History Makers Hall of Fame Gala Tickets Now Available

Mary Ellen Lohmann, Director, Administration & Communications

We wanted you, our loyal members and donors, to be the first to know that tickets to the popular sell-out History Makers Boone County Hall of Fame Gala are now available.

The gala will be held Friday, October 27 in the Kimball Ballroom, Lela Raney Wood Hall on the Stephens College campus. It will run 5:30–9:00 p.m. and includes a reception, dinner, silent and live auction. Tickets are $150 each and just $125 for BCHS members. Purchase tickets and learn more at BooneHistory.org/Hall-Of-Fame-2023.

If you want a seat in the room at this once-a-year celebration of Boone County's finest act fast! This grand night is the only chance to see the enshrinement of our esteemed 2023 enshrinees: Colonel John Clark, The Food Bank for Central & Northeast Missouri and the late Charles Morgenthaler. They join the more than 70 exceptional members of the Boone County Hall of Fame.

Gala sponsorships are available and vary widely in both price and benefits. You can support the event as a BCHS Friend ($500), which includes two gala tickets, or have long-lasting reach as the sponsor of video tribute sharing the stories of our enshrinees ($5,000).

Also, we are committed to making this a wonderful evening for all. If you have a special request due to mobility, dietary needs or other considerations, please contact the History & Culture Center. We will gladly work with you to the best of our abilities. Please inquire about significant requests as early as possible and no later than two weeks prior to the event.

Giving Day & Barbie-Themed Party

Mark your calendars and make a difference with a donation on Giving Day between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. on August 24. Then celebrate with a fun Barbie-themed party from 4-5:30 p.m. that evening. More on page 5.

Join us at the gala on October 27. This grand event is the only chance to see the enshrinement of our esteemed 2023 honorees as they join 70+ Boone County Hall of Fame members.
What’s Happening at the History & Culture Center?

Chris Campbell, Executive Director

The Great Flood exhibition opened on July 19 with a reception, and it has received very flattering reviews since then. The exhibit recognizes the great flood of 1993 and was a team effort. I am immensely thankful for the work of Nancy W. Thomas, Matt Fetterly, Howard and Laurel Wilson, Carolyn Collings, Mary Ellen Lohmann, Mike and Nancy Russell, BCHS member Ruth Tolfe, Matt Schacht at Vidwest Studios, Matt Smith of the University of Missouri’s Museum of Art & Archaeology and muralist Madeliene LeMieux.

Terry and Kristie Hilgedick loaned us their 14-foot aluminum boat, which ferried members of the Hilgedick family when waters blocked them from driving to their Hartsburg home. It is on loan in memory of Wayne & Wanda Hilgedick. It is flanked by a 9-foot Jon boat on loan from the Missouri Department of Conservation that was used to rescue residents and transport supplies. These focal points are placed in front of a 45-foot-long mural depicting the events of that summer. The exhibit will remain up through early 2024 and be replaced in the West Walters History Gallery by the 100 Objects, 100 Years exhibit celebrating the centennial of the Boone County Historical Society.

The Montminy Gallery opened a new exhibit, Where We Are, featuring the work of Jenny McGee, Marilyn Cummins and Stacia Schaefer. McGee’s works are acrylics with crushed pearls and gemstones. Schaefer’s art is fiber and ceramics intertwined, and Cummins’ work is rural landscapes in watercolor. The exhibition’s opening reception on July 27 attracted 86 guests on a 101-degree afternoon! Don’t miss this impressive showcase of framed paintings and fiber art.

We have another Storyteller’s Concert planned for Friday, August 25. It will feature harpist and folk singer Ruth Acuff. Acuff is a pretty big music name in Missouri. She is paternally related to the late and legendary country music singer Roy Acuff. Please put this on your calendar and let’s get a big turnout! You won’t be sorry.

