



Museums in Partnership **NEWSLETTER**

JANUARY 2008

** To visit a website, right click the blue weblink and open it in your browser.*

MUSEUMS-IN-PARTNERSHIP JANUARY MEETING



The Museums-In-Partnership meetings for 2008 will begin again **Thursday, January 17th**, at the [Black Mountain College Museum & Arts Center](#), located at 56 Broadway, downtown Asheville, phone (828) 350-8484, Alice Sebrell, Program Coordinator. As always, feel free to bring lunch and join other museum professionals at noon for sharing and networking. The program will begin at 1:00 P.M., and a tour of the museum will follow.

The Black Mountain College Museum & Arts Center is an exhibition space and resource center dedicated to exploring the history and legacy of the world's most acclaimed experimental educational community. It offers changing exhibitions, a video archive, research materials, and a selection of books and other materials for sale, allowing present-day visitors a glimpse into history by preserving that bygone era that commenced during the Great Depression up through the quaint 1950s America, when art and literature struggled to find new approaches to education.

The Center was founded in 1993 by Mary Holden to honor and pay tribute to the spirit and history of Black Mountain College and to acknowledge the College's role as a forerunner in progressive, interdisciplinary education with a focus on the arts. Through exhibitions, publications, lectures, films, seminars, and oral history interviews it is committed to spreading awareness of Black Mountain College and its important legacy.

In 1995 the Center organized a Black Mountain College reunion attended by former faculty and students. Other ongoing projects include the development of a permanent collection and archive to provide safe storage for artwork and historical materials related to the College and a series of publications about the college and the people associated with it.

The Center provides a forum for people from a variety of backgrounds in both the arts and sciences to interact so that art, ideas, and discourse are integrated with an emphasis on process rather than product, thus perpetuating the energy, vision, and accomplishments that made Black Mountain College one of the most creative educational forces of the 20th century. At the same time, it sponsors new programs to promote an innovative and experimental approach to today's issues and concerns.

**Contact Information
for
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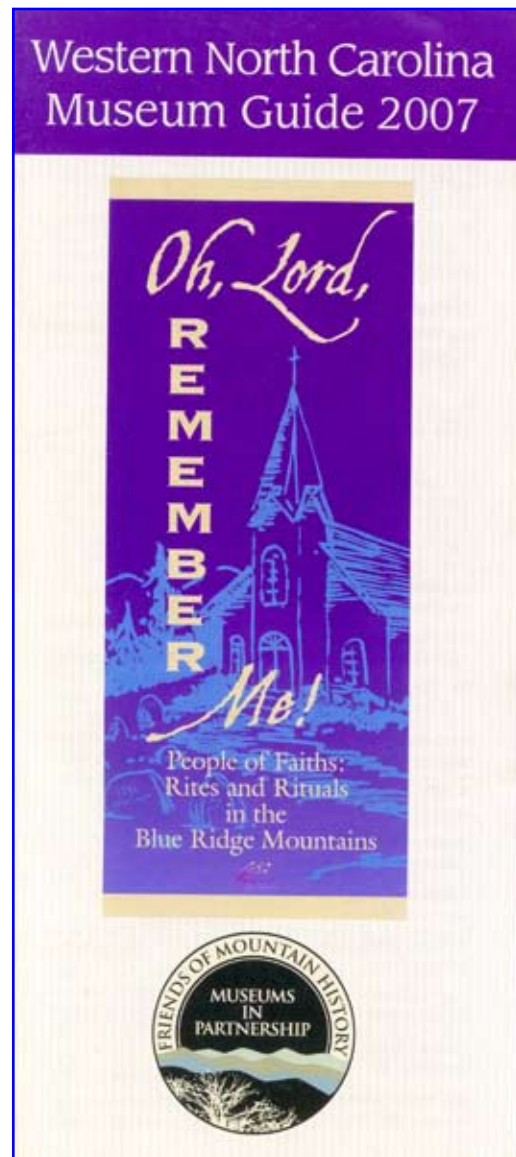
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Friends of Mountain History (FOMH) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization supporting museums, heritage organizations, and cultural and heritage-related programs in twenty-five counties in Western North Carolina.

Museums in Partnership (MIP), which is supported by FOMH, is a new resource for museum professionals. Museums, historic sites, and heritage-related organizations meet each third Thursday of the month, with members visiting a different site in the region. Meetings include announcements and updates from the region, an educational program, and informal sharing of ideas through networking. There are no dues for MIP membership, and communications are via electronic media. MIP welcomes nonprofit organizations that collect, interpret, preserve, and exhibit some aspect of Western North Carolina's culture and heritage.

2008 MUSEUM GUIDE IN FINAL STAGES

The 2008 Friends-of-Mountain-History Museum Guide is nearing completion and will go to print **January 21, 2008**. If you have changes or corrections from the 2007 Museum Guide "Oh, Lord Remember Me!" please send them to Kaye Myers at kmyers@ncommerce.com as soon as possible.



