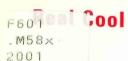




Real Places

Real Stuff

Real Stories









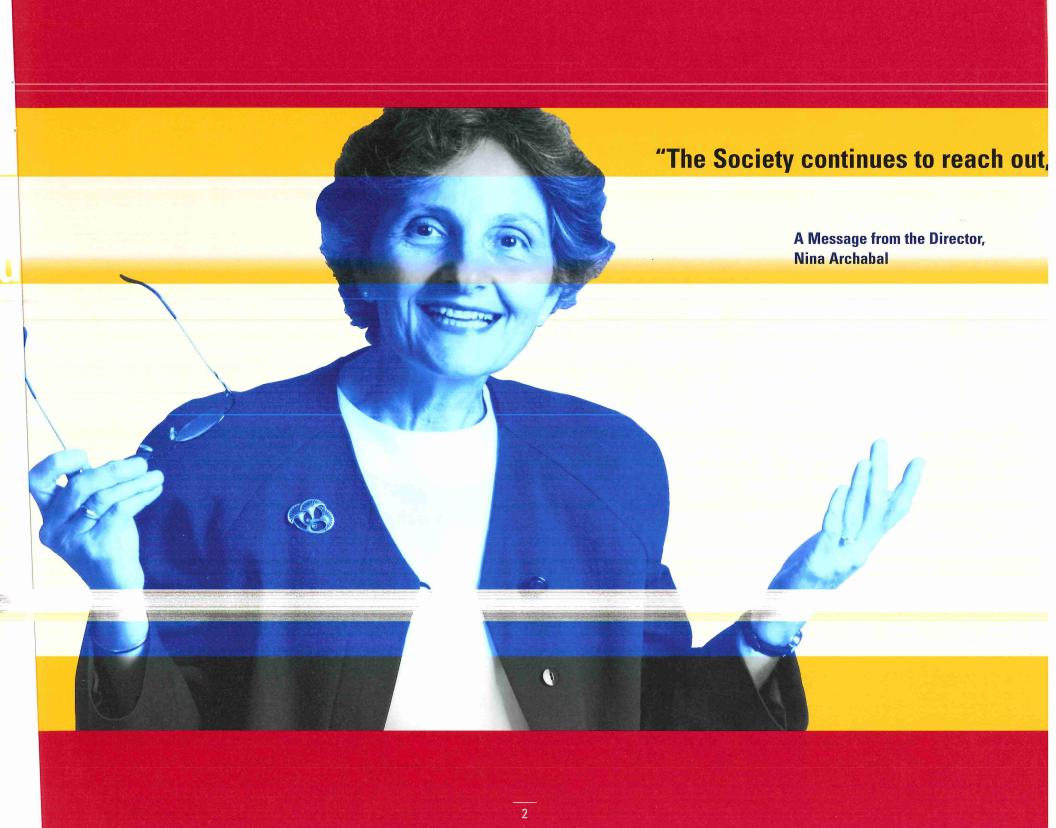
YOU like to meet?



What would you like to do?

Where would you like to VISIT?

We take you there. At the Minnesota Historical Society we bring you and history together. We connect you to the places and people of the past.



to make **CONNECTIONS** with people across **Minnesota**, the United States and the world."

The Minnesota Historical Society's work has always been about making connections – providing our citizens with opportunities to connect with the people, places and stories of Minnesota's past. The Society's founders felt a vital link to the history they discovered all around them. "Not a foot of ground that we tread, but has been trod by nations before us," territorial governor Alexander Ramsey told the organization's members soon after its establishment in 1849. Today, in new and multiplying ways, we continue the mission they began over 150 years ago – to preserve and pass on the memories of all those who have left their imprint on Minnesota and created the unique story of our state.

Like the state's first citizens, Minnesotans in 2001 were never far from history. Growing numbers of people explored the past at the History Center and the Society's historic sites, through publications and programs in the state's classrooms and communities, and on our web site – www.mnhs.org. This annual report highlights some of the many ways in which the Society helped bring people and history together during the past year, including a special focus on two of our major initiatives – through our online presence and on the Minneapolis riverfront.

In 2001, new and expanded resources on the Society's web site continued to make history accessible in ways we could not have imagined only five years ago when the site was launched. More people than ever before, from across the state and around the world, logged on and explored Minnesota history in their homes, workplaces and schools. But the virtual story is not the whole story. The real things and the real places remain as powerful as ever.

The Society, working with its public and private community partners, made significant progress last year toward the development of an exciting new historical destination scheduled to open in 2002 – Mill City Museum. Here, on the banks of the Mississippi River, visitors will discover how Minneapolis became the milling capital of the world and the economic center of a vast region.

The Minnesota Historical Society's ability to engage growing audiences of all ages and backgrounds – whether online or at the places history happened – depends ultimately on our deep connection with Minnesota's people. The achievements of the last year as well as our vision for the future have grown from these connections – from the extraordinary support and efforts of all those who worked with us, including our governor and state legislators, donors, community members, colleagues in historical and educational organizations, and our membership, staff and volunteers. We also say a special thank you to the Society's outgoing president, Richard T. Murphy, whose wise and dedicated leadership over the past three years has made friends for history throughout the state.

Online or in person, there have never been more exciting opportunities to explore the past. Please join us and make your connection to Minnesota history.

Thuis M. archabal

History Center Museum



but people don't save enough these days. At the time it seemed important to save all of it.

but here were these kids doing something **Creative** and keeping at it with a lot of work and discipline."

Mary Mueller, mother of musician Karl Mueller

Twenty years ago, when a little-known rock band called Loud Fast Rules was practicing in bassist Karl Mueller's Minneapolis garage, Karl's mother began saving every scrap of paper related to the band. Now, this one-time garage band is a Grammy Award winner, known around the world as Soul Asylum.

Mary Mueller, a former medical librarian at the University of Minnesota, has always been interested in history. So she saved every backstage pass, tour itinerary and promotional piece related to the band from its earliest days, recording on the back of each the date and event. When Mary learned that the Society was producing an exhibit on

Minnesota music, she thought that the Society might be interested in her Soul Asylum collection.

"Karl and I always had the Society in mind as a place to donate these materials, and all the band members agreed," says Mary. Society staff visited with Mary and took eight cartons of materials away with them, including Karl's first bass guitar, which is now on loan and on display in Sounds Good to Me: Music in Minnesota.

"The response from the Society staff has been wonderful," says Mary.

