# NEWSLETTER The Brinton Museum



2 FROM THE BOARD

# FROM THE BOARD CHAIR & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As you'll read in this edition of our newsletter, The Brinton Museum is moving through a significant change in the life of the museum. After many years of dedicated service and unwavering commitment to our mission, Ken Schuster has decided to embark on a new chapter and retire from The Brinton Museum at the end of this year. Ken has been essential to The Brinton Museum for 34 years, during which his visionary leadership, dedication, and passion have left an indelible mark on our institution. His tireless efforts and innovative thinking have led us through periods of growth and transformation, and we are deeply grateful for the legacy he leaves behind. Under Ken's guidance The Brinton achieved many milestones, most notably the facilitation of the donation of the Gallatin Collection and opening the Forrest E. Mars, Jr. Building. His impact will continue to resonate in the work we do for vears to come.

It is a bittersweet moment for all of us as we bid farewell to a leader who saw the potential in this place and was determined to bring that potential to fruition. With the foundation that Ken has built, we're excited to dream about new leadership and direction of the curatorial activities of the museum.

As we move forward, we invite each of you to join us in celebrating Ken's journey with The Brinton Museum. Whether you have had the privilege of working closely with him or have been impacted by his work, please take a moment to reach out with your well-wishes, memories, or expressions of gratitude. Your words will undoubtedly mean a great deal to Ken.

Ken, your legacy at The Brinton will live on through all who have had the privilege of knowing and working with you. We extend our heartfelt thanks for your outstanding contributions and wish you a retirement filled with new adventures, relaxation, and happiness.

Thank you all for your continued support and dedication to The Brinton Museum. Together, we will ensure that our mission endures.

Sam Scott, Board Chair & Kendra Heimbuck, Executive Director

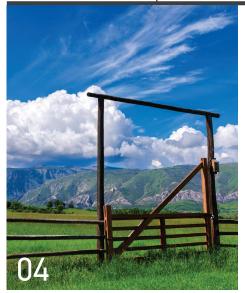
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## **Board of Directors**

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# 2023/24 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

#### 2023

### **DECEMBER 17**

Members Holiday Open House

#### **DECEMBER 23**

Last day open to the public for the 2023 season

#### 2024

## **FEBRUARY 8**

Reopen to the public for the 2024 season

#### **FEBRUARY 8 TO FEBRUARY 25**

All-School 5th Grade Student Art Show

#### **FEBRUARY 8 TO MAY 5**

Navigating Narratives (The Corps of Discovery Expedition), originated by CAIRNS and presented as the 19th Illustrator Show

### MARCH 2 TO MAY 12

One Person's Vision: The Art of Dean States

### **MAY 11 TO AUGUST 25**

Seen & Said: The Art of Martin Garhart

### **MAY 18 TO SEPTEMBER 2**

Wyoming's Artist: Harry Jackson

#### **JUNE 28**

The Annual Brinton Gala

#### **JULY 13 TO AUGUST 24**

Bighorn Rendezvous IX Exhibition

#### **AUGUST 3**

**Members Picnic** 

#### **AUGUST 24**

**Bighorn Rendezvous Quickdraw & Art Auction** 

#### **AUGUST 31 TO OCTOBER 20**

Artists in Residence Exhibition

#### **SEPTEMBER 7 TO OCTOBER 20**

Catlin's North American Indian Portfolio: Hunting Scenes and Amusements of the Rocky Mountains and Prairies of America

#### **OCTOBER 26**

Things That Go Bump in the Night

#### **NOVEMBER 2 TO DECEMBER 23**

The Brinton 101 - Small Works Show



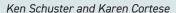
# THE BRINTON MUSEUM ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT OF LONGTIME DIRECTOR AND CHIEF CURATOR

After 34 years leading The Brinton Museum, Kenneth Schuster has announced his retirement, effective December 31, 2023. During his tenure Ken oversaw the transition of The Brinton from a seasonal institution with specialized collections to a premier cultural landmark that enhances connections to the land, people and cultures of the West.

Reflecting on this significant transition, Schuster shared, "It has been my honor and privilege to be a part of the museum's evolution over the past three decades. The Brinton Museum's rich history and unique collections have played a pivotal role in preserving Bradford & Helen Brinton's legacy and celebrating the essence of the American West."

Kendra Heimbuck, who assumed the role of Executive Director at the beginning of the year, will spearhead the search for Ken's successor as Curatorial Director. Heimbuck commented, "Ken's unparalleled knowledge of The Brinton's history and collections is truly remarkable. We are committed to finding a Curatorial Director who can match his intelligence, passion and dedication to this institution. My three years working alongside Ken have been invaluable in understanding the museum's mission and rich past."







Portrait of Ken Schuster by Allan Mardon



Colin Campbell, Forrest E. Mars, Jr., and Ken Schuster

Schuster's career in Wyoming began in 1982 as the Assistant Curator of Education for the University of Wyoming Art Museum where he dedicated seven years, culminating as the Curator of Education, before bringing his talents to The Brinton Museum.

