

Oregon Historical Society

Report to the Multnomah County Commissioners

April 17, 2018

Our Mission

*The Oregon Historical Society preserves our state's history and **makes it accessible** to everyone in ways that advance knowledge and inspire curiosity about **all the people, places, and events** that have shaped Oregon.*

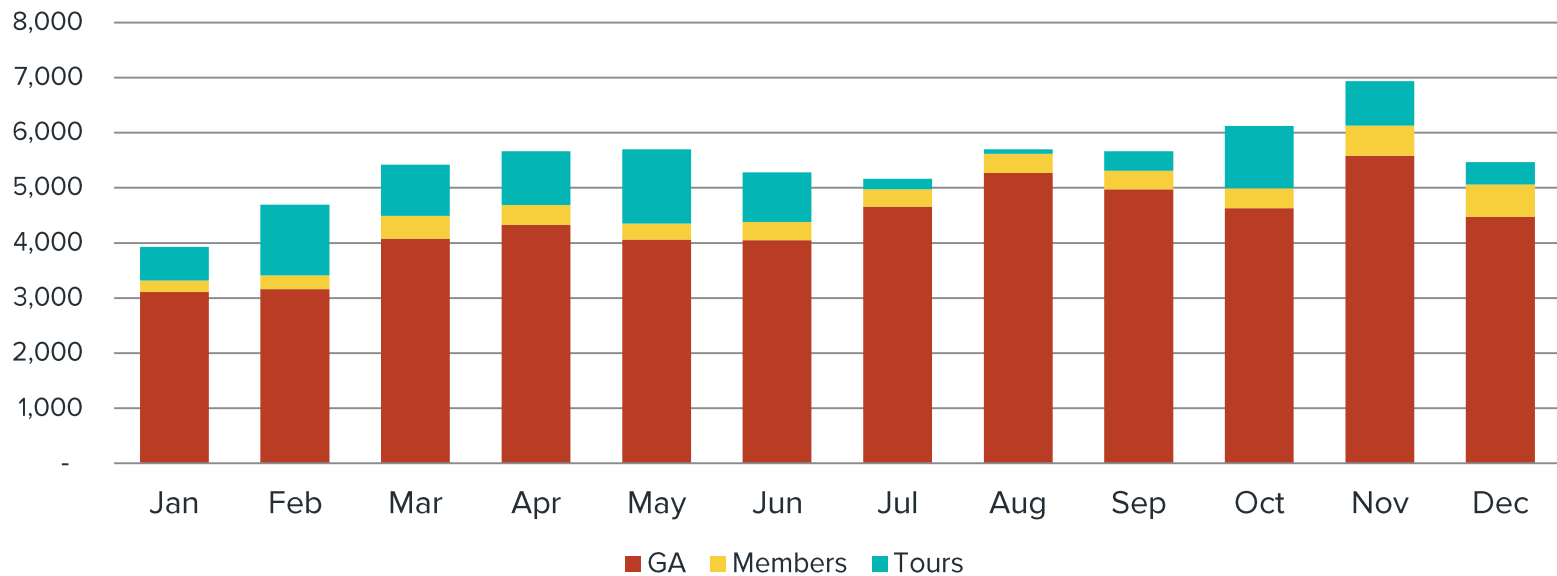
Annual Museum Attendance

	2016 Total	2017 Total	% Change
General Admission	45,200	52,379	↑ 15.88%
Members	4,312	4,346	↑ 0.79%
Group Tours	7,686	9,010	↑ 17.23%
Total Visitors	57,198	65,735	↑ 14.93%

2017 saw our 2nd highest attendance ever!

