



The Grain Bin

Newsletter of The Granary Rural Cultural Center

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WE DID IT!

Granary breaks ground on “Walk with Dakota” Landscape Sculpture Garden

On July 18, the Granary Rural Cultural Center broke ground on the “Walk with Dakota” Interpretive Landscape and Sculpture Garden. Longtime friends, family members, volunteers and people involved with the project were present for this historic event.

“Walk with Dakota” has been broken down into three phases. Phase I – which began this spring and is mostly completed – involved site preparation items that included:

- Installation of a partial, temporary irrigation system
- Excavation, gravelling of walkways
- Tree moving
- Construction of trellises
- Construction of ceremonial mounds

Phase II is set to begin in Spring 2002. Some of the items that are planned for next year include:

- Gallery addition
- Gift shop & new entrances
- Hard surface walkways
- Walkway entrance arbor
- Railroad Track and observation deck

- Tower and pad
- Juniper hedge backdrop and grass stage
- Furrow sculpture
- Environmental statement plaques
- Commemorative wall
- Lighting
- Permanent irrigation system

Phase III involves research by historians, commissioning of sculptures and local, regional, state, national and global outreach/education.

Several companies have been instrumental in getting “Walk with Dakota” off to a great start.

BDM Rural Water Systems, Bill Ewalt of James Valley Telecommunications and Web Water Development aided in landscaping.

Northern Electric Cooperative has assisted with the irrigation system and has organized a consortium of rural electricians to construct our “Staff of Life” reconciliation center sculpture.

Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad has offered to assist with the railroad sculpture of “Walk with Dakota”.

To all of the above groups, and to many other individuals who donated time, materials and labor, the Granary would like to sincerely **THANK YOU!**

2001 Recap

All Dakota High School Fine Arts Exhibition

May 4–6, 8–13

Over 150 students and teachers from Dakota schools took part in wildlife drawing, sculpture, and swing dance workshops. Jess Mehlberg, 14, of Clark re-

ceived “Best of Show”. Terry Jelsing of Fargo, ND and Amy Woods of Aberdeen were exhibition judges/mentors.

“Wild Life” Exhibition

May 18–June 3

This invitational exhibition featured regional

wildlife artists and artisans.

Bender Bison Farms of Britton served burgers. Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge also set up a kid's touch and feel table. Taxidermist Ken Kriech, Aberdeen, demonstrated fish painting.

Sixth Annual All Dakota Fine Arts Festival

June 8-24

Over 70 amateur and professional Dakota artists were featured. Dakota Prairie Cloggers of Brookings provided entertainment. Kelly Face, Stratford, Lora Schaunaman, Westport, Stan Wahl, Pierre, and the Prairie Fiber Arts Guild held demonstrations. Exhibition judge was Mary Groth, Aberdeen.

Labyrinth Dedication

Sun, June 10

The Presentation Sisters of Aberdeen helped sponsor this well attended event. Led by labyrinth coordinator Laurie Lippert and Dr. Steve Redmond. Acoustic guitar player Christopher Robin Johnson of Rapid City provided entertainment.

“Walk with Dakota” Invitational Sculpture Exhibition

June 29-July 29

This exhibition presented a wide view of original sculptures from prominent South and North Dakota artists.

“Emerging Artists” Exhibition

Aug 3-Sept 3

This event featured artwork by 11 recent graduates from studio art programs at colleges and universities throughout the Dakotas. A “framing and matting” workshop was held Sat, August 4th.

“Member Showcase” Exhibition

Sept 7-Oct 29

Granary 2001 members were invited to showcase their favorite artworks.

“Golden Harvest Regional Youth Talent Show”

Oct 21

Twelve young singers, dancers, writers and interpretive performers dazzled audience-goers. Modern Woodman of America Camp #2904 provided matching funds.

2002 Schedule

The Granary staff is busy planning the 2002 season. Watch for more details in 2002.

