

“JOY!”

A Quarterly Newsletter

Volume 1 / Issue 4 - December 2022

A Season for Gratefulness, Giving and Gratitude . . .

What is the connection between the three words? **Gratefulness** is a warm and deep appreciation for kindness received. **Giving** provides love or other emotional support; caring. **Gratitude** is an attitude of appreciation under any circumstances. The three are all connected in an affirmative way.

This season, we are especially grateful for the many sponsors and donors who have joined in the purpose of keeping the Kathlyn Joy Gilliam Museum alive. Over the past several months, we have seen the dedication and commitment of volunteers. We have developed relationships with organizations and individuals who have given the support we required both emotionally and monetarily. Your encouragement has sustained our will to continue the works of someone who cared deeply for others -- whether instilling the importance of education; opening eyes to new and exciting ventures; embracing cultures; creating a line of communication for all to be involved; or simply providing a space for calmness and tranquility, we give thanks for the blessing of the harvest that has been given to us.

We are looking forward to our “Grand Opening” soon. We hope that all will attend and will become involved in the programs of the Kathlyn Joy Gilliam Museum.

“Thank you” is the best prayer that anyone could say. I say that one a lot. Thank you expresses extreme gratitude, humility, and understanding.”

-- Alice Walker

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

KJGM

TEACHABLE MOMENTS AT KJGM

NEEDED: Retired librarian assistance.

The Kathlyn Joy Gilliam Museum is in search of a librarian who would volunteer time to assist students in cataloging the many books of the Museum. If you are interested in volunteering a couple of hours a week and enjoy working with school age students, please contact Connie Harris at 469.878.3945. Your expertise is invaluable.

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YEAR-END CONTRIBUTIONS

As 2022 quickly comes to an end, we realize there are organizations or individuals who seek to make year-end donates to non-profits. If you fall within that grouping, we ask that you consider the Kathlyn Joy Gilliam Museum. We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. All donations are tax deductible. Your kind continued support will benefit the Museum and its programs. Checks or Money Orders may be made payable to the Kathlyn Joy Gilliam Museum, 3817 Wendelkin Street, Dallas, TX 75215 OR Post Office Box 152593, Dallas, TX 75315 OR consider using the donation link at www.kathlynjoygilliammuseum.org.

Gratitude

By: Lorita Lipscomb



My favorite definition for Gratitude is “A Need Met.” This is the Season to give gifts, however, if there is no true need for the gift, you become more thankful or appreciative.

When I truly have a need, and that need is met that is when I can express sincere Gratitude!

As fallen man, we have a need of a Savior, The Lord Jesus Christ. The Love Acts of Jesus Christ, shedding His precious blood on Calvary’s Cross to redeem lost mankind from spiritual death and hell is definitely a need met that warrants true Gratitude.

Growing up as a young girl, I really did not have the gratitude for my parents and siblings until I became an adult. I began to have gratitude for the many needs met (Safe and comfortable home, 3 good meals a day, and being reared in a Christian environment), these were again “Needs Met”!

We are confronted with many trials, heartaches, sicknesses and disappoints daily. When we are met with a remedy this produces true Gratitude!

Parents tell their children to show gratitude when someone does something nice. Gratitude implies, however, much more than showing good manners. It’s a practice that requires acknowledging someone else’s gesture towards us or the things that are going well in our lives. Gratitude is strongly and consistently associated with greater happiness.

Gratitude helps people feel more positive emotions, relish good experiences, improve their health, deal with adversity, and build strong relationships.

Cultivating a heart of gratitude means **having an appreciation for life in the present moment.** It is counting our blessings, noticing simple pleasures, and acknowledging the abundance already here. When we are truly thankful for what we already have and content with what is – that is enough!

HUMOR IN GIVING

Several years ago, a neighborhood organization determined that it would be great to feed neighbors on Thanksgiving Day. The intent was to feed individuals and become more acquainted with neighbors and friends. It was a great jester of giving plus it was a means of raising a little bit of money to go into their treasury. Lots of planning went into the big day. Who will prepare the turkeys and trimmings? Who will serve? What will be an appropriate charge for each plate? Someone suggested \$1.00 a plate . . . and so . . . they did. Little did they know that the count of neighbors would rise like helium filled balloons. They literally had lines of people wrapped around the corner waiting to present their \$1.00 in exchange for a complete meal. Of course, some food items were quickly depleted. Thankfully, they had experienced cooks in the organization who put what they had in their cupboards together to complete the Thanksgiving meal. They stuck with the plan until the last person was served. It was a fun time for all!

