be on display at the Costumes of the Americas Museum from September 5, 2023 through January 5, 2024.