**Allegawaho**
(Circa 1818-circa 1887)
- Kaw leader at the time of tribe’s removal from Kansas in 1872
- Lived near the present town of Dunlap
- Trusted as a wise leader and eloquent orator
- U.S. government removed the Kaws to Indian Territory, present-day Oklahoma

**Samuel Adair**
(1811-1898)
**Florella Adair**
(1816-1865)
- She was half-sister of abolitionist John Brown
- He was a minister and established First Congregational Church of Osawatomie
- Their cabin was a station on the Underground Railroad and Brown’s headquarters
- Only free-state home spared in the burning of Osawatomie, now John Brown Museum State Historic Site

**Henry J. Allen**
(1868-1950)
- Born in Pennsylvania, grew up in Clay County
- Attended Baker University
- Served two terms as governor, campaigned against Ku Klux Klan
- U.S. senator from 1929-1931
- Owned *Wichita Beacon* newspaper
- Wichita home designed by Frank Lloyd Wright

**Forrest “Phog” Allen**
(1885-1974)
- Played basketball at the University of Kansas under coach James Naismith
- Known as college basketball’s first great coach
- Nicknamed “Phog” for his booming foghorn voice
- Helped basketball become an Olympic sport in 1936
- Organized first NCAA tournament in 1939
- Coached for KU from 1919 to 1956, won championship in 1952
Charlie Angell, Sr.  
(1882-1927)

- Developed one-way disc plow that was suited for the plains of western Kansas
- Built about 500 plows on his Meade County farm
- His plow was the most commonly used tillage implement on the plains
- Sold rights to the Ohio Cultivator Company

Walter Anderson  
(1880-1963)

- Co-founded White Castle restaurants in Wichita, oldest hamburger chain, with Billy Ingram
- Fast food pioneer who made hamburgers popular
- Developed assembly line kitchen
- Produced first paper hats and napkins
- Built a reputation for cleanliness

Walter Beech  
(1891-1950)

- Olive Beech  
(1904-1993)

- He built a glider at age 14
- He was test pilot, instructor, and engineer for the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War I
- They started Beech Aircraft Company in Wichita in 1932
- When he became ill, she ran company during World War II
- She later oversaw the company's expansion

George Armstrong Custer  
(1839-1876)

Elizabeth Custer  
(1842-1933)

- He is remembered for defeat at Battle of Little Bighorn by the Sioux
- He commanded Seventh U.S. Cavalry headquartered at Fort Leavenworth
- She joined him on campaigns when it was safe
- She wrote about adventures of their life on the plains
- After his death she resurrected his reputation through lectures, magazine articles, and books
Sallie Bluejacket  
(1844-1924)

- Member of the Shawnees
- Attended mission school, now Shawnee Indian Mission State Historic Site
- There she learned to sew, wash, and cook while boys worked in the shop and on the farm
- She married and lived in Johnson County, continuing her Shawnee traditions while also adopting those of the white society

“Mother” Mary Ann Bickerdyke  
(1817-1901)

- Helped build 300 hospitals during Civil War
- Entered battlefields at night to retrieve and treat wounded soldiers
- Praised by Generals Ulysses S. Grant and William T. Sherman for her bravery and concern for soldiers
- Helped Union veterans and nurses seeking pensions after war
- Retired to Bunker Hill

Gwendolyn Brooks  
(1917-2000)

- Born in Topeka
- Published her first work at age 13
- Received Pulitzer Prize in 1950 for her book of poetry, *Annie Allen*
- Served as poet laureate of Illinois
- First African American woman to receive Pulitzer and be chosen as poetry consultant for the Library of Congress

Blackbear Bosin  
(1921-1980)

- Kiowa and Comanche member
- Indian name *TsateKongia* means Blackbear
- Almost entirely self-taught artist
  - Worked as an illustrator for Boeing Aircraft
  - Sculpted *Keeper of the Plains*, 44-foot steel Plains Indian statue near Arkansas and Little Arkansas rivers in Wichita

*Photo courtesy Wichita State University*
**Esther Brown**  
(1917-1970)  
- Civil rights advocate  
- Involved in desegregating Walker School in Johnson County in 1948  
- Helped organize local chapter of National Association for the Advancement of Colored People  
- Organized the Panel of American Women in 1957 and became the national coordinator

**Louise Brooks**  
(1906-1985)  
- Born in Cherryvale  
- Joined Denishawn modern dance company in 1922 in New York  
- Became popular silent film star  
- Popularized the bob haircut  
- Considered one of the first naturalistic actresses, she rarely smiled on screen

**Oliver Brown**  
(1918-1961)  
- Minister at St. Mark’s AME Church in Topeka  
- While working at Santa Fe Railway became one of 13 plaintiffs of Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka U.S. Supreme Court case to desegregate schools  
- Since he was the only male plaintiff, he became namesake in the case

**John Brown**  
(1800-1859)  
- Arrived in Osawatomie in 1855  
- Used violence in his efforts to end slavery  
- Called both a hero and a villain  
- His efforts led to territory being called “Bleeding Kansas”  
- Hanged for attacking a federal arsenal in Virginia  
- Portrayed in John Steuart Curry’s famous painting, *Tragic Prelude*, at Kansas State Capitol
**McKinley Burnett**
(1867-1968)
- President of Topeka NAACP who led challenge against racial segregation in Kansas schools in 1950
- Kansas case became one of five in the landmark U.S. Supreme Court decision, *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka*

*Photo courtesy Topeka Public Schools USD 501*

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**Abram Burnett**
(1812-1870)
- Born in Indiana
- Potawatomi name Nan-Wesh-Mah
- Adopted by his mother's cousin and took his name
- Interpreter and mediator for the Potawatomi
- Traded horses and farmed in southwest Topeka
- Burnett's Mound, highest point in Topeka, named for him

**Frank Carlson**
(1893-1987)
- Served in World War I
- Elected to Kansas House of Representatives
- Served in U.S. House of Representatives from 1935 to 1947
- Elected Kansas governor in 1946
- Appointed to fill vacated U.S. Senate seat in 1949, reelected twice in 1956 and 1962
- Only Kansas governor to serve in both branches of Congress

**Arthur Capper**
(1865-1951)
- Born in Garnett
- First native-born Kansan elected governor, served two terms
- Served five terms as U.S. senator
- Owned and published *Capper's Weekly* and *Topeka Daily Capital*
- Established what became Easter Seals Capper Foundation to aid children with disabilities
- Initiated programs that eventually became the 4-H movement
Meet George Washington Carver

