

It's Better to Give than Receive

by Shane Dundas



Bummy at the Museum Opening - 2014

Dr. Jane Norman, Director and Curator Emerita gave the "I love you" sign to Dr. Gerald "Bummy" Burstein thanking him for his strong support to the Museum.

Photo by University Communications.

Dr. Gerald "Bummy" Burstein commonly said, *"It's better to give than receive,"* according to his close friend Laurie J. Waggoner, who spoke at his memorial service at Gallaudet University. The museum staff

along with Rosalyn Gannon, worked on many projects together, and the Museum was no exception. The Gannons spearheaded an endowment fund to make the Museum a reality, that is why they are the Honorary Chairs of the Museum - and as our first major donor Bummy will always be our first Friend of the Museum. We are forever grateful for his unwavering support and generosity.

The Museum has accomplished so much in the last ten years and we are going to do much more in the future. However, we always need your support to keep its mission to operate and expand. Please join Bummy in opening your heart and preserving his legacy of his long-standing support to the Museum. You can make safe [online contributions](#) to the Museum that are tax-deductible via the Office of Development.



The Gannons with the Museum Staff

Shortly after Burstein's Memorial Service, Dr. Jack Gannon and Rosalyn Gannon shared memories about Bummy and the Gallaudet Museum.

Photo by Jean Lindquist Bergey.

joined many others in honoring Bummy and his many legacies, including the two that he was best known for: his humor, and his constant generosity to the University. His generosity extended to Gallaudet University, the GUAA, and to the Gallaudet University Museum.

When Dr. Jane Norman, Director and Curator Emerita, established the Museum, Bummy quickly understood its value and role in preserving stories for many generations to come. He did not hesitate to offer not only vocal and moral support but also financial contributions to strengthen the path of the museum.

For many years, Bummy and Dr. Jack Gannon,

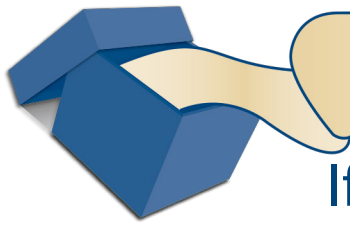
Reflections . . .

by Meredith Peruzzi



Meredith Peruzzi, Manager. Photo courtesy of Gallaudet University Museum.

As 2018 drew to a close, I reflected back on our progress - what a year! In addition to hosting our three long-term exhibitions, the Gallaudet University Museum also served as the second home for the Connecticut Historical Society exhibition *Language, Culture, Communities: 200 Years of Impact by the American School for the Deaf*. Early this year, we were accepted to the 2018 cohort for the Museum Assessment Program, the first step on the road to national accreditation from the American Alliance of Museums. We worked with high school interns from MSSD, planned for a class and exhibition project slated to take place in 2019, and continued to develop new curriculum integration ideas for 2020 and beyond. In the words of our founder, Jane Norman, together we will tell our story - and that story never stops! Thank you for all your support in 2018 and I hope you had a happy and healthy New Year!



Time Capsule

If Walls Could Talk: Chapel Hall Part 3

by Trevor De Rosch

Editor's note: The *Time Capsule* is a series of articles featuring the people and places of Gallaudet University's history.

As a continuation of previous articles, we look into the activities in Chapel Hall in the 1890s. Where previously we were limited to what was mentioned in the Annual Reports (primarily Presentation Day), we were now able to delve into the *Buff and Blue*, the first issue of which was published on November 1st, 1892. With their coverage of student life, lectures, and events across campus, it became easier to find information on how Chapel Hall was used in the last decade of the 19th century.

Unfortunately, while events were easy to find, photos were not. The only events we could find photos of were either performances put on by the students or fancy occasions with no one in the photos and no identifying information, not even an exact date. Presentation Day? Fourth of July? Sunday services? We don't know. However, a lot happened during this time.

One of the most exciting references I came across for the chapel was an account written by an Introductory Student on her first full day on campus. After breakfast in the dining room, she proceeded to the chapel, preferring to stay indoors on a rainy day. She thought the descriptions she had heard ("magnificently grand and imposing") were a bit overkill, but thought it was "spacious and airy". She also described what was occurring in the room at the time. She commented on the presence of many gentlemen in the room, some with full mustaches, others with no facial hair. It appears the chapel was used as a place to relax and hang out when not used for events; a common area. If you would like to read her impressions in full (including her initial thoughts on the college life, and what a boy's room looks like), check out the December 19, 1894 edition of the *Buff and Blue*, page 16, (con't page 4)



Courtship of Miles Standish, February 7, 1890.

One of the performances at Kendall Green.

Image courtesy of Gallaudet University Archives.



Performance by O.W.L.S., ca. 1890s.

One of many performances and literary nights hosted in Chapel Hall.

Image courtesy of Gallaudet University Archives.



