

For Immediate Use
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Kansas Museum of History to Reopen After Major Renovation on November 22, 2025

TOPEKA, KANSAS—The Kansas Historical Society (KSHS) announces that the Kansas Museum of History will open after three years of major renovations on Saturday, November 22, 2025. The new exhibits will bring exciting interactive experiences along with fresh settings for familiar objects.

The museum gallery has undergone much change since the doors closed in 2022. A ramp now takes visitors to new heights, providing wide views of the gallery. Stories about people from across Kansas communities are centered on items from the museum collections. The thematic gallery asks visitors as they enter to consider What is Kansas?, What was Kansas?, and Why Kansas?, as they proceed to exhibits in the 20,000 square foot spaces.

- *Bleeding Kansas* tells the story of the turbulent territorial era, how Kansas became a state, and Kansans' role in the Civil War. Special features in this section are stories of the Underground Railroad and Civil War battle flags and uniforms.
- *Making Kansas* is rooted in the land and resources from the earth. Special items are the 1868 Southwestern Stagecoach, recreated 1880s era dugout, 1914 biplane, 1915 Parker carousel horse, 1935 outhouse, a 1940s era boxcar, and 1955 Ford F-600 grain truck.
- *Connecting Kansas* is centered on the 1880 Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe steam locomotive and the impact of the railroad.
- *Changing Kansas* shares stories of people pushing to make their society a better place. Featured items include the 1893 doors to the Kansas House of Representatives, damaged in the legislative war; the 1908 Great Smith Automobile; and the 1890s printing press from *The Emporia Gazette*.
- *Celebrating Kansas* highlights how communities come together for unique and ongoing festivals.

The 2,000 square foot special exhibits gallery opens with *Celebrating KANSAS!*, honoring the magazine's 80-year history. Beyond the special exhibits gallery, a new feature for visitors will be a window into collection storage. Artifacts will be rotated to provide views of interesting items in the collection not currently on display.

Hours will be 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday; 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday. Admission will be \$10 adults, \$8 seniors, college students with ID, active military; \$5 youth (6-17); children free (0-5).

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NOTES FOR MEDIA: Media kit with further information and images at kansashistory.gov/21131

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