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE: Restoration efforts continue as we approach the end of the project. An “Open House” will take place over a two-day period. More information to come.

The Texas Historical Foundation is the latest to join the restoration team. We are grateful for their sponsorship of a “Community Mural” at the Kathlyn Joy Gilliam Museum. It will be an exceptional piece of art.

Aleisa's Corner



Aleisa Daniel

Interview with **Trenton Williams** – Trenton is a former KJGM debater and student at Pegasus Charter School, a K-12 liberal arts school in Dallas, Texas. During his time on the debate team, Trenton attended St. Philip's School & Community Center in South Dallas, where he was first introduced to the KJGM debate program. A fan of sports, music, and public speaking, Trenton has many hobbies and interests, including wrestling, basketball, clarinet, lacrosse, and Lego-building. Having aged out of the KJGM debate program, he is looking to return to the team as a junior coach when open again. In this Q&A interview, we discuss some of his experiences and takeaways as a third-year debater.



What did you enjoy most about being on the KJGM debate team?

Just the [overall] environment and everyone who surrounded me. Everyone wanted to work hard and seeing everybody else working hard motivated me to work even harder. Also gaining a lot of different tips in debate and being surrounded by really good people.

What are some of the events that you experienced while on the debate team?

We were able to do [many] things, like participate in the Martin Luther King Jr. parade and take a visit to the African American Museum located at the [Fair Park in Dallas, Texas.] But I think that my favorite experience was when we were able to go to Atlanta for the debate tournament and we not only did the debate, but we were also able to go to the Coca Cola Museum, to the aquarium, and to different civil rights museums in Atlanta and that was really fun. And even just being able to fly out [to Atlanta] and have fun and work at the same time was a really good experience.

After being on the debate team, what is some advice that you could give to new debaters?

Just to be open minded and not think that just because you've learned a couple of things about debate that you know what being a good debater is, because there is still a lot that you can learn and also a lot of things that you can teach to others. And to always be respectful to your coaches because respect goes a long way and the more respect you build for others the more respect they will give to you.

That's good advice! You said something I want to follow up on about not always knowing everything about debating when you first go into it. What are some of the things that you think could be difficult for a new debater to grasp at first?

I think when you're first hearing the opposing team speak, just trying to pinpoint the main [point] or what they're talking about. Because not only do you have to make your argument against them but you also have to [understand] what they're saying so you can specifically [debate] that – and not just [debate] them, but also make a good argument, so I believe that's one of the things. And also just studying the topic beforehand – and not just the topic, specifically, but also other things that would have to do with [the topic].

Besides debating and public speaking, what are some of your other hobbies, interests, and extracurriculars?

I run cross country, I do wrestling, I build a lot of Legos, I play lacrosse and basketball and, actually, at my old school, I was the football commentator – that was really fun because I love speaking and orating. Being the announcer and commentator for those games was really cool because I was the only student who had done the games and it felt really special to be able to do that.

For this issue of our newsletter, the theme is Gratefulness, Giving, and Gratitude. What are some of the things that you learned during your time on the debate team that you're grateful to take with you into the future?

I believe just being grateful for the opportunity that we were given and being surrounded by such great people because not everybody gets to have those experiences. And for the coaches as well for having so much patience to work with such young debaters, especially during all those late nights preparing for that tournament in Atlanta. And also, for the parents for getting us there and taking us back home. Because it was very rigorous [balancing it with] school, because we obviously wanted to be the best. I'm just grateful for the opportunity that everyone who was a part of it gave me and I'm sure the other debaters can say the same.

Thank you Restoration sponsors! We are very close to completion!



National Trust for Historical Preservation

"This project in part has been funded by a grant from Fondren Fund for Texas of the National Trust for Historic Preservation."



National Council for Negro Women, Minnie H. Page Section



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Texas Historical Foundation

For a complete list of stewards and donors, please see our website at:
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