

## President's Message



### "It takes a circle of Friends to ..."

You've heard the African proverb, "It takes a village to raise a child". This made me think of a statue at the library called the "Circle of Friends" by Karen Crane. Then, I tried to think of a witty or profound end to: "It takes a circle of Friends to...." However, my muse was being elusive, and all I came up with was another ellipsis: "...".

An ellipsis is generally used to indicate omitted words, but it can also indicate a

pause, a trailing off or an opportunity to fill in the blank. Then it dawned on me—that's 2020! Isn't that what we've been experiencing? We've omitted parts, paused our lives and felt like we are trailing along and working to fill in the blanks.

That is what the library staff, museum staff and Friends organization have been doing for nearly a year now—filling in with creative thinking and programming, learning new ways to help and serve. Yes, there have been challenges, but they have not hindered employees or volunteers in dedicated efforts to bring enrichment, dynamic programming, meaning and perspective to our community.

To showcase these efforts, Museum Director Tim Nimz and Library Director Nancy Trimm shared their highlights for 2020, and I've added a few specifically for the Friends. The most important thing to know is that everything on this list happened only because you support the Friends. So here's 2020 in review:

- Appreciation gift cards for library and museum staff during COVID-19 closures
- Oral history digitization project
- Professional photography equipment for the museum Collections division
- Video equipment for virtual programming
- Bird feeders located by the library Children's area
- Friends Creative Writing Contest
- Pumpkin Patch & Historic Holidays at the museum
- "Wild and Crazy" family show
- Virtual concerts, including The Kilted Man and the Smithtonians

For more information about these highlights, with details and photographs, visit the [President's Blog > January 2021 > Circle of Friends](#).

You know, looking back on 2020, it was a pretty good year. A circle of Friends: Bemis Public Library, Littleton Museum and Friends of the Littleton Library & Museum. It takes all of us working together to make a difference. Thank you for being a member!

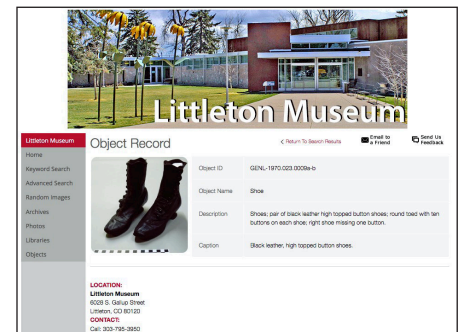
Lisa Hendry  
Board President

Happy New Year 2021

## Friends Funding @ Work



**Oral History Digitization Project:** Thanks to Friends funding, the Littleton Museum was able to work with Northeast Document Conservation Center to digitize a large portion of its oral history recordings. The project involved digitizing 29 open-reel tapes and 40 cassette tapes from the museum's first oral histories in 1974 up through 2010. In addition, the museum was able to rehouse the open-reel tapes into archivally stable containers. Digitizing all the oral histories will eventually lead to unprecedented access to the recordings for researchers and museum staff alike.



**Photography Equipment Upgrade:** The Littleton Museum's Collections division purchased a new camera, lens, lighting and tripod with funds provided by the Friends. With the new equipment, the museum is able to produce high-quality photographs of objects in the Permanent Collection. The photographs are accessible to researchers and members of the public through the museum's [PastPerfect Online](#) program, and they contribute to a deeper understanding of the objects that we hold in our collection.

# BEMIS PUBLIC LIBRARY

## LIBRARY ACCESS

Bemis Library is currently providing the following services:

- **Digital Library:** 24/7 access to eBooks, audiobooks, streaming video, newspapers and magazines at [bemismarmot.org](http://bemismarmot.org)
- **Curbside Pickup:** Monday–Saturday, 11 a.m.–4 p.m.
- **Computers by Appointment:** One hour per day, per user, Monday–Saturday, 11 a.m.–4 p.m.
- **Mobile Printing:** During curbside hours
- **Virtual Programming:** Virtual programming continues for children, families, teens and adults; register on the [Library & Museum Events Calendar](#)
- **Phone & Online Chat Service:** [Chat](#) with a librarian online or at 303-795-3961 to get help accessing eBooks, using digital resources and much more. Service is open Monday–Friday, 9 a.m.–5 p.m.

