

TRU

EXHIBITS

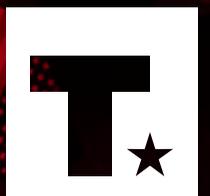
Explore the friendship
of a painter and
the president

EVENTS

Justice O'Connor
inaugurates Supreme
Court series

RESEARCH

Meet our new
TKS fellow,
Amanda McVety



COVER: Museum docent Bill Naylor interprets Thomas Hart Benton's mural for a group touring the Truman Library's museum.

Whistle Stop



“The fundamental purpose of our educational system is to instill a moral code in the rising generation and to create a citizenship that will be responsible for the welfare of the nation.”

Harry Truman

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The Art of History

A president and painter collaborated to create Benton's "greatest *tour de force*." A new exhibition shares the story behind the mural.

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New Lecture Series

Retired Associate Justice Sandra Day O'Connor inaugurates a new series of programs on historic Supreme Court decisions.

MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Welcome to TRU, the new magazine for members and friends of the Truman Library Institute. This beautiful, biannual publication was created with two people in mind: President Harry S. Truman and you.

I hope you enjoy the look and feel of this new magazine, which is as current and relevant as President Truman's legacy and library, where visitors from around the world discover TRU history, TRU scholarship and TRU educational experiences, all inspired by one of our nation's greatest leaders.

Inside **TRU**, you'll find expanded features, like "The Art of History"; profiles and interviews with people like Amanda McVety, one of our newest Truman-Kauffman scholars; fascinating stories behind current and upcoming exhibits (don't miss George Washington's Acts of Congress in September); and stories about how your membership gifts make a difference – every day – at the Harry S. Truman Library and Museum.

For those of you who don't know, President Truman helped found the Truman Library Institute's membership program nearly 50 years ago. He knew that his presidential library would need friends – TRU friends like you – in order to fulfill his hope that it become a "center for the study of the presidency."

Since October 1, more than 306 new members have joined us in this mission (see page 21). Together, members and friends are on pace to provide more than \$1.6 million this year in support of Museum exhibitions; research and scholarship programs; engaging public forums and special events; and our nationally acclaimed education programs, like The White House Decision Center.

In return for your generous contributions, we offer many benefits, including free Museum admission at the Truman Library and all presidential libraries of the National Archives, members-only events, Museum Store discounts and, now, a complimentary subscription to **TRU Magazine**.

Thank you for your enthusiasm, involvement and support. Harry Truman's life, legacy and presidential library are national treasures, and we are pleased to be able to share some of those treasures with you on the pages of this new publication, created just for you.

Alex Burden

Executive Director | **Truman Library Institute**



“Welcome to TRU, the new magazine for members and friends of the Truman Library Institute. This beautiful, biannual publication was created with two people in mind: President Harry S. Truman and you.”



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TrumanLibraryInstitute@gmail.com | Visit us online at TrumanLibrary.org

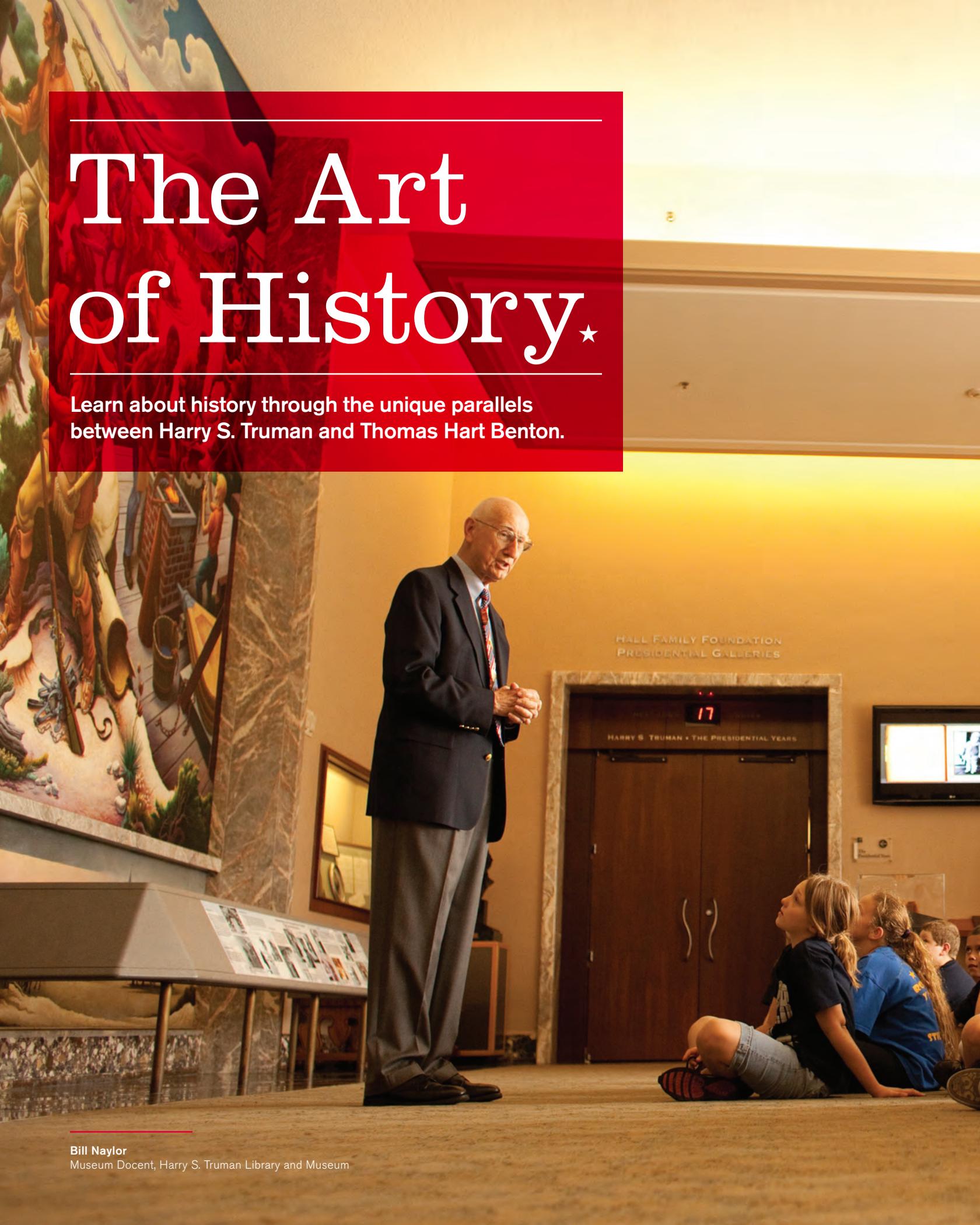
TRU is published twice a year for friends and members of the Truman Library Institute, the nonprofit partner of the Harry S. Truman Library and Museum, one of 13 presidential libraries administered by the National Archives.