In 1990, Schuster was appointed Director of the then Bradford Brinton Memorial, only the third person to hold the position since the museum's inception in 1961. Over the course of his 34-year career, he steered the museum through transformative changes, ensuring its long-term sustainability and elevating the visitor experience.

In 2002, Schuster oversaw the expansion to the Bradford Brinton Memorial & Museum, which facilitated private fundraising and allowed for new acquisitions as an expansion to the memorial's "frozen" collection. Then, in 2013, he oversaw the creation of the nonprofit entity, The Brinton Museum, which took over the trusteeship of the Bradford Brinton Memorial and further provided for expanded museum collections, fundraising opportunities and overall sustainability.

Throughout his tenure, Schuster was driven by an unwavering passion for The Brinton, its collections and American Western culture, fostering meaningful relationships with artists, historians, tribal partners, and patrons of the arts who have all contributed to the museum's growth and prominence. Notable among these relationships were those with the late Forrest E. Mars, Jr., the museum's largest benefactor and the late Father Peter Powell, a devoted ethnohistorian and

author dedicated to Native American people. Together, they achieved a significant milestone with the opening of the Forrest E. Mars, Jr. Building in 2015. Schuster worked closely with Mars and Powell to facilitate the donation of the Gallatin Collection, the centerpiece of the museum's "To Honor the Plains Nations" exhibition. and the construction of the Forrest E. Mars, Jr. Building, providing a fitting home for the Gallatin Collection.

The Brinton Museum
Board of Directors
extend their heartfelt
congratulations to Schuster
on his well-deserved
retirement and thank him
for his dedication to the
museum. Sam Scott, Chair
of The Brinton Museum
Board of Directors,
remarked, "As chair of the
board and a long-standing
member of The Brinton, I
am immensely proud of the

impact Ken has had on this institution. His storytelling and profound knowledge of not only the museum but also the region will be greatly missed. In anticipation of Ken's retirement. we've implemented a comprehensive succession plan, ensuring a seamless transition of leadership. Having worked closely with Kendra over the last three years, I have full confidence in her ability to build upon our past successes and leverage her strategic thinking and professionalism to navigate this period of transition."

The search for Schuster's successor as Curatorial Director is in progress. Barbara McNab, Curator of Exhibitions and a dedicated member of The Brinton Museum's staff for nearly a decade, will serve as Interim Curatorial Director until the position is filled.

6 FROM THE DIRECTOR



# FROM THE DIRECTOR

Earlier this year we hosted David Bender as one of our artists in residence, and David sought inspiration for his work through stories from museum visitors about the moments in their lives that were distinctly a turning point for them.

This could be the birth of a child, a trip of a lifetime, the death of a loved one, a choice of college, or simply a decision to say "yes" to that invitation out. I shared a story with David about a turning point in my life, when I spent a year volunteering in Northern Ireland and first grasped my passion for community building and creating space for engagement and connection.

David's prompt also led

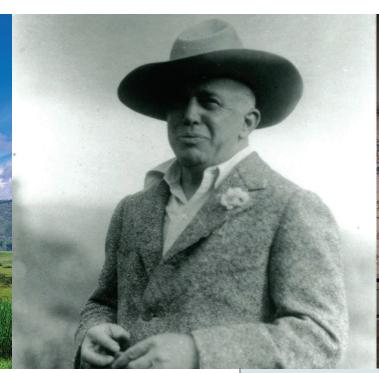
me to think about the life of The Brinton. There are many defining moments in the history of The Brinton, but one distinct moment that sets the course of this institution was Bradford Brinton's purchase of the Quarter Circle A Ranch from William Moncreiffe in 1923. It was that moment one hundred years ago, when an adventurous businessman and collector transformed this ranch into a place for enjoyment and enrichment, that defined the trajectory for this place and its role in enhancing connections to the land, people and cultures of the West.

Bradford's purchase of the ranch is arguably *the* defining moment that led to The Brinton Museum being here today, but there are many other key moments and people who have contributed to the growth and sustainability of this institution over the past hundred years. From Bradford attaining his collection, to Helen's preservation efforts, to Forrest E. Mars, Jr.'s investment in the museum expansion, to Father Peter Powell's commitment to deepening the museum's connection to the Plains Nations. And not to mention the countless donors, members, staff, and volunteers who have made tremendous investments of time and money toward the further preservation and care of the lands, buildings and collections of the institution.

At this marker in time, we not only enjoyed walking down memory lane and celebrating this milestone in our history with so many of you during this year, we also set our sights forward. The Next Hundred Years was a phrase that branded our major events of the season, namely our Annual Gala and Member Picnic, but also an idea that motivated us as we acknowledge the importance of furthering the historic preservation and cultural interpretation that occurs at The Brinton well into the future.

And that is where you come in. As we celebrate this exciting landmark year, we have a tremendous opportunity to invest in the future of The Brinton

FROM THE DIRECTOR 7





Museum. At the beginning of this season, we announced The Next Hundred Years endowment campaign that strives to establish a \$6 million preservation endowment fund to provide for the maintenance and preservation of the ranch lands and museum facilities, in perpetuity. Thanks to many generous contributions already, we are just \$1.5 million from our target, but we need your help reaching our goal by the end of the year. If you have not already contributed to these efforts, I would like to invite you to join us in investing in the next hundred years through a one-time gift to this campaign.