"More museums should be doing this kind of collecting.

I hope the public realizes what the Society really has here."

History Center Museum

The Minnesota History Center Museum is a place where visitors make personal connections to the past. The innovative, hands-on museum invites visitors to explore the people of the past, their stories and their lives. Lively exhibits, theatrical settings, interactive stations and costumed characters bring the past to life. Lectures, films, musical performances, student and adult programs, family events, and even weddings, are all hosted within the walls of the History Center. The History Center is both a place that educates and entertains.

- 327,750 people visited the History Center during the past year, including 107,000 students.
- The History Center Museum's newest exhibit, Sounds Good to Me: Music in Minnesota opened in October to enthusiastic response. Exploring the role and significance of music in the lives of ordinary and famous Minnesotans throughout time, the exhibit has attracted an unprecedented number of new visitors, including many young adults.
- More than 50,000 students participated in the Explore! museum program and over 30,000 students received a history lesson as a part of their visit.
- Four family festivals; the Nine Nights of Music Fun summer concert series; the History HiJinx program for children and families; the Youth Music Series, which showcased Minnesota's finest secondary school musicians; and the museum's Guest in the Gallery series complemented the opening of the Sounds Good to Me exhibit. More than 50 Minnesota musical groups made guest appearances attracting nearly 15,000 visitors.
- The Youth History Initiative was developed to provide education outreach programs to disadvantaged youth in Minneapolis and Twin Cities western suburbs. Funded by the Cargill Foundation, the three-year program provides summer internship opportunities for young people as well as Historian-in-the-Classroom, History Day activities and History Player lesson programs for schools.

- Planning is well under way for a new exhibit on Minnesota weather to open in January 2002.
 Weather Permitting explores Minnesotans' lovehate relationship with their climate of extremes.
- City Pages named the Minnesota History Center as the "Best Museum" in the Twin Cities.
- In conjunction with the Dalai Lama's Minnesota visit, members of the Tibetan community constructed a throne which was displayed at the History Center. Built in accordance with traditional specifications, it is similar to a "stupa," a Buddhist mound forming a memorial shrine of the Buddha.



Statewide Programs



I would have never had these **Opportunities**

without the fellowship program. Now I am doing what I love."

Vicky Raske

Vicky Raske has always dreamed of building a museum on the Grand Portage Indian Reservation. And thanks to some recent hands-on experiences at the Society, she now feels closer to realizing her dream.

Raske, who majored in American Indian studies at the University of Minnesota, is a recent graduate of the Society's Museum Fellows Program, which provides students of color with opportunities to work with museum staff in professional settings. A joint effort between the Society, the Atlanta History Center and the Chicago Historical Society, the program provides academic training, travel and internships to students interested in careers in the museum field.

At the Society, Raske worked closely with the museum collections department on the repatriation of cultural objects

to the Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa. "I learned so much that I can use every day," she says.

Recently, she was hired by the Grand Portage Reservation Tribal Council as its first museum project coordinator, helping other museums and historical societies form partnerships with Indian communities. In addition, she has served on the Society's Indian Advisory Committee since 1994, and is now collaborating with the Society in developing new programs at the North West Company Fur Post.

"I just can't say enough about the Fellows program – it's really helped me to focus on the things I want to do."

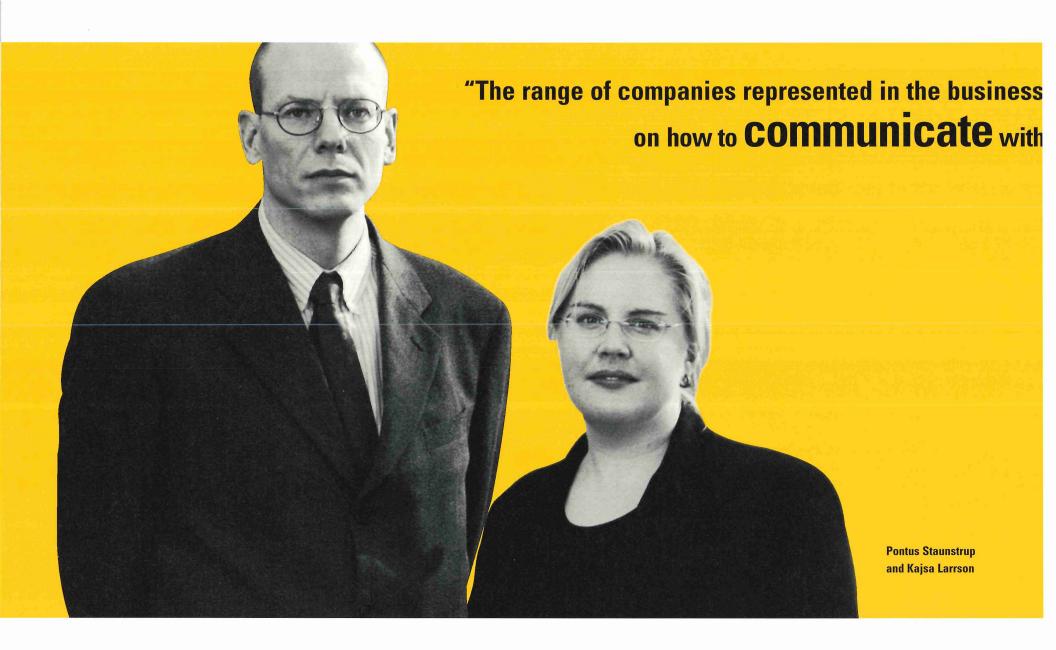
Statewide Programs

The Society continues to forge new relationships and make new connections throughout Minnesota. Through a variety of programs that serve all corners of the state, the Society collaborates with individuals and organizations who help to preserve the Minnesota story. The Society plays a vital role through its outreach and assistance programs with individuals, local and county historical organizations, state agencies, cities and townships, and schools. As a clearinghouse of expertise about preservation, programming, archaeology, conservation and collecting, and through its staff visits and workshops, web resources, educational programs and grant administration, the Society carries out its mission to foster appreciation of the state's heritage.