• **Exterior Book Return Open:** Library materials may be returned anytime through the outdoor book drop. Please call 303-795-3961 or visit the library's online website at [bemismarmot.org](http://bemismarmot.org) and click on the library's COVID-19 webpage for more information.

## LIBRARY PROGRAMS

**Registration.** To participate in any of these programs call the library at 303-795-3961 or register on the [Library & Museum Events Calendar](#).

## GENERAL PROGRAMS

**Jan. 5: Who Was the Sculptor in Buckskin.** Dave Lively will introduce participants to a man who was more than a sculptor and artist. After spending much of his youth hunting and sketching in the Colorado mountain wilderness of the 1870s, Alexander Phimister Proctor's talents took him throughout the U.S. and to Paris and Rome. Proctor was a devoted husband, loving father and grandfather, incurable wanderer and confidant to many prominent figures of his day. He was deeply revered

as both America's premier animal sculptor and an unfailingly warm and enthusiastic human being. 2 p.m.

**Senior Social Club: Thursdays in January.** Stay connected with Thursday conference call chats. Join from any [computer](#) or phone (301-715-8592, Meeting ID 987 926 117). 9:30–11:30 a.m.

**Jan. 7 & 21: Board Games @ Your Home.** Board Game Night is online. Join in anytime as we play virtual board games together. Drop in for just a bit or play the whole night. No registration required. This family-friendly event is open to all ages. 5:30–8 p.m.

**Jan. 8: Virtual Fiction Book Club.** *The Immortalists* by Chloe Benjamin, 1 p.m.

**Jan. 12: Aging Well & Finishing Strong.** Learn strategies to maintain a healthy mind, body and spirit even during a global pandemic. This presentation will discuss how to age with dignity plus how to ensure one's healthcare wishes and end-of-life planning are known and respected. 2 p.m.

**Jan. 19: Cravings, Weight Gain and the Blood Sugar Rollercoaster.** Eating a well-balanced diet of nutrient-dense foods is the best way to keep your metabolism active, your weight manageable and your blood sugar under control. Learn how to plan meals to support weight loss goals and about nutritional supplements that help. 2 p.m.

**Jan. 20: Virtual Nonfiction Book Club.** *In the Country of Women* by Susan Straight, 1 p.m.

**Jan. 25: History of Tea with Active Minds.** January is National Tea Month! Other than water, tea is the most widely consumed beverage in the world and one of the oldest, tracing its roots to at least the 5<sup>th</sup> century BCE. Active Minds will tell the story of tea, including the role it played in colonial empire building, the different types of tea, how it is grown and processed, and which country not only grows but consumes the most tea. 2 p.m.

## CHILDREN'S EVENTS

**Snow Better Time to Read: Winter Reading Program for Children in 5<sup>th</sup> Grade and Younger.** There's still time to pick up a Winter Reading Program reading log at the library. Call the library to request one for curbside pickup or register and print your own from [bemismarmot.org](http://bemismarmot.org). Complete the challenges and record what you read. Finishers will receive a free book to keep in addition to other surprises. Program ends Jan. 9.

**Story Time—Online Anytime.** Bemis Children's Librarians have created dozens of videos that feature short story times, crafts, early literacy tips and puppet shows to enjoy anytime. On YouTube, search for Bemis Public Library kids' corner videos.

**Dial-A-Story.** Call 303-795-3960 anytime to hear a picture book read by a Bemis Children's librarian. Stories change weekly.

## TEEN EVENTS

**Teen Talk Tuesdays.** Hang out in our weekly Zoom meeting to get updates on what's going on at the library, play games and stay connected! No registration required. Join through the link on the [Library & Museum Events Calendar](#). 4–5:30 p.m.

**Jan. 5 & 19: Dungeons & Dragons.**

**Jan. 12 & 26: Jack Box/Digital Board Games.**


**Jan. 14 & 28—Among Us.** Try to finish your tasks and suss out the imposters among us. Participants will need access to a computer or mobile device and have downloaded the game Among Us. Registration is required. 4–5:30 p.m.

## COMPUTER & DEVICE TRAINING @ BEMIS

**Mondays in January: Virtual One-on-One Tech Help.** Sign up for a 45-minute individualized tech appointment with a librarian. Get help with anything from accessing eBooks and digital resources, assistance with internet connectivity, video chatting and more.