Meet Clyde Cessna

Meet Wilt Chamberlain

Meet Mabel Chase

Kansas Historical Society

Kansas Historical Society

Kansas Historical Society

Kansas Historical Society
Clyde Cessna
(1879-1954)

- Born in Iowa, came to Kansas two years later
- Interested in mechanics and technology
- First saw an airplane show in 1910
- Built first “silverwing” plane in 1911
- After crashing and rebuilding 13 times, his design was successful
- Started Cessna Aircraft Corporation in 1927

George Washington Carver
(1864-1943)

- Studied and sketched plants as a teenager
- Homesteaded in western Ness County
- Joined botany department faculty at Iowa State University
- Found more than 300 uses for the peanut while working at Tuskegee Institute in Alabama
- Shared agricultural expertise with farmers through conferences and reports

Mabel Chase
(1876-1962)

- Born in Indiana
- Served as Kiowa County undersheriff
- When her husband Frank retired as sheriff, she ran for office
- Among first women elected sheriff in U.S.; served one term, 1926-1928
- Drove armor-plated car with bullet-proof windows
- Carried submachine gun to stop bootleggers and bank robbers

Wilt Chamberlain
(1936-1999)

- Played two seasons for the University of Kansas, 1956-1958; won 42 of 50 games, twice named All-American
- Played with the National Basketball Association for 14 years, won two NBA championships
- Scored 100 points in a game in 1962 for the Philadelphia Warriors
- Never fouled out of a game

Photo courtesy Spencer Research Library, University of Kansas
Walter Chrysler  
(1875-1940)  
- Born in Wamego, grew up in Ellis  
- Always liked to work on engines  
- Bought his first car in 1908  
- Worked for the Buick car company  
- Bought his own company in 1925  
- Chrysler Corporation became the second largest car company in the nation

Jesse Chisholm  
(1806-1868)  
- Born in Tennessee, of Cherokee descent  
- Before Civil War, operated trading posts in what is now western Oklahoma  
- Called the man with a straight tongue because he could be trusted  
- Indian trader, guide, and interpreter  
- Chisholm Trail named for him, which ran cattle from Texas to the Kansas railheads

William Coleman  
(1870-1957)  
- Perfected and marketed his lantern as Coleman Arc Lamp  
- Moved to Wichita in 1901 and started Coleman Lamp and Stove Company  
- Products featured in early motion pictures with Rin Tin Tin and Our Gang  
- Soldiers used Coleman stoves during World War II

William “Buffalo Bill” Cody  
(1846-1917)  
- Born in Iowa, grew up in Leavenworth  
- Soldier, buffalo hunter, and entertainer  
- Served as army scout in campaigns against the Kiowa and Comanche  
- Earned name Buffalo Bill for supplying buffalo meat to railroaders  
- Organized wild west shows; entertained audiences with roping, bronc riding, and buffalos
**Thomas “Boston” Corbett**  
(1832-??)
- Known as avenger of Lincoln for killing his assassin, John Wilkes Booth
- Homesteaded near Concordia
- Pulled his pistol while doorkeeper in Kansas statehouse and was committed to the State Insane Asylum
- Escaped on a stolen horse and disappeared, never to be found

**Harry Colmery**  
(1890-1979)
- Served in U.S. Army during World War I, later became an attorney
- Was American Legion National Commander from 1936-1937
- Wrote in longhand on hotel stationery what would later become G.I. Bill of Rights, which enabled millions of World War II soldiers to get a college education

**Samuel Crumbine**  
(1862-1954)
- Moved from Pennsylvania to Ford County to practice medicine in 1880s
- State secretary of health for 20 years
- Launched public awareness campaigns for tuberculosis, elimination of houseflies and rats, and water and sanitary sewage control
- Abolished community drinking cup and credited with creating modern fly swatter

**Francisco Vásquez de Coronado**  
(Circa 1510-1554)
- Governor of Spanish-ruled Mexico
- Searching for gold in 1541, explored land that would become Kansas
- He and his men were first Europeans to visit Kansas
- His horses were the first to be seen by Plains Indians
- Wrote to King of Spain of “shaggy cows” (buffalo) on the plains
**Glenn Cunningham**  
(1909-1988)  
- Born in Elkhart  
- Injured in fire that killed older brother, was told he would never walk again  
- Won three Big Six indoor mile titles at the University of Kansas  
- Participated in 1932 and 1936 Olympics  
- Set world indoor mile record in 1938  
- Called “Iron Horse of Kansas”

**Teresa Cuevas**  
(1920-)  
- Parents fled to Kansas during the Mexican Revolution  
- Born in Topeka, grew up in community where annual Mexican Fiesta is held  
- Formed Mariachi Estrella in 1977, early all-female mariachi band  
- Nationally recognized violinist  
- Granddaughters continue to play mariachi music

**Charles Curtis**  
(1860-1936)  
- Born near Topeka  
- Attended school that is now Kaw Mission State Historic Site in Council Grove  
- Spoke three languages—English, French, and Kansa  
- Worked as a jockey before becoming a lawyer  
- Elected with President Herbert Hoover in 1928, becoming first American Indian U.S. vice president

**John Steuart Curry**  
(1897-1946)  
- Born in Dunavant  
- Leader in Realistic Regionalism art movement  
- Commissioned to paint murals in Kansas State Capitol  
- Worked amidst conflict, controversy, and criticism and as a result, left murals unfinished and unsigned  
- Tragic Prelude mural of John Brown among nation’s most famous public art
Meet George Armstrong and Elizabeth Custer

Meet John Denny

Meet Peggy Hull Deuell

Meet Annie Diggs

Kansas Historical Society

Kansas Historical Society
John Denny
(1846-1901)

- Buffalo Soldier in U.S. Army
- Sergeant of Company C, Ninth U.S. Cavalry, Fort Hays
- Participated in Las Animas Canyon, New Mexico, engagement, saved wounded comrade and received Medal of Honor
- Known for his personal courage, loyalty, and dedication to duty

George Armstrong Custer
(1839-1876)

Elizabeth Custer
(1842-1933)