- With 16,702 members, the Minnesota Historical Society continues to have the largest membership of any state historical organization in the nation. Though concentrated in Minnesota, the Society has members in all 50 states.
- 1,400 Society volunteers contributed over 35,500 hours to Society activities and programs.
- 30,000 Minnesota students participated in History Day programs, and 51 Minnesota students participated in the National History Day events in Maryland. Two Minnesota students took home first place honors in the national competition, with many others placing in the top 10 in their categories.
- With funds appropriated by the Minnesota Legislature, the Society awarded \$383,590 in grants to 16 applicants for state, county and local preservation projects; \$184,707 to 48 applicants in state grants-in-aid; and \$107,650 in certified local government grants to 13 cities. Properties in the Minneapolis Warehouse District were awarded \$200,000 as part of a one-time Preservation Action Funds grants program.
- Seven properties were listed on the National Register of Historic Places, including the Nansen Agricultural Historic District and three new listings in St. Peter, bringing closure to the disaster recovery work begun there after the devastating 1998 tornadoes.
- The Society participated in the National Museum Fellows program, a collaboration with the Atlanta History Center and the Chicago Historical Society, which provides an academic seminar, stipends and internships to students of color seeking a career in the museum field. Funded by Coca-Cola and the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, the program supported six students in the last year from the University of St. Thomas, Macalester College and the University of Minnesota.
- Generous members and friends contributed nearly \$10 million to support ongoing programs, endowment and special projects. 177 members of the North Star Circle supported the Society's annual fund with lead gifts of \$1,000 or more.



Library and Collections



archives impressed us. We learned Valuable lessons

companies and how the Minnesota Historical Society establishes trust and partnerships."

Pontus Staunstrup

Last winter, Pontus Staunstrup and his colleague Kajsa Larsson visited the Society because of its strong collection of business history records. Staunstrup and Larsson work at Stockholm's Föreningen Stockholm Företagsminnen – Center for Business History – a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving and presenting the history of Swedish companies. The Center is seeking ways to broaden its programs and to promote them more effectively, and this led Staunstrup, who heads its communications department, to Minnesota.

"Our director heard about the Society from the director of the Danish National Business Archives," explains Staunstrup. "The way the Society uses the web was another decisive factor in our desire to visit." The Swedish visitors spent two days at the Society, exchanging ideas with archives, exhibits and public relations staff. Staunstrup was particularly impressed with the Society's active approach in collecting from a variety of communities and in using oral histories to add context and life to the records.

"Just like the Minnesota Historical Society, we feel that history is a concern for the whole community," he says. "In the past we have not been very successful in communicating outside the academic or business worlds. We wanted to change that and visiting the Society gave us a lot of ideas."

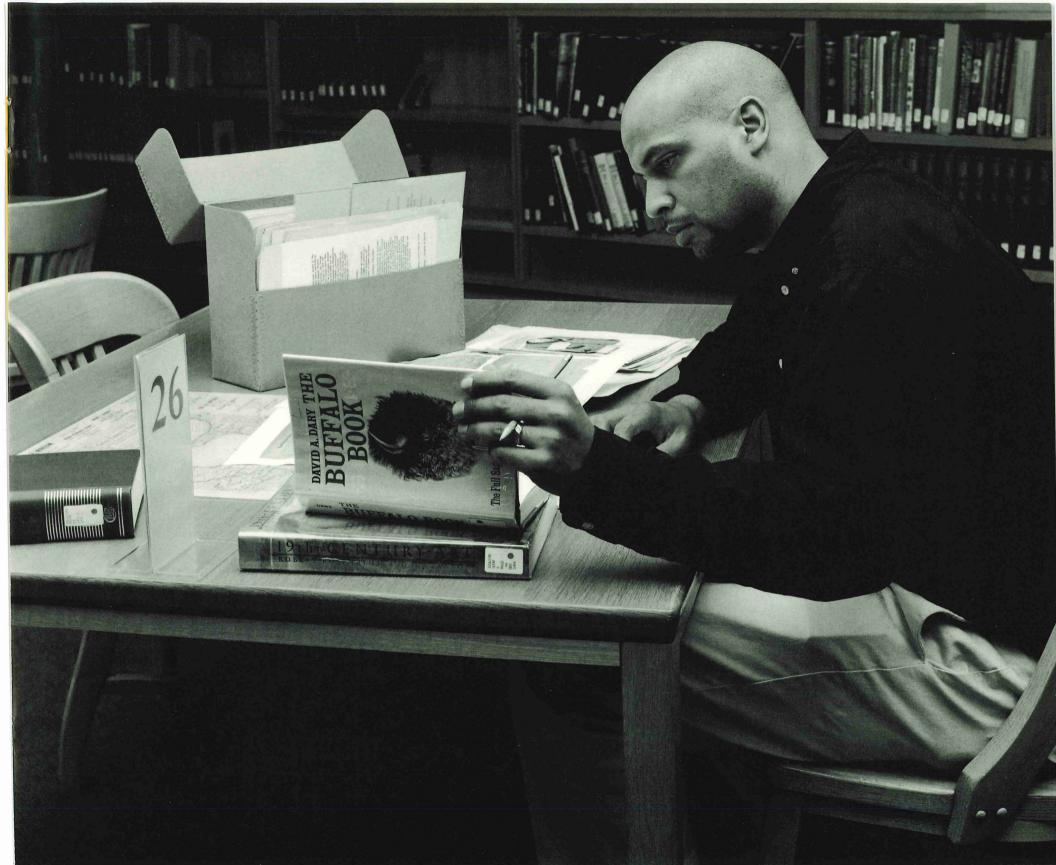
"The way the Society works with the media, towards different user groups, on the web site, through publications and exhibitions, were all valuable lessons."

Library and Collections

In 1849, one of the first acts of the newly founded Society was to establish a library to collect and preserve the Minnesota story. Now, over 150 years later, the Society is home to a vast collection representing the dimensions of Minnesota's rich history including: 400,000 books; 500,0000 photographs; 21,000 maps; 6,000 works of art; 226,000 historical artifacts; and, 1.1 million archaeological specimens. In addition, there are major holdings of newspapers, oral histories, manuscripts, family records, diaries, film and video recordings; and corporate and government records. Today, amateurs and professionals can gain access to the collections at the Library or from the web site any time of day or night, truly making these resources available to all.

