



FRIENDS *of the* CAPITOL, INC.

2013 ANNUAL REPORT



Friends of the Capitol, Inc.

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Building on the success of previous years, Friends of the Capitol, Inc. continues to grow and move forward in its efforts to beautify and preserve Oklahoma's iconic State Capitol. Many of the restoration achievements and cultural projects highlighted in this report help to sustain the architectural and artistic integrity of Solomon Layton's seminal work. At the same time, our investment in new technologies leads the way in making the Capitol accessible to a 21st-Century audience. Other Friends of the Capitol endeavors from 2013 celebrate the talents of our state's finest artists and recognize the contributions of some of Oklahoma's greatest cultural icons. In partnership with you, we ensure that the Capitol is maintained as a functional seat of governance, and as an architectural, cultural, historical and artistic treasure.

As the building's centennial approaches, we must be mindful of the long path ahead. For all of our great accomplishments and for all the extensive work that has been done, there remains much to do. We fervently desire to partner with our state's leadership and private citizens to undertake projects necessary to prepare the building for its next century of service. We thank you for your support of our efforts and hope you enjoy reviewing our accomplishments that show how, together, we can and will ensure a lasting future for The People's House.

Amy Dillon

Executive Director
Friends of the Capitol, Inc.

Our Mission Statement:

Friends of the Capitol, Inc. is a tax-exempt, 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation devoted to maintaining and improving the beauty and grandeur of the Oklahoma State Capitol building and showcasing its magnificent works of art. This mission is accomplished through a partnership with private citizens wishing to leave their footprint on our state's rich history.

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Projects 2013

Friends of the Capitol undertakes numerous projects in support of developing, preserving, restoring, and making accessible artworks within the Capitol Art Collection. Oklahoma's state house art collection is comprised of more than one hundred permanent sculptures, murals and paintings located throughout the Capitol's hallways, rotunda, and grounds. In addition to enriching a historic civic space, the collection provides thousands of visitors and students a unique and engaging way to learn about Oklahoma's history through the events, people and land depicted in the works.

Galleries in the Capitol

The Oklahoma State Capitol is home to four art galleries, each exhibiting works of current and former Oklahomans. Curated by the Oklahoma Arts Council, the galleries include: the first floor Betty Price Gallery, home to the State Art Collection; the Governor's Gallery, featuring paintings and mixed media works on the second floor; the first floor North Gallery, highlighting photography and works on paper; and the East Gallery, on the first floor with its paintings and mixed media. The Governor's, East, and North galleries rotate exhibits approximately every 60 days.

After decades of use and exposure, the fabric on the walls of the North, East and Governor's Galleries was worn, soiled and unsightly and the wood substrate was no longer structurally sound. Friends of the Capitol replaced, at a cost of \$11,370, the wood and fabric in November, 2013, greatly enhancing the spaces and displayed artwork.



Wall panels in the North Gallery [above left] were worn, soiled and did not provide stable support for photographs, while the renovated gallery [upper right] creates a cleaner, more elegant space.

Sculpture Cleaning and Preservation

Allan Houser's monumental tribute to Native Americans, *As Long as the Waters Flow*, dedicated on June 4, 1989 and Constance Whitney Warren's *Tribute to Range Riders*, installed in May, 1930, two of the Capitol's finest artworks, are located in the Centennial Memorial Plaza of the Oklahomans on the south façade of the building.

The sculptures are subject to damage from the elements and must be closely monitored to ensure their integrity. Annually, preventative steps must be taken to ensure their preservation for future generation. In 2013, as in previous years, Friends of the Capitol funded (for \$1,800) the cleaning, reconditioning and sealing of the artworks.



Allan Houser's monumental, 14-foot bronze, *As Long as the Waters Flow*, as it appeared prior to cleaning [far left] and after extensive treatment and sealing [near left].

One of the earliest artworks to adorn the Capitol, Constance Whitney Warren's *Tribute to Range Riders* has been on the south plaza since 1930. Friends of the Capitol funded an inspection and cleaning of the piece, that sealed the matted verdigris finish [near right] and brought out the rich tones of the aged bronze [far right].



Signage

Signage for each of the over 100 works of art in the Capitol Art Collection identifies the piece, artist and donors. However, inconsistency in materials and design caused confusion and lack of aesthetics.

Friends of the Capitol worked with the State Capitol Preservation Commission to implement a uniform set of design standards developed by the Oklahoma Arts Council. In 2013, Friends of the Capitol funded the initial phase of the project and began replacing existing signage with etched zinc wall plaques. The first phase, at a cost of \$2885, was completed on March 17, 2014, and included works of the fourth floor rotunda, *A Place to Cross* on the third floor, and first floor works *Mickey Mantle* and *The Earth and I Are One*. Work will continue with art on the second floor and fourth floor hallways.

In the image at right, six of the various types of artwork signage can be seen. Arts Council staff identified as many as nine different designs throughout the public spaces of the Capitol. The far right image is that of the new, standardized plaque, which is made of etched zinc.

Below, portraits of Ada Lois Sipuel Fisher [left in image] and Jim Thorpe [foreground in image] are identified by their new plaques in the fourth floor rotunda.