Stay Connected

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-  For notification of public programs, exhibit openings and special events, subscribe to our special events e-newsletter at TrumanLibrary.org

The Art of History★

Learn about history through the unique parallels
between Harry S. Truman and Thomas Hart Benton.





BY WAYNE ANDERSON

How does a great mural get made?

The Truman Library's new exhibition, *Benton and Truman: Legends of the Missouri Border*, documents how two great Missourians – President Harry S. Truman and artist Thomas Hart Benton – collaborated to create *Independence and the Opening of the West*, the mural that adorns the Museum's entrance.

The exhibition, which runs through October 14, focuses on their parallel careers, the process involved in creating that mural, and on a collection of Benton's paintings and sketches, some of which were loaned by the Missouri State Historical Society.

Both Truman and Benton were born in western Missouri in the 1880s and died there in the early 1970s, were committed Democrats who spoke their minds bluntly and freely, were voracious readers – particularly of history – and were great tellers of tall tales.

Both spent 1906 to 1921 searching for identities, and both gathered strength for their future by serving in World War I. They built their initial reputations from 1922 to 1940 and gained additional attention during World War II. Several of Benton's paintings from that time are on display.





When they first met in 1949, Truman bantered, “Are you still painting those controversial pictures?” Benton retorted, “When I get a chance.”

When they first met in 1949, Truman bantered, “Are you still painting those controversial pictures?” Benton retorted, “When I get a chance.”

Later, in the 1950s, Truman had some reservations about the possibility of a Benton mural in his presidential library. He had not liked the mural that Benton had painted at the Capitol in Jefferson City. An unsent letter now on display says, “I won’t encourage him to do any more horrors like those in Missouri’s beautiful Capitol!” Truman was noted for writing scathing letters when annoyed, which his secretary sometimes delayed in sending to allow him time to reconsider when he had cooled off. He

particularly resented the image in that mural of his mentor, Tom Pendergast, a controversial political boss, until he learned that Pendergast had posed for it. But once past such initial misunderstandings – and fueled by a bit of bourbon – Truman and Benton had great discussions about art, literature and politics, and Truman approved the library’s choice of Benton as muralist for the project.

Then the question became what the mural in the library would include. Early on, they decided that it would not be about Truman’s life and contributions to history but instead would focus on Independence as the starting

place of the greatest migration in history as trappers, explorers and pioneers used it as the stepping-off place to the West.

In 1958-1959, Benton toured the West, gathering information. He wanted the details of the landscapes, costumes, weapons and facial features to be accurate because he believed one must draw from life, that “the historical detail must be absolutely accurate” and that, if he made a tiny mistake, “people come down on me like a ton of bricks.”

A major part of the exhibition shows the step-by-step process of creating the mural.



In a 14-minute film, Benton describes the historical background that led to the way he arranged the characters in the painting. Benton created and played on his harmonica the background music in the film, with his daughter, Jessie, playing the guitar and singing.

At the dedication ceremony in 1961, Truman told the crowd that Benton was “the best muralist in the country” and that this was his best mural. Benton noted that Truman “possessed the equipment, as a historian, to be a really disturbing kibitzer if he’d wanted to....Instead, he permitted my work here to develop on its original plan.”

Chief Justice of the Supreme Court Earl Warren, the featured speaker, said, “The knowledge of our heroic past will open vistas for [visitors] into our future.” An art historian writing 30 years later called it “Benton’s greatest *tour de force* in the field of history painting.”

Originally published in the *Columbia Daily Tribune*. Reprinted with permission.

BENTON AND TRUMAN: LEGENDS OF THE MISSOURI BORDER

ON SPECIAL EXHIBIT: Through October 14, 2013

TICKETS: Included with Museum admission | Members admitted free

HOURS: Daily Monday – Saturday, 9 – 5; Sunday, 12 – 5

STUDENT AND GROUP TOURS: TrumanLibrary.org

Sponsors: Major underwriting for this exhibition was provided by Kenneth B. and Cynthia R. McClain. Partnering with the Truman Library to make this exhibition possible were the Truman Library Institute; State Historical Society of Missouri; Thomas Hart and Rita P. Benton Testamentary Trusts, UMB Bank, n.a., Trustee; Thomas Hart Benton Home and Studio State Historic Site. Additional exhibition sponsors include *The Examiner*, exclusive media sponsor; the Richard J. Stern Foundation for the Arts, Commerce Bank, Trustee; the Atterbury Family Foundation, education sponsor; and HyVee, promotional sponsor. Additional support provided by Harvey S. Bodker, Ann Dickinson, and Carole and Lu Vaughan.

SEE THE BOOK THAT MADE HISTORY.★

PRESIDENT.
OF THE
UNITED STATES

George Washington's personal copy of Acts of Congress makes a stop at the Harry S. Truman Library and Museum.

On Exhibit: September 12 – 21. Included with Museum admission. Members free.

NATIONWIDE TOUR

The Presidential Libraries of the National Archives are honored to host this historic book for a national tour, March through September 2013.

Property of the President

George Washington's personal copy of Acts of Congress is touring the nation and will make its final stop at the Harry S. Truman Library and Museum September 12 – 21, 2013.

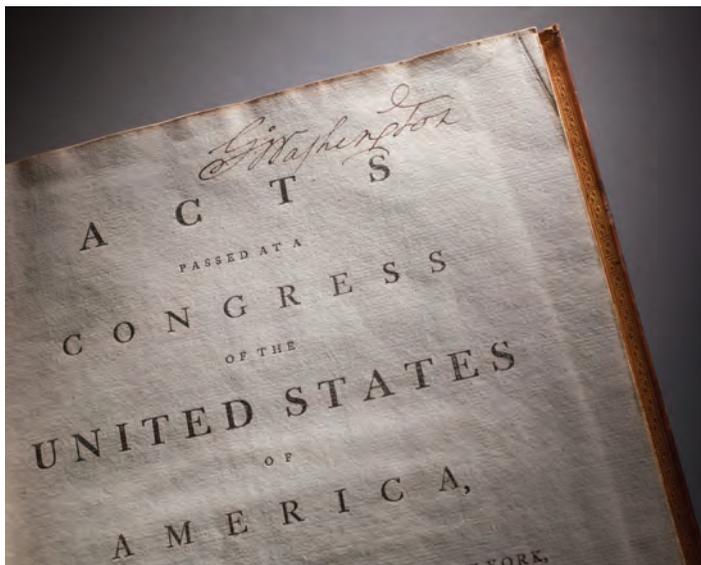
Emblazoned with Washington's bookplate and featuring handwritten notes penciled in the margins, the 106-page book includes Washington's copy of the Constitution and Bill of Rights.