- He is remembered for defeat at Battle of Little Bighorn by the Sioux
- He commanded Seventh U.S. Cavalry headquartered at Fort Leavenworth
- She joined him on campaigns when it was safe
  - She wrote about adventures of their life on the plains
  - After his death she resurrected his reputation through lectures, magazine articles, and books

Annie L. Diggs
(1848-1916)

- Born in Canada, moved to Kansas in 1870s
- Writer who supported women’s rights and Populist Movement
- Toured nation to promote causes in 1892
- President of Kansas Women’s Free Silver League and Kansas Equal Suffrage Association
- Appointed Kansas state librarian
- Served as president of Kansas Press Women

Peggy Hull Deuell
(1889-1967)

- Grew up in Marysville and Junction City, worked for Junction City Sentinel
- First woman war correspondent accredited by U.S. government
- First woman to serve on four battlefronts
- Wore army uniform, carried her own equipment, and slept on the ground
- Known for writing about soldiers’ personal stories during World War I
Samuel Dinsmoor (1843-1932)
- Civil War veteran, teacher, sculptor, and grassroots artist
- Moved to Kansas in 1888 and began farming near Lucas
- At age 64 built a limestone house
- Constructed Garden of Eden with more than 200 concrete sculptures, now in the National Register of Historic Places

John Dillon (1870-1957)
- Operated wagon and buggy repair shop in Sterling in 1890s
- Opened J.S. Dillon Cash Store in Hutchinson in 1913, a new concept to customers
- Founded Dillons and Sons Store with sons Ray and Clyde in 1917 and incorporated in 1921
- Introduced public rest rooms and off-street parking
- Operates today as part of Kroger Company

Aaron Douglas (1899-1979)
- Born in Topeka
- Became prominent artist-illustrator during Harlem Renaissance
- Called father of Black American art because he used his African ancestry to inspire his paintings
- First president of the Harlem Artists guild
- Combined styles of modern European, ancient Egyptian, and West African art

Bob Dole (1923-)
- Born in Russell
- Second lieutenant in army during World War II, received Bronze Star and Purple Heart
- Served as United States senator 1969 to 1996
- Two-time senate majority leader, and minority leader
- Gerald Ford’s vice presidential running mate in 1976
- Republican presidential candidate in 1996
- Received American Patriot Award in 2004
Amelia Earhart
(1897-1937)

- Born in Atchison
- First woman to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean
- Set many aviation records for speed
- Wrote several books and lectured on aviation
- Attempted to circle the globe at the equator
- Disappeared in 1937 over Pacific Ocean, was never found

Alva Duckwall
(1877-1937)

- Born in Ohio
- Purchased Racket Store in Abilene in 1901
- Brother joined store and it was renamed Duckwall Brothers Racket Store – A Little Bit of Everything
- Used signs on barns and gates to promote stores
- Company later began operating as Alco

Dwight Eisenhower
(1890-1969)

- Born in Texas, grew up in Abilene
- Liked football as a student, favorite subject was history
- Served as chief of staff for U.S. Army
- Commander of allied forces in Europe during World War II; became five star general
- Served two terms as president of the United States, 1953-1961

Wyatt Earp
(1848-1929)

- Born in Illinois
- Worked as stagecoach driver, railroad section hand, buffalo hunter, gambler, and city constable
- Became marshal in Wichita in 1875, lost his job after being arrested for fighting
- Served as deputy marshal in Dodge City
- Survived famous gun battle at the OK Corral in Tombstone, Arizona
**Ron Evans**  
(1933-1990)  
- Born in St. Francis  
- Graduated from high school in Topeka and University of Kansas  
- Among the crew of Apollo 17, last U.S. mission to the Moon  
- Piloted the command module that orbited the Moon while the other crew members landed on its surface

**Milton Eisenhower**  
(1899-1985)  
- Assistant to U.S. Secretary of Agriculture under three presidents  
- As president of Kansas State College he changed the agricultural school to broad-based educational institution  
- Addressed issues of racial inequality at K-State  
- Presidential adviser to Truman through Nixon including his older brother, Dwight Eisenhower

**Joan Finney**  
(1925-2001)  
- Born in Topeka and graduated from Washburn University  
- Staff member for U.S. Senator Frank Carlson, commissioner of elections for Shawnee County, and administrative assistant to the Topeka mayor  
- First woman and longest-serving state treasurer from 1972-1986  
- First woman governor of Kansas, served 1991-1995

**Alfred Fairfax**  
(1840-circa 1916)  
- Born into slavery in Virginia, escaped and joined the Union army  
- Moved to Chautauqua County in 1880  
- Raised cotton and operated his own cotton gin as Fairfax Ginning Company  
- Pastor of New Hope Baptist Church in Parsons  
- Elected in 1888 as first African American to serve in the Kansas Legislature
Dionisio Campos Garcia
(1922-1985)

• Born in Holcomb
• Served in U.S. Army during World War II
• First Hispanic elected Garden City commissioner and mayor
• Received numerous honors along with wife, Irene, for service to community and state

Frederick Funston
(1865-1917)

• Roomed with friend William Allen White while working in Kansas City
• Joined Cuban army to fight for independence from Spain, was captured but escaped
• Captured rebel leader in Philippine Islands during Spanish American War
• Commanded military college at Fort Leavenworth
• World War I training camp near Fort Riley named for him

Isaac Goodnow
(1814-1894)

Ellen Goodnow
(1812-1900)

• They were abolitionists who moved to Manhattan in 1855
• He founded Bluemont College, which later became Kansas State University
• He was appointed state superintendent of public schools
• He started Kansas State Teachers Association and was first president
• Their home is now Goodnow House State Historic Site

Olive Garvey
(1893-1993)

Ray Garvey
(1893-1959)

• They pioneered style of large-scale corporate farming
• Harvested largest known harvest for an individual—one million bushels of wheat in 1947
• She authored award-winning poetry, plays, articles, and books
• After his death she ran the company, which included oil wells and cattle ranches
• She established fellowships and donated millions of dollars across Kansas
Minnie Grinstead (1869-1925)
- Born in Crawford County
- Graduated from the state normal school in Emporia
- State lecturer and organizer of the National and Kansas Woman's Christian Temperance Union
- First woman elected to the Kansas Legislature
- Elected probate judge in Liberal

Georgia Neese Clark Gray (1900-1995)
- Grew up in Richland
- Learned business from her father
- Became interested in acting and moved to New York
- Returned to Richland to run family bank
- President Harry S. Truman appointed her the first woman U.S. treasurer
- Her signature is on all bills from 1949 to 1953