- The Society's library and collections continue to be a resource for researchers around the globe.
 Nearly 37,000 people visited the library, 11,000 others telephoned their inquiries, and 2,421 individuals sent in their requests. 1,376 people participated in classes or specialized tours.
- Notable acquisitions to the Society's collections include a concertina from New Ulm instrument maker Christie Hengel, clothing and promotional items from the Grammy award-winning rock band Soul Asylum, 1930s competitive skater Dorothy Snell's skates and skating costumes, a specially-commissioned canoe blanket from the Bemidji Woolen Mills, a Tony Oliva baseball bobble-head doll, tableware and serving pieces from Minneapolis Chinese restaurant John's Place,
- gifts from Minnesota citizens to Gov. Ventura, a poker caddy used in the James J. Hill House, embroidered landscapes from the former Curtis Hotel in Minneapolis, and a cross stitch sample made by Harding High School's Hmong culture class.
- The Minnesota History Center Library was the recipient of the "Best Library" readers' choice award by City Pages as part of the publication's annual "Best of the Twin Cities" awards issue.
- The Society worked with the Hmong Women's Action Team to complete a unique series of oral histories with three generations of women in six Hmong families.

- The Minnesota Journal 2000 Project provided an opportunity for 47 artists, authors and musicians to chronicle the first year of the new millennium in journals that will become part of the Society's collections.
- 30 workshops on how to preserve family treasures attracted more than 700 people across the state.



Publications and Research



the Chinese-American **Community** and demonstrated that we have been here for over 100 years. dedicated research. It gives us a wonderful sense of **belonging**."

Kaimay Yuen Terry

Eight years ago Society museum collections project manager Sherri Gebert Fuller became intrigued with a silver cup in the Society's collections – one engraved in Chinese on one side and English on the other. Soon after, she found the business card of Moy Hee, to whom the cup had been presented.

Fuller continued to look for more information on Moy Hee, and after several years and a research leave, she pieced together part of his story. Moy Hee was a businessman who immigrated to the Midwest in 1886 and became a successful restaurant owner in the Twin Cities. "This was an exercise in synchronicity – information just kept coming to me from a wide variety of sources," Fuller relates.

Fuller published an article on her research in the winter 2000 issue of Minnesota History. Kaimay Yuen Terry, co-chair

of CAAM Chinese Dance Theater, loved the article and made an additional connection. Some of the information about Moy Hee reminded her of family stories she had heard from her friend Stephanie Toy. "I was so excited," remembers Yuen Terry, "that I called her at midnight to read her parts of the article." Toy, who immigrated to the United States from China in 1984, realized after reading the article that Moy Hee was none other than the great-great-grand-uncle of her father's stories.

Now a Twin Cities resident, herself, Toy says Fuller's article showed what an extraordinary man Moy Hee was.

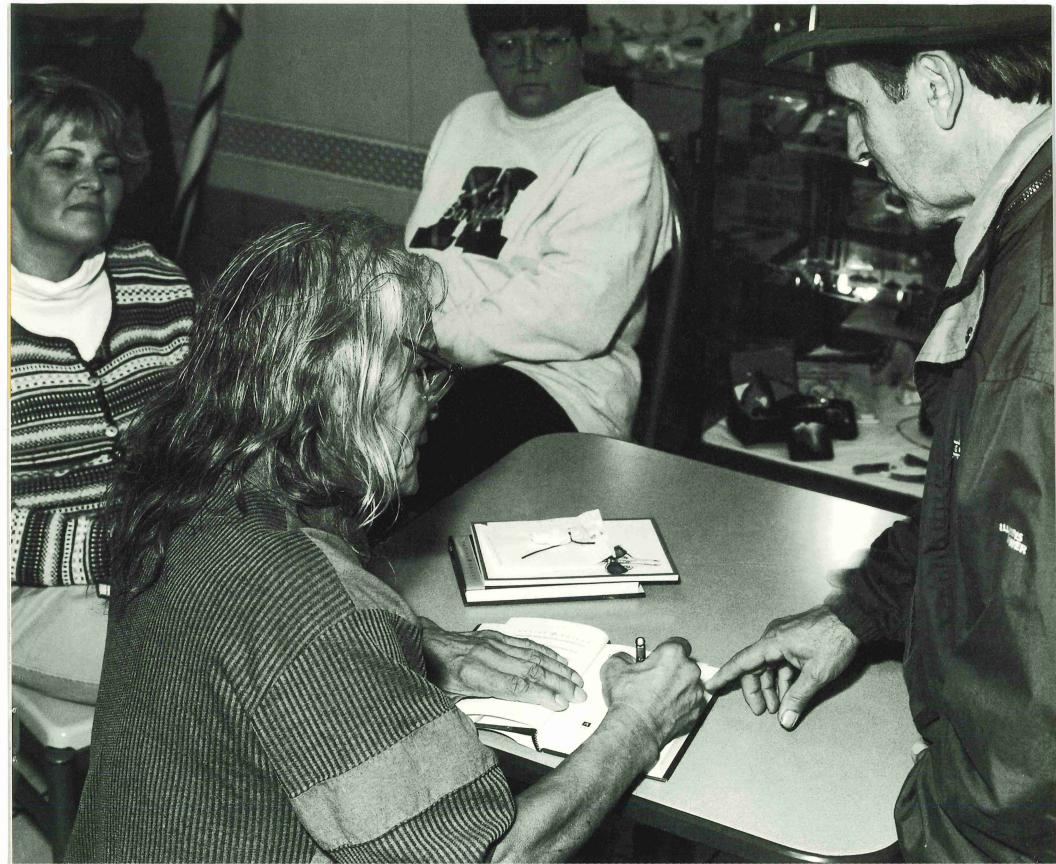
"It was really amazing to read about my own ancestors in this article."

Publications and Research

The Society's publishing program was one of its earliest enterprises, beginning shortly after the Society was founded in 1849. With over 200 items in print, the Minnesota Historical Society Press continues to flourish, bringing authors and readers together. In the last year, the Press published 15 titles garnering two Minnesota Book Awards and one American Book Award, and licensed the paperback rights to one of its titles. With a grant from The St. Paul Companies, the Press also launched a new series, Native Voices, publishing classic and contemporary works by American Indian writers. The Society's active research program aided scholars and writers with grants for research on various Minnesota topics while Minnesota History, Minnesota History Interpreter, Minnesota Preservation Planner and Member News provided information to Society members and to historians, families and historical organizations.