The remarkably well-preserved artifact was printed in 1789. The volume garnered worldwide attention last summer when it was sold at a Christie's auction to the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association for a record-breaking \$9.8 million.

The most significant features of this book, according to Mount Vernon, are Washington's recorded thoughts about the powers and duties of the president. "He only rarely inserted notes or markings in his books," the organization reported in a news release, "choosing instead to make notes on separate sheets of loose-leaf paper."

One of the most historic publications owned by Washington, the book testifies to his crucial role in the implementation and interpretation of the Constitution and the establishment of the new American government. The first Congress ordered the printing of 600 copies of the Acts, which were distributed to federal and state government officials. Chief Justice John Jay and Secretary of State Thomas Jefferson owned volumes similar to Washington's.

This custom-bound copy of the Acts is embossed in gilt letters reading "President of the United States." Washington's bold signature appears on the right corner of the title page. He also pasted his engraved armorial bookplate to the inside front cover. The bookplate features the Washington family coat of arms and the motto *exitus acta probat*, which translates to "The result is the test of the actions."



THE BOOK'S JOURNEY

1789 Printed. Acquired by Washington on September 29.

1797 Brought to Mount Vernon following Washington's retirement from the presidency.

1799 Listed in the inventory taken after Washington's death. Willed to his nephew Bushrod Washington.

1859 Remained in Washington family hands after the sale of the estate to the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association.

1876 Sold at auction to Philadelphia lawyer and historian Charles Henry Hart.

1892 Auctioned again. Owned by Phoebe Apperson Hearst and then by her son, William Randolph Hearst.

1941 Sold to Henry Flynt, founder of the Heritage Foundation of Deerfield, Massachusetts.

1964 Sold at auction by the Heritage Foundation of Deerfield, Massachusetts to H. Richard Dietrich, Jr. for the Dietrich American Foundation.

2012 Acquired by the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association on June 22 for The Fred W. Smith National Library for the Study of George Washington.



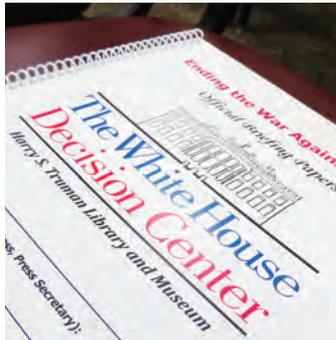
Jessica McConnell Burt, The George Washington University

Education and Group Tours

This special exhibit is offered as part of all museum tours. Curriculum guides and docent-led tours are available for grades 4 and up. Ask about our "Bus Stops Here" reimbursement grants for your school's admission and transportation fees.

To schedule a group tour, call 816.268.8221 or reserve online at TrumanLibrary.org/reservation.php.

Adult Team Building and Leadership Training



<p>CUSTOMIZE YOUR EXPERIENCE</p> <p>1 to 5 hours sessions \$25 pp for groups of 6–60 Monday – Saturday Office Hours or After-Hours Catering (optional)</p>	<p>CHOOSE A DECISION</p> <p>How to...</p> <p>End the war with Japan. Desegregate the armed forces. Respond to the Korean conflict. React to Soviet blockade of Berlin.</p>	<p>RESERVE NOW</p> <p>Learn more or book your session today.</p> <p>Contact Mary McMurray at 816.268.8241 or mary.mcmurray@gmail.com</p>
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“The White House Decision Center provides an unforgettable team-building experience that also enhances high-stakes problem-solving and leadership skills.”

WILLIAM GREENBERG | UNIVERSITY OF FOREIGN MILITARY AND CULTURAL STUDIES AT FORT LEAVENWORTH

The year is 1948. The Soviet Union has imposed a blockade on West Berlin, cutting off all land and rail routes. More than 2.5 million people risk mass starvation, and the power of the Western Allies is called into question. It's the first crisis of the Cold War. The fate of the world is yours to decide.

Welcome to The White House Decision Center. This is not your typical high-ropes course but a high-stakes team-building experience like no other. Set in a recreated West Wing, participants step into the roles of President Truman and his advisors to tackle some of the greatest challenges faced by any world leader.

Unlike team-building courses that challenge your physical stamina, experienced trainers at The White House Decision Center guide teams to gather information quickly, think creatively, work collaboratively and negotiate win-win solutions.

Real history. Real decisions. Real fun.



TRU HONOR

The Art of Giving

The White House Decision Center honors Harvey S. Bodker

On April 12, 2013, the premier classroom in The White House Decision Center was named for Harvey S. Bodker, in recognition of his generous and long-time support of the Truman Library Institute.

In his remarks at the room-dedication ceremony, Clifton Truman Daniel, eldest grandson of President and Mrs. Truman, said, "If The White House Decision Center is the heart of the Truman Library, then friends like Harvey Bodker are its soul!"

Bodker, who is president of Bodker Realty, has been a member of the Truman Library Institute's Honorary Fellows society since its inception, in 1966. "The Truman Library has benefited greatly from Harvey Bodker's long-time and generous support," said Alex Burden, Truman Library Institute executive director. "He is a valued partner in the advancement of President Truman's legacy, and we are pleased to honor his contributions with this important and enduring symbol."

Following the room's unveiling, Bodker recalled memories of seeing Harry Truman and remarked, "Playing a part – even a small part – in this great man's legacy makes me very happy."

The White House Decision Center is the flagship educational program at the Truman Library and the standard-bearer for education programs at presidential libraries nationwide.

WILD ABOUT HARRY.★



14th Annual Benefit Surpasses Goal

On April 11, nearly 600 community members and corporate leaders turned out in support of Wild About Harry, the Truman Library Institute's 14th annual fundraising dinner at the historic Muehlebach Tower — Kansas City Marriott Downtown.

The spectacular event featured Nancy Gibbs and Michael Duffy, co-authors of *The Presidents Club: Inside the World's Most Exclusive Fraternity*, and General Richard B. Myers, 2013 recipient of the Harry S. Truman Legacy of Leadership Award.

"We are grateful to our honorary chairs, Morton Sosland and Neil Sosland, and event chairs Karen and Steven Pack, for their 'Buck Stops Here' leadership," said Alex Burden, executive director. "Each year, the Truman Library Institute invests more than a half-million dollars in the education and outreach programs at the Truman Library. We couldn't do it without the community's annual support of Wild About Harry."

