

Happy Holidays from Gallaudet University Museum



A Message from First Lady Vicki T. Hurwitz

Greetings to all of you. As the Honorary Chair of Friends of the Gallaudet Museum, I am excited that the new exhibit, *Gallaudet at 150 and Beyond*, to be housed in Chapel Hall, will at long last share 150 years of Gallaudet's incredible history with you, the community of alumni, friends and families.

You can be a huge part of this effort, which is made possible only with your support. Your gift will truly make the new Museum possible. You can make a donation by check, or go online to http://www.gallaudet.edu/museum/be_a_friend_of_the_museum.html.

In 2012, I produced the *House One Documentary* about the history of the President's house. All proceeds from this DVD will go to the *Gallaudet Museum Exhibitions Fund*. There are also other items that are well worth buying. Please visit Gallaudet Museum's new online store: http://www.gallaudet.edu/museum/gallaudet_museum_store.html.

As I usually tell others, without your help, there could be no museum, and no place to tell our stories. Your wonderful support will be appreciated. Have a very safe and wonderful winter season.

~ Mrs. Vicki T. Hurwitz, First Lady ~ Curator, House One



A Message from Dr. Jane Norman

Greetings and welcome to our fourth issue of *Our Story*. Renovations are currently underway in Gallaudet's historic Chapel Hall. We have four months before the opening of the *Gallaudet at 150 and Beyond* exhibition. Every day while working at my desk, I pause every now and then to look at a tree right outside my window. Over the months I've witnessed the natural cycle of the tree and last week we had our first snow storm. By the time the buds re-appear, the exhibition will open.

From the seed of an idea, seven years ago, to the opening of a museum at Gallaudet, we've experienced cycles of growth and have come a long way. Today we have Deaf young professionals and graduate students working in the Gate House. They've devoted many hours to researching in the University's Archives, preparing the script, selecting photographs, videos for the exhibition, fundraising, and planning for the future. They are our future and in replacing us they will continue to tell our story. Our story will transcend time. Your steadfast support, contributions, guidance and friendship is essential to the support of the Museum, the staff and University.

As we begin a new cycle, I am transferring the reins to the next generation of Deaf Museum professionals. Meredith Peruzzi, Curator of *Gallaudet at 150 and Beyond* exhibition will serve as Interim Manager. I am confident of her leadership and with your continuing support, the team and her guidance, the museum will continue to grow into the next cycle and beyond.

It has been an honor and a privilege to work with each one of you. Your stories have made a deep difference in my life. I look forward to seeing you at the opening and the 150th Anniversary Reunion. With gratitude and appreciation.

Together we will tell our story, Jane ~ Director and Curator Gallaudet University Museum

Gallaudet Museum at Homecoming 2013

During Homecoming, the vast majority of people were at the football game cheering on our undefeated Bison, or visiting the many stands that occupied Lincoln Circle between SAC/SLCC and Hotchkiss Field. The Museum Staff could be seen walking around with signs, while wearing towering hats made in the style of the Tower Clock. Thanks to this advertising, many people visited Chapel Hall, where they found a corner occupied by tables and museum volunteers. Here, they signed up to take their chance at making history.

Just behind the tables stood a set of double doors. Behind those doors, the Tower Clock awaited its guests. People lined up to get their tickets, and then waited to be called for their turn. Shane Dundas escorted them into the Tower Clock, after giving them goggles to protect their eyes from the dust and particles that fall from higher up, and acquainted them with the history of the Tower Clock, highlighting the significance of this moment. Shane then proceeded to lead the people up a flight of stairs to where Justin Shaw, our photographer, awaited them. After getting them situated in the best light, Justin worked tirelessly to capture an image that would remain with them forever.

Since then, Justin has been working around the clock to match pictures up to names and emails, and editing photos as needed. Last year, it took two of our staff two weeks to get the photos ready and start emailing people their copies. This year, Justin worked on this project alone, as the writers and designers were busy preparing for the 2014 exhibition. He has finished organizing the photos, and has begun emailing people their orders in the same amount of time it took two people last year, and with more orders.

We thank all of you who participated this wonderful opportunity. We appreciate your support.

For all of you who were unable to participate in this monumental occasion, fret not. We plan to host Tower Clock photos again this coming spring, so that graduating students, families, friends and alumni can immortalize their time here at Gallaudet by having their photo taken in the Tower Clock. All are welcome! Keep an eye out for more information when spring comes around.

If you haven't received your photos by this time, and purchased one on Homecoming weekend (October 25-27, 2013), please feel free to email us and let us know. You can reach us at museum@gallaudet.edu.



Meredith Peruzzi at the Gallaudet Museum booth during the Pre Game Bash.



Provost Stephen Weiner poses with Dr. Jane Norman.



Museum Writer Derrick Behm wearing a walking billboard.



People wait for their turn to go in for a photo shoot inside the Tower Clock. It was a huge success! Many thanks to all who came and gave financial support to the Gallaudet Museum through generous donations. This was the last public event inside Chapel Hall before the renovation.

