

Oklahoma

Cultural Heritage Trust

Archives, Libraries & Museums

The Oklahoma Cultural Heritage Trust (the Trust) is an alliance between the Oklahoma Department of Libraries, the Oklahoma Historical Records Advisory Board, the Oklahoma Historical Society, the Oklahoma Museums Association and many additional partners. With a \$245,000 Connecting to Collections statewide implementation grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the Trust is working to improve support for Oklahoma collections-based archives, libraries, and museums.

The Trust is undertaking **six** major statewide projects during 2013 and 2014.

Collection Care Conferences: Scheduled for April 29-30 in 2013 and 2014, these two-day conferences provide hands-on and interactive programming tailored to the needs of staff and volunteers with little or no collections care experience.

"Caring for Family Treasures" Traveling Exhibition: Consisting of 12 banner stands, this traveling exhibit is available at no cost to Oklahoma heritage organizations. The purpose of the exhibit is to help the public learn about taking care of their family heirlooms while also raising awareness of the collection care needs of Oklahoma archives, libraries, and museums.

May Day Call to Action: To engage members of the Oklahoma Legislature, the media, and the general public in actions that will help archives, libraries, museums, and collecting institutions of all types care for the state's heritage, a half-day celebration is scheduled at the State Capitol on May 1, 2013 and 2014.

Family Treasures Road Show: Recognizing that the need to preserve Oklahoma treasures extends beyond archives, libraries, and museums, the Trust is sponsoring an afternoon at the Oklahoma History Center where professional conservators will advise members of the public on caring for their treasures. The Road Show is scheduled for Sunday, April 28 from 1 PM to 5PM for 2013. The 2014 date and location will be announced later.

Top Ten Most Endangered Artifacts Campaign: This project provides museums, libraries, and archives an opportunity to raise awareness about the ongoing and expensive care of collections, as well as build a case for support when courting donors and applying for grants. Here's how it works: Participating organizations nominate an item from their collections that they would like to conserve. Once accepted into the program, organizations and the Trust promote the item and encourage the public to vote on the item they feel is most worthy of being preserved.

Collections Care Site Visits: Selected through an application process, up to 24 archives, libraries, and museums will receive in-depth, specialized assistance with collections care, fundraising, and marketing plans. Organizations are required to complete an extensive self-assessment evaluation, install environmental monitoring equipment, and fully participate in the site visit.