> Kendra Heimbuck Executive Director

# 2023 marks the 100th anniversary of Bradford Brinton's purchase of the Quarter Circle A Ranch.

As we look to the next 100 years, we want to ensure the museum, lands, and historic buildings are handled with the same care they received over the past 100 years. This work of preservation & maintenance is key to the museum carrying out its mission of connecting the past, present and future of the American West, and it costs an annual average of \$215,000 in materials and labor and an additional \$175,000 in Brinton Grounds & Facilities staffing.

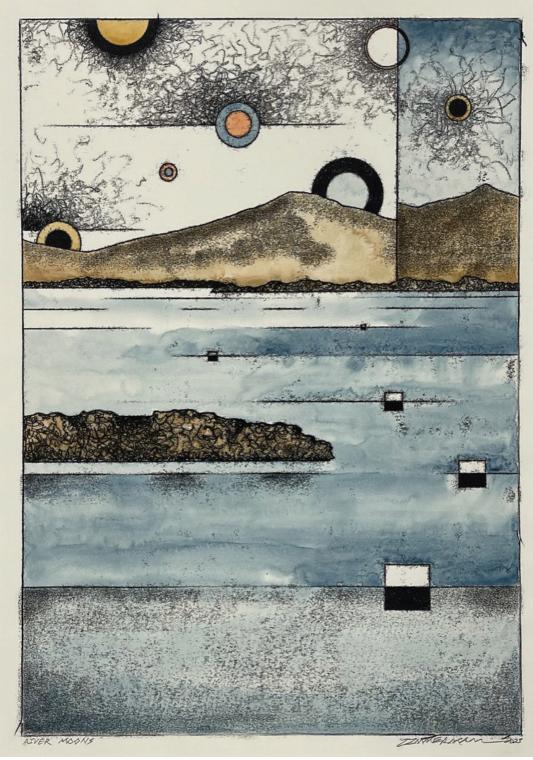
In honor of the centennial anniversary of Bradford's purchase of the Quarter Circle A Ranch, we are seeking to raise \$6 million to establish a preservation endowment fund. The income generated from this fund will provide for the care and preservation of the ranch lands and museum facilities in perpetuity. We have secured \$4.5 million in pledges and gifts to date and are seeking to raise an additional \$1.5 million to reach our goal.



Please scan to make a gift to The Next Hundred Years endowment campaign or visit us online at thebrintonmuseum.org



# THE CORPS OF DISCOVERY IN TITONWANIAN TERRITORY



**River Moons**, ink transfer and watercolor, 29 x 22.5 x 1.5, **Mark Zimmerman** 

Two hundred and nineteen years ago this fall the Corps of Discovery, under the leadership of Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, maneuvered its keelboat and two canoes up the Missouri River through Titonwanian (Lakotan) territory. The expedition's interactions with Titonwanians began on September 23rd and ended on the 30th.

Journals of four of the boatmen—William Clark, Patrick Gass, John Ordway, and Joseph Whitehouse— provide the only information about the interactions. Following is a brief overview that is based on a close reading of the boatmen's daily entries.

# 23 SEPTEMBER 1804, SUNDAY.

The temperature at sunrise was 50 degrees and at 4 pm it was 86 degrees. The expedition traveled 20 miles. Late that afternoon, the expedition stopped for the day and made camp on the eastern shore of the river. Unexpectedly, the boatmen met with three Lakotans (perhaps boys) who swam the Missouri River to greet them. That was the first interaction between the Titonwanian nation and the United States.

# 24 SEPTEMBER 1804, MONDAY.

The temperature at sunrise was 54 degrees and

at 4 pm it was 82 degrees. The boatmen ascended 13.5 miles up the river and stopped for the night at the mouth of what is now called the Bad River, between Fort Pierre and Pierre, South Dakota. In the morning, the last of the expedition's horses was lost. The boatmen later met on shore with Buffalo Medicine (a chief), the first interaction between leaders of the two nations.

# 25 SEPTEMBER 1804, TUESDAY.

The temperature at sunrise was 50 degrees and at 4 pm it was 79 degrees. The boatmen organized a formal meeting on a sandbar at the mouth of the Bad River with three chiefs—Black Buffalo, Partisan, and Buffalo Medicine—and around 40 men of the Sichanghu oyate of the Titonwanian nation. The meeting nearly resulted in a fight between the two groups. Afterwards, the boatmen took 3-4 Sichanghuan leaders aboard the keelboat and proceeded only one mile before anchoring in the middle of the river for the night.

## 26 SEPTEMBER 1804, WEDNESDAY.

The temperature at sunrise was 54 degrees and at 4 pm it was 78 degrees. The expedition boats traveled four and a half miles in the morning, then anchored offshore. Lewis visited the Sichanghuan village, and later he, Clark, and a handful of men attended a feast and dance onshore hosted by Titonwanians. Around midnight, the boatmen, along with a few Sichanghuans, returned to the keelboat.

