

Explore the Sunflower State with “K is for Kansas” Museum Exhibit

The Stauth Memorial Museum of Montezuma will host a traveling exhibit entitled **K is for Kansas: Exploring Kansas from A to Z** opening on **Tuesday, March 10, 2020** through **Saturday, May 9, 2020**. The exhibit will lead visitors on an alphabetic journey across the Sunflower State, from "aviation" to "Z-Bar Ranch." The exhibit was developed by Kauffman Museum, Bethel College, North Newton, Kansas.

K is for Kansas uses the letters of the alphabet to illustrate significant features of the natural and cultural history of Kansas. Composed of big alphabet blocks that surround a large-scale carpet map of Kansas, the exhibit seeks to increase appreciation of the unique people, places, animals, plants and everyday things of Kansas.

Each of the 26 alphabet blocks provides in-depth coverage of a word meaningful to Kansas. These words are represented in various ways from maps and historic photographs to the real object. Preschoolers can play with an ornate box turtle shell or a toy Sante Fe locomotive. School children can learn about James Naismith, the inventor of basketball and first University of Kansas basketball coach, by playing a mini-game at the “N” block. Everyone will appreciate the breeze of the Vornado fan invented in Kansas, and a carving of an upland sandpiper by Newton artist Ray Cook.

The exploring theme is also reflected in the exhibit’s design. In-depth information about grasshoppers is hidden until you lift flippers marked pests? and partners?, while the definition and picture of a free state ‘jayhawker’ is revealed only when you push a slider. Discovery packets with activity suggestions are available to orient families with children to the exhibit.

Hundreds of words were considered while developing the exhibit. “The exhibit reflects where we are and who we are--an exhibit team of parents, designer, teachers, scientists, artists and carpenters who, after a combined 200 years of living here, have come to love Kansas,” said Kauffman Museum exhibit designer Chuck Regier.

The words selected by the exhibit team included personal favorites that point to the quirky and fun sides of Kansas. For example, Dalton Gang, Dexter helium wells and dogbane are listed as D words. But the exhibit also supports social studies and science standards established by the Kansas Department of Education including Kansas symbols and words such as dust bowl.

A 28-page, folding booklet featuring the Kansas alphabet provides the complete list of words included in the exhibit. The “**K is for Kansas**” booklet, a bookmark and two postcards are available for free with the exhibit.

For more information contact (620)846-2527. We are expecting many groups and tours during this exhibit, please call in advance to schedule a tour if you are planning to come with a group of 5 or more! Business hours for the Stauth Memorial Museum, 111 N Aztec, Montezuma, KS are: Tue - Sat 9-12, 1-4:30. Closed Sundays, Mondays & major holidays. Admission is free, but donations are greatly appreciated. Check out our WEBSITE for information about this and all the exciting exhibitions and events coming to the museum at www.stauthmemorialmuseum.org.

Public Service Announcements

For immediate release, please use any time until May 9, 2020

Feel free to condense to fit your space restrictions!

Stauth Memorial Museum Contact: Kim Legleiter, Director (620)846-2527

stauthm@ucom.net

03/10/20-05/09/20 (9 weeks)

The Stauth Memorial Museum of Montezuma will host the exhibit "**K is For Kansas**" from **03/10/20-05/09/20**. "**K is for Kansas: Exploring Kansas from A to Z**" uses large letter alphabet blocks to build appreciation of the Sunflower State. This family-friendly exhibit is designed to deepen the visitor's understanding of their home state so they can share a sense of wonder and curiosity about the state of Kansas. Visitors can explore the natural and cultural history of Kansas from "aviation" to "Z-Bar Ranch." A block for each letter of the alphabet contains artifacts, maps, historic and contemporary illustrations of the unique people, places, animals and plants of Kansas. Hands-on activities are available for families and school groups. This award winning exhibition organized and toured by the **Kauffman Museum**. Tours/groups welcome by appointment, contact 620-846-2527 for information or to set up a tour. Tue-Sat 9-12 1-4:30. Admission is free, but donations are gratefully accepted.

www.stauthmemorialmuseum.org

Calendar of Event Listing

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03/10/20-05/09/20 (9 weeks)

Stauth Memorial Museum, 111 N Aztec, Montezuma, KS 67867.

"K is for Kansas: Exploring Kansas from A to Z" This family-friendly exhibit is designed to deepen the visitor's understanding of their home state so they can share a sense of wonder and curiosity about the state of Kansas. Build the story of the Sunflower State from aviation to Z-Bar Ranch. Big interactive alphabet blocks contain artifacts, maps, and historic and contemporary illustrations of the unique people, places, animals, plants, and everyday things of Kansas. Hold the shell of the ornate box turtle (the state reptile) or play mini-basketball at "N is for James Naismith" (the first University of Kansas basketball coach and game inventor). The award-winning, block-buster "**K is for Kansas**" exhibit was produced by **Kauffman Museum**. Tours/groups welcome by appointment,

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