Museum of North Idaho

ANNUAL REPORT
2020
HISTORY

The Museum of North Idaho incorporated in 1968 to serve Idaho’s five northern counties. It quickly became apparent that people wanted a Museum to serve and focus on the history of the Coeur d’Alene Region (Kootenai, Benewah, and a portion of Shoshone counties).

The Museum renovated a 4,000 square-foot, city-owned building at 115 Northwest Boulevard in 1979. The Museum collects and preserves artifacts made or used in the Coeur d’Alene region that are representative of regional history and culture with an emphasis on the stories connected to those artifacts. The Museum has collections of over 14,000 artifacts, books, and archival materials and over 36,000 photographs.

MISSION

The Museum of North Idaho inspires a dynamic connection to the unique heritage of the Coeur d’Alene region by celebrating, preserving, exhibiting and sharing history with its community and visitors.

VISION

The Museum of North Idaho’s vision is to be a premier regional museum. Our Vision means we:
• Collect, preserve, catalogue and exhibit artifacts to illustrate the Coeur d’Alene region’s history
• Inspire learning, cultural enrichment and a better understanding of how we came to be here
• Sustain this legacy for future generations
Sharing History
With the emergence of the global COVID-19 pandemic, the Museum was unable to open its doors on April 1st, as it had for the past 38 years. When the Museum was able to open in June, it was at a greatly reduced capacity, limiting the number of people who were able to visit the Museum, Gift Shop, and Research Library each day. Attendance was just 2,429 guests compared to 5,852 in 2019. Before the library lecture series was canceled due to the pandemic, Staff Historian Robert Singletary gave lectures on the history of the J.C. White House and the history of F. A. Blackwell. Reduced in-person visitation forced the Museum to enhance its virtual presence. Under the guidance of Development and Marketing Director Jocelyn Whitfield-Babcock, the Museum posted historical photos, articles, and family programming on the Museum’s website and social media.

Rightfully Hers: Finding Equality In A Man’s World was the Museum’s feature exhibit.

Staffing Updates
After 38 years of leadership, Dorothy Dahlgren announced her retirement effective October 2020. Britt Thurman took the helm as the new Executive Director. Lisa Hunt, bookkeeper, resigned effective December 2020.

Updates on the New Museum Facility
Work commenced rebuilding the J. C. White House wrap around porch, utility hookups and repair on interior and exterior spaces. With a goal of $600,000, the Capital Campaign Cabinet secured donations amounting to $605,000 with an additional $165,000 in pledges (payable by 2023) to make the above work possible. In place of the Museum’s annual meeting in September, the Museum of North Idaho held a virtual fundraising gala featuring a play by George Currie. The gala raised over $20,000 for the new Museum building fund.

Working with Alchemy of Design (Oregon) and local historians, museum staff completed the first phase of an interpretive plan outline of themes for the new museum exhibit hall.

Operations Grants
The Museum received a $500 grant from Allegra MPM for newsletter printing, $1,400 from the Idaho State Historical Society Enhancement grant for a public-use computer and scanner, and a $5,000 Idaho Humanities Council CARES grant for payroll support.
Operating Revenue  
$133,588

Museum memberships of $28,481 and publishing of $24,591 were the largest sources of earned revenue. CARES Act grants and individual donations brought in $49,765.

Operating Expenses  
$133,164

Most of our expenses were for educational and public programming, fundraising, facility maintenance, marketing, and other administrative costs.

Statement of Financial Position  
Figures as of 12/31/2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fund</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Building Fund</td>
<td>$444,975</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chapel Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>Collections Fund</td>
<td>$25,064</td>
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<tr>
<td>Operational Reserves</td>
<td>$243,401</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Endowment  
$221,974

The Museum's endowment, managed by the Idaho Community Foundation, increased by $23,594 through contributions and investment earnings.