



ABOUT

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Walk To The Rock - An International Tourist Stop



Since the dedication in July, we have been thrilled with the number of international visitors we have met at Chimney Rock! The people in the photos are from many different countries, including France, Switzerland, Australia, Germany, the Czech Republic, Italy, Finland, and many more.

- The Collot family is from Burgundy, France but they are currently living at Ft. Leavenworth.
- 4 UNO students from Vietnam, Japan, and Norway took a road trip to see a western sunset. They left Omaha at 9 a.m., arrived at Chimney Rock at 4:30 p.m., and then drove back to Omaha that evening.
- Our visitor from the Czech Republic stopped by with her mother to walk Trail A.
- The Palmers from Horley, England took a walk on Trail A but also enjoyed watching the "mile" long coal trains along the North Platte Valley.

"Almost all are traveling around the West visiting the popular parks such as Yellowstone, Glacier, Mt. Rushmore, and the Blackhills, yet they also stop by Chimney Rock," said Sandra Reddish, Western Nebraska Coordinator for NSHSF. "They all seemed pleased and delighted to be some of the first visitors to walk and see the Rock up close."

If you have lived in Nebraska all your life but have not visited Chimney Rock, now is the time! We look forward to seeing you.

The Pershing Miracle



A Personal Letter from Liz Shea-McCoy, Chair - Pershing Mural Preservation Committee

This dramatic photograph appeared on the front page of the Lincoln Journal Star on August 8, showing the demolition of Pershing Auditorium underway in downtown Lincoln. What is “miraculous” is the absence of the iconic Pershing Mural, thanks to the intervention of thousands of Nebraskans. It was rescued before the wreckingball arrived. The Mural is now safely located in a Lincoln warehouse... undergoing a precise piece-by-piece restoration.

It was not easy getting to this point in the process. Volunteers and donors worked tirelessly to save the historic Pershing Mural by first raising \$850,000 in 4 short months to fund the careful removal of the 140’ x 38’ artwork from the front of Pershing Auditorium. The indexed 4’ x 8’ sections were successfully stored in a warehouse thanks to the community’s support of the rescue fundraising (Phase 1).

The Committee’s current focus is raising funds to pay for the restoration (Phase 2) and reinstallation (Phase 3) within historic Wyuka Park (Lincoln’s first park established in 1867) in 2024.

Our immediate need is to raise an additional \$170,000 to obtain a \$250,000 matching grant. If we are successful, combined with the \$500,000 already donated, we will reach \$1 million toward our \$3.1 million goal.

What I am hoping is that every Nebraskan who contributed to rescue (Phase 1), and every Nebraskan who has reflected on the wonder of this project, will take a moment to help us “meet the match” and send a contribution of any size to the Pershing Mural Project at the Nebraska State Historical Society Foundation (our fiscal sponsor for tax-deductible donations).

We promise every dollar of your contribution will go to restoring and erecting the Mural and establishing an endowment for the Mural’s future maintenance. This remarkable artwork, one of the world’s largest, will be treasured by current and future generations of Lincolniters and all Nebraskans.

I am most grateful for your serious consideration of this request. With your help, and the help of thousands of Nebraska who played and enjoyed their memorable experiences at the Pershing, and the thousand more who anticipate the reinstallation in a fabulous new framework... we can do this!

Project Update: The mural team is currently in the restoration phase. Using modern 3-D technology, drone footage, and good old-fashioned elbow grease our team is cleaning, restoring, and realigning each tile in precise 12 x 12 reinstallation grids. “The work is delicate and time-consuming,” said Michelle Mc Cullough, project

architect, “ but we have the plan, the time and the tools to reinstall one of the world’s largest artworks into a beautifully landscaped frame.”

Donate to the Pershing Mural Project

Check Presentation at United By Culture Media in Lexington, NE



It started with a Festival to help the community and turned into a nonprofit focused on making sure diverse rural stories are told.

Mission: To create a safe and authentic space in which the diverse story exists.

Our Vision: To build a positive cultural identity among people of color living in the Heartland.

Values: We believe in authenticity, respect, and collaboration. Everything we do, we do together.

Racial Equity Statement: At United by Culture Media, diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging are at the heart of our work. We are committed to these values in everything we do.

NSHSF was pleased to award \$2,500 to United by Culture Media in support of their Festival taking place September 24th from 11am to 7 pm at Kirkpatrick Memorial Park in Lexington. The goal of the event is PRESERVING THEIR CULTURE, THEIR HISTORY AND PROMOTING understanding and unity.

Learn More about the Statewide Grants Program

Events:

Sept. 7: "Beavers of the Fur Trade", Fontenelle Forest, 6-7:30pm

Sept. 7: "President U.S. Grant", Lincoln County Historical Museum, 7-8pm

Sept. 24: United by Culture Festival, Kirkpatrick Memorial Park, 11am - 7pm

Oct. 7: "Filley Stone Barn Harvest Festival," Filley, NE 101m-4pm

Oct. 14: "Willa Cather's Life In Letters," Brownville Town Hall, 1:30pm

For more upcoming events, visit our [Events Calendar](#).

Have any events you'd like us to share? Email Leslie Fattig at lfattig@nshsf.org

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