Among the titles published in the last year:

- Cheri Register's Packinghouse Daughter: A Memoir is a blend of memoir, myth and the lost history of a Midwestern labor town. Paperback rights to this American Book Award and Minnesota Book Award winner were licensed to HarperCollins for a fall 2001 reprint.
- The Haymakers: A Chronicle of Five Farm Families, by Steven R. Hoffbeck, blends memoir and historical research to trace the role of haymaking in the lives of five farm families over 150 years. The Haymakers won a Minnesota Book Award.
- A new edition of The Story of Cole Younger, written by the notorious outlaw himself, outlines Younger's life as a guerrilla fighter, Confederate officer, bank robber and Wild West showman.
- Minnesota in the Civil War: An Illustrated History, by Kenneth Carley, profiles Minnesota's dramatic Civil War history.
- Richard Moe's classic history, The Last Full Measure: The Life and Death of the First Minnesota Volunteers, focuses on Minnesota's Civil War history.
- Minnesota, Real & Imagined: Essays on the State and Its Culture, edited by Stephen R. Graubard with an introduction by Nina M. Archabal, contains 13 essays on aspects of Minnesota's history and political culture.
- Minnesota Place Names: A Geographical Encyclopedia is the revised and enlarged third edition of this classic reference work by Warren Upham. The book has an accompanying web site.



The Society Online



And when you make information available to people, they will use it.

in northern Minnesota being able to visit the Historical Society this way."

David Onan

When Society member and donor David Onan was working on his family's history, he used the Internet to send information to family members. Wouldn't the Internet, he thought, be a wonderful tool for connecting researchers with the Society's collections?

"The idea that we could distribute information on the Internet and open up the whole process and make these materials accessible was so exciting to me," says Onan. At his urging and with an initial gift of \$20,000 from the Onan Family Foundation, the Society launched its first effort to make its collections available by putting photographs and related information on the web.

The Onan Foundation also provided additional funds to digitize some images and to add items from the fine art and poster collections. Now, five years later, more than 98,000 images and 163,000 records are available, and the visual resources database is one of the most popular destinations on the Society's web site.

"We always feel good in the foundation business when we can spark something," Onan explains. "But it's even more gratifying when we are working with an organization that can carry it through."

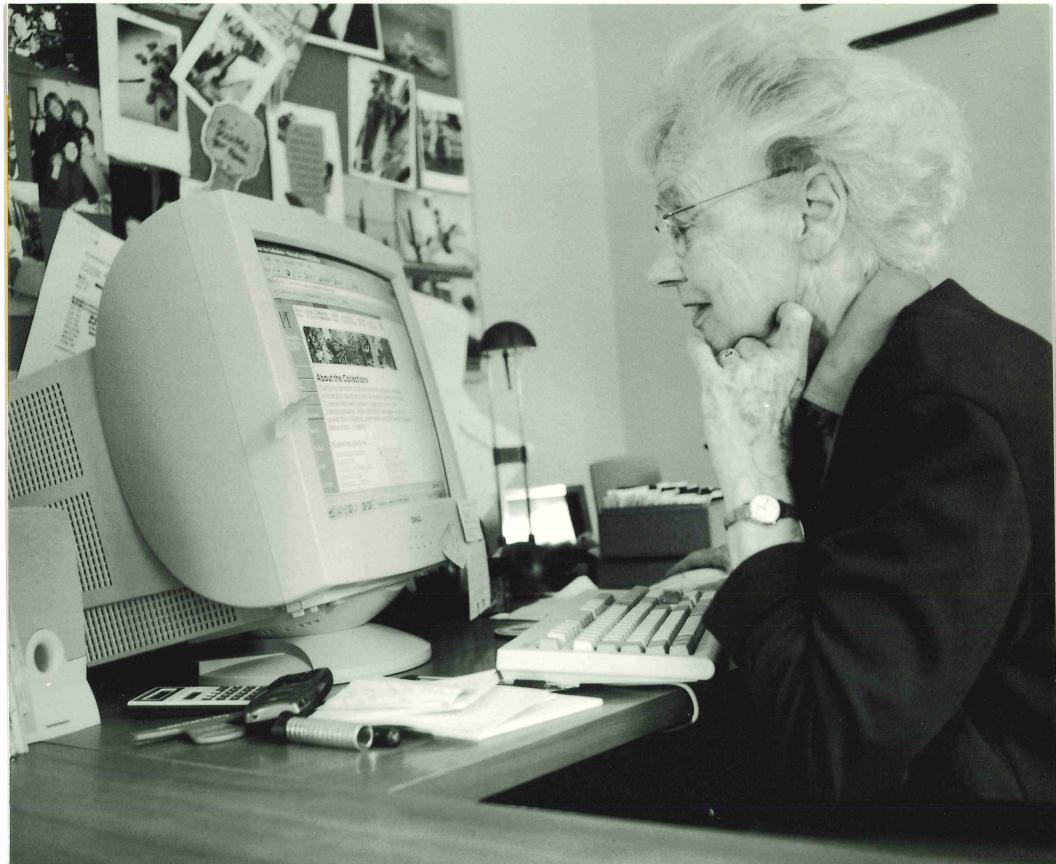
"The Society valued this project and the staff really took this idea and developed it."

The Society Online

The founders of the Minnesota Historical Society could scarcely have imagined a day when the records of Minnesota's past would be at the fingertips of people all over the world. Yet, that is precisely what was begun in 1996 when the Society made information technology an institutional priority and launched its web site, www.mnhs.org. Through an appropriation by the Minnesota Legislature, information about the Society's collections is now online. Today, researchers around the world find the Society's web offerings an invaluable tool. From information on National Register listings to tips on how to preserve photographs, from a glimpse of a Lake Superior shipwreck to information on a great-great-grandmother, the Society's web site is a window to the past.

- The Society's web site is an active destination for researchers. In the last year, there were nearly 1,156,000 visitor sessions with an average of 3,200 per day.
- More than 19,000 new records and over 18,500 digital images were added to the visual resources database, the most popular destination on the Society's web site. To date, more than 160,000 records and 85,000 images are available, including photographs, artwork and posters from the Society's collections.
- An online index of 1.4 million death certificates recorded between 1908 and 1946 was added to the Society's web site in June. 5,000 people a day utilized the index in its first few days.

- The Society received a two-year grant from the Institute for Museum and Library Services to support the development of an online center for the study of Minnesota history. Selected through a national competition, the Society was one of seven organizations to receive a Leadership Grant for online development.
- An online research tool and companion piece was created for Warren Upham's Minnesota Place Names: A Geographical Encyclopedia, recently republished by the Minnesota Historical Society Press. This resource provides information about the origins of the names of Minnesota towns, rivers, lakes and cities.
- Other additions to the Society's web site include enhanced pages for Split Rock Lighthouse and the Oliver H. Kelley Farm, a sampling of the National Register of Historic Places, a database on Minnesota quilts, information on family and house history research, and over 450 finding aids to the manuscript collections.