INVITATION TO HOST A TOGETHER-WE-READ EVENT

Together We Read will sponsor The Big Read—“*My Antonia*” January through June this year. This would be a terrific opportunity to get people involved with your museum or site as well as take part in the reading of a fabulous novel. If you would like to host an event or related program Together We Read offers ideas and support as well as National Endowment for the Arts materials for promotion and programming. If interested, Together We Read Director Rob Neufeld is putting the calendar together now. Feel free to contact him at (828) 768-2665 or RNeufeld@charter.net.

BIG OPPORTUNITY READY TO BE FULFILLED

The *Asheville Citizen-Times* has agreed with Together We Read to have Together We Read create and maintain what could be the new wave in mass media—a “ning” site—an online magazine/forum/TV station. The title would be something like “WNC Books & Heritage,” and it would have the byline, “created by Together We Read and the *Asheville Citizen-Times*.” The featured left-hand-column box would be links to Together We Read pages.

Mainly, the site would be the place to go for many things: video shows (which the *Asheville Citizen-Times* will help produce in some cases); great features; forums (every book discussion group could have its own private one, for instance); interactions with authors; book-and-author-informed reflections and discussions on current topics; archived articles; art and photograph exhibits; student submissions; links; calendars; and more.

One of the essential ingredients is content.

Rob Neufeld is inviting your content.

Major network TV seems out of reach for us. Newspapers have limited space. The ning has no limits and could attain tremendous popularity.

E-mail or call Rob with ideas and questions at (828) 505-1973 or RNeufeld@charter.net.



North Carolina Museum Council News

DEADLINE FOR FREE ON-SITE SERVICE CONSULTATIONS ANNOUNCED

The North Carolina Museums Council’s Free On-Site Consulting Service is a valuable program available to any museum located in North Carolina, including historic sites and societies. Applications for the 07-08 cycle must be submitted by **March 31, 2008**, and can be downloaded from the North Carolina Museums Council’s web site (www.ncmuseums.org, click on NCMC Programs).

Completed applications can be sent electronically to North Carolina Museums Council Vice President Richard Sceiford at vicepresident@ncmuseums.org.

The Free On-Site Consulting Service program is offered to one or two deserving museums each year. Consultants assigned and stipended through the program visit and tour the site over a two-day period and offer professional advice relating to needs specified as priorities by the recipient.

Consultation is offered in (but is not limited to) the following topic areas: exhibit design and construction; collections management; administration of facility; educational programming; volunteers; and marketing.

For more information, please contact Rich by e-mail or at 910-738-4339.

Scholarships Available for American Association of State and Local History Workshops!

The 2008 [AASLH Workshop Series](#) addresses challenges facing today's history professional like museum operations, collections management, digitizing archives, and more! AASLH offers the following scholarships for paid employees of history organizations:

Scholarships for New Professionals

Two scholarships are available for new professionals. Applicants must have been working in the field for three years or less. Two recipients will receive [workshop](#) registration fee reimbursement and a one year individual [AASLH membership](#).

Scholarships for Minority Professionals

Two scholarships are available to applicants who represent a minority group in the U.S. Two recipients will receive [workshop](#) registration fee reimbursement and a one year individual [AASLH membership](#).

Application Deadline

January 15, 2008. [Click here](#) to download the application and to see if you qualify for this unique opportunity.

Questions

Contact Bethany Hawkins at (615) 320-3203 or hawkins@aslh.org for more information.



PUBLIC GRAND OPENING AT KIDSENSES!

On **Saturday, January 12, 2008**, from 1:00 P.M. to 3:00 P.M., KidSenses will host a public grand opening for museum patrons. From designing chef's hats to fun food games, children of all ages will love the grand opening fiesta. Stuftee will make a special appearance and spill his guts about the importance of healthy eating habits.

In case you have not visited the **Kids' Pueblito Café**, which opened January 8th, it is located inside SanFran Glitters on the museum's lower level. Through the generosity and partnerships of Mi Pueblito Restaurant, Gepetto's Kitchens, Broad River Cabinet Company, CF Reece, Lipscomb Signs, Stan Cordery, and Sallie Cowan of Design Source, the Kids' Pueblito Café is now a reality and open for business.

As visitors interact within the exhibit, they will have the opportunity to learn about nutrition by making healthy food choices and work on their literacy skills by reading menus and taking orders. The fun continues as children practice positive social skills through role playing and experience new cultures. Kids' Pueblito Café stretches everyone's imaginations!

Contact Ellen Holly Hamrick, Director of Marketing and Operations, KidSenses Children's InterACTIVE Museum, Rutherfordton, North Carolina, www.kidsenses.com, (828) 286-2120, ext.101.