

alton museum of history and art

The Alton Museum of History and Art: A Cultural Hub and its Industry Implications

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The Alton Museum of History and Art: A Deep Dive into its Significance

The Alton Museum of History and Art stands as a vital cultural institution, not just for the city of Alton, but also for the broader understanding of regional history and artistic development. This article will

explore the museum's significance, examining its contributions to the cultural landscape and its considerable implications for the broader museum industry. The Alton Museum of History and Art is more than just a repository of artifacts; it serves as a dynamic center for community engagement, educational programming, and economic stimulation, offering valuable lessons for museums worldwide.

Preserving the Past, Shaping the Future: The Collections of the Alton Museum of History and Art

The museum's collections are impressively diverse, encompassing a rich tapestry of Alton's history, from its early settlement to its modern evolution. This includes extensive archives documenting the city's industrial past, significant collections of local art, and artifacts reflecting the diverse cultural heritage of its inhabitants. The careful preservation and ongoing cataloging of these materials at the Alton Museum of History and Art are critical, not only for historical accuracy, but also for future research and understanding. The museum's commitment to digital archiving further enhances accessibility and preservation, setting an example for other institutions looking to modernize their collections management.

The art collection, a significant component of the Alton Museum of History and Art, features both regional and nationally recognized artists, showcasing a variety of styles and periods. This collection isn't just static; the museum actively engages in exhibitions that interpret the art within its historical and social context, fostering deeper appreciation among visitors. This curatorial approach demonstrates the potential of museums to engage audiences actively and to present historical narratives in a more compelling and inclusive manner. The Alton Museum of History and Art's commitment to diverse representation within its collection and programming is a critical element of its success.

The Alton Museum of History and Art's Economic Impact and Community Engagement

Beyond its intrinsic cultural value, the Alton Museum of History and Art makes a tangible economic contribution to the city. It attracts tourists, boosting local businesses and creating employment

opportunities. This demonstrates the potential of museums to act as economic engines within their communities, a fact often overlooked in broader discussions of cultural funding. The museum actively fosters relationships with local schools and community groups, offering educational programs and workshops. These initiatives not only enrich the lives of Alton residents but also cultivate a sense of ownership and pride in the museum and its collections. The Alton Museum of History and Art serves as a powerful example of how a museum can be deeply embedded within the fabric of a community.

Innovation and Best Practices at the Alton Museum of History and Art

The Alton Museum of History and Art embraces innovation in its approach to exhibitions, education, and outreach. Their use of digital technologies, interactive displays, and community-based projects are vital components in their success. They consistently seek innovative ways to make their collections and stories accessible to a wider audience. Their initiatives can be regarded as best practices for other museums aiming to expand their reach and relevance in today's digital age. The museum's willingness to adapt and experiment ensures its continued relevance and impact. The Alton Museum of History and Art's success demonstrates the importance of embracing new technologies and creative approaches to reach diverse audiences.

Challenges and Future Directions for the Alton Museum of History and Art

Despite its successes, the Alton Museum of History and Art, like many other museums, faces challenges in securing funding, managing its collections effectively, and ensuring its long-term sustainability. The museum's future success hinges on securing sustainable funding models, attracting diverse audiences, and continuing its commitment to innovative programming. Addressing these challenges requires creative solutions, strategic partnerships, and ongoing evaluation of its impact. The Alton Museum of History and Art's future is a crucial element of the cultural landscape of Alton and beyond.

Conclusion

The Alton Museum of History and Art is far more than a static repository; it is a dynamic, engaging institution deeply woven into the fabric of its community. Its dedication to preserving its collections, engaging with diverse audiences, and contributing to the local economy provides a compelling model for museums worldwide. By embracing innovation, fostering community partnerships, and continually adapting to evolving needs, the Alton Museum of History and Art ensures its relevance and secures a vibrant future. Its impact serves as a testament to the crucial role of museums in shaping cultural understanding, economic development, and community identity.

FAQs

1. What are the museum's hours of operation? (Answer: Check the Alton Museum of History and Art's official website for the most up-to-date information on hours.)
2. How much does it cost to enter the Alton Museum of History and Art? (Answer: Admission prices vary; check the official website for details.)
3. Is the Alton Museum of History and Art accessible to people with disabilities? (Answer: The museum strives for accessibility. Check their website for details on accessibility features.)
4. Does the Alton Museum of History and Art offer educational programs? (Answer: Yes, they offer a wide range of educational programs for all ages. Details are available on their website.)
5. Can I volunteer at the Alton Museum of History and Art? (Answer: Yes, volunteer opportunities are often available. Check their website for details.)
6. How can I donate to the Alton Museum of History and Art? (Answer: Donation information is usually available on their official website.)