Thanks to you, our generous donors, the makeover is underway in the 1,500 square-foot administrative space above the Montminy Gallery as well as the two-story staff stairwell. To date, we’ve installed new LED lighting, added windows to capture more daylight and paint is currently drying on the walls. All that is left to do is the installation of the new carpet and the delivery of new office furniture and both are scheduled for August and September. We thank everyone who contributed to this special fund since its inception in October 2021. The $29,000 project became fully funded last month when a grant arrived from the Heinkel Family Foundation to cover the cost of the carpet.

Critter Control generously provided in-kind services to increase the protection of the Gordon-Collins Log Cabin and help ensure its preservation for years to come.

I am incredibly grateful to Critter Control pest control service for their desire to join our efforts to preserve the Gordon-Collins Log Cabin in a more long-term partnership. We have appreciated their expertise for many years but are especially thankful their generous in-kind donation of services, which will help keep the beloved 1820s cabin in great shape for years to come. Let them know you appreciate their support of your History & Culture Center by using them when you have your own needs for safe, effective and humane wildlife removal.

Welcome BCHS members!
—new members in June–July 2023

John Beckstrom, Margaret Campbell, Sharon Keitel, Lloyd and Debbie Berry, Virginia and Bruce McMillan, Janet Hartje, James and Amy Denninghoff, Sheila Hecht, Barbara Rothschild, Dr. Sowande Mustakeem, Lynette Nelson, Laura Mitchell, Bill and Karen Ridge.
August Concert Features Ruth Acuff, Native Columbian

Join us on Friday, August 25 for the next Storytellers Concert featuring Ruth Acuff. Steeped in both ancient traditions and modernist indie-folk, Ruth Acuff’s music is trained and ethereal, unique and enchanting. Ruth blends Americana and chamber music to create exquisite breeze-borne ballads with a sound that simultaneously evokes earthy and celestial atmospheres. Her lyrics rest on the mind with the careful balance of a questioning poet.

Acuff plays a 46-string concert pedal harp, with which she has released multiple original recordings and toured coast-to-coast. She has shared the stage with the likes of Willie Watson, Dan Domenech from Rock of Ages, Morgan James from Motown and Capathia Jenkins from Newsys. Acuff continues to study with world-renowned harpist Maria Duhova-Trevor, as well as writing and releasing her original songs with harp, voice and other embellishments.

During this incredible evening Acuff will share the stories behind her music in the intimate setting of the Montminy Gallery. The evening will start off at 6 p.m. with a brief reception, and the music begins at 7 p.m. Adult beverages and light refreshments are furnished by our kind sponsor the Dive Bar! Tickets are $20 and limited. Reserve yours today at BooneHistory.org.

Storytellers Concerts are possible thanks to a partnership with Colin LaVauite, host of The Big Muddy Music Hour on KBIA. They feature artists who use their talents to create more than just music. Thank you to our supporters the Missouri Arts Council, the City of Columbia Office of Cultural Affairs and Socket.

Things That Matter Speaker Series Inspires Audiences

On July 13, Col. John Clark, retired USAF and Vietnam prisoner of war, shared incredibly inspirational stories and impactful lessons about faith, honor and overcoming against all odds as the second guest in the new Things That Matter series.

The Columbia native and distinguished pilot flew more than 60 missions over North Vietnam when he was downed by antiaircraft fire on March 12, 1967. He was captured almost immediately and imprisoned.

At home, Clark was listed as missing in action and presumed dead. It wasn’t until his first letter arrived three and a half years later that his family learned he had survived and was a prisoner of war in North Vietnam. Clark was held for nearly six years until he was finally released on February 18, 1973.

During his imprisonment Clark used everything he had to survive—tapping into his courage, determination, faith and honor. Today Clark shares his story of perseverance to inspire us all to serve with honor in whatever we are called to do.

If you missed his talk but would like to learn about Clark’s time as a POW, visit the Center’s gift shop and purchase The Eagle Hunts by Col. John Clark.
Support Family Events, Help Celebrate Patriots Old & New

Mary Ellen Lohmann, Director, Administration & Communications

Seventy individuals joined us at the “Celebrating Freedom” family event. While one highlight was certainly being featured on the front page of the **Columbia Missourian**, the story behind the photo on the top left summarizes the mission of this program for me.