# 27 SEPTEMBER 1804, THURSDAY.

The temperature at sunrise was 52 degrees and at 4 pm it was 86 degrees. The day featured back and forth visitations by the two groups; Sichanghuans toured the keelboat and boatmen visited the village. That evening, Sichanghuans hosted another feast and dance for the boatmen. Again, the festivities continued until around midnight, when the boatmen, with a few Sichanghuans, returned in one of the canoes to the keelboat that had remained anchored in the middle of the river all day. But this time the canoe accidentally rammed the keelboat, and in doing so cut the anchor rope, sending the keelboat adrift downriver. After a big commotion, the boatmen organized and rowed the keelboat to the shore near the Sichanghuan village, where it was tied for the rest of the night.

## 28 SEPTEMBER 1804, FRIDAY.

The temperature at sunrise was 45 degrees and at 4 pm it was 80 degrees. After unsuccessfully dragging the river bottom to retrieve the lost anchor, the boatmen determined to continue upriver. But the Sichanghuans determined to inhibit their departure. The conflicting motives nearly resulted in the boatmen firing on the Sichanghuans. Eventually, the boatmen departed, but apparently with the son of Buffalo Medicine onboard. After running his horse a couple miles upriver to catch the keelboat, Buffalo Medicine waded into the river and pleaded with the boatmen to take him onboard in exchange for releasing his son. The boatmen agreed to do so. The expedition advanced upriver only six miles.

# 29 SEPTEMBER 1804, SATURDAY.

The temperature at sunrise was 45 degrees and at 4 pm was 67 degrees. With Buffalo Medicine onboard the keelboat, the boatmen traveled eleven miles upriver. 30 September 1804, Sunday. The temperature at sunrise was 42 degrees and at 4 pm it was only 52 degrees. Around midday, the boatmen arrived

at an Oglalan village. From aboard the keelboat, the leaders of the boatmen spoke briefly with the leaders of the Oglalans, then continued upriver. Later, the boatmen leaders gave Buffalo Medicine his belongings and some gifts, "advised him to keep his men away," and released him. Buffalo Medicine set off on foot downriver. The boatmen hoisted sail and set off upriver, leaving Titonwanian territory. They made over twenty miles that day.

To learn more about those eight days in September 1804, consider visiting the "Navigating Narratives" exhibition at The Brinton Museum. The opening is February 8 and the show will be on display until May 5, 2024. More than sixty artists, poets, and musicians have created amazing new works that illustrate the journal entries. The exhibition is designed to dramatize and explain an especially important historical sequence, and to pose intriguing questions such as this one: Did the boatmen take hostages in order to ensure their safe passage through Titonwanian territory?

Dr. Craig Howe Founder and Director of the Center for American Indian Research and Native Studies



Red Flag Day, acrylic on canvas, 12 x 60 x 1.5, Bill Fleming

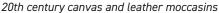


10 THE POWELL FAMILY GIFT

# THE POWELL FAMILY GIFT

The history of Fr. Peter J. Powell in this valley predates the founding of this institution, for he was a friend to Helen Brinton and her neighbor Beatrice Beuf. His intense fondness for and scholarship of Native American People and their Culture coupled with his Irish charm dictated that these relationships were inevitable.







Box for Sacred Native American Church Worship, George Silverhorn (Kiowa)

Once the Bradford Brinton Memorial constructed its Reception Gallery (1965) with the focal point being a space in which to exhibit and preserve Bradford Brinton's Native American Collection, Fr. Powell's knowledge and friendship were indispensable to the institution and to its directors. My predecessor James T. Forrest (1964-1989) and I both counted on Father's knowledge when curating items from Bradford's Collection for exhibition. Over the course of our relationship (1990-2022) we became great friends and my admiration and respect for the man are impossible to put into words while his trust is amply reflected in his Foundation for the Preservation of American Indian Art and Culture gifting the Edith & Goelet Gallatin Collection

to this institution in 2014. Fr. Powell's love for the institution was reinforced in early September when his children (Stephen Powell, Katherine Powell Raleigh, Christine Powell, and John Powell) donated 76 items previously on loan to the museum from the Powell Family Collection. Items included in this gift range from the dynamic painted muslin by Stephen Standing Bear, Mató Nájin (1859-1933), depicting Great Events of the **Final Summer of Lakota** Freedom, 1876: Victory at the Little Bighorn, Sitting Bull's Sun Dance and the Animal Dreamers Dance on the Rosebud to a humble pair of canvas and leather moccasins from the middle of the 20th century. Although most of the objects are Northern Plains in origin, fine items from the Southern Plains are also in

evidence as are examples of Navajo weaving and Pueblo basketry.

From my perspective, the Stephen Standing Bear painted muslin is a tour de force of Plains Nations' imagery due to its subject matter and artistic prowess. Filled with depictions of everyday camp life, sacred events and components of the Battle of the Little Bighorn a viewer can easily become engrossed in the painting.

One of the realities of this collection is its sacral nature and its profound ties to the Native People who produced it. This was a fact often emphasized to me by Fr. Powell, who always deferred exhibition of a piece considered sacred within a tribe to the Holy People of that tribe. A practice that the current curatorial staff plans to uphold since we are, and hope to remain, the keepers

of their inheritance and intend to treat it with all the respect it warrants.