Homecoming Donations

From watching the Bison football team carry the game against Husson, to visiting information booths scattered along Lincoln Circle, to seeing old friends, Homecoming was a huge success this year. The food was good, the people were friendly, the sun was out, and, while it was cool and windy, people flocked to the stands set up between SAC/SLCC and Hotchkiss Field. To see so many stands set up from so many organizations was truly wonderful.

The Gallaudet Museum staff was out there, huddling for warmth under our tent, and making the occasional trip into the sunshine to warm up. We accepted donations from many gracious volunteers, and saw some wonderful old friends. We were also in Chapel Hall, helping people ensure they had their chance to have their photo taken in the Tower Clock. We deeply appreciate the many people who participated

and provided donations to us.

We did very well this Homecoming, and have raised a lot more money for the Exhibition Fund. This was in part due to the wonderful volunteers we had assist us that day. However, the majority of the credit is due to all the wonderful people who donated, and who purchased a Tower Clock Photo or a House One Tour DVD. Without you, none of our work would be possible! Please feel free to visit us when you are in town at the Gate House. Keep track of our progress via our website (www.gallaudet.edu/museum) and our newsletters (www.gallaudet.edu/museum/newsletters.html).

Together, we will tell Our Story.

~ Trevor De Rosch



Mr. Benro Ogunyipe with Dr. Jane Norman

Former President of NBDA Visits Gate House

Former President of National Black Deaf Advocates (NBDA), Mr. Benro Ogunyipe came to visit the Gallaudet Museum office during Homecoming week. During his tenure as President of NBDA, he wrote a letter of endorsement to the Gallaudet University Museum reiterating the importance of preserving history and stories, especially about the People of Color. Throughout history, Black Deaf students and leaders have not been fairly represented.

It is the Museum's intention to bring about diverse representations in future exhibitions and showcases. This process inspired by the guidance of diverse people who have been involved with the Museum and its retreats.

Ogunyipe had a good visit and remembers well the endorsement letter that hangs on the wall in the Gallaudet Museum Office along side with other endorsements. Please **click** here to read the NBDA endorsement letter.

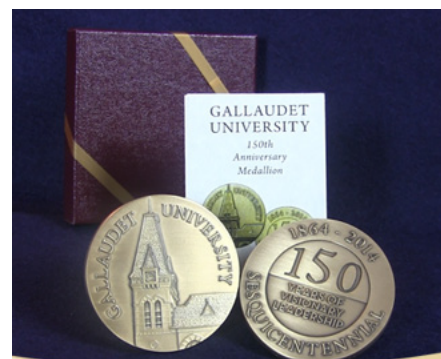
The Gallaudet
Museum Store
is now Open!

CLICK HERE
to shop online.

All purchases from Gallaudet Museum online store proceeds go to the Gallaudet Museum Exhibitions Fund. Questions? E-mail to museum@gallaudet.edu.



A Piece of Original Floor from Chapel Hall
\$25.00 + \$10.00 S/H



150th Anniversary Medallion
\$50.00 + \$6.00 S/H

Dr. Norman visits NorCal GUAA Chapter

On Friday, November 1, Museum Director Jane Norman flew out to present the *Gallaudet at 150 and Beyond* Exhibition plan to the Northern California Gallaudet University Alumni Chapter which was held at the home of GUAA President Alyce Slater Reynolds. Dr. Norman presented the museum's plan for layout and content, and then answered questions about the Museum. Afterwards, she joined President Reynolds, the leaders of NorCal Chapter, and the rest of seventy alumni members for socialization over wine and cheese.

Reynolds stated, "The event was a resounding success! It nailed the hearts of the Alumni! It also showed how much the Alumni really cares about Gallaudet's history."

Claire Ellis, one of event coordinators, stated: "We enjoyed her sharing stories of the past, present, and future. We raised funds through our donations for the Gallaudet Museum Exhibition." The Gallaudet Museum is deeply grateful for their moral and monetary support, and hope that more GUAA chapters will join them. And from the bottom of our hearts, kudos to Claire Ellis, Jeanne Ewald and Alyce Slater Reynolds for coordinating this event.

If you are intersted in having Dr. Norman come to speak at your Chapter about the Gallaudet Museum, please contact Samuel Sonnenstrahl at samuel.sonnenstrahl@gallaudet.edu.

Plan to attend *Gallaudet at 150 and Beyond's* grand opening, April 8, 2014 and you'll see the fruits of your support. Thank you.



Members of NorCAL GUAA Chapter attentively listens to Dr. Jane Norman as she gives a presentation about the Gallaudet Museum.



Dr. Hank Kloppping, former Superintendent of California School for the Deaf - Fremont, joins NorCal GUAA Chapter for a wine and cheese social after Dr. Norman's presentation.



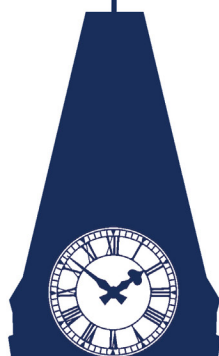
NorCal GUAA Chapter event coordinators poses with Dr. Jane Norman. L to R: Claire Ellis, Jane Norman, Jeanne Ewald, and GUAA President Alyce Slater Reynolds.