Honorary Co-Chairs: Morton and Neil Sosland
Event Chairs: Karen and Steven Pack

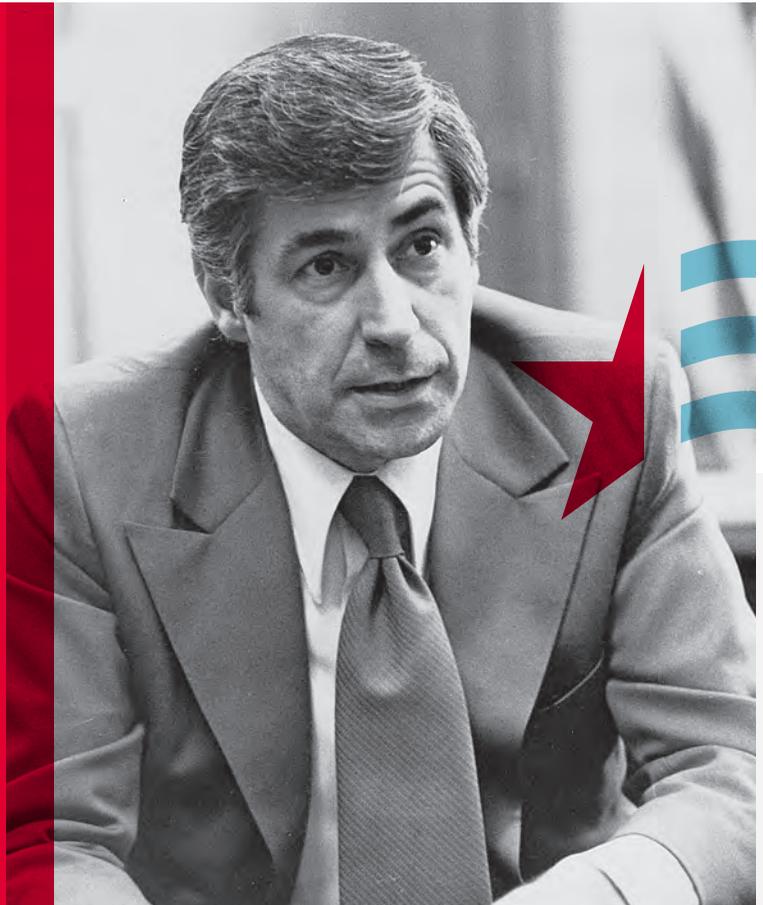
Oval Office Underwriters: Bloomberg; Inergy, Marny and John Sherman; Karen and Steven Pack Family Foundation; The Evans Family

West Wing Underwriters: Donald Hall; James B. Nutter & Co.; J B Reynolds Foundation; Sarah and Landon Rowland, LEAD Bank; The Sosland Foundation

“Young man, you look good to me. Just make something of yourself.”

HARRY S. TRUMAN TO MIKE GRAVEL

Senator Mike Gravel, 1973
Credit: U.S. Senate Historical Office



TRU STORY

Clifton Truman Daniel tells how his grandfather helped inspire a young Mike Gravel. Today, Truman’s presidential library continues to inspire America’s youth.

Back in the 1950s, my grandfather was walking in New York City when a young cabbie pulled up to get a good look at the President of the United States.

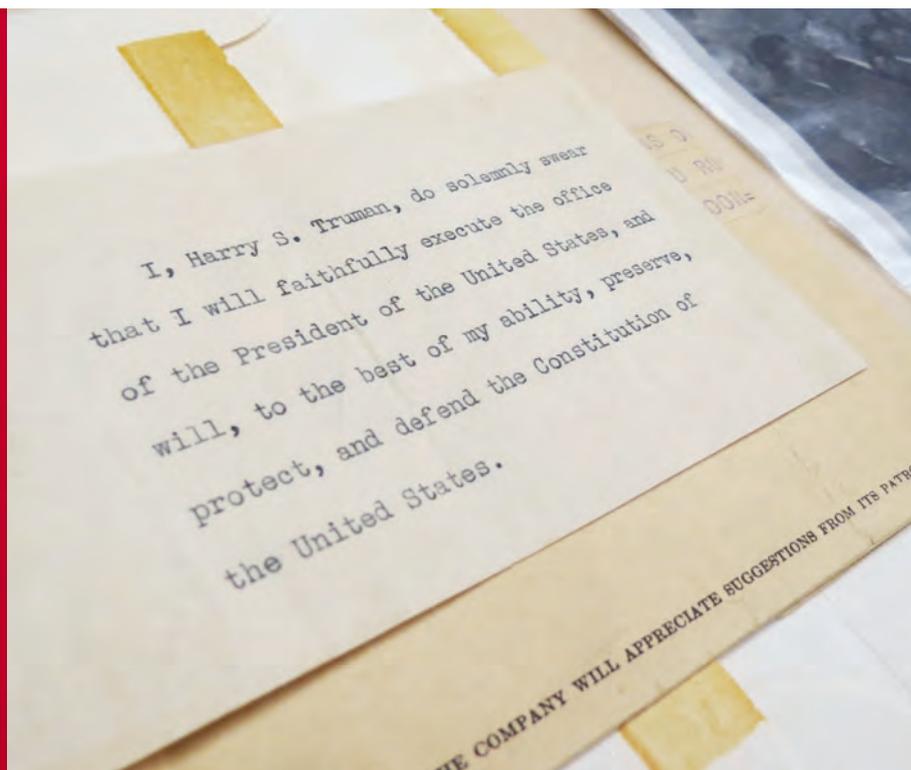
Grandpa thrust his hand through the open window and said, “Young man, you look good to me. Just make something of yourself.” That young man was Mike Gravel, and he went on to become a United States Senator for the State of Alaska.

The education programs at the Truman Library draw on complicated histories and immerse students in decision making at the highest level. But the lesson they offer to young people is really quite simple: Make something of yourself.

Your membership gift or donation opens the door to students and young people. Only at the Truman Library can my grandfather’s story still reach through an open window with the inspiring challenge: *Make something of yourself.* After all, America’s future depends on it. Thank you.

CLIFTON TRUMAN DANIEL

Truman famously said, “The only thing new in the world is the history you don’t know.” Or haven’t found yet.



TRU TREASURE

Gift from the Past

Recently, the Truman Library encountered an unexpected find, thanks to the alert and generous Flora K. Bloom, president of Elliott Galleries in New York.

