

Before we blow out the candle –
help us make a wish come true...
Donate \$1 or more today!

A Gallaudet Museum Celebration
Commemorating the one-year anniversary
of our Grand Opening on Charter Day 2014.



The donation box stands ready to collect your donations!
Photo by Rani Alameh and Gallaudet Museum.

In celebration of the Museum's first anniversary of the Chapel Hall exhibit, we will be having a *Dollar Donation Drive*! How do you participate? It's easy! Simply come and visit the Museum the week of April 6th-April 10th, and donate a dollar or more to help the Museum! We will be announcing any donations gathered during the week in the box, and hopefully we will event have to relieve an overflowing box during this time. Help us fundraise, so we can focus on ongoing Museum operations including creating new exhibits and programs. The vast majority of our budget is supported by on your donations. If you are unable to participate in the Museum Dollar Drive in person, go online to <https://giving.gallaudet.edu/museum> to donate instead! A dollar per visitor goes a long way.

In addition, the Museum will give away free key-chains to the first 100 visitors from April 6th to April 10. Normally sold for \$3 apiece, this key-chain commemorates the Gallaudet history the museum strives to preserve, protect, and present. Be sure to come and enjoy the museum the week of the 151st anniversary of Gallaudet University, and join in the Museum *Dollar Donation Drive*. Thank you, and see you at the Museum!

Museums Advocacy Day



Curator Meredith Peruzzi stands next to a conference room podium at the US Senate building. *Provided by Meredith Peruzzi.*

The Gallaudet University Museum's location in Washington DC affords us unique opportunities to connect with the museum community. This year, we participated in Museums Advocacy Day, a two-day event run by the American Alliance of Museums that emphasizes the importance of museums to our nation's lawmakers. The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal support for nearly 150,000 museums and libraries nationwide, and museums also depend on the National Endowment for the Humanities and the National Endowment for the Arts for essential funding. With so many demands

for funding across the nation, it's easy for Congress to forget about the arts – but Museums Advocacy Day brings museum professionals directly into their offices, reminding U.S. Senators and Representatives how important museums are to our nation's cultural capital.

On February 23rd, the head of the Museum, Meredith Peruzzi, went to a day of training on museum advocacy. This included learning how to address members of Congress, what issues are most pressing in the museum world, and how funding can be best utilized. Representatives from several government agencies came to address attendees, and lunch provided opportunities for networking.

On February 24th, everyone who had attended training met on Capitol Hill for meetings with members of Congress and their staff. As DC does not have a senator, Peruzzi sat in with the group meeting staff members from the office of Sen. Tim Kaine (D-VA), which was excellent preparation for her meeting with the staff of Del. Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC) in the afternoon. Although the DC delegation was scheduled to present their issues to a member of Delegate Norton's staff, she happened to pass through her office while the group was there, and shared her interest in museums and a willingness to help with their advocacy.

Having had such a positive experience this year, the Gallaudet University Museum staff looks forward to participating in Museums Advocacy Day next year!



The Museum's former consultant Mary Case discusses strategy for meeting with members of Congress. *Provided by Meredith Peruzzi.*

A Year in Review

It's hard to believe it's been a year since the Gallaudet at 150 and Beyond exhibition had its Grand Opening on Charter Day, April 8, 2014. That day, Chapel Hall received hundreds of visitors, a trend that continued on beyond the 150th Anniversary Celebration at Gallaudet. We thank our staff members for being at hand for the visitors and continuing Museum operations.

Although our staff size was reduced following the Grand Opening, we remain hard at work keeping the Museum alive. This includes exhibit development, media outreach efforts, office management, and other projects. Staff also meet the needs of the community by supporting use of the



Dr. Jane Norman, Director Emerita of Gallaudet Museum, cuts the ribbon for the Grand Opening. *Photo courtesy of Dick Moore and Gallaudet Museum.*



Gallaudet University students enjoy browsing the exhibit. *Photo by Shane Dundas and Gallaudet Museum.*

museum for a variety of activities, including memorial receptions, auctions and ceremonies.