7. What types of events does the Alton Museum of History and Art host? (Answer: They host a variety of events, including exhibitions, lectures, workshops, and community gatherings. Check their website or social media for upcoming events.)
8. Is there parking available near the Alton Museum of History and Art? (Answer: Parking information is usually available on their website.)
9. Is photography allowed inside the Alton Museum of History and Art? (Answer: Photography policies vary; check the museum's website or contact them directly.)

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alton museum of history and art: *Art Along the Rivers* Beth Rubin, 2021-09-15 A collection of rich artifacts from one thousand years of artistic production in what is now Missouri. *Art Along the Rivers* marks the two-hundredth anniversary of Missouri's statehood. This exhibition catalogue presents extraordinary objects produced or collected within a 150-mile region around St. Louis, including paintings, sculptures, drawings, furniture, ceramics, metals, and textiles. As a celebration of the cultural and artistic traditions of this region, the catalog looks within--and beyond--the years of statehood to reveal how the region's geography, raw materials, and pressing social issues shaped over one thousand years of rich artistic production. Though these objects have rarely been considered in connection with one another, the catalog brings them into dialogue to establish and celebrate their shared artistic history. *Art Along the Rivers* serves as the first significant publication to introduce this primary artistic material to a global audience.

alton museum of history and art: *Historic Alton* Michael Barr Mossman, 2020-02-19 *Historic Alton* is a book of beautiful art work and interesting facts. Growing up in Alton, Mr. Mossman has captured a unique insight surrounding the history and art of local Alton. This attractive book will make a valuable addition to any history lovers coffee table.

alton museum of history and art: *Fight Like a Tiger* Victoria L. Harrison, 2018-10-22 Focusing on the life of ambitious former slave Conway Barbour, Victoria L. Harrison argues that the idea of a black middle class traced its origins to the free black population of the mid-nineteenth century and developed alongside the idea of a white middle class. Although slavery and racism meant that the definition of middle class was not identical for white people and free people of color, they shared similar desires for advancement. Born a slave in western Virginia about 1815, Barbour was a free man by the late 1840s. His adventurous life took him through Lexington and Louisville, Kentucky; Cleveland, Ohio; Alton, Illinois; and Little Rock and Lake Village, Arkansas. In search of

upward mobility, he worked as a steamboat steward, tried his hand at several commercial ventures, and entered politics. He sought, but was denied, a Civil War military appointment that would have provided financial stability. Blessed with intelligence, competence, and energy, Barbour was quick to identify opportunities as they appeared in personal relationships—he was simultaneously married to two women—business, and politics. Despite an unconventional life, Barbour found in each place he lived that he was one of many free black people who fought to better themselves alongside their white countrymen. Harrison's argument about black class formation reframes the customary narrative of downtrodden free African Americans in the mid-nineteenth century and engages current discussions of black inclusion, the concept of "otherness," and the breaking down of societal barriers. Demonstrating that careful research can reveal the stories of people who have been invisible to history, *Fight Like a Tiger* complicates our understanding of the intersection of race and class in the Civil War era.

alton museum of history and art: *Learning on Display* Linda D'Acquisto, 2006-05-15 The story of the civil rights movement. The characteristics of Japanese art and culture. The importance of innovation. The history of your community. No matter the subject area or the grade level, a school museum project can improve learning and teaching. Unlike science fairs or art shows, which highlight the work of individuals, school museums are collaborative, multifaceted projects that build understanding. As students engage in meaningful work and deepen their knowledge of a specific topic, teachers gain insight into best instructional practices. Through photographs and classroom examples, former curriculum director, teacher, and museum educator Linda D'Acquisto shows how school museums inspire students' curiosity and creativity; encourage responsibility and teamwork; and strengthen writing, communication, research, and problem-solving skills. You will learn the process for developing your own exhibition, including strategies for * incorporating academic content standards * assessing learning and understanding * guiding research, writing, and design * promoting partnerships among students, colleagues, parents, and the community * using the completed museum as a teaching tool With its step-by-step approach and practical resources, *Learning on Display* will help you transform your curriculum into motivating museum projects that make class work rigorous, memorable, and fun.

