Texas Heritage Museum is proud to help with historic preservation and education by being a member of the following organizations:

AAMG
Association of Academic Museums & Galleries

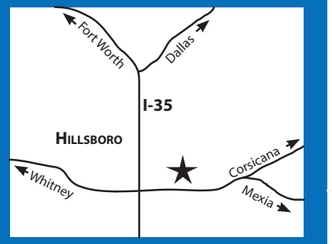
American Alliance of Museums
Member

Texas Association of Museums

Texas Lakes Trail
Texas Historical Commission
Texas Heritage Trails Program

Texas Heritage Museum
Hill College Campus
112 Lamar Drive
Hillsboro, TX 76645
museum@hillcollege.edu
(254) 659-7750
www.hillcollege.edu/museum

texasheritagemuseum



Summer Hours

Gallery & Collections
Mon. - Thurs., 7 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Historical Research Center
Mon. - Thurs., 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Annual Membership Form

Please use a ballpoint pen.

Name:_____

Address:_____

City:_____ State:_____ Zip:_____

Phone:(___)____-_____ Email: _____

Name on Card:_____

Card Type:_____

Card Number: _____

Expiration Date:___/_____ CCV:_____

Signature: _____

Please make check or money order payable to Texas Heritage Museum. For your convenience, we also accept VISA, MASTERCARD, DISCOVER & AMERICAN EXPRESS.

- ☐ Individual $25
- ☐ Family $35
- ☐ Business $50
- ☐ Patron $100
- ☐ Benefactor $250

Medal of Honor Memorial Brick Campaign

If you sign up for a membership with the Texas Heritage Museum today, you may also sponsor a brick at a special low price of $75. Using the space below, tell us what you would like your brick to say. Please limit to 15 characters per line and three lines per brick. If you decide to purchase more than one brick, please attach additional information to this form.

Those wanting to buy a brick without a membership may do so at the regular price of $100.

☐ Yes, I would like to sponsor a brick.

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Texas Heritage Museum
Home of the Official State Medal of Honor Memorial to Native-Born Texans

Lasting Legacies
Newsletter

Vol. 8 No. 2 Summer 2017

Letter from the Dean:

Dear Texas Heritage Museum Members,

Thank you all for attending the Seventh Annual Texas Heritage Museum Banquet. We had over 50 people in attendance!

Dr. Earl Elam, the keynote speaker at the banquet, did a fantastic presentation on the upcoming 50th Hill College Press publication entitled: The Texas Heritage Museum: Memories of the Past and Visions of the Future. This work will be available to you later this year.

For those who were not able to make it to the museum open house/banquet, please come by and see all the great improvements. The museum has had many new projects completed in renovation upgrades.

The final phase, renovating collection storage, was completed with new mechanical movable shelves and cabinets. This will add 30 percent more storage space to the room to add more collections. We added a new entrance between collection storage and the curatorial lab. This will make it much easier to process the collections. Also, we added two workstations in collection storage to process the collections and photograph the artifacts.

The curatorial lab was renovated with new flooring, cabinets, and five collection workstations for volunteers, work-study students, and interns to utilize when processing the artifacts. Lastly, the museum temporary gallery and part of the World War II gallery flooring was updated to allow for more catering needs.

All the lights on the inside and outside of the museum were replaced with LED lighting. Every exhibit case lighting system, all the track lighting in the galleries, and all overhead fluorescent lighting throughout the museum had to be removed and changed. Texas Heritage Museum is one of the first Historical Museums in the nation to receive LED lighting, thanks to the Hill College Board of Regents and Administration for making the College more energy efficient. This has been a great year in major renovations to the facility and we are proud and excited to showcase the museum to the public!

Thank you for your continued support of the Texas Heritage Museum at Hill College!

Respectfully,
John Versluis
Dean
Texas Heritage Museum

Hill College

Meet and Greet

The Texas Heritage Museum would like to introduce you to the Museum's Fall 2016 / Spring 2017 Intern, Alexis Ward.

Miss Ward comes to us from Hillsboro High School and is studying to become a teacher.

She is currently attending Hill College to obtain her associates degree and hopes to move on to Texas Woman's University to complete her bachelor's degree.