The Powell children, in the name of their father and mother, have bequeathed this institution a profound treasure, which is the equal of their parents' investment in its success and for which I, for one, am most grateful.

Kenneth L. Schuster Curatorial Director THE BRINTON BISTRO 11



# HELLO BRINTON FAMILY & FRIENDS

As the seasons change The Brinton Bistro has introduced updated fall menu offerings. The new menu features cozy comfort food items along with daily changing soups, mains and dessert specials. We invite you to close out the 2023 season with the Bistro, discover new menu favorites, attend curated prix fixe dinners and family focused holiday events. The bistro and catering team would like to thank everyone for supporting The Brinton Bistro in 2023! It was a demanding nevertheless successful first season with Executive Chef, Rob Gaarde at the helm of Bistro and Catering services. His incredible leadership, creative influence and endeavor for excellence in food quality and service shines through in each meticulously designed dish.

Nestled amidst the unparalleled beauty of the Bighorns, The Brinton Museum stands as a full-service event location, offering arguably the most picturesque vista in the county. We are now actively booking events for the upcoming 2024 season and eagerly anticipate the opportunity to collaborate with you on your special occasions. Please connect with our newly appointed, Event Manager, Jaron Mentock, at events@thebrintonmuseum.org for comprehensive details on our venue and services.

The Bistro and Catering team recognizes the high demand from our patrons for enhanced experiences and are actively exploring new and exciting extended service offerings in the new year. Stay tuned for more in 2024!



### 2024 Bistro Service Hours:

Monday, Thursday, Friday Lunch 11 AM – 3 PM Saturday & Sunday Brunch 10 AM – 3 PM Thursday & Friday Happy Hour 3 PM – 5 PM 12 DEVELOPMENT

Recently seeing this greeting in a shop window, it definitely marks a change in the air for me. After a busy summer comes a time for reflection, gratitude and thanksgiving.

The first nine months of 2023 have been another amazing season for the Brinton, and you have been with us for every step of the way! Thank you for joining us for fun exhibitions for young people like the Illustrator Show and the always popular 5th grade art display, numerous exhibitions, programs and camps, the Annual Gala, the well-attended (in spite of the rain) Member Picnic and 100 Year Celebration, and the Bighorn Rendezvous.

Over the course of the year we've celebrated the Next Hundred Years, showcasing the long time this special place has been the focus of so many talented, dedicated and farsighted individuals. This institution came into being at an auspicious intersection of time, place and people, which makes The Brinton unique in its setting, collections and purpose. It all began with Bradford Brinton and his sister Helen who wanted this place to be "a source of education and enjoyment for all visitors," as stated in Helen's will.

And look how much The Brinton has grown! From



a vibrant, cultural center offering something for everyone. The Brinton is a place to contemplate the history and learn about contemporary artistic interpretations of the American West, to experience the sacred nature of American Indian art and artifacts, or to simply recharge in its beautiful surroundings.

Bradford and Helen's vision continues today thanks to the stewardship and care of our board. National and American Indian Advisory Councils, dedicated staff, engaged volunteers, artist partners, and generous benefactors, including you. Truly, what would this place be without its supporters and the creatives who see its potential and beauty and act on it? Therefore, you are an important part of this story. Thank you for your support, interest, creativity and engagement.

The American Alliance of Museums recently reported the results of independent survey stating that 28% of U.S. adults have visited a museum in the past year, 4 out of 5 U.S. adults are sporadic, casual, or frequent museum goers, and 85% U.S. adults think museums have a role to play in building our civil society. Considering

museums as an important part of our education and cultural heritage once again illustrates how farsighted Helen's vision was in preserving her brother's legacy.

As I come to you again this fall with our traditional year end appeal, I hope you will consider furthering Helen's vision by making a contribution to our annual operations. These contributions make it possible for us to deliver interesting programs, display thought-provoking exhibits, and care for our collections year in and year out.

The annual year end appeal supports the HERE and NOW, but we are also asking you to consider the FUTURE with an additional, one-time gift to support the Next Hundred Years endowment campaign. Your participation in the endowment campaign expresses a shared desire for the museum and ranchlands to thrive and be maintained as they always have been, with great care and consideration. Your participation allows you to join a long-term vision for this to be a place for everyone to learn, refresh their spirit, and be.

Please take a moment to pick up the enclosed envelope or scan the QR code and make a gift to The Brinton to support the HERE and NOW as well as the FUTURE.



Giving thanks for y'all!

Barbara Schuster Director of Development

28% of U.S. adults have visited a museum in the past year, 4 out of 5 U.S. adults are sporadic, casual, or frequent museum goers, and 85% U.S. adults think museums have a role to play in building our civil society.

MEMBERSHIP 13

# **NEXT 100 YEARS OF MEMBERSHIP!**

Our annual summer members picnic invited the Brinton members to celebrate "The Next Hundred Years" of The Brinton Museum.