Junius Groves (1859-1925)
- Farmer near Edwardsville in Wyandotte County
- Known as “Potato King of the World”
- Union Pacific Railroad built tract to his property because of his shipping quantity
- Founded community of Groves Center and sold small tracts of land to African Americans

Annie Grinter (1820-1905)
- Moses Grinter (1809-1878)
- Married about 1838 in Indian Territory (Kansas)
- She was Lenapi (Delaware) and they lived on Wyandot-Delaware Reservation land she received from government
- Operated trading post, ferry on the Kansas River, and first post office
- Began building house in 1857, now Grinter Place State Historic Site
Coleman Hawkins  
(1904-1969)
- Known as father of the tenor saxophone
- Member of Topeka High School band
- Played with Dizzy Gillespie, Fletcher Henderson, Duke Ellington, and Count Basie
- Recorded the classic version of *Body and Soul*
- Contributed to the jazz style bebop

Fred Harvey  
(1835-1901)
- Began restaurant career at age 15, worked for railroad during Civil War
- Persuaded Santa Fe Railway to let him open dining room in Topeka train depot in 1876
- Created chain of Harvey House restaurants known for good food in a sophisticated setting
- Waitresses were called “Harvey girls”

Gerat Hollenberg  
(1823-1874)
Sophia Hollenberg  
(1839-1914)
- They established a way station for travelers on Oregon-California Trail in 1857 that is today Hollenberg Pony Express Station State Historic Site
- He sold draft animals and repaired wagons
- She cared for and fed travelers
- He served three terms in the Kansas Territorial Legislature

Takeru Higuchi  
(1918-1987)
- Chemistry professor at the University of Kansas
- Developed slow-release time medicines
- Considered to be the “father of physical pharmacy”
- Received 50 patents
- KU named its Biosciences Center for him
Dennis Hopper (1936-2010)

- Born in Dodge City
- Family later moved to California
- Film debut in *Rebel Without a Cause* in 1955
- Co-produced and directed *Easy Rider* in 1969, one of the American Film Institute’s top 100 movies
- Appeared in more than 150 films and received several Academy Award nominations

*Photo courtesy Antjeverena*

Cyrus K. Holliday (1826-1900)

- Co-founded Topeka, first president of Topeka Town Association
- Served as adjutant general and state senator
- Organized the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway in 1859 and was first president
- Donated 20 acres for Kansas State Capitol grounds and helped design building

Alexander Hyde (1848-1935)

- Born in Massachusetts
- Moved with his brother to Leavenworth in 1865
- Started soap business in Wichita in 1888 that became Metholatum Company
- Sold product door-to-door in Wichita
- Customers said it cured muscle aches, cuts, and burns
- Donated 90 percent of profits to charities in Kansas and beyond

*Photo courtesy Wichita-Sedgwick County Historical Museum*

Meet Langston Hughes

Kansas Historical Society
William Inge  
(1913-1973)

- Born in Independence
- Graduated from the University of Kansas
- His play *Come Back Little Sheba* ran 190 performances on Broadway
- Proclaimed as Broadway's most promising playwright
- Received both a Pulitzer Prize and an Oscar
- Independence holds an annual theater festival in his name

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John J. Ingalls  
(1833-1900)

- Orator, scholar, lawyer, and statesman
- Active and influential delegate at the Wyandotte Constitutional Convention that brought about Kansas statehood
- U.S. senator, served 1873-1891
- Coined phrase that became the Kansas state motto, *Ad astra per aspera*
- Featured in the U.S. Capitol's Statuary Hall

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Martin Johnson  
(1884-1937)

Osa Johnson  
(1894-1953)

- He was born in Lincoln, she in Chanute
- Adventurous couple made many trips to Africa in the 1920s and 1930s
- Made movies and wrote books about their safaris
- They both earned their pilots' licenses in Chanute
- First pilots to fly over Mounts Kilimanjaro and Kenya

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Eva Jessye  
(1895-1992)

- Began organizing choral groups in Coffeyville before she was a teenager
- Served as choral trainer for original Broadway production of *Porgy and Bess*
- Led nationally celebrated Eva Jessye Choir through Europe after World War II
- Walked with Martin Luther King, Jr., during 1963 civil rights march
Lucy Browne Johnston (1846-1937)
William Johnston (1848-1937)

- They supported prohibition and women’s suffrage
- She was Kansas Equal Suffrage Association president
- She organized most of state into workable districts
- He was chief justice of Kansas Supreme Court from 1903-1935
- He was a Men’s Equal Suffrage League member

Walter “Big Train” Johnson (1887-1946)

- Born near Humboldt
- Pitched 21 seasons for the Washington Senators
- Led the Senators to win the 1924 World Series
- Nicknamed Big Train for the speed and power of his pitches
- One of first five players elected to Baseball Hall of Fame

Emanuel Haldeman-Julius (1889-1951)
Marcet Haldeman-Julius (1887-1941)

- Hyphenated last names to show equality of gender
- Published Appeal to Reason journal
- Purchased printing plant, created Little Blue Books to bring education and literature to the masses
- Produced more than 500 million books with paper covers, sold for as little as a nickel each

Charles “Buffalo” Jones (1844-1919)

- Born in Illinois, came to Kansas in 1866
- Hunted buffalo and captured wild horses on the plains
- Co-founded Garden City in 1879
- Fearing extinction of the buffalo, he established new herds
- First game warden of Yellowstone National Park
- Immortalized in Zane Grey’s The Last of the Plainsmen
**Nancy Landon Kassebaum**
(1932-)
- Born in Topeka, followed father’s career in politics
- Served as United States senator 1978 to 1997
- First woman to represent Kansas in the U.S. Senate
- Known as a leader in health care legislation
- Inspired young women to pursue careers in politics

**Gordon Jump**
(1932-2003)
- Born in Ohio, graduated from Kansas State University
- Started as weatherman and Wib the Clown on WIBW-TV in Topeka
- Served as television producer and on-air personality in his hometown of Dayton, Ohio
- Began television acting career in 1960s
- Starred as Arthur Carlson in CBS’ *WKRP in Cincinnati* from 1978-1982