Becky Han, 8, attends family events with her mother, Yi Gao. They are an international family currently taking advantage of the opportunities that living in Columbia offers. Over the past year, Han has excitedly tackled whatever activity captures her attention. On July 8, she learned more about American history while posing like the Statue of Liberty, making a paper “funwork” and inspired us all with her choice of words in her ink and a feather pen drawing. It states, “I am also an American patriot.”

What a beautiful reminder! Han and her counterparts will build the future of this county and this country, and what we help teach them about their heritage now will have influence for decades to come. That is why the volunteers and staff behind this program are so excited to see it catching on in our community. We are inspiring young Boone Countians to see themselves and the world around them in new ways, which will pay dividends for years to come.

It takes a lot to make these programs possible, a dedicated team of volunteers and your donations are the secret to its success. We are counting on your support through the Summer Give campaign to help us continue its positive impact in the community.

If you are able, please make a donation as every dollar helps. Right now you can still double your impact with matching funds! Gifts of $100 or more made to the “area of most need” will be matched by Laurel Wilson, Ph.D. and Howard Wilson.

We also ask you to consider supporting our family events as a volunteer. There are a variety of roles, from greeting guests at the front door to assisting with activities or even cleaning up after the program. For more information, fill out the form at BooneHistory.org/Volunteer or call 573-443-8936.

Join us at the September family event to see our impact! It coincides with Heritage Festival and offers hands-on activities on the Center’s veranda from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. September 16-17. A special guest organization will join us on Saturday with river inspired activities. Hope to see you there!

Summer Give Down, Matching Funds Still Available

The Summer Give campaign is down 25 percent from 2022, and it is crucial to our operations for the remainder of the year. But the good news is, there is still time to help make the most of our Summer Give matching funds! Laurel Wilson, Ph.D. and Howard Wilson are offering you, loyal members, a challenge—donate now and double your impact. To be matched gifts must be of $100 or more and must be made to the Summer Give campaign. Donations must also be made to the “area of most need.” They are willing to match an accumulative total of $10,000.

Your help making the most of these matching funds goes a long way to ensuring we keep serving this community in vibrant ways. Like so many other organizations every aspect of our budget is seeing the impact of inflation, decreased grant funding and fewer donations.

A willingness to shave budgets where possible, to try new things and a team of very dedicated volunteers have kept this organization going but Summer Give is crucial.

Not sure there is room in your monthly budget to give? Your IRA is a great option, and a contribution from your IRA still provides all the tax benefits of making a gift to an approved 501(c)(3) organization.

You can also name the Boone County Historical Society as a beneficiary in your estate plans. Contact your provider for details and let us know of your generous decision. We would be honored to help harbor your legacy.
Giving Day: Mark Your Calendars to Make a Difference!

Chris Campbell, Executive Director

On August 24 the BCHS Board of Directors and the Endowment Trustees invite you to take part in Giving Day, a Summer Give & Membership Drive “telethon.” Between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. that Thursday we will be making phone calls to friends and fellow members.

Chaired by board director Melissa Hecht, we have large goal—raise $25,000 and add 50 members. To accomplish that we need your help! You can get as involved as you would like from sharing social media content to joining us in the gallery to make phone calls. And you can help us get a head start now!

Send a check to the Boone County History & Culture Center with Giving Day in the memo line or mark the date on your calendar to donate online. We are also currently seeking a handful of sponsors to pledge challenge grants to maximize our impact on August 24.

You can also encourage your friends and family to join you in supporting the only organization devoted to preserving and exploring the history and culture of Boone County.

We have a fun day of Facebook live events, social media posts and phone calls planned. You can come to the Center on August 24 and bring your cell phone to participate in any part of the event, or you can volunteer to make calls from home. Please let us know if you are willing to help recruit members and ask for donations, simply send an email to Mary Ellen Lohmann at MaryEllen@BooneHistory.org.