Exclusive Guided Tour of the Oklahoma State Capitol

In November of 2013, Friends of the Capitol hosted a guided tour of the Oklahoma State Capitol by Oklahoma City University President Robert Henry. Henry, a walking encyclopedia of Oklahoma history and culture, presented a captivating review of the people and events that make Oklahoma's story truly unique. Prompted by the grand artworks filling the state house halls, Henry enthralled the group with tales from Oklahoma's famous – and infamous – past. From a pensive "Miss Kate" Barnard on the first floor to a grinning Will Rogers looking out into the fourth floor rotunda, the Capitol's iconic artworks are a treasury of Oklahoma's celebrated story.

Following the tour, Friends of the Capitol hosted a get-together and hors d'oeuvres at Ludvine restaurant. With such success and fun, the evening is sure to be an annual event.



Oklahoma City University president Robert Henry [foreground] tells the remarkable story of Oklahoma's Kate Barnard as part of a guided tour of the state house presented by Friends of the Capitol on November 15, 2013. Barnard was the first woman elected to a statewide public office in the United States and is honored with a bronze statue on the first floor of the Capitol.

New Media Center

For many years, the first floor rotunda was the home of the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department's Capitol Visitors Center. It was a mainstay in the building until it moved into the new Capitol Welcome Center adjacent to the Grand Staircase a few years ago. The abandoned space became a dated, dark eyesore marring the highest traffic area in the building. Two years ago, under the direction of former Capitol Architect and Friends of the Capitol co-founder Paul B. Meyer, plans were developed to convert the area into a 21st Century media center. In late 2013, Friends of the Capitol undertook the remodeling and refurbishing of the old information center in conjunction with the Office of Management and Enterprise Services, the Capitol Building Superintendent and the State Capitol Preservation Commission.

Installed in 2013, the new 6' x 9' Media Center offers visitors the chance to learn historical facts about the Capitol through "visual tours" transmitted through a "wall" of nine video monitors. The Media Center provides comprehensive and educational displays depicting the history of the Capitol and showcases its evolution and restoration through the years. The Media Center also provides viewers an intimate study of the Capitol Art Collection and, in the future, will provide comprehensive information to serve legislators, Capitol visitors and staff. The project was completed at a cost of over \$150,000 and will both enhance visitor experiences for years to come and drive the development and integration of new technologies into Capitol infrastructure.



The old Capitol Visitors Center [inset left] as it appeared prior to renovation, and [below] as it is now with the 3x3 grid of video monitors. The Media Center will become an information showcase for the building, serving occupants and tourists alike via a touch screen panel, located to the right of the media wall.



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Future Project

Planning for the future is a cornerstone of Friends of The Capitol's mission. In concert with state leadership, the Capitol Building Superintendent, the State Capitol Preservation Commission and the Oklahoma Arts Council, Friends of the Capitol is constantly assessing the needs of the state house and planning for its future. Restoration work that reveals the beauty and grandeur of the building's architecture, the development of cultural and artistic programming that captures the imagination of school children and visitors, and the commissioning of new artworks that voice Oklahoma's proud story are the lofty objectives that keep Friends of the Capitol energized and moving forward.

Renovation of Governor's Conference Room

Friends of the Capitol will help in the cost of renovating the Governor's reception and conference room. According to former Capitol Architect Paul B. Meyer, this is something that has been on the State Capitol Preservation Commission's "Wish List" for over 15 years. The project is currently budgeted at approximately \$150,000, which would include repair and restoration costs, lighting, custom rugs, and a mural.



In these architectural renderings, the second floor entry to the Governor's renovated conference room is detailed [inset left] while the interior space, which includes new furnishings, color scheme, mural, and restored ceiling and glass skylights is depicted below.



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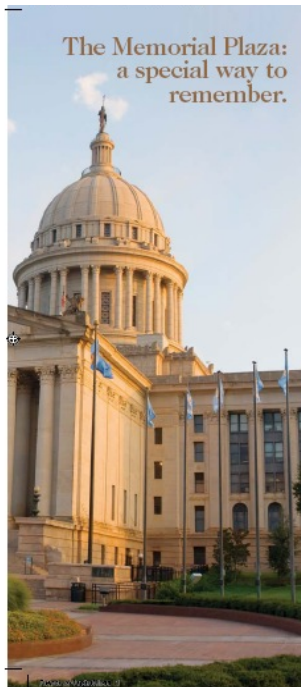
Fundraising Activities

Friends of the Capitol is involved in a variety of fundraising activities, each offering a unique and lasting opportunity to our donors. We offer engraved pavers, *Art Treasures of the Oklahoma State Capitol* book, *The Oklahoma State Capitol* book, and the Oklahoma Postcard Collection. We welcome new and renewed annual sponsorships in addition to supporting these activities directly.

