

PRESS RELEASE – for immediate release

February 21, 2025

From: Wichita-Sedgwick County Historical Museum
204 S Main St; Wichita, KS 67202

2025 MCILWAINE SPEAKER SERIES AT THE HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Quarterly 2025 – First in Series: March 9th

Presentations start at 2:00pm

Admission FREE

Open to the public, All ages

The Wichita-Sedgwick County Historical Museum invites you to learn about a range of local history-related topics during its Charles & Joanne McIlwaine Quarterly Speaker Series. Once each quarter, the museum welcomes engaging presenters who will speak on the people, places, and events that influenced our community.

Sunday- March 9th, The Historical Museum starts our 2025 series with “Jazz in Wichita” by Dee Starkey- Jazz music in Wichita has a colorful history that can be traced back to 1919, when Will Marion Cook’s New York Jazz Syncopators played a public festival rather than at a banquet planned for President Woodrow Wilson’s Wichita reception. Dee Starkey relates the music’s history through anecdotal stories of pivotal moments and remarkable connections that formed local culture.

Doors open at 1:00pm; the program starts at 2pm in the DeVore Auditorium (2nd Floor)
Open to the public. Free admission.

Mark your calendars for the remaining McIlwaine Speakers in 2025!

May 4th – “AuthentiCity: An Artist’s View of Wichita’s Built Environment” by Bill Goffrier

July 12th & 13th – “Travel Air Centennial” by Ed Phillips

November 29th – “Story of a Wichita Neighborhood” by Donna Rae Pearson

This quarterly speaker series is made possible through a generous grant from the Charles and Joanne McIlwaine Foundation.

Submitted by Michelle Frikken, Historical Museum Communications: museum@wichitahistory.org

Wichita-Sedgwick County Historical Museum, 204 S. Main, Wichita, KS 67202

Contact: 316-265-9314, wschm@wichitahistory.org

Website: wichitahistory.org for additional information

Museum Hours: Tuesday – Friday 11:00 am to 4:00 pm; Saturday & Sunday 1:00 to 5:00 pm.

Regular Admission: \$5 Adults (13+); \$2 Children

Supported in part by the City of Wichita and the Board of Commissioners of Sedgwick County Kansas

OUR VISION: To provide a world-class museum experience, advancing the understanding and exploration of the rich historical and cultural heritage of Wichita and Sedgwick County Kansas.