Not sure about making calls but still want to help? You can share the names and contact information of individuals and companies you think may be interested in supporting the History & Culture Center, and we will contact them.

Also, they do not have to be at the matching donor level to make a difference, because every dollar counts. Every donation supports the preservation of another person’s story.

We could do so much if every member gave even $50! If local history, the arts and culture matter to you, please help. If you think the stories of Boone Countians should continue to be explored for generations, send a gift of any size.

It will make a difference. Your generosity powers everything we do, from keeping the lights on to making new digital collections freely available online.

As Giving Day ends, come celebrate with some food, drink and fun! In honor of the recent film, we’ll finish the day with a Barbie-themed party from 4-5:30 p.m. We invite you to dress in your favorite Barbie-inspired outfit, bring your own Barbie to temporarily add to the pop-up exhibit that night or even donate it to the BCHS collections permanently. Thank you in advance—we appreciate your support on August 24!

I support BCHS because it is a worthy cause and an incredibly important resource for our community.
—Valerie Shaw, BCHS member

All Donations Make a Difference

See what your gift can do in key areas of need. Local students need tours of the Maplewood House and the Village at Boone Junction as well as hands-on experiences more than ever. Help children explore the past by seeing it for themselves.

$40 gift outfits one school field trip with shoe covers to better protect Maplewood’s historic hardwood floors and carpets.

Help local children thrive with hands-on experiences. During our free events, families engage with history in new ways. They deliver mail via the Pony Express, experiment with origami, make maps for Lewis and Clark and learn about the different mid-Missouri trails.

$300 donation supports the cost of one family event to ensure they remain freely available to attendees. (Currently, averaging 50 per event!)

Our free online digital archive is something to celebrate as Boone County is one of only a few communities its size—in the nation—to possess an online archive exclusively chronicling its history. Today it boasts 25,000+ photos and records.

$100 contribution pays for one week of the key-word searchable platform for the digital archives on BooneHistory.org.

Double Your Impact! A gift of $100 or more to Summer Give will be matched by Laurel Wilson, Ph.D. and Howard Wilson, up to a total of $10,000! To qualify, the gift must be made to the “area of most need.” Make an online donation at BooneHistory.org/Donate-Now. Or send a check payable to the Boone County Historical Society to 3801 Ponderosa, Columbia, MO 65201.
Heritage Festival Volunteers Needed, Sept 16-17

Mary Ellen Lohmann, Director, Administration & Communications

The Boone County History & Culture Center is seeking up to 100 volunteers during the annual Heritage Festival, planned for September 16-17. No special expertise is needed, and you can serve in a variety of roles. Responsibilities range from greeting visitors in the history exhibitions and more.

You can help showcase the lifestyle of past Boone Countians by assisting with tours in the Village at Boone Junction, which includes the Gordon-Collins Log Cabin, the Easley General Store, the Ryland Farmhouse, and the McQuitty House.

Or allow for families to step into local history as a tour guide in the Maplewood House. Built in 1877 by Slater Ensor Lenoir and his wife Margaret Bradford Lenoir, the Italianate-style house is a great space to talk about how pioneer families helped shape the Boone County we know today.

The combined dedication of so many individuals makes it possible for us to safely open these historic structures and provide wonderful opportunities for our community to encounter their history.

Thank you in advance for volunteering to help ensure Heritage Festival is open and inviting for our community. You make it possible to share the unique stories of our vibrant Boone County and this annual event is a huge opportunity to increase awareness.

Last year this family-friendly weekend saw record numbers with 3,100 visitors the Village at Boone Junction, and there were 1,300 patrons in the main History & Culture Center building. Yet, none of those experiences are possible without volunteers like you.

Please help us welcome the community back to Nifong Park for this two-day showcase of our beautiful tree-lined campus. To get started, visit BooneHistory.org/Volunteer or contact the Center at 573-443-8936 or Info@BooneHistory.org.

During the 2022 Heritage Festival a family enjoys seeing a 1925 Model T. The well preserved and mildly restored Ford was donated to BCHS by the Crawford family, in honor of the late Bill and Mildred Crawford. Photo by Stephen Bybee.