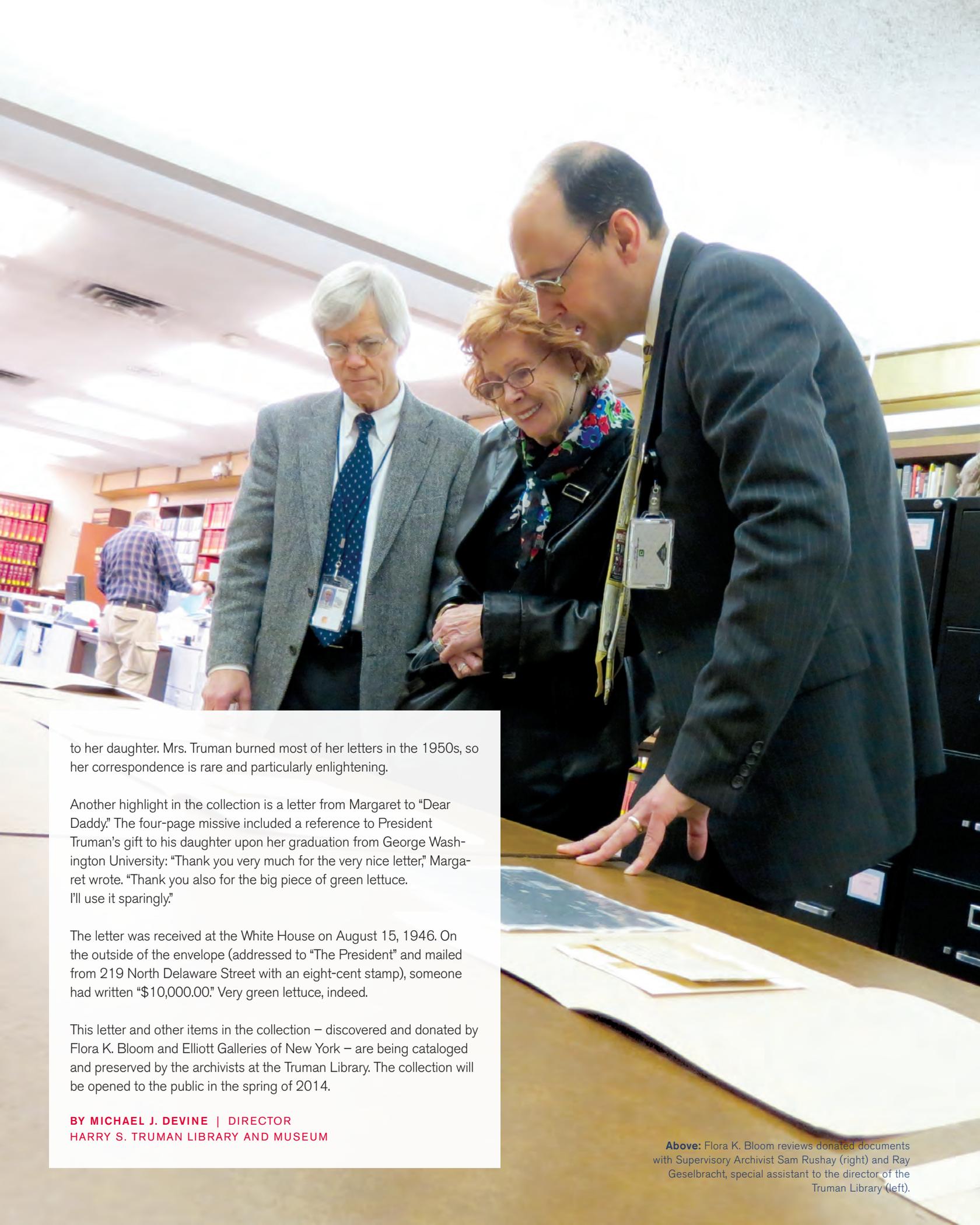
Bloom had purchased a number of items from the estate sale of the late Margaret Truman Daniel. The only child of Harry and Bess Truman, Margaret Truman Daniel died in 2008. Her sons Clifton and Thomas donated all of the historical records of her family to the Truman Library.

However, one cache of letters went unnoticed. That is, until Bloom opened a nondescript box purchased at the sale. Inside, she discovered 176 letters, news clippings, postcards, invitations, event programs and greeting cards – nearly 450 pages in all – dating mostly from 1940 to 1961.

One particularly fascinating item is a note written and signed by 8-year-old Bessie Wallace in 1893. This brief note to her Aunt Maud (Mrs. William Strother Wells of Platte City, Mo.) is one of the earliest examples of Bess's handwriting known to exist.

Bloom also discovered an original telegram from President Roosevelt congratulating Senator Truman on his VP nomination, and a note card on which – following the death of FDR – Vice President Truman's oath of office was typed.

This latest addition to the holdings of the Truman Library does not dramatically alter our understanding of America's 33rd president. Nevertheless, the collection is of great value in that it further documents the close relationship between Harry and Bess and their only child. Of particular interest are more than 40 handwritten letters and postcards from Bess



to her daughter. Mrs. Truman burned most of her letters in the 1950s, so her correspondence is rare and particularly enlightening.

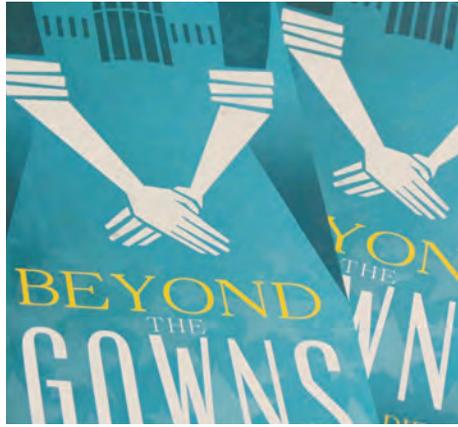
Another highlight in the collection is a letter from Margaret to “Dear Daddy.” The four-page missive included a reference to President Truman’s gift to his daughter upon her graduation from George Washington University: “Thank you very much for the very nice letter,” Margaret wrote. “Thank you also for the big piece of green lettuce. I’ll use it sparingly.”

The letter was received at the White House on August 15, 1946. On the outside of the envelope (addressed to “The President” and mailed from 219 North Delaware Street with an eight-cent stamp), someone had written “\$10,000.00.” Very green lettuce, indeed.

This letter and other items in the collection – discovered and donated by Flora K. Bloom and Elliott Galleries of New York – are being cataloged and preserved by the archivists at the Truman Library. The collection will be opened to the public in the spring of 2014.

