



NEWS RELEASE

Kansas Historical Society
6425 SW 6th Avenue
Topeka KS 66615-1099
785-272-8681

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Contacts:

Bobbie Athon • 785-272-8681, ext. 262 • bathon@kshs.org
Teresa Jenkins • 785-272-8681, ext. 263 • tjenkins@kshs.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HISTORICAL SOCIETY RECEIVES GIFT FROM WIEDEMANN FOUNDATION FOR WILLIAM ALLEN WHITE HOUSE STATE HISTORIC SITE

TOPEKA, KS—The Kansas Historical Society announced it has received a \$50,000 gift from the K.T. Wiedemann Foundation of Wichita to be used at the William Allen White House State Historic Site in Emporia.

The Historical Society will use the funds to expand the site's audience base through school programs and other outreach opportunities. Historical Society Executive Director Jennie Chinn said, "This generous gift from the Wiedemann Foundation provides the base for the Historical Society to continue to share the William Allen White House with the community and with visitors from around the nation."

The Historical Society operates the site in cooperation with the non-profit William Allen White Community Partnership. WAWCP President Tom Eblen echoed Chinn's excitement by saying, "We deeply appreciate the opportunity this generous gift creates to preserve the importance of William Allen White and all that he meant to Twentieth Century Kansas and America."

The K.T. Wiedemann Foundation was established in 1959 by Karl T. and Gladys Wiedemann. The Wiedemanns were in the oil and gas, ranching and gasoline distribution business. Wiedemann Foundation President Doug Pringle explained why the William Allen White House was chosen to receive the gift, "Mr. Wiedemann had extensive landholdings in the Flint Hills when he died in 1961 and both he and Mrs. Wiedemann shared a deep love of the Flint Hills," Pringle said. "William Allen White was not only a great Kansan but his saga is so deeply entwined with the history of the Flint Hills. I am confident that Mr. and Mrs. Wiedemann would have enthusiastically supported this grant for the preservation of such a wonderful home."

The William Allen White House State Historic Site is a National Historic Landmark and is one of 16 state historic sites operated by the Kansas Historical Society. The home is open for tours 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Wednesday - Saturday and 1 - 5 p.m. Sunday. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for seniors and groups of 10 or more, \$2 for students; and free for KSHS, Inc. members, active military, and children five and under.

Additional contributions to the Kansas Historical Society can be made through the Kansas State Historical Society, Inc., the non-profit organization which supports the Historical Society through fundraising. The Kansas Historical Society, organized in 1875, was established at the outset as a public-private collaboration.

The Kansas Historical Society does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission to, access to, or operation of its programs. The Historical Society requests prior notification to accommodate individuals with special needs or disabilities.

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