As we reflected on the 100th anniversary of Bradford Brinton purchasing the Quarter Circle A Ranch, it is also an exciting time to be a Brinton Member while participating in the growth of the membership program. At the end of the summer, I introduced two inaugural Member Meet-ups that were scheduled hikes on the 2.4 mile Quarter Circle A Ranch Nature Trail. In the beginning of October was the members preview of the "Treasures of the Collection" exhibit with Barbara McNab, Curator of Exhibitions.

I look forward to starting off the next 100 years with opportunities for Brinton members to have varied experiences with these Member Meet-ups. Keep an eye out in 2024 for scheduled Member Meetups that will range in topics related to art, nature, history and Wyoming. Thank you to our members who continue to support The Brinton Museum's mission. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any inquiries about membership levels and benefits.

Carrie Ida Edinger Membership & Sponsorship Coordinator





## **ANNUAL MEMBER BENEFITS INCLUDE:**

- Annual Members-Only
   Events: Brinton Summer
   Picnic, Holiday Open
   House & Member Meet-ups
- 10% Discount in the Museum Store & Brinton Bistro
- Free Guided Ranch House and Grounds Tours
- Advance Notice & Discounted Prices for Events
- Member Emails & Biannual Newsletter
- NARM and ROAM museum reciprocity (for Contributor, Sponsor, and Collector levels)
- 10% discount on Fine Art purchases, plus the 2023 Limited-Edition Fine Art Print (for Collector Members only)

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# TREASURES FROM THE COLLECTION

Every so often we are surprised by something we did not know.



**Pablo Picasso** (Spanish, 1881-1973), **Peace, Love**, illustration for Lysistrata, page 115, etching, 1934, Bradford Brinton Memorial Collection

For those who are longtime friends and supporters of this fine museum and who believed you were well-acquainted with the institution's collections, you may be surprised to learn that included in the Bradford Brinton Memorial Collection are six etchings by the Spanish artist Pablo Picasso (1881–1973), who was one of the most influential artists of

the 20th century. These works rarely make it out of the vault and have not been exhibited within the past decade. It's one example of why an exhibition showing works in the collection is interesting to do. The exhibition highlights pieces that represent the scope of Bradford Brinton's collecting interests, which went beyond that of the many superb works of art he collected by artistic masters of the American West. Recent acquisitions represent works by internationally and nationally known artists, many who have exhibited at The Brinton Museum.

In addition to spending six to eight months each year at the Quarter Circle A Ranch from 1923 until his death in 1936, Bradford Brinton owned a Park Avenue apartment in New York City. Naturally, he spent a great deal of time there and would have collected art for his enjoyment from various sources. Several works in the show are reflective of artists of the period popular among the New York City scene. We also know that Mr. Brinton collected American Indian art and numerous books. Among the items in the Quarter Circle A Ranch house are first edition volumes by the Scottish novelist Robert Louis Stevenson, his favorite author. If you have toured the house, you have seen the floor-to-ceiling shelves filled with books of wide-ranging subjects, both in the living room and the library.

Mr. Brinton was a member of the prestigious The Limited Editions Club, a subscription organization founded by literary entrepreneur George Macy, which circulated limited edition classics and finely illustrated books by first-rate authors and artists. Included in Treasures from the Collection are two of the six etchings by Picasso, commissioned by Macy, which were created as illustrations for the 1934 reprint by Gilbert Seldes of Aristophanes' Greek play Lysistrata, a comic drama composed in 411 B.C. Lysistrata is a story about the women of Greece who agreed to a unique solution to end the Peloponnesian War between Greek city states. It did not go well for the male sector of the population. Brinton would have acquired his Seldes edition through the book club, which published the reprint. According to several comments from various club members, which appeared in the September 1934 newsletter, Number 64, the view of Picasso was not favorable. Mr. L. Haskell Sweet of Rochester, commented, "The volume itself is a beauty indeed. Although I am no lover of this so-called modern art as portrayed by such noted artists as Picasso."

TREASURES FROM THE COLLECTION 15



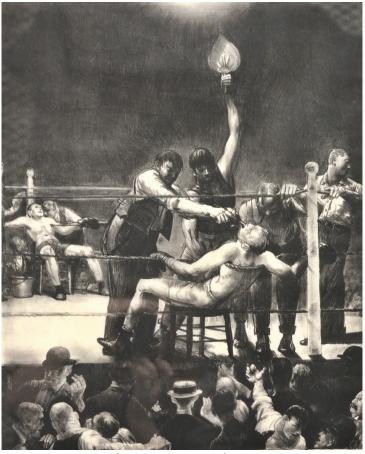
Terri Wells (American), untitled, watercolor, 2019
The Brinton Museum Collection,
The Brinton Museum Acquisitions Fund



Henry Thomas Alken (British, 1785-1851), Three Horses with Dog and Chickens, watercolor, Bradford Brinton Memorial Collection

Perhaps also unexpected in Bradford Brinton's collections is the superb lithograph *Dempsey and Firpo*, ca 1923 –1924, by American Realist painter and member of the Ashcan School, George Bellows. This work is on exhibit in the ranch house library. Brinton owned two other Bellows lithographs, Counted Out, No. 2 and Between Rounds, No. 1, dated 1921 and 1923, respectively. Bellows was highly-regarded as a master of the lithography process and was well-regarded for his expressive hand in working in this medium. Of additional interest is Brinton's twelve-volume set representing 874 signed, limited-edition, colored plates from the 1931 portfolio Birds and Trees of North America by Connecticut wildlife artist Rex Brasher, referred to in the museum's 2023 spring newsletter article on the Birds of the Rocky Mountain Region exhibition. Pieces in the treasures show range from a pastel portrait of Bradford's mother, Rhoda Wyeth Brinton, by the American artist F. Graham Cootes (1879-1960) to Melting Into Sunset, an oil by Chinese artist Weizhen Liang (b. 1955) to an abstract landscape in watercolor, untitled, by the American artist Terri Wells from Texas.