**BY MICHAEL J. DEVINE | DIRECTOR
HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY AND MUSEUM**

Above: Flora K. Bloom reviews donated documents with Supervisory Archivist Sam Rushay (right) and Ray Geselbracht, special assistant to the director of the Truman Library (left).



★ MORE THAN 2,100 PEOPLE ATTENDED BEYOND THE GOWNS PROGRAMS.

Powerful Partners

Truman Library Institute and the Kansas City Public Library co-present new series on America's first ladies.

Following the success of its 2012 presidential lecture series **Hail to the Chiefs**, the Truman Library Institute, in partnership with the Kansas City Public Library, launched a Spring 2013 series of public programs focused on presidential partners.

Beyond the Gowns: First Ladies in American History premiered on March 6 and attracted overflow audiences and C-SPAN's Book TV. Programs offered intimate and illuminating portraits of First Ladies Michelle Obama, Abigail Adams, Lady Bird Johnson, Martha Jefferson Randolph and Betty Ford.

"The new series coincided with an almost unprecedented interest in First Ladies," said Alex Burden, Institute executive director. "Despite Bess Truman's declaration that a

politician's wife should 'sit still, keep quiet and make sure her hat is on straight,' First Ladies have powerfully influenced American history and culture."

More than 2,100 people attended Beyond the Gowns programs, presented by Carl M. Cannon (realclearpolitics.com), John Adams descendant Henry Adams, and authors Michael Gillette, Cynthia A. Kierner and John Robert Greene.

Beyond the Gowns was made possible by Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation Legacy Fund grants and was co-sponsored by KCUR 89.3 FM's "Up to Date."



Upcoming Programs

LEGAL LANDMARKS Supreme Court Decisions that Changed America

NOW THROUGH OCTOBER 2013

All programs begin at 6:30 p.m. and are preceded by a 6 p.m. reception. The series is presented at the Central Library in Kansas City, Mo. Details at TrumanLibrary.org

Plessy v. Ferguson: Race & Inequality in Jim Crow America

Tuesday, July 23, 2013
William James Hull Hoffer

Mapp v. Ohio: Guarding Against Unreasonable Searches & Seizures

Thursday, August 29, 2013
Carolyn N. Long

Roe v. Wade: The Abortion Rights Controversy in American History

Thursday, September 19, 2013
Peter Charles Hoffer

Gibbons v. Ogden: John Marshall, Steamboats & the Commerce Clause

Tuesday, October 15, 2013
Herbert Alan Johnson

Legal Landmarks is co-presented by the Truman Library Institute, the Kansas City Public Library and the Federal Court Historical Society. The series is funded by grants from the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation Legacy Fund. Additional support is provided by Spencer Fane Britt & Browne LLP. The series is co-sponsored by the University Press of Kansas and the University of Kansas School of Law.

Legal Landmarks

The first woman member of the Supreme Court of the United States, Sandra Day O'Connor, has learned first-hand the inner workings, history, evolution and influence of the nation's highest court.

On June 3, the retired justice shared those insights, as related in her new book *Out of Order*, in the inaugural program of a new series on the judiciary, **Legal Landmarks: Supreme Court Decisions that Changed America**.

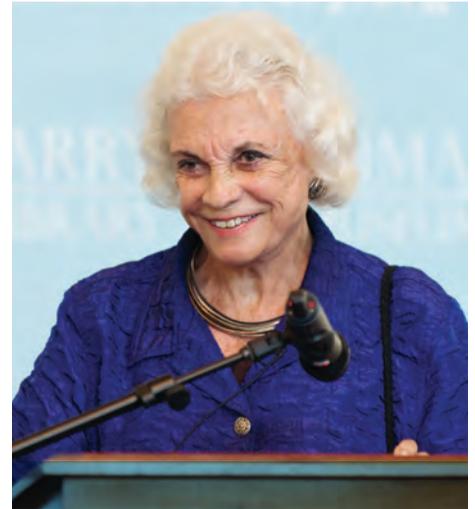
Nearly 1,000 guests attended the event at the Central Library, welcoming Justice O'Connor to the stage with an enthusiastic standing ovation. "I'm really happy to be here to help inaugurate this lecture series on the Supreme Court," Justice O'Connor said.

Her hour-long presentation opened with remarks on her Kansas roots, a Truman connection to her childhood at Lazy B Ranch, and the unexpected chance to meet Margaret Truman Daniel during a visit to Independence, Missouri.

"It was so touching," Justice O'Connor remarked. "I really feel this connection with the Truman Library that is quite unusual, I would say." She then turned to her book, *Out of Order*, explaining that she wanted to share the human stories of the court.

"Most people know the Court only as it exists between bangs of the gavel, when the Court comes to order to hear arguments or give opinions," Justice O'Connor said. "But the stories of the Court and the justices that come from the 'out of order' moments add to the richness of the Court as both a branch of our government and a human institution."

Legal Landmarks continues through October, with monthly programs highlighting landmark decisions that changed the course of American history. The series is co-presented by the Truman Library Institute, the Kansas City Public Library and the Federal Court Historical Society.



"I am happy to be here to help inaugurate this lectures series on the Supreme Court...I really feel [a] connection with the Truman Library."

**SANDRA DAY O'CONNOR | ASSOCIATE
JUSTICE (RETIRED), UNITED STATES
SUPREME COURT**





TRU MISSION

Members Make the Difference

Education. Exhibitions. Conservation. Research. Public Programming.

These are at the core of the shared mission of the Harry S. Truman Library and Museum and Truman Library Institute. Tax-deductible membership gifts ensure that education programs, museum exhibitions, research, collections and public-programming initiatives continue to thrive. In return, members and their guests enjoy exclusive access to exhibitions, free admission to America's presidential libraries and museums, special after-hours events and much more.

Even more important, member support advances the enduring legacy of Harry S. Truman and maintains the position of his library as America's best presidential museum.

**To join, contact Kim Rausch, director of development,
at 816.268.8237 or kim.rausch@nara.gov.**

TIME TO RENEW?

Call 816.268.8237 | Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Museum memberships make great gifts!