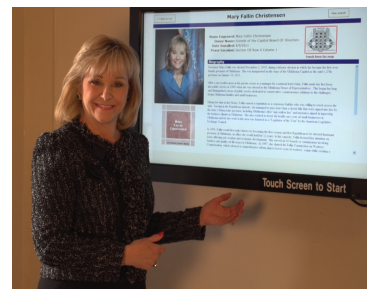
Granite Pavers in the Centennial Memorial Plaza of the Oklahomans

The idea of a Memorial Plaza was conceived to allow every Oklahoman to stake their claim to Oklahoma history. You can purchase a paver for yourself as well as honor or remember a special person with the selection of a \$300 15" x 15" engraved granite paver. Now this opportunity is extended to businesses and foundations to preserve their place as contributors to our great state!

These new 15" x 30" corporate pavers in the Memorial Plaza are available to Oklahoma businesses through a \$1000 tax-deductible donation to Friends of the Capitol. Mark your company's contributions to Oklahoma, or honor a retiring employee with a personal paver and attached biography. The granite is in place ready to receive your business or honoree's name in the vast Memorial Plaza at the monumental entrance to the Capitol!



Stately granite pavers line the plaza of the Oklahoma Capitol. These beautiful 15" x 15" pavers are engraved with the name of the donor or the donor's honoree and will remain on the plaza permanently. Pavers may be purchased by making a \$300 tax-deductible donation through our website, www.friendsofthecapitol.com or by calling (405) 843-2443.

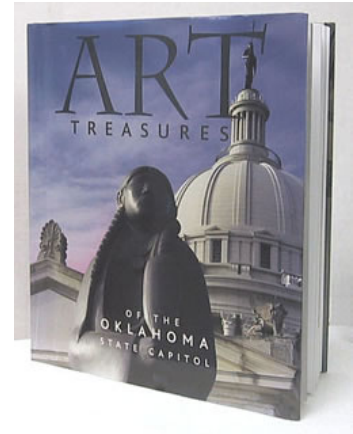


A touch-screen panel, shown above with Governor Mary Fallin, is located off the east entrance to the Capitol and allows you to locate your honoree's paver as well as read their biography. The technology was provided by Friends of the Capitol at a cost of \$9,700.

Art Treasures of the Oklahoma State Capitol

For those who would appreciate the opportunity to savor the beauty of the artwork on display in our state Capitol, we offer *Art Treasures of the Oklahoma State Capitol*. *Art Treasures*, a book written by Bob Burke, Betty Crow, and Sandy Meyers, depicts the wealth of artistic expression seen in the Oklahoma Capitol building. Proceeds from the sale of this book benefit the Friends of the Capitol.

\$25, friendsofthecapitol.com or (405) 843-2443.

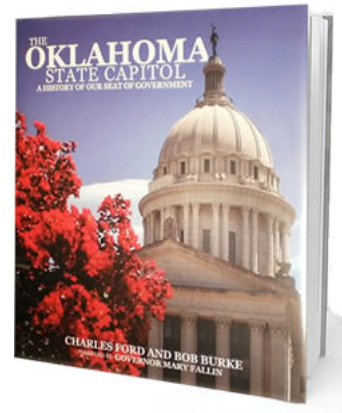


The Oklahoma State Capitol

Written by Charles Ford and Bob Burke, *The Oklahoma State Capitol* tells how the Capitol honors our historic diversity by preserving art treasures and displaying them in the building. Oklahoma's Capitol is rich in artistic wealth revealed by monumental bronze statues and beautiful murals and canvases.

\$29.95, includes free shipping, friendsofthecapitol.com or 405-843-2443.

Also available from the OK Tourism Centers throughout the state.



Oklahoma Postcard Collection

Donors to this program select an historical postcard from the Capitol collection, with images representing historical events, people and places statewide. The postcard selected will be enlarged to 40" x 60" and hung in the halls of the west entryway of the Oklahoma State Capitol along with an engraved plaque, listing the sponsor's name. The postcard collection provides an expressive walk through momentous times in our state's past.

\$425 donation, (405) 843-2443.





The beauty of our state's Capitol Building is exquisitely captured in the picture above, provided with permission from Paul B. Meyer of Oklahoma City's MA+ Architecture. The granite pavers shown in the plaza entrance are the same pavers that Friends of the Capitol donors purchase to support our ongoing beautification efforts and memorialize themselves or their chosen honorees.

We invite you to join
FRIENDS of the CAPITOL, INC.

Visit the Friends of the Capitol website, friendsofthecapitol.com, to become a member and sponsor our art acquisition and restoration and Capitol improvement and beautification programs. When you purchase personalized granite pavers, you may enter their biographical information and find the placement of their paver through this site.

You may contact Friends of the Capitol, at (405)843-2443 or email our Executive Director, Amy Dillon, at adillon@friendsofthecapitol.com. Our mailing address is 7100 N. Classen Blvd., Suite 100, Oklahoma City, OK 73116.

Please take the time to visit the Oklahoma State Capitol, 2300 N. Lincoln Blvd., Oklahoma City, OK 73105, and experience some of our accomplishments and see why we are proud to be **FRIENDS of the CAPITOL!**

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Donors and Honorees

Friends of the Capitol would like to thank the following individuals, foundations and businesses who provided support in 2013.

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"How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world."

- Anne Frank