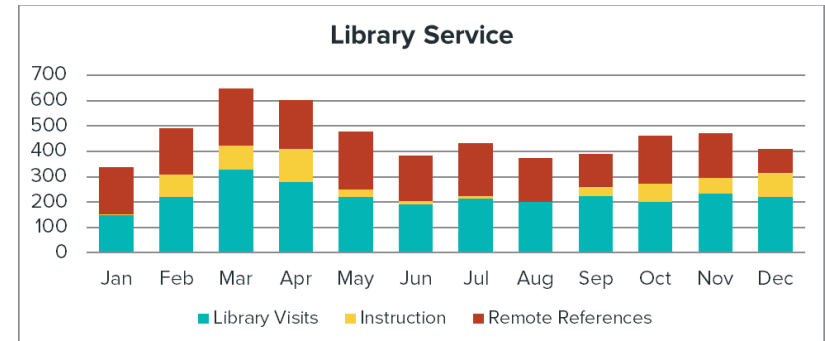
Annual Museum Attendance

2017 Admissions



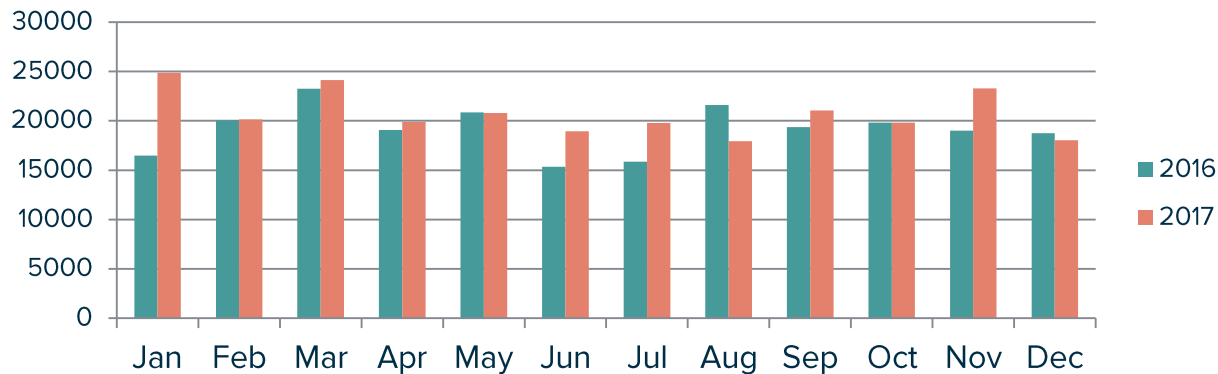
Annual Library Attendance

	2017
Library Visits	2,674
Remote References	2,173
Instruction	435
Total Served	5,282



Website Traffic

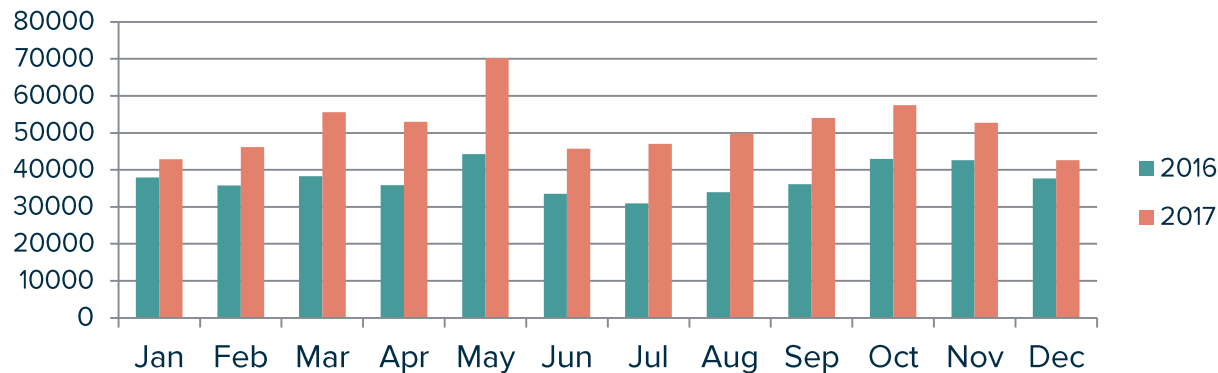
ohs.org



2017 Visits (YoY):

+8.98%

oregonencyclopedia.org



2017 OE Visits (YoY):

+37.22%



THE OREGON
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY
FOUNDED 1898

Digital Collections

The image shows the header of the Oregon Historical Society Digital Collections website. It features a dark blue background with a large, faint image of a snow-capped mountain (Mount Hood) and a forested valley. In the top left corner is the Oregon Historical Society logo, which includes a circular seal with a plow and a sheaf of wheat, and the text "THE OREGON HISTORICAL SOCIETY" and "FOUNDED 1894". To the right of the logo is the text "Providing broad access to Oregon history" followed by a right-pointing arrow icon. Below the logo, on the left side, is a dark blue vertical menu with the heading "Browse by" and six options: "COLLECTIONS", "NAMES", "REPOSITORIES", "SUBJECTS", "PLACES", and "DIGITAL OBJECTS". The main title "Oregon Historical Society Digital Collections" is displayed in large white text over the mountain image.

 THE OREGON HISTORICAL SOCIETY
FOUNDED 1894

Providing broad access to Oregon history 

Browse by

- COLLECTIONS
- NAMES
- REPOSITORIES
- SUBJECTS
- PLACES
- DIGITAL OBJECTS

**Oregon Historical Society
Digital Collections**

Digital Collections

- Launched **digitalcollections.ohs.org** May 2017
- GOAL: Create, collect, preserve, and provide access to digital materials from the OHS Research Library collections
- Over **15,000** manuscripts, photographs, films, and oral histories now available, with content added each week

Digital Collections

Available collections include:

- Photographs from Oregon conservation pioneers William Finley & Herman Bohlman
- Newspaper photos from the *Oregon Journal*
- Papers from Joel Palmer, Superintendent of Indian Affairs for the Oregon Territory
- Oral histories from the Gay and Lesbian Archives of the Pacific Northwest

Exhibitions

- Beyond the Gate: A Tale of Portland's Historic Chinatowns (2016)
- High Hopes: The Journey of John F. Kennedy (2017)
- Racing to Change:
Oregon's Civil Rights Years