**Emmett Kelly**
(1898-1979)
- Born in Sedan
- First worked as a trapeze artist
- Developed character of Weary Willie, a sad, white-faced clown
- Was major attraction for the Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Circus from 1942-1956
- Featured in motion picture *The Greatest Show on Earth* in 1952 and in Broadway productions

**Buster Keaton**
(1895-1966)
- Born in Piqua to a traveling vaudeville family
- First appeared on stage in 1899
- *The Butcher Boy* in 1917 was his first film
- He was known for dead pan comedy and featured in more than 300 films
- His two stars on the Hollywood Walk of Fame were for movies and television

*Photo courtesy Library of Congress*
Meet Kennekuk
Kansas Historical Society

Meet Stan Kenton
Kansas Historical Society

Meet Jack Kilby
Kansas Historical Society

Meet Alfred Landon
Kansas Historical Society
**Stan Kenton**  
(1911-1979)

- Born in Wichita, grew up in Colorado and California
- Learned piano at an early age and toured with bands as a teenager
- Formed his first orchestra in 1941
- Developed a progressive jazz style known as the wall of sound
- His orchestra was usually 19-piece, he also experimented with a 39-piece group

**Kennekuk**  
(Circa 1790-circa 1850)

- Kickapoo leader born in Illinois
- Referred to as the “Kickapoo Prophet” for encouraging peacefulness and abstinence from alcohol
- Kickapoos were removed to Missouri in 1830s, then to present-day Kansas
- Today Kickapoo lands are in Kansas and Oklahoma

*Drawing of a prayer stick used by the followers of Kennekuk*

**Alfred Landon**  
(1887-1987)

- Soldier during World War I
- Was a banker and oil producer in Independence
- Served as Kansas’ 26th governor, 1933 to 1937
- Was Republican nominee for president in 1936
- Landon Lecture Series at Kansas State University named for him

**Jack Kilby**  
(1923-2005)

- Graduated from Great Bend High School
- Received 2000 Nobel Prize in Physics
- Invented integrated circuit or microchip
- Co-invented pocket calculator and thermal printer used in portable data terminals
- Held more than 60 U.S. patents

*Photo courtesy Texas Instruments*
William Lear, Sr.
(1902-1978)
- Inventor and businessman born in Missouri
- Developed radio direction finders, autopilots, and the first fully automatic aircraft landing system
- Invented the 8-track cartridge, an audiotape system popular in the 1960s and 1970s
- Founded Lear Jet Corporation in Wichita in 1962 to manufacture business jets

James Lane
(1814-1866)
- Born in Indiana
- Moved to Lawrence in 1855 and joined free-state forces
- Nicknamed “Grim Chieftain”
- Served as president of the Topeka and Leavenworth constitutional conventions
- Elected one of state’s first U.S. senators
- Formed the First Kansas Colored Volunteers

H.D. Lee
(1849-1928)
- After success in oil business, moved to Salina for health and business opportunities
- Established H.D. Lee Mercantile Company
- Lee’s garment factory created one-piece overalls used in World War I
- Clothing line expanded to include Lee Rider Jeans
- Lee established several other Salina businesses

Mary Elizabeth Lease
(1853-1933)
- Taught school at Osage Mission in Neosho County
- Powerful and emotional speaker in forefront of Populist Party
- Advocated revolt of Kansas farmers against high mortgage interest and railroad rates
- Became alienated from Populist Party, turning to other interests
Chester Lewis
(1929-1990)

- Born in Hutchinson
- President of the Wichita chapter of the NAACP
- Helped desegregate restaurants, swimming pools, aircraft companies, local government agencies
- Lobbied for fair housing ordinance
- Mentored and counseled black students
- Helped reform the NAACP to take more legal and legislative actions

Lorenzo Lewelling
(1846-1900)

- Born in Iowa
- Moved to Wichita in 1887 where he eventually became interested in politics
- An early member of the Farmers’ Alliance, he was elected in 1892 as the first Populist Party governor
- After losing his reelection bid, he was elected a Kansas state senator, a position he held until his death

(Albin) A. K. Longren
(1882-1950)

- Born near Leonardville
- In 1911 made the first successful flight of a Kansas built airplane, Topeka I
- Known as the “Birdman”
- Hoped to create an airplane that would replace the automobile
- Worked as a consultant for other aircraft manufacturers

Charles Lindbergh
(1902-1974)

- Born in Michigan
- Took his first airplane ride in 1922
- After a few days of pilot lessons, the trainer he flew was sold to men in Bird City
- Followed the plane and gained flying experience as a barnstormer in the Midwest
- Gained fame with first non-stop flight from New York to Paris in 1927
Julia Louisa Lovejoy
(1812-1882)
- Born in New Hampshire
- Moved with husband to Kansas Territory in 1855
- Built the first house on the Manhattan Town Company site
- Later settled near Lawrence
- Wrote emotional letters to eastern newspapers about violence in territory over issue of slavery

Rafael Lopez
(1914-1994)
Concepción Lopez
(1911-2006)
- They immigrated to the U.S. from Mexico
- He served in the army during World War II and the Korean War
- He worked as a civil service barber at McConnell Air Force Base in Wichita
- They opened Connie’s Mexico Café in Wichita in 1963

William “Bat” Masterson
(1853-1921)
- Born in Canada, family later moved to Wichita
- Hunted buffalo to feed Santa Fe Railway workers in western Kansas
- Army scout during Indian Territory campaign
- Deputy sheriff with Wyatt Earp in Dodge City
- Served as sheriff, policeman, and deputy U.S. marshal
- Later served as sports writer for Daily Telegraph in New York City

Lutie Lytle
(Circa 1874-circa 1950)
- Attended high school in Topeka
- Third African American woman to be licensed to practice law in U.S.
- First African American woman admitted to the Kansas bar
- Lectured for women’s groups and local colleges on law related to domestic issues
**William Matthews**  
(1827-1906)  
- Member of Independent Battery, U.S. Colored Light Artillery  
- Recruited members to the First Colored Kansas Volunteer Infantry  
- Operated boarding house in Leavenworth that was part of Underground Railroad  
- Helped many Missouri slaves escape to Kansas and other free states

**William “Buffalo Bill” Mathewson**  
(1830-1916)  
- Earned nickname Buffalo Bill from saving settlers from starvation during the winter  
- After battling Kiowa leader Satanta in 1861, earned nickname meaning long-bearded dangerous man  
- Settled in Wichita and built one of first homes in area  
- Established Wichita Savings Bank