See You at the History & Culture Center

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<td>1-2 p.m. Artist Talk: Marilyn Cummins</td>
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<td>Thursday, August 24</td>
<td>10 a.m.-4 p.m. Giving Day</td>
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<td>Barbie-Themed Party!</td>
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<td>Friday, August 25</td>
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<td>Friday, September 8</td>
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Saturday, September 16
10 a.m.-5 p.m. Heritage Festival
10 a.m.-12 p.m. Family Event

Sunday, September 17
10 a.m.-5 p.m. Heritage Festival
Last Day for Where We Are exhibit
10 a.m.-12 p.m. Family Event
Center Concert Features Oklahoma Songwriter

The History & Culture Center is proud to again be a part of the One Read Task Force organizing events for the community-wide program by the Daniel Boone Regional Library. The community voted for the 2023 book to be *When Two Feathers Fell From the Sky* by Margaret Verble. This richly imagined novel follows Two Feathers, a young Cherokee horse-diver during the summer of 1926. The book is a character-driven story exploring the conflicts of race and culture in the highly segregated society of the 1920s South.

We’ve partnered with the University of Missouri’s Museum of Art & Archaeology and the Museum of Anthropology to bring you a free, incredible evening of music and storytelling from Kalyn Fay Barnsoki at 7:00 p.m. on September 8 at the History & Culture Center.

As an interdisciplinary artist, musician, educator and curator of Native art at the Philbrook Museum of Art, Barnsoki uses art to build bridges of understanding and find intersections among people. In the Smithsonian Folklife Festival blog, Barnsoki explained it to reporter Daniel Zhang this way:

“I’m an advocate of living in multiplicity and the importance of moving in a way that’s reflective of all the parts of yourself...Specifically, art making is really important to me because when I weave, there’s a rhythm. You’re in this sort of meditative state. It helps me think about my music and what I want to be writing—having this cadence and rhythm. My singing and art are constantly in flux and reflective of each other.”

Drawing on their Cherokee heritage, Barnsoki’s weavings, storytelling, music and contemporary craft focus on community, collaboration, reflection and empathy. Barnsoki is joined for this performance by Matt Magerkurth, a well-known cellist from Northwest Arkansas. Learn about this and other One Read events at DBRL.org/One-Read.

Join us September 8 for songwriter Kalyn Fay Barnsoki’s candid lyrics in a One Read event.

Thank you Socket for your support of the History & Culture Center through FREE fiber optic internet service!
Where We Are features the art of three locals, listed as featured above, Jenny McGee, Stacia Schaefer and Marilyn Cummins.

Artists’ Imagination, Adaptability Celebrated in Where We Are

Betsy Knabe Roe
Montminy Gallery Director

Where We Are, the current exhibit at the Montminy Gallery, features three artists from Columbia: Marilyn Cummins, Jenny McGee and Stacia Schaefer. They are influenced by the events of the last few years as well as their own place in the world as women. Each artist has her own unique creative process that is expressed through the artwork.

Artists often work through their emotions and experiences by creating original artworks. Inspiration is fueled by how they perceive and make sense of the world around them. Sharing their ideas and stories in art is cathartic and provides an avenue to connect with others as well.

Imagination is especially well-suited to creative thought because of its characteristic flexibility. Creativity is defined in Cambridge Dictionary as “the ability to produce or use original and unusual ideas”. Artists integrate an open-mindedness with new ways of seeing and making to generate unique artworks.

While viewing the new exhibition, ponder the inspiration and admire the perspective of each of these three artists. Take time for a slow look and consider the ideas represented in each artwork as well as the beauty.

Upcoming Art Event!
Artist Talk: Marilyn Cummins, August 23, 1–2 p.m.
Be inspired as Marilyn Cummins shares how her art is a creative outlet for processing experiences—illness, loss, isolation and even new opportunities—and provide a watercolor demonstration. Free and no RSVP required.