# LITTLETON MUSEUM

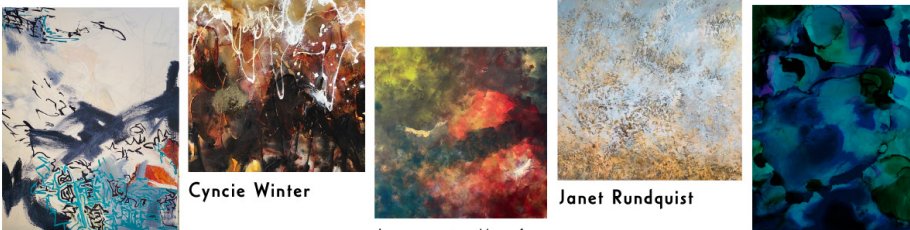
- Accredited by the American Association of Museums • Smithsonian Institution Affiliate
- Littleton Museum, 6028 S. Gallup St., Littleton, CO 80120 • 303-795-3950



## Colorado Abstracted

FIVE ARTISTS CAPTURE THE TRANSCENDENTAL EXPERIENCES OF NATURE

January 22 through February 27, 2021



Lydia Riegler      Cyncie Winter      Annamarie Mead      Janet Rundquist      Patricia J Finley

### Colorado Abstracted: Five Female Artists Capture the Transcendental Experience of Nature

Jan. 22–Feb. 27, 2021

[littletongov.org/museum](http://littletongov.org/museum) > Exhibits

This group exhibition features the artwork of Patricia J Finley, Annamarie Mead, Lydia Riegler, Janet Rundquist and Cyncie Winter. “Life in Colorado” is a lyrical mix of sight, sound, air and spirit and the combination thereof serves to replenish the creativity of this established group of abstract artists.

Together, their paintings celebrate what the Colorado lifestyle means to them and how it influences their artistic process. The selected works presented in this exhibit will invite viewers to experience Colorado through the distinct and transformative lens of each artist.

*“Instructions for living a life:  
Pay attention. Be astonished.  
Tell about it.”  
—Mary Oliver, Poet*

### Museum Services as of Dec. 15

Currently, the Littleton Museum farms are open as a passive-use park where visitors can stroll the walking paths and view the livestock and animals. The main building and historic buildings are closed until further notice in response to the rise in COVID-19 cases.

- **Hours of Operation:** Tuesday–Saturday, 9 a.m.–3 p.m.
- **Capacity:** 50 visitors per hour and reservations are required.
- **Requirements:** Visiting groups should be from the same household, maintain at least 6 feet of social distancing from other visitors, and are strongly encouraged to limit their time on the farms to 1 hour. No school or organized groups are permitted. *Masks required.*
- **Reservations:** Please call the museum at 303-795-3950.

## Friends Board of Directors

President..... Lisa Hendry  
1st Vice President..... Laura Hampton  
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Ex Officio: Library Director..... Nancy Trimm  
Ex Officio: Museum Director..... Tim Nimz

The Oracle © is a monthly newsletter produced by the Friends of the Littleton Library and Museum.

## Contact Information

### Littleton Museum

6028 S. Gallup St., Littleton, CO 80120, 303-795-3950  
[littletongov.org/museum](http://littletongov.org/museum)

Tuesday–Saturday: 9 a.m.–3 p.m. by reservation  
Sunday–Monday and holidays: closed

### Bemis Public Library

6014 S. Datura St., Littleton, CO 80120, 303-795-3961  
[bemismarmot.org](http://bemismarmot.org) (Register for a Library Card at left)

[bemisteen.blogspot.com](http://bemisteen.blogspot.com)

[www.littletongov.org/bemis](http://www.littletongov.org/bemis)

