



Fiscal Year Activity Report -- 2011-2012

Tours and Rentals

- 675 people visited the Dawes House for individual tours and 470 people for group tours.
- Evanston History and Architecture walking tours – 40 people attended.
- 15 volunteers served as docents giving tours of the Dawes House.
- 2 District 65 schools brought all of their second graders to visit the house and grounds.
- 7 groups rented the Dawes House for special events.
- Home school group and other groups using EHC's History Kit visited the Dawes House.

Research and Archives Projects

- 636 people visited the EHC archives for research projects.
- There were 150 phone, email and mail requests for information.
- We had 3 interns and 5 volunteers working in the archives.
- Collections work in the archives included accessioning, processing and storing new and existing collections. We had 32 new donations to the archival collection.
- Outreach included continuing coordination of the Evanston Women's History Project; working with Evanston150; visits to Lake Street Church and First Methodist Church archives; an Eagle Scout Oral History Project of Catholic Churches in Evanston; Orrington School's 100th anniversary; and working with City staff on several City records projects.
- Republication of the book *Evanstoniana* project underway, with a volunteer working on assembling the photographs for the new edition.
- Research on a new history of Evanston, tracing the city's history from the end of World War II to the present.

Collection Projects

- We received 68 new donations to our artifact collection.
- A new costume exhibit opened in Spring 2012 -- *Bedrooms, Bathrooms and Boudoirs* -- in the two rotating exhibit rooms on the 2nd floor.
- Four smaller exhibits were curated on second floor & in archives cases.
- Collections work included accessioning, processing and storing new pieces. Inventory work and re-storing was done with the framed collection, Dawes collection and large artifact collection.
- We had 2 interns and 3 volunteers helping with collection work. (2 in Costume)
- 5 students from the Theatre School of DePaul University Costume Technology II class used the EHC costume collection for study purposes.
- EHC Curator, Erin FH Hughes, received a Superior Achievement award from the Illinois State Historical Society for the "A Curious Patchwork of Evanston Treasures" exhibit.

EHC Programs and Events

- A total of 334 people attended 7 Under the Buffalo lectures on topics ranging from "Remembering Marshall Field's" to "Chicago from the Sky."
- 2011 Ice Cream Social – approximately 450 people attended.
- 2011 Holiday Open House -- approximately 300 people attended.
- 2011 Halloween Event -- Steve Darnall on old time (scary) radio.
- 2011 Concert, partnership with Musical Offering; featuring the work of composer Elbio Barilari, who also spoke about his work.
- 6th Annual Food Drive -- several hundreds of pounds of food collected and donated to an Evanston food pantry.
- 2012 Workshop on Kingian Nonviolence, all day event on Martin Luther King Day, with a

team of trainers and attendees from all over the Evanston and Chicago area. The workshop was free and funded with grants from the Elizabeth Beidler Tisdahl Foundation and the Beth Emet Tzedakah fund. .

- 2012 Jazz at the Dawes Fundraiser, featuring the Chris Greene trio.
- 2012 exhibit opening - "Bedrooms, Bathrooms & Boudoirs," 40 attended
- 2012 Mother's Day House walk - 566 tickets were sold. Approximately 100 people volunteered.
- 2012 "Homecoming" Event, with home owners from former House Walks invited to attend and share their stories.

Outreach Efforts

- Seven separate custom designed mailings sent out to 700+ members and organizations.
- New rack card created with support from the North Shore Convention and Visitor's Bureau to promote EHC walking tours, in addition to Dawes House Tours.
- EHC Web site, Facebook page and Twitter feeds updated regularly.
- 35 EHC email newsletters were created, managed and sent regularly to 850+ people.
- Fall 2011 and Spring 2012 issues of *Timelines*.
- Podcast series launched.
- 5 lectures and talks given by EHC staff in the community.
- Pop up exhibit for Police and Fire Chiefs Luncheon.

Foundation Gifts and Government Grants

- Beth Emet Tzedakah Fund
- Evanston Arts Council, a city agency supported by the city of Evanston, and the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency
- Evanston Community Foundation
- Elizabeth Beidler Tisdahl Foundation
- Frank B. Foster Charitable Trust
- Thomas W. Griffin Memorial Endowment
- Kiwanis Foundation of Evanston
- Ed Paschke Foundation