- **All Dakota High School Fine Arts Exhibition**
May 3-5, 7-12
- **“Local Colors II” Invitational**
May 18-June 2
- **Seventh Annual All Dakota Fine Arts Festival**
June 8-24
- **Learn More About Labyrinths Days**
June 9
- **“Vulcan’s Rainbow” Ceramic/Pottery/3D Invitational**
June 29-July 28
- **“Walk with Dakota” Traditional Native American Exhibit**
Aug 3-Sept 2
- **Risk Takers II Invitational**
Sept 7-Oct 1

Outreach Coordinator named

Renee McKiver, an artist from Groton and long-time Granary volunteer, has been named Granary Outreach Coordinator.

With a funding made possible by the Sheldon Resse Foundation, McKiver has visited 30 schools within a 100-mile radius of Brown County.

The purpose of McKiver’s visit is to help stu-

dents within these schools realize their potential as visual artists. Some of these schools on McKiver’s stops do not currently have art programs.

McKiver began the project in September 2001 and said she is happy to share her artwork with regional high school students.

“Hopefully it may inspire them to pursue art as

a hobby or career.”

During her 45-minute presentation, McKiver discusses different painting techniques, the steps taken to complete a finished work, and the importance of research when doing a painting.

Some of the schools McKiver has already visited in South Dakota include: Central High School, New Beginnings Center and Holgate all in Aberdeen; Bristol; Britton; Clark; Clear Lake; Conde; Eu-

reka; Elm Valley; Groton; Hecla-Houghton; Hoven; Ipswich; Langford; Leola; Melette; Milbank; Moberg; Redfield; Roscoe; Selby; Sisseton; Webster; Wessington; Wilmot; Wolsey and Waubay.

In North Dakota: Wahpeton, Valley City, Oakes, Milnor, Lisbon.

McKiver’s presentation is of no cost to the school. If you would like to schedule a visit for the 2002 spring semester, contact her at (605) 397-8255.

News from the Administrator

Great news everyone!

I am happy to report that there were several milestones worth mentioning that occurred this year.

First of all, we had one of the largest attendances at our All Dakota High School Fine Arts Exhibition. A few new schools were added to our growing roster of young individuals who have a strong interest in the visual arts.

And the excitement doesn’t stop there! Admission at Granary Fine Arts programs and exhibitions was up almost 30 percent! Several groups from the Dakotas who visited our facilities include: Britton, Brookings, Eureka, Redfield, Plymouth Congregational Church and New Beginnings Center (both in Aberdeen), a private family reunion, Putney 4-H, a district Garden Club and even a bus tour of 40 from Bismarck, ND!

Secondly, brick and tile sales, ad memberships are also inching up. More people are becoming aware of and seeing how our programs benefit local artists, families, the cultural community and tourism.

A few other highlights worth mentioning include:

- The Granary was nominated for the 2001 Abby Award for Outstanding Community Service–Nonprofit category.
- We also received statewide coverage from

KELO TV and “Live With Jim Thompson!” a syndicated radio show out of Spearfish, SD.

- Large, color news articles appeared in several local, regional and statewide publications telling thousands about “Walk with Dakota” including: the Aberdeen American News, Groton Dakota Press, Groton Independent, and Sioux Falls Argus Leader.

I won’t take most of the credit for the wonderful news. All this positive momentum has come from the support and help from more than 100 volunteers, my board, my committee, visitors and contributors.

I am anxious to get started on an exciting roster of events for next season. Looking back, we have done a lot of great work to be proud of this season, but looking ahead, we have a lot more to do!

Thanks everyone for making 2001 a HUGE success!

Clarifications

In the May 2001 “Grain Bin”, the Granary erroneously said Prairie Partners Inc., of Sioux Falls was an architectural firm. They are actually a landscape architectural firm.

Also, the Granary does not allow dogs on their campus. However, service dogs will be permitted.

We apologize for any confusion this may have caused.