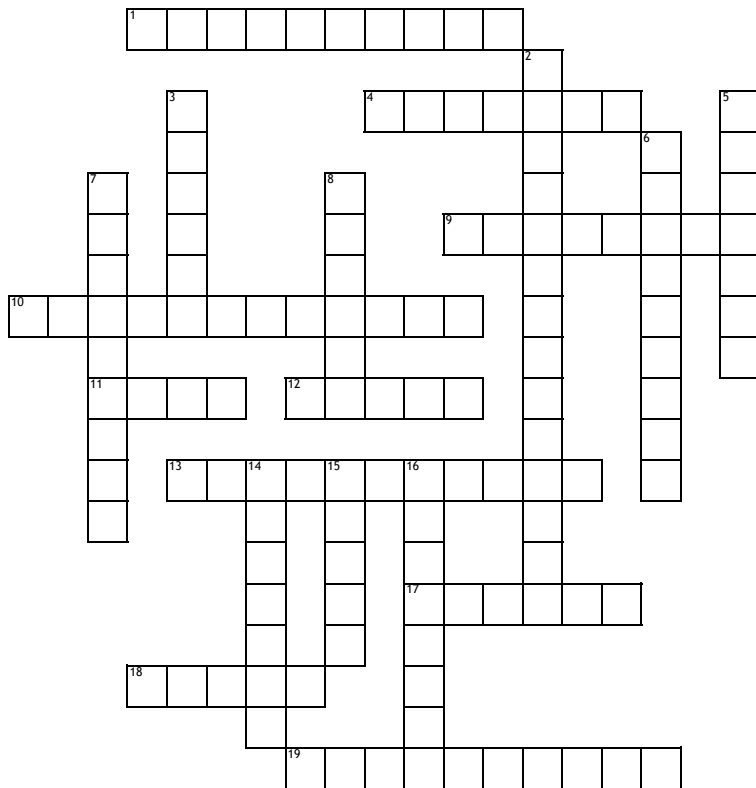
See [littletongov.org/bemis](http://littletongov.org/bemis) for current hours

**Website:** [friendslittleton.org](http://friendslittleton.org)

**Blog:** <https://friendslittleton.org/friends-blog>



# Littleton Street Names Crossword



Print this crossword to complete it. Click [here](#) for puzzle answers on the Littleton Museum at Home page.

## Across


1. Name of drug store and general store owners
4. First section of paved highway in CO
9. Brought trolley to Littleton from Denver
10. An original partner in the Rough and Ready Mill
11. Friend of Richard S. Little
12. Name of a father-in-law
13. Animals abandoned here after WWI
17. Name of West School janitor
18. Founder of Ideal Cheese Company
19. Name of largest lake in England

## Down

2. An original '59er
3. Name of Fred Bemis' horse
5. Named after a three-time Littleton Mayor
6. Operated a stagecoach line
7. Name of longtime Denver policeman
8. Brought electricity to Littleton
14. First president of the Littleton Library Board
15. Spanish for "cottonwood"
16. Has two roads named after him



**55th Annual Eye of the Camera**  
Thematic Photography Competition



## Call for Entries

From classic allegories to modern urban tales, the narratives of myths and legends are ideal for creating artistic imagery. These stories are often passed down generationally, either through written text or orally. A legend is a traditional narrative that is regarded as historical fact, but not always authenticated; heroic historical figures are often at the center of legends. Myths, on the other hand, are stories about early histories, or ones that explain a natural or social phenomenon, and cannot be verified as factual. Supernatural beings or events figure strongly in mythologies.

For this year's Eye of the Camera photographic competition, we are seeking photographic work (excluding video) which explores this year's theme of "Myths & Legends." Surprise us with your interpretation and be sure to include a short statement on how your work relates to the theme!

Entry on CaFÉ opens Tuesday, December 8, 2020  
[www.callforentry.org](http://www.callforentry.org)

Deadline: **Midnight on Thursday, January 21, 2021**

Juror: John Lake [www.johnbarnabaslake.com](http://www.johnbarnabaslake.com)

Exhibition Theme: Myths and Legends

Exhibition Dates: March 19 through April 24, 2021

To receive information on future calls for art or exhibit opportunities, please sign up for our emails at <http://bit.ly/LittletonMuseumEvents>

**Own an Original: Liberating Humor Exhibit.** Visit the Exhibits page at [littletongov.org/museum](http://littletongov.org/museum) to see the Own An Original fine art competition. This show looks at the human condition with a lighthearted mood using the theme of "Liberating Humor." To liberate is to provide freedom from the limitations of thought or behavior. Humor can be comical or funny, but it can describe a state of mind as well. Together, "Liberating Humor" can provide a freeing experience the way a good belly laugh can lighten one's mood. If you're inspired by what you see, enter your creative works for our next show (see above).