Welcome, New Members

Truman Legacy Society

Anonymous
Dr. and Mrs. Harry S. Jonas

The Buck Stops Here Society

Mr. and Mrs. George Allport
Mrs. Mildred R. Chisholm
Ms. Betsy S. Michel
Ms. Margo C. Soule and
Mr. Thomas P. Schult
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Speaks
Ms. Jeannine Strandjord

Ambassador Level

Mrs. G. Candy Danielson
Dr. and Mrs. Jack Van Ryn

Diplomat Level

Mr. William Carpenter, III
Mr. Mark McDonald
Mr. and Mrs. David Skwarlo
Ms. Barbara Kanninen and
Mr. Kevin Wolf

Associate Level

Mr. and Mrs. Randall Bentele
Dr. Flora K. Bloom
Mr. Jeff Clark
Lt. Col. Arthur S. De Groat (Retired)
Mr. Richard Deranian
Mr. Fred E. Mobley
Mr. and Ms. Ken R. Mulliken

Family Level

Ms. Carolyn Aldridge
Mr. and Mrs. Tim Anderson
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Aycock
Mr. and Mrs. David Bailey
Mr. Jason Ballou
Mr. and Mrs. Warren Banks
Mr. Keenan J. Barker
Mr. Robert J. Barth
Mr. Bryan Batson
Mr. and Mrs. Brian Baumgart
Mr. and Mrs. Craig Bayless
Mr. and Mrs. Jason Bean
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Beck
Drs. Neeli and Venkat Bendapudi
Mr. and Mrs. John Benich
Mr. and Mrs. John Bertrem
Mr. and Mrs. Steven F. Biermann
Mr. and Mrs. Ryan Bly
Ms. Heather Urfer and
Mr. Travis Boley
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Borrows
Mr. and Mrs. John Bowers

Mr. and Mrs. Kristin Boyes
Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Branch
Mr. and Mrs. Ron Brasfield
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Brill
Mr. and Mrs. John Broderick
Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Brodzinski
Mr. and Mrs. Jason M. Brownell
Mr. and Mrs. David Bullard
Ms. Debbie Stoppello and
Mr. Kent Bunting
Ms. Bonnie Burns
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Burroughs
Ms. Patricia Sanchez and
Mr. Joel Camilo
Mr. and Mrs. James Campbell
Mr. and Mrs. Keith Campbell
Mr. Noel Carino
Mr. and Mrs. Carl Carlson
Mr. and Mrs. John Carmody
Mr. and Mrs. Tim Carnagey
Mr. Phil Dillon and Ms. Nancy Catron
Mr. and Mrs. Keith Chambers
Mr. and Mrs. Neal Clark
Mr. and Mrs. James W. Clemons
Mr. and Mrs. William Clow
Mr. and Mrs. Doug Cole
Mr. Michael Collins
Mr. and Mrs. James W. Corder
Mr. and Mrs. Larry Courtney
Ms. Elizabeth Cox
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Crothers
Mr. Paul Windmann and
Ms. Kristina Daggett
Mr. and Mrs. Roy Davis
Mr. David Davis
Ms. Ann Marie Marciarille and
Mr. Brad DeLong
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Desrosiers
Mr. Anthony J. Diaz
Mr. Jay Dillon
Mr. Freddie S. Thompkins and
Mrs. Linda K. Dimon
Mr. Devin Dodson
Mr. and Mrs. Fredrick Donohue
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Mr. and Mrs. Allen Garner
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Gaughran
Mr. and Mrs. John George
Mr. and Mrs. Jay Gerber
Mr. Winston Hunter and
Ms. Megan Geurts
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Ms. Janet Gross
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TRU VIEW

Think back to the 1950s and the greatest threats to international stability: Communism, nuclear arms, warfare. Rinderpest may not be at the top of your list, but the impact of the cattle virus was devastating. We asked Truman-Kauffman Scholar Amanda McVety to tell us more about her forthcoming book on the topic.



Amanda McVety

For years, your research has been focused on Truman's Point Four Program. How did you become interested in the bovine virus called Rinderpest?

I stumbled upon the campaign to eradicate Rinderpest while researching Point Four activities in Ethiopia for my first book, *Enlightened Aid: U.S. Development as Foreign Policy in Ethiopia*. Intrigued, I kept my eyes open for additional information on the campaign, slowly adding new documents to my "Rinderpest" file while finishing *Enlightened Aid*. I began presenting my findings at conferences to see what kind of response I got from the crowd. People were interested, and my own interest in the topic kept growing.

Your new book is titled *Interspecies Internationalism*. What do you mean by this?

I use the term "interspecies internationalism" to focus attention on the microbes, plants and animals that were specifically targeted as part of developing so-called "under-developed" nations.

What's the Truman connection?

In the fall of 1948, President Truman told a meeting of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, "Hunger has no nationality. Abundance should have no nationality, either." His audience was dedicated to the pursuit of plenty through the utilization of technology. Eradicating Rinderpest would increase global food security and support an expanding global market.

And this was part of Truman's Point Four Program?

That's right. Truman's promise to share American technical expertise gained more concrete focus two years later with the creation of the Point Four Program. His Economic Cooperation Act of 1948 is famous for the work it supported in Europe, but it also attempted to tackle the problem of underdevelopment. Rinderpest received specific attention because it was so socially and economically devastating. Although it didn't infect humans, it threatened cattle and buffalo and, therefore, livelihoods and entire economies. The virus was killing, on aver-

age, more than 2 million head of cattle a year around the world. Because Rinderpest hindered the production and distribution of meat, controlling it – and trying to eradicate it – became one of FAO's top priorities. This was a decidedly interspecies kind of internationalism.

You note that Rinderpest played a role in European imperialism.

Yes, my story begins much earlier, with Rinderpest itself – its origins, its devastating history, and the role it played geopolitically. Rinderpest often killed up to 90 percent of its victims, which explains why it caused famines in Napoleon's France and triggered massive cattle slaughters in Victoria's England. In 1887, Italians pursuing dreams of conquering Ethiopia imported livestock from India to supply their campaign. Some of the animals were infected with a particularly virulent strain of Rinderpest that eventually killed 90 percent of the cattle and untold numbers of wild ungulates. The epidemic devastated African societies – both socially and economically – and Europeans promptly took advantage by ramping up imperial expansions all over the continent.

Will you be conducting research at the Truman Library?

Yes, I'd like to return to do more research on U.S. coordination with

UN technical-assistance projects – the fulfillment of the promise Truman made in his 1948 speech.

This is not a typical Truman-era research project.

No, but for the politically minded, the Rinderpest campaign offers an intriguing example of a type of Cold War internationalism that focused on the nonhuman. The Rinderpest campaign – with its focus on nonhuman populations – is ideally suited to analysis that moves away from a nation-centered framework. Instead, this book will ask readers to think about ecosystems and populations, as did the human technicians who are at the center of this narrative.

Your work is now being aided by a Truman-Kauffman grant. How important is this to your project?

This grant is vital to my project. It gives me the time I need to focus on my writing, and I am very thankful.

When will we be able to read your new book?