**Kathryn O’Loughlin McCarthy**  
(1894-1952)  
- Born near Hays  
- Graduated from Kansas State Teachers College and University of Chicago  
- Returned to Kansas to practice law in 1928  
- Elected to serve as a state representative in 1931  
- First woman from Kansas elected to serve in U.S. Congress, 1932-1934

**Edward McCabe**  
(1850-1920)  
- Early settler of Nicodemus  
- Clerk of Graham County in 1880  
- Kansas state auditor from 1883-1887  
- First African American to hold statewide office in a northern state  
- Worked to create a state for blacks in Oklahoma Territory
Hattie McDaniel  
(1895-1952)
- Born in Wichita
- Enjoyed singing with her family’s musical show
- Began singing on radio shows
- So popular she moved to motion pictures
- First African American woman to receive an Academy Award—*Gone with the Wind* (1939)
- Appeared in more than 300 films

Joseph McCoy  
(1837-1915)
- Convinced Texas cattlemen to bring herds to newly built railroad in Kansas
- Businessman who built hotel, stockyard, office, and bank
- Established Abilene as railhead on the Chisholm Trail
- Promoted ranchers to send two million head of Texas longhorns through Abilene in four years
- Called himself “The Real McCoy”

Oscar Micheaux  
(1884-1951)
- Grew up in Great Bend
- First African American feature filmmaker
- Wrote, produced, and directed 44 feature films
- Focused on stories and images of African American life
- *The Case of Mrs. Wingate*, one of his seven novels, was a national bestseller

Karl Menninger  
(1893-1990)
- Born in Topeka and graduated from Harvard Medical School
- Founded Menninger Clinic in Topeka with father, Charles Menninger
- Wrote influential books *The Human Mind* and *The Crime of Punishment*
- Under the leadership of Karl and brother Will, the Menninger Foundation gained national reputation for psychiatric treatment
**James Naismith**  
(1861-1939)  
- Invented game of basketball using peach basket in 1891  
- Physical education professor, chaplain, and first basketball coach at University of Kansas  
- Saw basketball become an Olympic sport at 1936 Berlin games  
- Honored in 1959 with Naismith Memorial Hall of Fame

**Mokohoko**  
- His band of Sac and Foxes stayed in Kansas after remaining tribe was removed to Indian Territory, present-day Oklahoma  
- Sac and Foxes maintained small tracts of land in Osage County  
- His followers worked as seasonal farm laborers  
- They were forcibly escorted by U.S. Army to Indian Territory in 1886

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**Clarina Nichols**  
(1810-1885)  
- Born in Vermont  
- Passionate advocate for women's rights and abolition of slavery  
- Settled in 1854 near Lawrence  
- Associate editor of antislavery newspaper  
- Lectured about equality and gained voter support  
- Influenced the state constitution that allowed women to vote in school elections  
- Helped advance human rights in Kansas

**Carry Nation**  
(1846-1911)  
- Grew up in Kentucky and Missouri  
- First husband died of alcoholism  
- Worked against the drinking of alcohol through the women's temperance movement  
- Moved to Medicine Lodge in 1890  
- Led her “Home Defenders” to smash bars and saloons  
- Used a hatchet to destroy these businesses, which became her symbol
Kate Richards O’Hare
(1877-1948)
• Born in Ada
• In 1916 became the first woman to run for U.S. Senate
• Prominent anti-war activist for the Socialist Party
• Arrested and imprisoned for violating Espionage Act of 1917, pardoned by President Calvin Coolidge
• Crusaded for better prison conditions

Corinthian Nutter
(1906-2004)
• Left Texas home at age 15 to pursue education in North
• Sacrificed teaching position to protest segregation at school where she taught in Johnson County
• Taught students in parents’ living rooms in protest
• Said “School shouldn’t be for a color. They should be for children.”
• Successfully helped desegregate Walker School in 1948

Photo courtesy Johnson County Museum

Clementine Paddleford
(1900-1967)
• Born in Stockdale
• Graduated from Kansas State University with a journalism degree
• Known as America’s number one food editor for ability to make good cooking read as fine literature
• Wrote for New York Herald Tribune and Gourmet magazine

Photo courtesy Kansas State University

Mitsugi Ohno
(1926-1999)
• Created first true Klein bottle—with no inner or outer sides
• Learned glass-blowing in Japan
• Kansas State University scientist whose glassware was used by physics and chemistry researchers
• Built glass scale model of USS Constitution, on display at the Eisenhower Center in Abilene

Photo courtesy Kansas State University
**Gordon Parks**  
(1912-2006)  
- Born in Fort Scott  
- Moved to Chicago and purchased his first camera  
- Became a nationally recognized photographer, author, poet, composer, and filmmaker  
- Wrote *The Learning Tree*, based on his childhood in Kansas  
- Later directed the story as a movie  

*Photo courtesy Leonard H. Axe Library, Pittsburg State University*

**Charlie Parker**  
(1920-1955)  
- Born in Kansas City, Kansas, he played alto saxophone from an early age  
- Among the most influential jazz musicians  
- Nicknamed “Yardbird” or “Bird”  
- Known for developing bebop based on harmony rather than melody  
- Created jazz standards – *Billie’s Bounce, Anthropology, and Ornithology*

**ZaSu Pitts**  
(1894-1963)  
- Lived in Parsons until the age of nine  
- Made more than 100 films  
- Played a variety of roles in silent movies, most often portraying zany characters in sound films  
- Costarred in television comedies *My Little Margie* and *The Gale Storm Show*

**William Peffer**  
(1831-1912)  
- Established law practice in Fredonia in 1870 and edited *Fredonia Journal*  
- State senator from 1874-1876  
- Relocated to Coffeyville and edited *Coffeyville Journal*  
- Launched Populist publication *Kansas Farmer*  
- First Populist U.S. senator, 1891-1897
**Samuel Reader**  
(1836-1914)
- Kept diary from age 13 until his death
- Described move to Kansas, military and farming experiences
- His drawings and paintings depict Battle of Big Blue and other Civil War experiences
- His autobiography is a record of life in Kansas from territorial days to World War I

**John Fenton Pratt**  
(1856-1937)
- From Yorkshire, England
- Established sheep operation near present-day Studley
- Eventually converted to general farming
- Built stone cottage, which is today Cottonwood Ranch State Historic Site
- Depicted families in Sheridan County in his photographs