Make a Difference...

The *Gallaudet at 150 and Beyond* Exhibition relies on your donations to make it a reality. **Donate Today.**

GOAL:

\$250,000



CURRENT:

\$122,000



*Make a
Donation
Today!*



And now the renovation begins...

On November 4th, preparations for the renovation of Chapel Hall began. A team of highly skilled conservation professionals came in to take down the many portraits and busts set up around Chapel Hall, under the watchful eye of Museum staff. For the first time in many years, the busts of US President James A. Garfield, Edward M. Gallaudet, Abbé de l'Épée, and others were removed from their pedestals and placed into boxes for storage during the renovations.

Additionally, the portraits located in the room, including Presidents portraits, the Amos Kendall painting, and the portrait of Rev. Thomas Gallaudet, were removed from their places of honor for their own safety and protection. The people who performed the removals showed professional care in their efforts, and we are very appreciative of their concern for our history, and their expertise in this time of renovation.

We would like to note that throughout the years, since Chapel Hall was dedicated in 1871, the busts and portraits have been moved around several times; with exception of the portrait of Amos Kendall, which has stayed in place since it was first hung. We were so moved at the moment the portrait of Amos Kendall was taken down, and we will cherish this very rare experience.

The next day, the museum staff returned to Chapel Hall to watch as the carpet was removed, showing signs of mildew, a sure hint that it was time for renovations. The wooden floor panels were removed, and the main floorboards were removed. These were

the remnants of the 1995 renovation to Chapel Hall, as evidenced by their tongue and groove construction, a modern invention. Under all this, wooden beams could be seen. After brief discussions with the Gallaudet grounds staff overseeing the work, and the contract manager, it is thought that these beams may have been in place since the time of Edward Miner Gallaudet himself.

The museum staff was excited and somber to see this piece of history unveiled before their eyes. The contract company hired to remodel Chapel Hall have completed the floor. We were hoping to retain the original wood flooring, but due to its aging and safety concerns, we have decided to preserve the wood another way, by allowing people the chance to own a piece of Gallaudet history.

The immediate plans for the renovations now include installing the electrical grid that will be needed to support a museum setting, such as the lighting needed for easy display reading, and other electrical necessities of a museum. The walls will be painted very soon to ensure they will align with the exhibition decor. In addition, a new floor will be installed which will enhance and establish the museum feeling we hope to achieve. [CLICK HERE](#) to see the updates and photos of the renovation.

-Trevor De Rosch



Professional archivist contractors carefully taking the bust of President Garfield down from the wall.



A large portrait of Rev. Thomas Gallaudet (brother of Edward Miner Gallaudet) being taken down.



This portrait of Amos Kendall was in the same location since 1871.



Shane Dundas, Museum staff, stood beside a portrait of the first President, Dr. Edward Miner Gallaudet.

A Year 2013 in Review

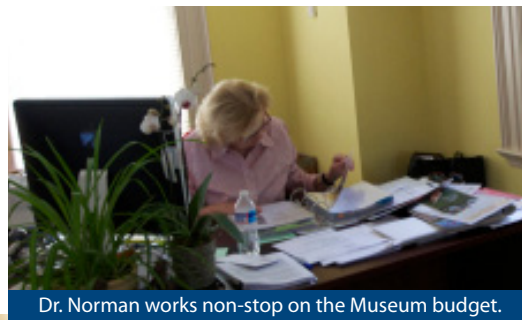
The Gallaudet Museum had a great year. Many milestone events occurred and we are looking forward to even better year 2014 when *Gallaudet at 150 and Beyond* exhibition opens in April 8, 2014.



March - Museum Office moves to the Gate House



September - Exhibition Retreat



Dr. Norman works non-stop on the Museum budget.



September - Jack and Rosalyn Gannon visit.



Museum writers busy with exhibition script.



September - Chapel Hall renovation team retreat.



Museum Staff doing archival photo research.



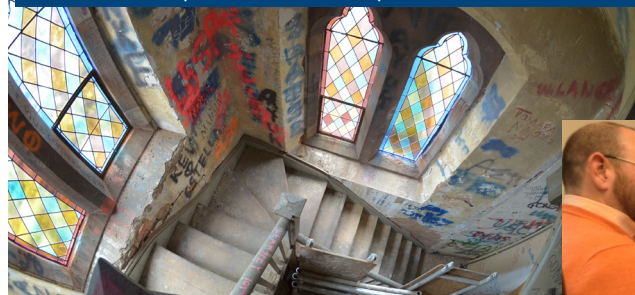
August - International students visit.



November - Renovation begins: Professional archivists take down portraits of Gallaudet presidents and busts.



office during Homecoming.



Fundraising photo sessions and tours inside of Tower Clock during Commencement and Homecoming



August - *Our Story* newsletter launches.

We want to stay
connected with
YOU

CLICK HERE

Join us for e-newsletters, updates
and announcements.
Follow Us - Click buttons below.



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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Click here to see the Gallaudet Museum Mission & Vision, or visit the above mentioned website.