Treasures from the Collection comprises more than 50 works of art from the Bradford Brinton Memorial Collection, Bradford Brinton Memorial & Museum Collection, The Brinton Museum Collection and The Brinton Museum



**George Bellows** (American, 1882-1925), **Between Rounds, No. 1**, lithograpgh, 1923, Bradford Brinton Memorial Collection



John E. Catterall (American, 1940-2023), Alturas Brook Trout, screenprint, 1985, The Brinton Museum Collection Gift of the artist

Endowment Fund. This exhibition continues in the S. K. Johnston, Jr. Family Gallery through December 23.

Barbara McNab Curator of Exhibitions

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# THE HONORING PROJECT DEDICATES THE ALL AMERICAN INDIAN DAYS MEMORIAL



Several members of the museum's American Indian Advisory Council took part in the dedication ceremony. Pictured from left to right are Thomas Yellowtail, Vernon Whiteman, Vivian Arviso, Rhonda Holy Bear, Wallace Bear Chum, and Kendra Heimbuck.

A standing room only crowd gathered at Rotary Park in the Sheridan Historic Railroad District the morning of October 9, 2023 on Indigenous Peoples' Day to dedicate the All American Indian Days Memorial.

The memorial is a visual public record

honoring the extraordinary people of Sheridan and Johnson counties and Native Americans who created an inter-racial collaboration to eliminate racial discrimination against Native Americans from 1953-1984.

During that time, All

American Indian Days drew thousands to the Sheridan fairgrounds to celebrate Native American culture, arts, and competitive games. Selection of a Miss Indian America and an Outstanding Indian of the Year were annual highlights of the event. Miss Indian America made a national speaking tour to advocate for Native American issues and promote cultural understanding. The Outstanding Indian of the Year Award recognized an individual whose work benefited the well-being of Native communities. An inter-racial Sunday service featured both non-Native and Native American clergy with hymns sung in English and Native languages.

Sarah Johnson Luther (Diné), Miss Indian America XIV (1967), envisioned a memorial to honor the unique thirty-year effort of All American Indian Days. Ms. Luther and Vivian Arviso (Diné), Miss Indian America VII (1960), collaborated with a Sheridan descendant, William Patton, to form the Honoring Project, a Wyoming nonprofit organization building educational awareness of the non-Native and Native American collaboration

for All American Indian Days. The late Father Peter J. Powell, was a strong advocate and Advisor for the project. Other Advisors included Mary Jane Edwards, Director, Jentel Artist Residency and myself.

The Brinton Museum was a proud partner in the efforts, serving as the project's fiscal agent. "We are tremendously grateful for The Brinton Museum and their board of directors for stepping up as the project's fiscal agent and playing their part in memorializing this part of Sheridan's history and the importance of building appreciation for Native American life," said Vivian Arviso, President of the Honoring Project and member of the museum's American Indian Advisory Council (AIAC). "We expect that this memorial will become a visitor destination for Sheridan and the state of Wyoming. This site is a place to stir the memories and the pride of Sheridan residents, Wyoming residents, and Native Americans across the country."

The centerpiece of the memorial is a twelve-foot sculpture, Mitakuye Oyasin, "We Are All Related." Accompanying panels tell THE HONORING PROJECT 17

# FROM THE REGISTRAR

the story of All American Indian Days. The sculpture artist, Jon DeCelles, is a member of the Assiniboine Sioux and Gros Ventre tribes. Also part of the memorial are five hundred memorial pavers and four memorial benches engraved with names of individuals who participated in All American Indian Days. Educational signage informs the public of the history and national awards the City of Sheridan has received for its efforts to work with Native Americans.

Rhonda Holy Bear, another member of the museum's AIAC, beautifully captured the sentiment of the memorial when she spoke at the dedication representing the Foundation for The Preservation of American Indian Arts and Culture. Ms. Holy Bear shared a lesson from Father Peter Powell who would often refer to cultures living cooperatively and that "one blesses the other." Ms. Holy Bear said, "Western and Indigenous cultures are complementary cultures. Each has its own voice. But it is the blending of the voices of each culture that creates harmony. In that moment of harmonious beauty, we forget about

past transgressions and celebrate the things we share in common as human beings. I encourage us all to allow that moment of harmony to lift us in ways that are peaceful and respectful of one another, always."