**Charles Robinson**  
(1818-1894)

**Sara Robinson**  
(1827-1911)
- He was state's first governor
- Her book, *Kansas: Its Interior and Exterior Life*, was second to *Uncle Tom's Cabin* in promoting antislavery
- A founder of the Free State Party, he was arrested for treason
- She reported on his arrest and stirred sympathy
- They donated their estate to the University of Kansas

**Andrew Reeder**  
(1807-1864)
- In 1854 became first governor of Kansas Territory
- Identified with free-state cause
- Facing indictment for high treason issued by a proslave grand jury, he fled territory disguised as a woodchopper
- Practiced law in Pennsylvania, active in Republican Party politics
**Damon Runyon**  
(1880-1946)  
- Born in Manhattan, his family worked in the newspaper business  
- They moved to Colorado in 1887  
- As a newspaper reporter, he moved to New York City to cover sports  
- His unique insights are credited with revolutionizing the way baseball is covered  
- Films *Guys and Dolls* and *Little Miss Marker* are based on two of his short stories  
*Photo courtesy Damon Runyon Cancer Research Foundation*

**Charles “Buddy” Rogers**  
(1904-1999)  
- Born in Olathe  
- Studied music at the University of Kansas  
- Actor and jazz musician  
- Starred in 1927 Academy Award-winning picture *Wings*  
- Honored in 1985 with Jean Hersholt Humanitarian Award from Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences

**Sven Birger Sandzén**  
(1871-1954)  
- Came from Sweden to Kansas as Bethany College professor  
- First taught languages, later became head of art department  
- Artist known for painting colorful landscapes of the American West  
- Called nature the “great teacher”

**Susanna Madora Salter**  
(1860-1961)  
- Moved from Ohio to Kansas with parents in 1872  
- Attended Kansas State Agricultural College  
- Moved to Argonia, nominated for mayor by several men as a joke in 1887  
- Received two-thirds of the votes  
- Elected first woman mayor in the United States, generating worldwide interest
**Satanta**  
(1830-1878)
- Kiowa chief whose name meant white bear
- Spoke four American Indian languages and Spanish
- Called orator of the plains
- Signed 1867 Medicine Lodge Peace Treaty
- Led many raids across the plains
- Fought to keep the Kiowa hunting grounds
- Sentenced to life in prison in Texas

**Wes Santee**  
(1932-2010)
- Raised in Ashland
- Attended the University of Kansas
- Competed in the 5,000 meter at the 1952 Helsinki Olympics
- Known as the “Ashland Antelope”
- One of the world’s premiere milers
- Inducted into the USA Track and Field Hall of Fame in 2005

**Elisha Scott**  
(1890-1963)
- Raised in Topeka's Tennessee Town, an African American community
- Earned law degree in 1916 from Washburn College
- Helped desegregate Walker School in Johnson County in 1948
- Represented *Brown v. Board of Education* case at local level

**C. B. Schmidt**  
(1843-1921)
- Born in Germany, immigrated to U.S. in 1864
- Settled in Kansas in 1868 as a grocer
- Served as land agent for the Santa Fe railway
- Influenced thousands of German Mennonites to settle in Kansas in 1870s
- These Russian German families eventually populated central and western portions of the state
William Tecumseh Sherman
(1820-1891)
- Graduated sixth in class from West Point in 1840
- Operated law firm in Leavenworth in 1858
- General commander of U.S. Army during Civil War
- His “march to the sea” burned Atlanta and destroyed farmland
- Directed military campaigns to stop Indian resistance across plains

Charles Sheldon
(1857-1946)
- Minister of Central Congregational Church in Topeka
- Known for book In His Steps published in 1897, ranked as 39th bestselling book of all time
- Worked with African American “Exodusters” to improve Tennessee Town community in Topeka
- Helped sponsor first African American kindergarten west of Mississippi River
- Prohibitionist, actively campaigned against saloons

Harry Sinclair
(1876-1956)
- Born in Virginia, grew up in Independence
- Acquired White Oil Company in 1901
- Formed Sinclair Oil in 1916
- By end of the 1920s his company was producing 80,000 barrels of oil a day and had more than 900 miles of pipeline
- His involvement in government oil leases became part of the Teapot Dome scandal and led to a short prison term

Jerry Simpson
(1842-1905)
- Member of the Kansas People’s Party (or Populists)
- Served three terms in U.S. House of Representatives from Kansas
- Criticized his wealthy opponent’s fine silk socks, who called him “Sockless”
- Claimed nickname as badge of honor and received voters’ approval
William Stafford  
(1914-1993)

- Born in Hutchinson
- Became a conscientious objector while a graduate student at the University of Kansas because of his religious beliefs
- Served alternative Civilian Public Service in forestry and soil conservation during World War II
- Published 57 volumes of poetry
- Consultant in poetry for Library of Congress and Poet Laureate of Oregon

Benjamin "Pap" Singleton  
(1809-1900)

- Born a slave and escaped to freedom after 37 years
- Operated secret boardinghouse for escaped slaves
- Organized nearly 300 African Americans to follow him to Kansas in 1873
- Called father of the exodus for helping thousands of former slaves relocate to Kansas

George F. Sternberg  
(1883-1969)

- Born in Lawrence, followed father’s career in paleontology
- Began directing fossil expeditions in early 1900s
- Internationally recognized paleontologist, curator of the museum at Fort Hays State University
- Discovered “fish-within-a-fish” fossil in Gove County in 1952 (Xiphactinus audax)
- Sternberg Museum of Natural History in Hays named for him

Lloyd Stearman  
(1898-1975)

- Born in Wellsville, attended Kansas State College
- Enlisted in navy in 1918 and learned to fly seaplanes
- Worked for Laird Swallow as a mechanic in 1920s
- Joined Walter Beech and Clyde Cessna to form Travel Air Manufacturing Company in 1925
- Became president of Lockheed Corporation in early 1930s
**Rex Stout**
(1886-1975)
- Born in Indiana, grew up in Topeka
- Attended University of Kansas
- Began writing in 1910, published his first book in 1929
- Crime writer who created character of Nero Wolfe
- Mystery fans called him the greatest writer of the century
- Conducted 62 war-time broadcasts called *Our Secret Weapon*