Most of my research is complete, and I'll begin writing this summer. I anticipate having the book-length manuscript ready for Cambridge University Press by the summer of 2015.

NEWS BRIEFS



New Decision Center Director

Spend five minutes with Mary McMurray and you'll know she is sincere when she says, "This is my dream job." The new director of The White House Decision Center is as passionate about history as she is committed to growing civics education, mentoring youth and offering superlative experiences in the Truman Library's nationally acclaimed hands-on history lab. "I am thrilled to work with an exceptional team of facilitators, educators and community members to fulfill President Truman's vision of promoting education, democracy and leadership through the riveting historical simulations offered to student and adult groups at The White House Decision Center." Mary is a Ph.D. candidate in U.S. history at the University of Kansas.



2013 Truman-Kauffman Scholars

The Truman Library Institute has named two new Truman-Kauffman Scholars for 2013. Funded by a major grant from the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation Legacy Fund, the program frees top scholars from their academic responsibilities in order to complete a scholarly book focused on issues stemming from President Truman's Marshall Plan and Point Four Program. The 2013 Fellows are Amanda McVety (page 18) and Tom Robertson, professor of history and humanities at Worcester Polytechnic Institute. Robertson - pictured at left, in Nepal - is especially interested in the impact of American development projects in Nepal during the Cold War. Books resulting from this fellowship program will be published by Cambridge University Press.



On Special Exhibit

Your membership opens the doors to all traveling and temporary exhibitions at the Harry S. Truman Library and Museum. Don't miss these shows, on special exhibit at the Truman Library:

BENTON AND TRUMAN: Legends of the Missouri Border
Closes October 14, 2013

GEORGE WASHINGTON'S ACTS OF CONGRESS
September 12 - 21, 2013

THE AMERICAN PRESIDENT: Photographs from the Archives of The Associated Press | November 24, 2013 - February 2, 2014

SPIES, LIES AND PARANOIA: Americans in Fear | Opens March 2014

A WORD FROM HARRY

August 18, 1948

Dear Ernie,

I am going to send you a copy of the report of my Commission on Civil Rights and then if you still have that antebellum pro-slavery outlook, I'll be thoroughly disappointed in you.

The main difficulty with the South is that they are living eighty years behind the times and the sooner they come out of it the better it will be for the country and themselves. I am not asking for social equality, because no such thing exists, but I am asking for equality of opportunity for all human beings and, as long as I stay here, I am going to continue that fight. When the mob gangs can take four people out and shoot them in the back, and everybody in the country is acquainted with who did the shooting and nothing is done about it, that country is in a pretty bad fix from a law enforcement standpoint.

When a Mayor and a City Marshal can take a Negro sergeant off a bus in South Carolina, beat him up and put out one of his eyes, and nothing is done about it by the state authorities, something is radically wrong with the system.

On the Louisiana and Arkansas Railway when coal burning locomotives were used, the Negro firemen were the thing because it was a back-breaking job and a dirty one. As soon as they turned to oil as a fuel it became customary for people to take shots at the Negro firemen and a number were murdered because it was thought that this was now a white-collar job and should go to a white man. I can't approve of such goings on and I shall never approve it, as long as I am here, as I told you before. I am going to try to remedy it and if that ends up in my failure to be reelected, that failure will be in a good cause....

Sincerely yours,
Harry S. Truman

65 years ago, President Truman demanded the desegregation of the U.S. military with Executive Order 9981. Now considered one of our nation's 100 milestone documents, 9981 committed the government to integrating the segregated military. In the letter above, President Truman responds to a friend who advised Harry to "just let the South be the South."

65

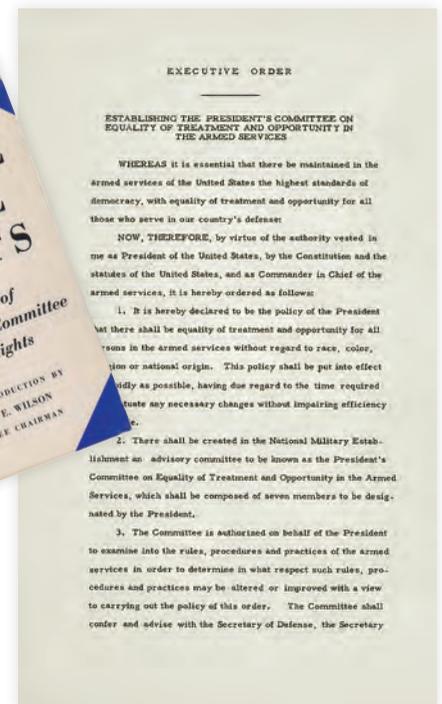
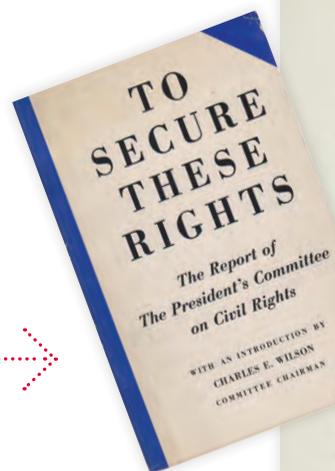
years since President Truman demanded the desegregation of the U.S. military with Executive Order 9981.



TRUism # 43

"We can no longer afford the luxury of a leisurely attack upon prejudice and discrimination....Our national government must show the way."

HARRY S. TRUMAN



A woman with long blonde hair, wearing a patterned top and jeans, and a young boy in a red shirt and shorts are walking through a large, arched stone doorway. The building has a classical architectural style with large columns and a high ceiling. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting daytime.

TRUMAN TODAY

Truman Legacy Society members plan today so that Truman's legacy can live on tomorrow.

"More than 50 years ago, the Harry S. Truman Library was built thanks to the hard work and generous support of thousands of men and women from across the country. Small gifts from appreciative Americans – including a handful of coins from a young girl – helped create the Truman Library. President Truman was very proud of this fact. In fact, he once humorously stated in a letter of thanks for a \$3 donation to the library's building fund that "I would rather have donations like this than to have all the money in a lump sum from some Texas oil millionaire."

Upon its completion, President Truman hoped his presidential library would give all Americans – and especially the young – a better understanding of the history and nature of the Presidency and the government of the United States. I choose to support the Truman Library because I feel that we are obligated to help it to continue to fulfill Truman's wishes. My annual support helps do this today, and my planned gift will help keep these doors open for generations to come.

MARY SHAW BRANTON

President Truman's legacy and library depend on Mary Shaw Branton and people like you. To discuss your planned gift, please request information using the enclosed envelope or contact Judy Turner at 816.268.8246.

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