

# HOLMES HAPPENINGS

Official Newsletter of  
Lowell D. Holmes Museum of Anthropology

## NEW HOME FOR THE MUSEUM

Exciting things are on the horizon for the Lowell Holmes Museum of Anthropology which will re-branded as The Holmes Museum of Anthropology. The blueprints have been finalized and we are hoping construction will start soon on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of Ablah Library. The space will include exhibit space, office, collection storage and work areas. If construction stays on schedule, we should be moving in summer 2026. The university has allocated limited funds for this renovation and additional funds will be needed to complete the transformation. Funds are needed for moving, exhibit cases, furniture for work areas and other expenses. If you would like to donate to the support of the future of the museum and museum studies program please email or call museum director **Rachelle Meinecke** at [rachelle.meinecke@wichita.edu](mailto:rachelle.meinecke@wichita.edu) or call 316-978-7068.



Draft of the museum interior

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WICHITA STATE  
UNIVERSITY  
FAIRMOUNT COLLEGE OF  
LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES  
*Lowell D. Holmes Museum  
of Anthropology*



## FALL EXHIBITS

Graduate student, Kali Moon and Sophomore Sadie Cunningham created two new exhibits in the Rhatigan Student Center (RSC). Kali's exhibit is entitled ***"Isn't it Fantastic"*** bring together hand fans from various regions of the world.

Sadie's exhibit ***"Boats, Paddles and Toys (Oh My)!"*** looks into the community built around fishing and boating in Samoan culture.



**"IT'S NOT A  
MUSEUM.  
IT'S NOT A  
PLACE OF  
ARTIFACTS;  
IT'S A PLACE  
OF IDEAS."**

JEANIE KAHNKE

## HALLOWEEN OPEN HOUSE

### Holmes Museum

#### HALLOWEEN OPEN HOUSE

**30 OCTOBER, 2025**

<b>1 PM</b>	<b>Regular Hours</b>
<b>5 PM</b>	Stop by between classes and see us!
<b>4 PM</b>	<b>Open-House!</b>
<b>7 PM</b>	Visit the Holmes Museum's ONCE IN A FULL MOON EXTENDED HOURS! Costumes encouraged, and refreshments provided.

Follow our socials!  
 @holmes\_museum

**NEFF HALL, FIRST FLOOR**



"A PEOPLE  
WITHOUT  
KNOWLEDGE OF  
THEIR PAST  
HISTORY, ORIGIN  
AND CULTURE ARE  
LIKE A TREE  
WITHOUT ROOTS"

MARCUS GARVEY



## ARTIFACT SPOTLIGHT



### Shell horn

New Ireland/Melanesia/Oceania  
Conch shell

The use of a shell as a “trumpet” to call attention is a somewhat universal concept - in the Andes of South America, a shell is used as a trumpet in dances and festivals. Traditional Yoruba music in West Africa employs the use of a conch shell (referred to as agogo), and associates the use and sound with Shango, the god of thunder. In New Zealand Maori groups, the pū is used to call out messages and warnings, and the alelu in Hawaii is used a symbol for royal communiques. The design of a shell horn will ultimately determine the trumpeting sound. Typically, a hole is carved into the side [seen in image] and the opening is smoothed out for the user to blow into. Sometimes, a mouthpiece is added to the opening – in this case, the horn was left as close to its natural state as possible. The spiral shape of the conch creates a resonating chamber for the sound waves to bounce off from and echo. Regardless of its purpose, the shell horn is a powerful and ancient instrument, carved from the sea itself.

2012.10.017

Donated by Dorothy Billings

Written by Timmerie Henke



## MEET THE STAFF

### Rachelle Meinecke - Director

Rachelle is the director of the Lowell Holmes Museum of Anthropology. She is the coordinator of the Museum Studies Certificate and teaches museum studies classes. She is also the curator of the Pizza Hut Museum and a self proclaimed "museum nerd".



### Timmerie Henke - Student Curator

Tim is a first-year graduate student in Anthropology, focusing on Museum Studies, NAGPRA, and cemetery restoration. In their spare time, Tim enjoys staring at the ground looking for bones and rocks, as well as partaking in local West Coast Swing social dances!



### Kali Moon - Student Curator

Kali is a first-year graduate student in Anthropology with a focus in Museum Studies. She has always loved to travel and learn about other cultures and knew she wanted to go into archaeology from a young age, but realized her love for museum work in her undergrad. Kali loves reading, watching soccer, Dr. Pepper, and going home to her two cats!



### Sadie Cunningham - Student Curator

Sadie is a sophomore in anthropology and wants to specialize in underwater archaeology. She has a special interest in Greek and Roman history. Growing up, Sadie would watch history-based shows with her grandpa and dad - this sparked her love for the subject. She loves reading and baking and hopes to put it to use by recreating historic recipes. Sadie looks forward to what the future brings and can't wait to start working towards her goals!





## MUSEUM AND EDITORIAL TEAM

### MUSEUM DIRECTOR

Rachelle Meinecke

### GRADUATE ASSISTANT/MUSEUM REGISTRAR

Kali Moon

### CURATOR AND SOCIAL MEDIA

Timmerie Henke

### CURATOR

Sadie Cunningham

## CONTACT INFORMATION

### QUESTIONS? COMMENTS? CONCERNS?

[holmes.museum@wichita.edu](mailto:holmes.museum@wichita.edu)  
316-978-7068

Museum Studies Certificate Information  
[www.wichita.edu/holmesmuseum](http://www.wichita.edu/holmesmuseum)

1845 Fairmount St., Box 52  
Wichita, KS 67260-0052

## LOCATION

### NEFF HALL

First floor, with exhibits throughout the building

## HOURS

1 PM - 5 PM, MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY

or by appointment

LOWELL D. HOLMES



MUSEUM OF ANTHROPOLOGY



HOLMES HAPPENINGS