**Milburn Stone**
(1904-1980)
- Born in Burrton
- Played Doc Adams on television’s long running series *Gunsmoke*
- Missed filming only seven episodes due to health problems
- Received an Emmy Award for best supporting actor in a drama series
- Honored with a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame

**Earl Sutherland, Jr.**
(1915-1974)
- Born in Burlingame
- Graduated from Washburn College in 1937
- Graduated from Washington University’s School of Medicine in 1942
- Considered medical research his hobby
- Awarded the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 1971 for his research in how hormones function

**Russell Stover**
(1888-1954)
**Clara Stover**
(1893-1975)
- He was born in Alton
- They created chocolate empire
- She made first chocolate candies in their small Denver kitchen in 1923
- Called company Mrs. Stover’s Bungalow Candies
- Produced the popular Eskimo Pie
- Moved to Kansas City in 1932

*Photo courtesy: Russell Stover Candies, Inc.*
Ten Bears
(1792-1872)
- Comanche name Parasemena
- Principal chief of northern Yamparika division of Comanche
- Signed Treaty of Fort Atkinson and Treaty of the Little Arkansas River in Kansas
- Gave a famous, eloquent address on behalf of his people at 1867 Medicine Lodge Treaty Conference

Lucy Hobbs Taylor
(1833-1910)
- First woman dentist in Kansas
- Graduated from Chicago dental college as world’s first fully trained woman dentist
- Moved in 1867 to Lawrence
- Practiced with her husband, also a dentist, for more than 40 years

Lucinda Todd
(1903-1966)
- One of 13 plaintiffs in Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka landmark U.S. Supreme Court case to desegregate schools
- Secretary of Topeka NAACP, which brought NAACP Legal Defense Fund to Topeka
- Taught in Topeka elementary schools
- Todd’s papers in the collection of the Kansas Historical Society

Jim Thorpe
(1887-1953)
- Born in Indian Territory, now Oklahoma
- Sac and Fox heritage, attended Haskell Indian school in Lawrence
- Among greatest athletes of 20th century
- Won two gold medals in track in 1912 Olympics
- Played baseball with the New York Giants
- Memorialized in Pro Football Hall of Fame
Vivian Vance  
(1909-1979)
- Born in Cherryvale, also lived in Independence
- Known for role as Lucille Ball’s sidekick, Ethel Mertz, on sitcom *I Love Lucy*
- Called TV’s most beloved second banana
-Received first Emmy Award for a supporting actress

Clyde Tombaugh  
(1906-1997)
- Made telescopes from hand ground mirrors and farm equipment parts
- Graduated from Burdett High School, University of Kansas, and Northern Arizona University
- Discovered planet in 1930 that was named Pluto
- Spent 13 years at Lowell Observatory in Flagstaff, Arizona

May Williams Ward  
(1882-1975)
- Born in Missouri, grew up in Osawatomie
- Graduated from the University of Kansas
- *Life* magazine published one of her poems in 1921
- By 1925 she had gained national prominence
- She was editor of *The Harp*, a national poetry magazine published in Larned
- She published seven books during her lifetime

Reuben Waller  
(1840-1945)
- Born in slavery in Kentucky
- Servant for slave owner who was a Confederate general in the Civil War
- Saw 29 battles during the Civil War
- Enlisted in 10th U.S. Cavalry of “Buffalo Soldiers” at Fort Leavenworth in 1867
- Spent remaining life in El Dorado

*Photo courtesy Special Collections and University Archives, Wichita State University Libraries*
Bernhard Warkentin (1847-1908)
- Born in Crimea, Southern Russia
- Among Mennonite settlers who came to Kansas in 1873
- Imported Turkey Red wheat, which became staple crop for wheat farmers in Kansas
- Organized Halstead Mill and Elevator Company in 1878, and Newton Milling and Elevator Company in 1887

Eugene Ware (1841-1911)
- Moved to Kansas in 1867
- Edited *Fort Scott Monitor*, had law offices in Fort Scott and Topeka
- Appointed to U.S. Pension Commission by President Theodore Roosevelt
- Gifted poet, used pseudonym “Ironquill”
- Regarded writing as hobby, never copyrighted his work

Mary White (1904-1921)
- Daughter of Sallie and William Allen White, editor of *The Emporia Gazette*
- Campaigned for racial equality at her high school
- Killed in a tragic horse accident
- Her obituary, written by her father, was widely distributed and still read today
- 1977 made-for-TV movie of her life nominated for Golden Globe Award

Waldo Wedel (1908-1996)
- Born in Newton
- Archeologist for Nebraska State Historical Society
- Field director for Smithsonian projects
- Archeologist emeritus in Department of Anthropology at Smithsonian Institution’s national museum
- Published more than 120 papers and three books
William Allen White
(1868-1944)
• Born in Emporia
• Bought the Emporia Gazette newspaper in 1895
• Hosted U.S. presidents at his home
• Known as the “Sage of Emporia”
• Wrote influential editorials and several books; received two Pulitzer Prices
• William Allen White Book Award named for him

Sallie White
(1869-1950)
• He was born in Emporia, she in Kentucky
• They bought The Emporia Gazette in 1895
• He knew and advised famous people, including U.S. presidents
• He was known as “Sage of Emporia” for his editorials
• He received two Pulitzer Prices
• Their home now William Allen White House State Historic Site

Jess Willard
(1881-1968)
• Born in Pottawatomie County
• Defeated defending champion in 26 rounds to become world heavyweight boxing champion in 1915
• Nicknamed “Pottawatomie Giant” at 6 feet 5 inches tall and 235 pounds
• After losing title in 1919 he starred in Wild West shows

William Lindsay White
(1900-1973)
Kathrine White
(1903-1988)
• He operated The Emporia Gazette after his father, William Allen White
• He was war correspondent and author
• She worked for Time, was assistant curator at Library of Congress
• They ran Gazette and preserved original building
• After his death, she took over operations
• Still operated by White Walker family
Elizabeth Wooster  
(1868-1953)

- Attended high school in Beloit
- Elected in 1918 as state superintendent of public instruction
- First woman elected to statewide public office
- Lawyer and vice president of the National Association of Women Lawyers
- Prominent in national education circles

Marnie Williams  
(1894-1986)

- Prominent educator and resident of Topeka
- Graduated from Washburn College in 1915
- Appointed to Kansas Commission of the Status of Women in 1965
- Delegate to 1971 White House Conference on Aging
- Received Washburn University Distinguished Service Award in 1973