Historic Sites



might be boring and find out that they are really fun.

I think I know what makes a trip great for a kid."

Steve Entenza Quam, age 10

Lois Quam's three boys used to tease their mother. They didn't think she knew enough about Minnesota history.

"We used to live in England and I knew quite a bit about British history, but it was true that I knew very little about Minnesota," says the Marshall, Minn., native and chief executive officer of Ovations, a provider of healthcare services to seniors. She decided that a good way to learn about Minnesota's past was to take her family on the road to visit the Society's historic sites. So far she and her husband, Representative Matt Entenza, and the boys have visited Jeffers Petroglyphs, the Lower Sioux Agency, Forestville, Fort Ridgely and the Harkin Store.

"The Society does a great job of engaging the public in ways they can touch and feel. We all love history and this is a great way to do something together that we all enjoy, as a family."

They've also organized other historic side trips, including an overnight stay in a sod house. These trips have become so much a part of family life that Lois and 10-year-old Steve have decided to write a book for parents and kids on weekend trips to Minnesota's historic places. Steve's contributions include what to bring, and what is fun for kids. His number one recommendation?

"Always bring a basketball."

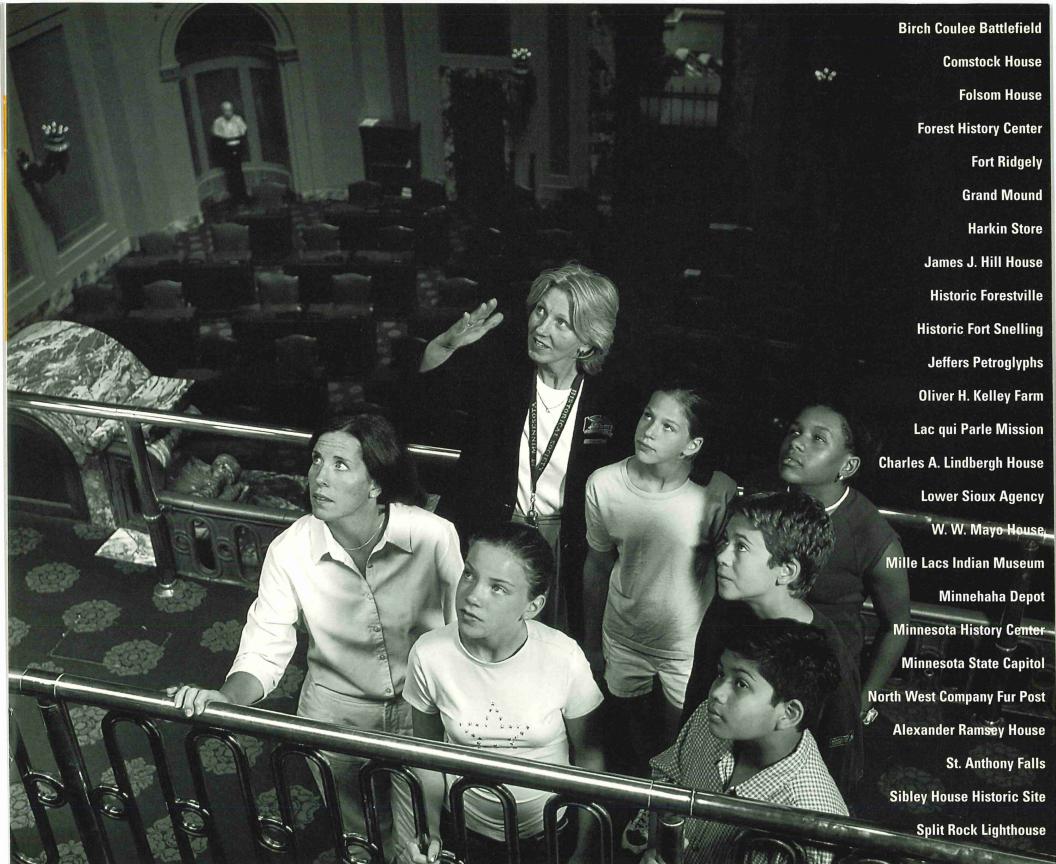
Historic Sites

The Minnesota Historical Society's historic sites connect people of today with the people and places of yesterday. At 25 historic sites around the state, visitors experience history where it happened. From 1862 farm life at the Oliver Kelley Farm to the day-to-day life of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe 250 years ago, visitors can step into the past and catch a glimpse of what life was like in another time and place. The combination of historic buildings, dynamic exhibits and skilled interpretive staff help families, students, individuals and groups make connections between the past and the present.

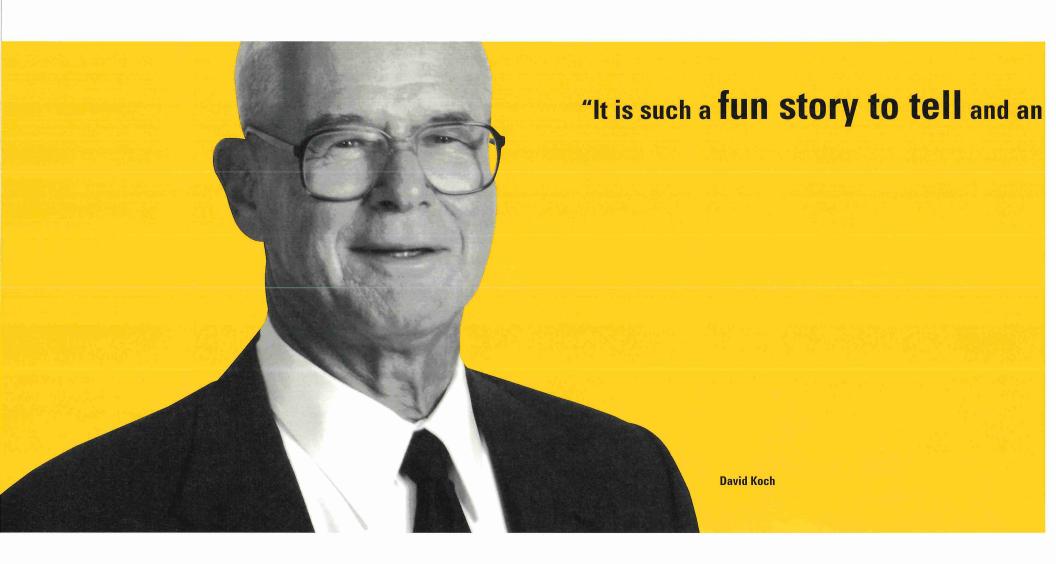
- In the past year, 702,519 people, including 158,487 school children, attended the programs at the Society's historic sites.
- Planning was completed for a new exhibition and interpretive program that will open within the next year at the Charles A. Lindbergh House. The project includes a renovation of the visitor center, improved visitor amenities and refurbishment of the trails on the site. Society staff also collaborated with the Lindbergh Foundation and the Little Falls, Minn., community to plan a commemoration of the 75th anniversary of Lindbergh's historic trans-Atlantic flight in August of 2002.
- Following a two-year planning initiative, the Society is seeking a nonprofit partner to operate the William G. LeDuc House and provide public