The Nation Pays Homage to Justice.

O.W.L.S. and Class of 1898, December 11, 1893.

Image courtesy of Gallaudet University Archives.

The Museum staff created ways to demonstrate our history and scope of the Museum: the one below is one of the two series of infographics produced. The goal is to help people to better understand what it takes to create and run a museum - it also shows where we have been and where we are going in the future. The Museum cannot move forward without your help - and we are deeply grateful for your support. There are more infographic images on our Facebook page, which is accessible to the public. Image is copyright 2018. Click on the images to learn more about each corresponding step (if available).

TIMELINE OF GALLAUDET UNIVERSITY MUSEUM



PAST MUSEUM EXHIBITS

GALLAUDET UNIVERSITY ALWAYS HAD THE HEART FOR MUSEUMS



First known attempt to permanently showcase historical University artifacts and documents

1878



Artifacts and historical contents were shown in several display cases.

1885



The Gallaudet Museum established by Dr. Jack L. Gannon.

1985-1986

PAST ACTIVITIES:

- Sponsored Deaf History Lecture Series
- Fundraising initiatives
- University-wide collaboration (educational support)
- Student Internships
 - Exhibit content reviews
 - Classroom presentations
 - Faculty and Administrator led exhibition projects
- Retreats to strengthen exhibition plans and content
- Participating in annual museum conferences and expos

FUTURE GOALS:



- New exhibit on Deaf People of Color: Intersectional Diversity
- Full Accreditation by the American Alliance of Museums
- Expand artifact exhibitions
- Expand online/interactive exhibitions

(con't from page 2.)

"Impressions of a Duck."

There were many references to plays and performances being held in the chapel. A rendition of the Greek play *Pygmalion and Galatea*, a traveling magician by the name of Professor Pray, a mock trial for the crime of stealing a turkey from the Old Kendall Mansion, performances by the O.W.L.S. (including one on 2/29/1896, in which two members debated the old "stay-at-home" expectations for women and the newer lifestyle to "rank among the world's famous personages"), a performance of the melodrama *Hick'ry Farm*, and a rendition of *Romeo and Juliet* in signs by a Mr. W.G. Jones. One interesting event occurred when, during the comedy play *She Stoops to Conquer*, Douglas Craig, the African-American "Master of Mechanics," accidentally stepped on some rubber gas tubing, causing a foot light on the stage to be extinguished. The audience laughed as the character Diggory, who suffered a limp, was magically healed as he left the stage to reignite the light.

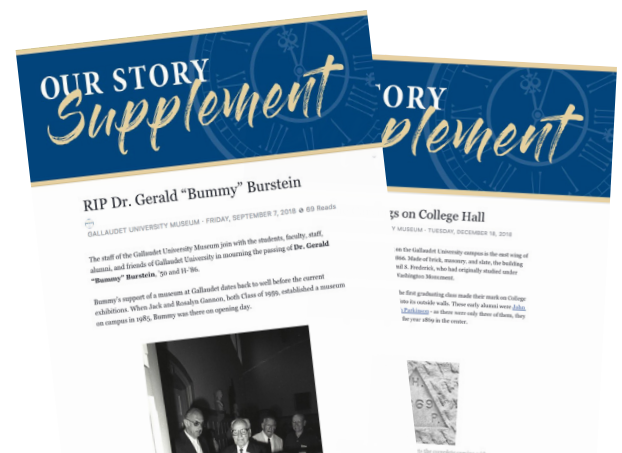
There were references to other events and activities in Chapel Hall, including the marriage of Grace Gallaudet to Francis Kendall, social events on Washington's birthday and the anniversary of the battle of Lexington, a gathering place for the alumni meeting of 1896, lectures (which many grumblers found "too long, and good-for-nothing..."), a celebration of the anniversary of Thomas H. Gallaudet's birthday, renovations, broken windows due to winds, and so much more.



Roy J. Stewart in costume, circa 1890s.
Unknown play.
Photo courtesy of Gallaudet University Archives.

Our Story Supplement

In the past *Our Story* has been produced more than few times a year, but due to increasing work load on the Museum Team on various projects, we reduced our newsletter releases down to two times per year. In between issues, *Our Story Supplement* is part of the Museum's Facebook page. Whenever there are stories that cannot wait to be released, we produce articles along with photographs in there. Since our Facebook page is set for public, there is no need to create an account in Facebook just to have access to *Our Story Supplement*.



The Gallaudet University Museum publishes the *Our Story* newsletter bi-annually. For more news in between newsletter issues, please visit our [Facebook](#) page.

You are receiving this newsletter because you were a donor, or you filled out a contact form in the past. If you do not want to receive newsletters from us, please e-mail museum@gallaudet.edu to unsubscribe. Learn more about the [Gallaudet Museum Mission & Vision](#).

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