On view now through June 24!



Exhibitions

History Hub

- Permanent exhibit made for kids exploring the many people and events that have shaped Oregon history
- Winner of 2017 AASLH Leadership in History Award

OREGON BLACK
PIONEERS



Awards & Recognition

- Diversity Heritage Award – The Skanner (2016)
- Flying Horse Award – NW China Council (2017)
- LSTA Project of the Year (2018)
- Rated 4-stars by Charity Navigator (highest rating) for sound fiscal management and commitment to accountability and transparency



Reuniting Finley and Bohlman was unanimously chosen by the State Library as the LSTA Project of the Year because it struck an exceptional balance between building a new digital collection and creating new programming and outreach efforts with partner agencies that helped engage new audiences.

Education Programs

Traveling Trunks

- Schools can rent educational trunks containing hands-on objects, lesson plans, and primary source documents
- Topics include Oregon Trail, Chinese Traditions, Mexican American Arts & Culture, Oregon is Indian Country, Eastern Oregon
- **2017: Served 4,934 students**



Education Programs

Family Saturdays

- Free programs with performances and crafts; past events have highlighted American Indian and Latino cultures in Oregon
- May 19: African American Cultures in Oregon



Public Programs - 2017

- 6th Annual Teddy Roosevelt Roadshow
- Hip Hop Documentary
- From Maxville to Vanport
- WWI Centennial Series
- Finley Nature Walks & Lantern Slide Shows



Public Programs – 2018

- Fair Housing Act at 50 Program Series
- Remembrance of the Genocide of the Rwandan Tutsi
- Untold Stories of the Civil Rights Movement
- Latinas in Oregon history



Public Programs - 2018

3rd Annual Lunar New Year Parade & Dragon Dance

- **1,000 attendees annually**
- First time dragon came out of storage in 10 years!
- Partnership with Portland Chinatown History Museum



Public Programs - Access

- Majority of OHS programs are free
- More programs being recorded & broadcast live on Facebook as well as made available for later viewing on our website through YouTube



- Nearly 11 hours of programming cablecast to 420,000 households in Portland and East Multnomah County

Scholarship

Oregon Historical Quarterly

- Published continuously since 1900
- Free access through Multnomah County Library
- Free articles available online at ohs.org/readohq