- access for educational purposes. The Society is seeking partners for the future operation of the site.
- The "Hop on the Bus" program was developed to provide community groups facing transportation difficulties greater access to Twin Cities area historic sites and the Minnesota History Center. Bus transportation and specialized programs were designed for the YWCA of St. Paul Transitional Housing Program, Skyline Tower families, Neighborhood House and the Harriet Tubman Center.
- The Society's James J. Hill House acquired an oil portrait of Mary T. Hill, the first portrait of Mrs. Hill in its collection. Donated by Christopher Schroll, the great-grandson of James J. and Mary T. Hill, the portrait has been

- reunited with its companion portrait of James J. Hill in its original location in the Hill House music room.
- New trail interpretation projects were developed at Traverse des Sioux, near St. Peter, and Marine Mill in Marine-on-St. Croix. The sites will open with enhanced interpretation in spring 2002.
- Society staff at the Minnesota State Capitol piloted a new educational program for middle school students. "Taking an Issue, Making a Stand" demonstrates the role of citizen participation in the legislative process and involves students in decision making, role playing and teamwork.



Mill City Museum



important story for future citizens.

What a great **egacy** to pass on to the future!"

David Koch

When new Society board member David Koch was asked to help raise funds for a new project at the Minneapolis riverfront a few years ago, he really didn't know much about the area, or its importance. And he was puzzled that the Society should want to build a major new museum, the Mill City Museum, within the ruin of a burned-out flour mill.

"I couldn't imagine why the Society volunteered for such a daunting task, but pretty soon I became excited myself," says Koch, chairman emeritus of Graco Inc. Now one of the project's most enthusiastic champions, Koch has led a capital campaign that has raised more than \$28 million. In addition, he and his wife Barbara have made a generous contribution of their own to the new museum.

"Every time I hear the story of the falls and what a profound impact they had on the region it is even more compelling to me," says Koch.

"This will be such a great place for people to come together and learn this important story."

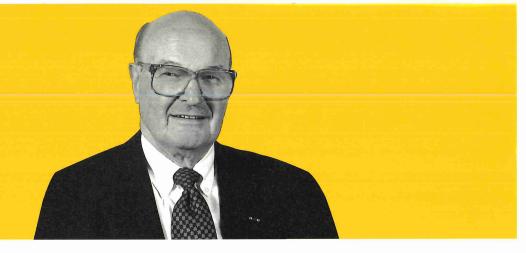
Mill City Museum

Planning for the Society's Mill City Museum made great strides in the past year. The new museum and education center, telling the story of Minneapolis' rise as the flour milling capital of the world, to be built within the fire-damaged ruins of the Washburn-Crosby A Mill on the city's riverfront, promises to be a must-see and must-do destination for residents and visitors alike. The result of a unique partnership between the Minneapolis Community Development Agency, Brighton Development and the Society, this one-of-a-kind landmark setting will provide a gateway to other attractions within the Historic Mills District.

- Architectural designs by Meyer, Scherer & The Society acquired a collection of 19th-century Rockcastle were completed and construction work was begun by Sheehy Construction Company of St. Paul. Footings, columns and elevator pads have been poured, and steel supports and beams have been erected. Completed areas also include stairs and railings and tuck pointing on the ruin's courtyard walls.
- Exhibition plans that have been finalized for the museum include: a test kitchen where visitors can explore the process of food product development; a hands-on waterpower lab; and the Flour Tower, an eight-story multimedia ride that will take visitors into the heart of a working flour mill.
- flour-milling equipment from the Albany Roller Mills in Stearns County for exhibition at Mill City Museum. Grain cleaners and sifters, a middlings purifier, roller mills and flour packers will be among the objects on view in the museum's "Meet the Machines" section. The Society also documented memories of the mills by archiving its business records, and videotaping oral histories of workers' family members who remember day-to-day operations of the mill.
- Tenants for the upper floors of the new museum were secured. The architectural firm of Meyer, Scherer & Rockcastle and the McKnight Foundation will move their headquarters to the new riverfront structure.
- Staff from the Society and Minneapolis Public Schools held an all-day retreat in the spring to continue planning programs for school audiences at Mill City Museum with educational programs that contribute to student literacy and math skills. A grant from the McKnight Foundation has funded efforts to build a solid curriculum for Minneapolis students.
- Fundraising efforts continue, with over \$28 million committed. Last year, the Society received a \$1 million challenge grant from the Kresge Foundation and a \$1 million contribution from the Arbor Foundation.



A Message from the President



This year was marked by extraordinary efforts to increase the connections between Minnesotans and their history. In addition to their customary duties, the Society's board worked closely with staff members to manage the intricate relationships required to allow the Society to take ownership of the Washburn-Crosby A Mill in Minneapolis and begin construction. As I write this, what was once an abandoned, burned-out ruin is now a hub of activity. As floors and walls go up, staff members throughout the institution are working on the exhibitions and programs that will bring the new museum to life.

It was a remarkably productive year in other areas as well. The Society's Press published a record number of books, two of which won awards, and premiered *Native Voices*, a series devoted to the stories of Minnesota's Indian peoples. A major highlight of the year was the publication of the Society's first online book, the well-used and much-loved

Minnesota Place Names, updated and reissued in 2001. These are only a few of the many accomplishments that are featured in the pages of this annual report.

It has been a privilege for me to serve as president the past three years. My thanks to Director Nina Archabal and her fine staff and to the members of the Society's governing board for their unwavering dedication to the Society's mission. Thanks also to our members, donors and volunteers without whom our work would not be possible, nor as much a pleasure. I am confident that as the Society begins its 153rd year, it is stable, strong and eager to continue its service to the people of Minnesota.

