

Media Release for SEK MA Passport Project

And the Winners Are!

The Southeast Kansas Museum Alliance Passport Project is proud to announce the winners of their 2021 project. The SEK MA Passport Project sought to increase the awareness of museums in 15 counties in Southeast Kansas. Thirty-four museums participated in the successful project. Data shows that visitors to the museums in Southeast Kansas increased during the project.

Thirty-one people sent in verification forms at the end of the project. The drawing for the winners of the \$1000 in prizes was held at the Wilson County Historical Museum on Friday January 21. Members of SEK MA verified that the entrants had visited the designated number of museums for each prize category. Emma Crites, volunteer at the Wilson County Historical Museum, and Chanda Ecton, Librarian at the Wilson County Library conducted the drawing while the volunteers looked on.

The winners were Jamie Ramsey Goodwin, Independence, KS, \$100 for visiting 10 museums, Phyllis Nelson, docent at the Allen Co. Historical Society, \$150 for visiting 15 museums. Juanita Alloway and husband, Gail, of Parsons, KS, \$200 for visiting 20 museums and Patrick Black, Mound City, KS visited 25 museums and received \$250. The Grand Prize winner was Summer Salzwedel, Iola, Kansas, who along with her son, Tayten, visited all 34 museums. She stated that, "This kid is the real winner! With his love for history and museums."

The SEK MA received the Graphic Designs Award at the Kansas Museum Association Convention held in Lawrence, Kansas November 4-6, 2021, for the Passports. Museums throughout Southeast Kansas enjoyed increased visibility because of the project. The connections that were made with the public, participating museums, and local communities all contributed to the success of the project.

Passports are still available at several participating museums; they can be used as guidebooks for future visitors. The Southeast Kansas Museum Alliance announced their 2022 project at their February quarterly meeting in Chanute, Kansas. The 2022 project is "Day Trippin' Driving Tour and will feature organized Day Trips throughout Southeast Kansas. Visit the Southeast Kansas Museum Alliance Facebook page and/or website for details as the Day Trips are organized and announced. The goal of the Alliance is to promote awareness and visibility of museums throughout Southeast Kansas. Congratulations to the winners of the SEK MA Passport Project 2021.