Since the Grand Opening, the Gallaudet University Museum has:

- Attended the American Alliance of Museums (AAM) and Association of Academic Museums and Galleries (AAMG) conferences in Seattle, Washington;

- Developed a test project on historical editing, a book about the Iron Dog;
- Collaborated with the Department of ASL and Deaf Studies in developing the Deaf HERstory exhibit;
- Visited the Rochester School for the Deaf and RIT/NTID to partner in exhibit planning;
- Made plans to acquire artifact cases for Chapel Hall this fall.

Even as time flashes by so quickly, we remember the great support you have given to help us spread awareness of the Gallaudet University Museum beyond Kendall Green, and the staff is working hard to keep the Museum on track and rolling forward for you!

None of the past year's accomplishments, nor our plans for the future, would be possible without your support. We ask that you continue to support us, as we depend heavily on your donations. With your outstanding support, we can continue to create an outstanding museum. Thank you for a great year!

Last Call...



Left to Right: Dr. Julie A. Hochesang (G-'07, RPCV, Kenya 2002-2004); Dr. Carol Erting; Norma Moran (RPCV, Kenya 2000-2003); Pauline Spanbauer ('74, RPCV, Philippines 1974-1976); Laura Chambers, the Acting Deputy Director and Chief of Staff of the Peace Corps; Erikson Young ('03, RPCV, Kenya 2005-2007); Allen W. Neece (Kenya and Zambia, 2007-2010; Peace Corps Response, Guyana 2011); President T. Alan Hurwitz; Glenn Blumhorst, President of the National Peace Corps Association. Photo courtesy of Shane Dundas and the Gallaudet University Museum.. Photo by Shane Dundas and Gallaudet Museum.



Photo by Shane Dundas and Gallaudet Museum.

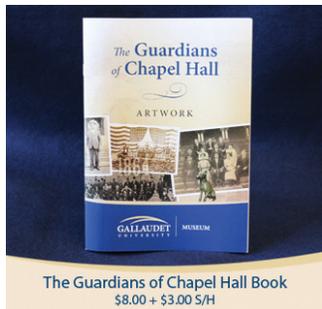
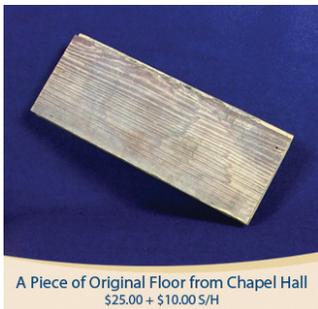
On Thursday, February 26, 2015, Laura Chambers, the Acting Deputy Director and Chief of Staff of the Peace Corps, and Glenn Blumhorst, President of the National Peace Corps Association, came to Gallaudet University to see the Deaf Peace Corps exhibition for the last time. They remarked on how impressed they were by the exhibition and

acknowledged that deaf people are a part of the history of the Peace Corps. They were joined by President T. Alan Hurwitz, Provost Carol Erting, and the Alumni members of the Deaf Peace Corps Volunteers.

This exhibition has been on display since October 25, 2010, and this coming spring as the Gallaudet University Museum prepares to close the exhibition and replace it with a newly created exhibition featuring "Deaf HERstory."

The Gallaudet Museum staff is currently working on transferring the Deaf Peace Corps Volunteers exhibition to become an online virtual exhibit.

Click to shop at the Museum Store.



We are open

**Monday to Friday
10:00am to 4:00pm**

Please visit the Gate House or email Museum@gallaudet.edu for an appointment.

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The Gallaudet University Museum publishes the Our Story newsletter bi-monthly. We welcome photographs and stories of historical significance relating to Gallaudet University and Deaf History. In between newsletter issues, please visit our website for more information: www.gallaudet.edu/museum.html. We update the website frequently.

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