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# **N E W S   R E L E A S E**

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## **“Between Fences” tour schedule announced**

The Nebraska Humanities Council has selected six communities and the State Capitol to host the 2007-2008 statewide tour of “Between Fences,” a traveling exhibit developed by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Services (SITES).

The tour begins with a visit Sept. 12 through Oct. 24, 2007, at the **Custer County Historical Society Museum** in Broken Bow. It travels next to the **Mari Sandoz High Plains Heritage Center** at Chadron State College in Chadron, where it will be on display Oct. 29 through Dec. 9, 2007. The **Dawson County Historical Society** in Lexington will house the traveling exhibit Dec. 14, 2007, through Jan. 23, 2008.

From Jan. 26 through Feb. 14, 2008, it will be at the **State Capitol** in Lincoln. From there it goes to **Wisner Heritage Museum** in Wisner, where it will be housed from Feb. 19 through March 30, 2008. The **Plainsman Museum** in Aurora will house the exhibit April 4 through May 15, 2008, and the tour wraps up with a visit to **Raymond A. Whitwer Tilden Public Library** in Tilden May 19 through June 30, 2008.

“Between Fences” is a visual cultural history of fences and land use that examines how neighbors and nations divide and protect, offend and defend through the boundaries they build. Focusing on every region of the United States, the exhibit’s subjects include the defining of home, farm, and factory; the settling of the United States; the closing of the range in the South and its meaning to former slaves; and the making of fences, including a look at why Abe Lincoln became known as a rail splitter.

“Between Fences” examines human relationships on an expanding scale: neighbor versus neighbor; gated communities, and the Mexican and Canadian borders of the United States. The exhibition tells American stories through diverse fence types.

Each of the host communities will develop public humanities programming to coincide with the theme of “Between Fences,” such as lectures, displays, exhibits and contests. Sites also will develop events and activities to encourage public participation during the exhibit.

Part of the SITES Museum on Main Street (MOMS) program, “Between Fences” is designed for rural audiences and small museums that do not have access to traveling exhibits because of space and cost limitations.

The NHC has brought four other MOMS tours to Nebraska. In 2005-2006, “Key Ingredients: America By Food” visited six communities statewide. “Yesterday's Tomorrows: Past Visions of the American Future” toured the state in 2003, “Barn Again! Celebrating an American Icon” toured the state in 2001-2002, and “Produce for Victory” toured the state in 1996.

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