Belley

Minnesota Historical Society • 2001 Annual Report

Condensed Balance Sheet

Year ended June 30, 2001 (000's omitted) (with summarized information as of June 30, 2000)

		Unrestricted	Board	Temporarily restricted			Tota	nl
	Undesignated	Plant fund	designated endowment	State appropriations	Other	Permanently restricted	2001	2000
Cash and investments	\$1,829	\$ 0	\$13,407	\$ 2,145	\$14,973	\$10,438	\$ 42,792	\$ 43,478
Receivables	1,422	0	0	10,145	6,987	69	18,623	20,619
Museum shop inventories	723	0	0	0	0	0	723	702
Property and equipment, net	0	66,716	0	0	0	0	66,716	64,851
Total assets	\$3,974	\$66,716	\$13,407	\$12,290	\$21,960	\$10,507	\$128,854	\$129,650
Payables and accrued liabilities	\$ 732	\$ 0	\$ 115	\$ 1,685	\$ 446	\$ 222	\$ 3,200	\$ 2,941
Net assets:		V						
Unrestricted	3,242	66,716	13,292	0	0	0	83,250	85,498
Temporarily restricted	0	0	0	10,605	21,514	0	32,119	31,139
Permanently restricted	0	0	0	0	0	10,285	10,285	10,072
Total net assets	3,242	66,716	13,292	10,605	21,514	\$10,285	125,654	126,709
Total liabilities and net assets	\$3,974	\$66,716	\$13,407	\$12,290	\$21,960	\$10,507	\$128,854	\$129,650

These statements are excerpts from the Society's audited financial statements, which are available upon request.

Minnesota Historical Society • 2001 Annual Report

Statement of Activities

Year ended June 30, 2001 (000's omitted) (with summarized information as of June 30, 2000)

		Unrestricted	Board	Temporarily restricted			Total	
	Undesignated	Plant fund	designated endowment	State appropriations	Other	Permanently restricted	2001	2000
Support and revenue								
Support: Private contributions Federal grants State agency grants County and other grants State appropriations	\$ 621			\$28,456	\$6,235 1,352 41 322	\$639	\$ 7,495 1,352 41 322 28,456	\$ 9,676 1,395 303 112 24,655
Total support	621	0	0	28,456	7,950	639	37,666	36,141
Revenue: History Center auxiliary services Historic sites admissions Historic sites store sales Membership Publication sales Management fees Museum program fees Other sales and fees Investment earnings	1,021 1,272 974 659 765 76 206 917 1,418		. (4,557)		(382)	(426)	1,021 1,272 974 659 765 76 206 917 (3,947)	1,100 1,172 938 565 595 95 230 774 4,473
Total revenue	7,308	0	(4,557)	0	(382)	(426)	1,943	9,942
Total support and revenue	7,929	0	(4,557)	28,456	7,568	213	39,609	46,083
Net assets released from program restrictions	32,021	3,023	0	(30,733)	(4,311)	0	0	0
Total support, revenue, and net asset released from program restrictions	ts 39,950	3,023	(4,557)	(2,277)	3,257	213	39,609	46,083

(continued on following page)

Minnesota Historical Society • 2001 Annual Report

Statement of Activities

Year ended June 30, 2001 (000's omitted) (with summarized information as of June 30, 2000)

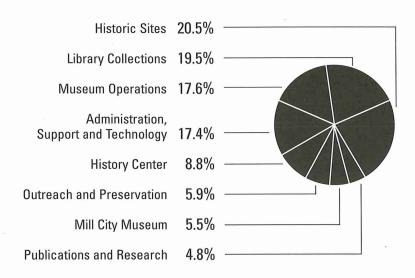
(continued from previous page)		Unrestricted	Board	Temporarily	restricted		Tota	al
	Undesignated	Plant fund	designated endowment	State appropriations	Other	Permanently restricted	2001	2000
Expenses								
Program services: Library collections and archival services Publications and research Museum operations, exhibits, and education Historic sites Outreach and preservation Mill City Museum History Center	\$ 7,647 1,947 6,880 8,188 2,407 2,170 3,208	\$ 267 10 275 143 7 50 388					\$ 7,914 1,957 7,155 8,331 2,414 2,220 3,596	\$ 7,545 1,521 6,750 8,020 2,561 503 3,405
Total program services	32,447	1,140	0	0	0	0	33,587	30,305
Supporting services: Management and general Development and membership	6,291 768	16 2					6,307 770	5,691 657
Total supporting services	7,059	18	0	0	0	0	7,077	6,348
Total expenses	39,506	1,158	0	0	0	0	40,664	36,653
Increase (decrease) in net assets	444	1,865	(4,557)	(2,277)	3,257	213	(1,055)	9,430
Net assets at beginning of year	2,798	64,851	17,849	12,882	18,257	10,072	126,709	117,279
Net assets at end of year	\$ 3,242	\$66,716	\$13,292	\$10,605	\$21,514	\$10,285	\$125,654	\$126,709

Year End Highlights

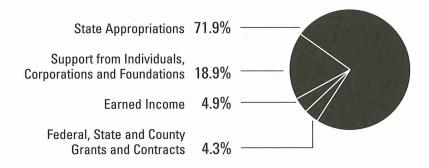
for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2001

- The State of Minnesota continued to demonstrate its long-term support of the Society with a fiscal year 2001 appropriation of \$28.4 million.
- The Society's members, friends, corporations and foundations provided \$7.4 million in funding for the Society's capital campaign and for ongoing programs.
- Non-investment revenues were up 7.7% from fiscal year 2000.
- Society membership, at almost 17,000, continues to make the Minnesota Historical Society the largest state historical society in the country.
- Nearly 1,400 volunteers and interns contributed more than 35,500 hours of service to the Society.
- 52% percent of the Society's fiscal year 2001 budget was for salaries and benefits.

• Percentage of Expenses by Program Area



• Sources of Support and Revenue



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The North Star Circle recognizes individuals and families making gifts of \$1,000 and more to the Minnesota Historical Society's Annual Fund. North Star Circle members sustain the Society's efforts to preserve and share the stories of the past so that they will be a source of inspiration and guidance for generations to come.

Membership in the North Star Circle brings with it a full year of associated benefits, including complimentary membership in the Society, public recognition, opportunities for personal behind-the-scenes tours of the History Center, and invitations to special events.

The Society acknowledges with gratitude the commitment and generosity of the following 177 members of the North Star Circle.

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