Alexis Ward, Texas Heritage Museum Intern

New and Upcoming Publications

Dr. Earl Elam has over 50 years of experience and service as a teacher, professor, university administrator, researcher, writer and speaker. He is a Professor Emeritus of History and served as the Vice President of Instruction at Sul Ross State University. He is also the founding director of the Center for Big Bend Studies, Sul Ross State University and established and edited the Journal of Big Bend Studies for several years. He is past president of the West Texas Historical Association, and has been a consultant for many years for the Indian Claims Section, U.S. Department of Justice for the Wichita and Affiliated tribes and the Zuni Tribe.

His specialty interests are on historical subjects relating to Texas, the Southwest, and Southern Plains and Indian tribes of the United States and their relations with other people. His concentrated research and writing is on Indians of Texas and Southern Plains, with an emphasis on the Wichita and associated tribes of Indians.

He worked part time for the Texas Heritage Museum running the Hill College Press Division as the Editor and Historian of the Hill College Press for 11 years from July 2005 through August 2016.

He has published nine works for the Press and his latest work will be the 50th published work by Hill College Press entitled The Texas Heritage Museum: Memories of the Past and Visions of the Future. This work will be available to you later this year.

The Hill College Administration and the Museum staff would like to especially thank Dr. Earl Elam for all the countless hours spent on making the Hill College Press successful since 2005!

Texas Heritage Museum Staff Reaches Accessioning Milestone

Accessioning is the formal act of legally accepting an artifact into the Museum's permanent collection. This process can take 3-4 hours of staff time for each artifact. The Museum staff has to account for the space and other resources to the proper care of each artifact. Acquiring artifacts for the collections is done in a thoughtful, inclusive way that reflects the best interests of the museum and its audiences.

The Museum staff is proud to announce in February 2017 they have reached 89 percent of the backlog collections that have been acquired over the past 53 years. In 2005, the museum staff began to accession the backlog of collections. After 12 years of hard dedicated work, 9,644 artifacts have been accessioned into the Texas Heritage Museum permanent collection. It took an estimated 33,754 work hours accessioning! The American Alliance of Museums requires museums who seek or stay accredited must maintain 80 percent accessioned rate of the museum's permanent collections. The Texas Heritage Museum staff will have the last remainder 11 percent of backlog accessioned artifacts processed within the next few years.

Heritage Museum Recognized for Excellence by American Alliance of Museums

The Hill College Texas Heritage Museum recently passed the American Alliance of Museums' (AAM) Core Documents Verification, an important milestone in its ongoing efforts to demonstrate excellence in meeting standards and best practices.

Earning Core Documents Verification means the national professional organization for the museum industry has verified –through a thorough expert review– that the museum has an educational mission as well as policies in place regarding ethics, planning, emergency preparedness and collections stewardship that reflect standard practices of professional museums. These elements are evaluated because they are deemed essential for every institution that identifies itself as a professional member of the museum field.

Of the nation's nearly 35,000 museums 1,180 have passed the Core Documents Verification. The Texas Heritage Museum is one of 55 museums out of nearly 2,100 museums in Texas to have done so.

The Hill College Texas Heritage Museum recently received notification that it had successfully completed the Core Documents Verification Program, a key milestone in the Continuum of Excellence that is a formal step requiring completion in order to apply for accreditation from the American Alliance of Museums. As part of the verification program, the Texas Heritage Museum was required to revise five core documents related to the operation of the museum including a long-range strategic-plan, a mission statement, a collections-management policy, a code of ethics policy, and a disaster-preparedness/emergency-response plan. This reassures the community that the Texas Heritage Museum has in place the policies and plans essential to museum management, providing staff and governing authority the structure necessary for ethical grounding and accountability needed to make informed, consistent decisions in support of the museum's mission and sustainability.

"This not only confirms to donors and lenders of art that we operate according to professional standards, but it also supports our role as an academic museum that teaches students about the history and significance of museums and trains students in museum practice," said John Versluis, Dean of The Texas Heritage Museum. "We are very pleased to have reached this milestone and look forward to seeking accreditation from AAM in the near future."

Dr. Pam Boehm, Hill College President; John Versluis. Texas Heritage Museum Dean; David Teel, Hill College Board of Regents President; and Jolene Lehmann, Hill College Board of Regents Member.

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