



Nebraska State Historical Society Foundation

Connecting people with Nebraska history since 1942.

[ABOUT](#)[PROJECTS](#)[DONATE](#)

2023 In Review

Happy New Year! The Nebraska State Historical Society Foundation has had a very successful year, success that is largely attributable to your loyal support as we celebrate 81 years of preserving and protecting Nebraska's history for future generations. Thank you for your partnership in our mission. A short year-in-review of all we accomplished together in 2023 follows below.

First, a look ahead to 2024: In addition to the many donations we have received for the Statewide Grants Program, in October, the John K. and Lynne D. Boyer Family Foundation provided a \$25,000 matching grant toward **NSHSF's Statewide Grants Program**. The Boyer Foundation has donated \$25,000 to this program and will provide an additional \$25,000 if we can match that amount between December 1, 2023, and March 30, 2024 – that's a grand total of \$75,000 toward support for this program. Help us meet this goal by [donating now](#).

This year we awarded \$50,000 in support to 48 local historical societies, museums, and nonprofits through our Statewide Grants Program. This program provided grants of up to \$2,500 for a wide range of projects, providing Nebraska communities with resources to preserve and share their unique histories.

I hope you have already walked or are planning to visit the walking trails at Chimney Rock soon...

On April 6 construction began on the walking trails at Chimney Rock. This foundation raised \$1.9 million dollars in a little more than 10 months to fund the costs of the project. The dedication of the "Walk to the Rock" in late July was attended by area notables as well as many members of the surrounding communities. We know that more than 3,200 people have visited including an unbelievable number of international visitors. We thank the many donors who have helped make this project a reality, especially the Nebraska Environmental Trust, the Ethel S. Abbott Foundation, D F Dillon Foundation, Acklie Family Foundation/Crete Carriers Corporation, Mammel Family Foundation, Scotts Bluff County Visitors Bureau, Oregon Trail Community Foundation, Quivey Bay State Foundation, Krieger Family Foundation, and the G. A. Fliesbach Foundation.

This carefully designed, safe, and ecologically sound trail experience provides free accessibility to all Chimney Rock visitors and is a remarkable addition to the Nebraska tourism menu and area economies.

[Click here](#) to donate to the Walk To The Rock Education and Maintenance Fund.

In 2023, we carried out and supported independent projects. Here are a few examples:

- We provided dozens of grants to independent agencies and nonprofits, including the Nebraska Commission on Indian Affairs, support of the Chief Standing Bear Prize for Courage event, the Dr. Susan LaFleche Picotte Center in Walthill, and local historical organizations from Falls City to Hemingford.
- To further support local preservation efforts, we offer paid annual memberships to all 2023 Statewide Grant applicants to the Nebraska Museums Association. The NMA offers a wide array of programming to support the efforts of all Nebraska museums. The NMA encourages, equips, and unites individuals and their organizations to elevate the cultural community of Nebraska.
- Continuing our support as fiscal sponsor, we partnered with a group of passionate volunteers to raise \$1.4 million to partially fund the preservation of Lincoln's Pershing Mural, a historically significant and unique piece of public art that was headed for demolition. Considered a Nebraska cultural landmark, the immense artwork will be reinstalled within Historic Wyuka Cemetery and Park, Lincoln's first public park, established by an act of the Nebraska Legislature in 1869. Wyuka is listed on the National Historic Register and is also a Nebraska State Arboretum Historic Landmark.



[Donate](#) to the Pershing Mural Project today to support this historic preservation effort.

We are in the second year of the NSHSF grassroots Nebraska travel adventure program - **WanderNebraska** which encourages travelers to leave the interstate behind to learn and enjoy the real history in Nebraska's small towns and sometimes overlooked museums and historical societies. We invited all 500+ local and community historically focused nonprofits to participate in WanderNebraska and an astonishing 170 sites as well as Nebraska Game and Parks sites joined the program. We look forward to announcing improvements in early January, including an easy-to-use booklet for visitors to find their favorites! Stay tuned.

[Wandernebraska.com](https://wandernebraska.com)

We continue to support **History Nebraska**, a state agency, in accordance with the intent of our donors as we manage 27 endowed funds for their benefit. This Foundation remains open to future opportunities to support the study and preservation of Nebraska's history with History Nebraska. We have a representative on their search committee for a new executive director and communications have opened through different avenues with their board of directors and staff. We will continue to promote the resources we have available to them and new ideas for collaboration.

We are set up for stewardship. This Foundation has an 81-year track record of stewarding gifts from our generous donors. We manage 37 endowed funds, a total of more than \$19 million in invested assets and the foundation owns 1,200 acres of historic property. In 2023, we processed almost 700 unique donations totaling \$1.56 million.

New logo, new office, a capable staff! We have grown - now with a staff of four full-time employees (Leslie Fattig, Carolyn Hove, Sandra Reddish, and Michelle Sullivan), one part-time employee (Sue Quambusch), and two interns (Chaitra Pirisingula and Makenna Eisenzimmer) we look forward to a bright and successful 2024. Please stop by and visit if you are in the area, we'd love to show you our new space.

On behalf of our board of directors, we thank you for your support of our mission. We wish you the best in the year ahead.

Please feel free to call me at (cell) 402-209-9140 or send an email to LFattig@nshsf.org with any questions or comments.

My best,
Leslie Fattig
Executive Director

Nebraska State Historical Society Foundation
1201 Lincoln Mall
Suite 100
Lincoln, NE 68508

Connect with us!



Nebraska State Historical Society Foundation | 1201 Lincoln Mall, Suite 100, Lincoln, NE 68508
402-435-3535

[Unsubscribe cheri@duryeastrategicmarketing.com](mailto:cheri@duryeastrategicmarketing.com)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by lfattig@nshsf.org