Kendra Heimbuck Executive Director



Somebody's Daughter - MMIW, Monotype, paint on paper, 2019, Roger Broer

New additions to The Brinton Museum collection come through targeted purchases the Museum makes to fill particular collecting areas and by donations made to the Museum. Photographs, biographical information, and provenance of potential artworks are provided to a committee for approval using our collecting guidelines. This committee is known as the Acquisitions Committee and is made up of The Brinton Museum curatorial team, working artists and others knowledgeable in the arts.

In March, Judge Jeffrey Viken from Rapid City offered a donation of contemporary American Indian artwork to The Brinton Museum. This is an important area of the collection that has been deemed for expansion and the donation was unanimously approved by the Acquisitions Committee. Ken Schuster drove to Rapid City to pick up the five artworks at the end of September. The accessioning process entails photographing, measuring, condition reporting, and adding these items to The Brinton Museum database. You will be able to see these on the online database available on our website when everything is completed (top of front page under "Resource" - click on drop down menu – and go to "Brinton Collection Database") where this particular collection can be found under TBM.2023.17.

> Kim Taylor, Museum Registrar

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# MUSEUM STORE

As we approach the holiday shopping season, we thank all who have supported The Brinton Museum by shopping this year in our museum store.



How does your support of our store benefit the museum?

From The Museum Store Association website:

"Museums foster appreciation and knowledge of art, nature, culture, science, and history. When you purchase a gift from the museum store, you help to sustain the museum's service to their community and the public. Products found in museum stores are curated just like the works displayed in their respective institutions, with many items often developed exclusively

by the museum, resulting in distinctive and unique offerings.

Museum stores perform integral and multi-faceted work for their institutions -- from earning income and extending mission-related programs, to visitor engagement and educational outreach through store products, programs, and experiences.

Dedicated directly to and an integral department of their institutions, museum stores operate as non-profit retailers under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and are a key earned income revenue department of the museum. Revenues generated by museum stores help to support economic sustainability for the museum and cultural engagement for the community."

In celebration of this we hope you'll join us for MUSEUM STORE SUNDAY on NOVEMBER 26, 2023. We've planned special sale discounts, trunk shows, special tours of the Quarter Circle A Leather Shop and great giveaways including a chance to win a beautiful

tooled leather wallet crafted by our own Jim Jackson.

| BE A PATRON | #MUSEUMSTORESUNDAY

> Jan Windsor Museum Store Manager



MUSEUM GROUNDS 19

# **MUSEUM GROUNDS**

The summer and fall of 2023 was busy and productive for the Brinton grounds crew.

On top of the usual upkeep of the grounds, buildings, nature trails and ranch we were able to get some major projects completed as well. We hired Terre Brooks (Outwest Quality Paintworks) to paint the exterior of the historic ranch house, Terre did a fantastic job. We also had roof repairs completed by A-line roofing as well as

some masonry work done by Neil Switzer and his great team at Switzer Masonry. Little Goose Lodge needed some attention. It received a couple of coats of stain this September. We look forward to another beautiful fall and winter at the Quarter Circle A Ranch and another Fantastic year in 2024. Many thanks to the hard-working crew that helped make it a great year!

Andy Sutphin Grounds & Facilities Director



# THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS & DOCENTS

The Brinton Museum offers many events, programs, and camps for the greater community, and volunteers play a crucial role in supporting our local community. Volunteers offer their time, skills, and labor without the need for compensation. This contribution allows The Brinton Museum to devote more resources directly to the museum's mission and future education programs. Volunteers bring a range of skills to various causes, and they fill gaps in greeting visitors, assist with tours and camps, installing exhibits, and provide knowledgeable expertise. The museum is so honored to work with

such talented and caring volunteers. These men and women from our community tirelessly dedicate their time and effort to make the museum a better place. Their selflessness, commitment, and support are truly remarkable. These individuals give their energy and skills to various volunteer work and are always willing to play an important role in helping with exhibitions, educational programs, and events. Their contributions have a deep impact on the lives of many throughout our community and more. Expressing gratitude to volunteers is not just a simple courtesy, it's a deep

recognition of the important roles they play in shaping a more compassionate and connected society. Their enthusiasm and dedication inspire us all to be better, and for that, we extend our heartfelt thanks to every volunteer and docent who generously contribute their time and expertise. Thank you for making the museum a more enriched and genuine place!

#### Our 2023 volunteers:

Bob Berger Rosie Berger Tommy Bernard Georgia Boley Tracy Boyle Laurie Bratten Ceci Butler Terry Carollo Wallace Bear Chum Ian Deaver Patrick Dixon Shawn Dixon Connie Enger Don Erbschloe Nancy Etchingham Judy Garber

Victoria Grav Jan Guynn Janet Haight Cindy Hamel Tracy Knode-Hamil Carol Hoch David Hubert Barbara Jenny Don Johnson Leslie Johnston Karen Iones Kiki Kruse Susan Rae Long Margaret Magee Pat Garber Mahon Iacomien Mars Steve McLean Tom Meredith Doug Moomey Sue Moomey Nancy Oppenheim Judy Raymond Rachel Ruleaux Ianet Ruleaux Sam Scott Tom Thompson Ion Warder Martha Weischedel Priscilla Welles Loran White Peter Widener



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