alton museum of history and art: *Department of the Interior and related agencies appropriations for 1988* United States. Congress. House. Committee on Appropriations. Subcommittee on Department of the Interior and Related Agencies, 1987

alton museum of history and art: *Where We Live* Tim Fox, 1995

alton museum of history and art: *Oddball Illinois* Jerome Pohlen, 2012-05-01 In this updated edition, it's plain to see that the state of Illinois has only gotten weirder. Where there was once just a single Popeye statue in downstate Chester, today the town has monuments to Olive Oyl, Swee' Pea, Bluto, the Sea Hag, and more. The creepy Piasa Bird petroglyph on the bluff in Alton now has a roadside pullout with picnic tables, and the two-story outhouse in Gays has a new contemplative garden. With almost twice as many destinations as its predecessor, this edition boasts detailed information on each site—address, phone number, website, hours, entry fees, and driving directions—as well as maps, photos, and a wealth of regional history in the descriptions. Some new sites include Henry's Rabbit Ranch, the World's First Jungle Gym, Ahlgrim Acres (a miniature golf course at a funeral home), the Leather Archives and Museum, General Santa Ana's two wooden legs, the World's Largest Sock Monkey, the Friendship Shoe Fence, a truck stop with a marionette show, and a coin-operated fire-breathing dragon. There is more between Chicago and St. Louis than cornfields and plenty of fascinating places in the Windy City that aren't on Michigan Avenue, and here is a chance to see these underappreciated sites throughout the state.

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alton museum of history and art: *Illinois Encyclopedia* Caryn Hannan, 2008-01-01 ILLINOIS ENCYCLOPEDIA is the definitive reference work on Illinois ever published. The noted Illinois historian, Michael Meagher has written articles on Introduction to Illinois History, Early History of Illinois, and Illinois History. These articles cover the history of Illinois, from the early explorers to twenty-first century events. Other major sections in this reference work are Illinois Symbols and Designations, Geography and Topography of Illinois, Profiles of Illinois Governors, Chronology of Illinois Historic Events, Dictionary of Illinois Places, Illinois Constitution, Bibliography of Illinois Books, Pictorial Scenes of Illinois, State Executive Offices, State Agencies, Departments and Offices, Illinois Senators, Illinois Assembly Members, U.S. Senators and U.S. Congress members from Illinois, Directory of Illinois Historic Places and Index.ILLINOIS ENCYCLOPEDIA contains stunning photographs and portraits to compliment the expertly written text. Population charts are arranged alphabetically by city or town name, and by county. This allows students easy access to find population figures for their area of interest. Other population charts list all places in Illinois by largest populated places to least populated places by city or county. Directories contain information on elected state and federal officials along with their contact information including mail and email addresses, phone and fax numbers. Easy to use reference maps are included to find your elected state or federal officials. The Directory of State Services lists the head officials and full contact information on state agencies and departments, some of which were just newly created by the legislature. The Directory of Illinois Historic Places contains all the latest up to date information on every Illinois historic place. The Bibliography includes that latest books published on Illinois. A detailed Index makes the work thoroughly referential. ILLINOIS ENCYCLOPEDIA offers librarians, teachers and students a single source reference work that provides the answers to the most frequently asked questions about Illinois and its history.

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alton museum of history and art: *Literary St. Louis* Lorin Cuoco, William H. Gass, 2000 A descriptive and informative guide to more than 100 sites of literary significance in the greater St. Louis area, *Literary St. Louis: A Guide* includes historical and biographical information, maps, literary anecdotes, and photographs. Edited by William H. Gass and Lorin Cuoco, the volume includes selections by T. S. Eliot, Mark Twain, Sara Teasdale, Fannie Hurst, William S. Burroughs, Tennessee Williams, Kate Chopin, Thomas Wolfe, and many others who have helped define American literature over the past 150 years. This book is indispensable for understanding the region's rich literary landscape.

alton museum of history and art: *Robert Wadlow: The Unique Life of the Boy Who Became the World's Tallest Man* Jennifer Phillips, 2019-09-02 Imagine being the tallest person in the world. As a child. You just keep growing and growing and growing...six feet...seven feet...eight feet up. The world is made in miniature and you must constantly endure. The crush of public attention is relentless. Some people are kind, some are mean. All are curious. This may sound like a tale from long ago, but this is the inspirational true life story of young Robert Wadlow. The victim of an overactive pituitary gland, Robert lived from 1918 to 1940. He stood just shy of 9 feet tall by the time of his death at age 22. Robert didn't choose his situation, but his accomplishment was in how he handled it. Children's biography includes historical images.This is the updated edition released in September 2019. The version with a blue cover is the older edition first released in 2010.

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(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 , 2003

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nineteenth century and the first quarter of the twentieth. Western historian Robert K. DeArment has tracked down the facts of the mysterious Canton's early life and misdeeds in Texas; his participation in the Johnson County War as an agent of the Wyoming Stock Growers Association; his pursuit of the Daltons, Bill Doolin, and other outlaws in Oklahoma Territory; his experiences as a peace officer and gold prospector in Alaska; his career as a bounty hunter; and his.

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alton museum of history and art: **Murder & Mayhem in Southwestern Illinois** John J. Dunphy, 2021-02-22 Southwestern Illinois experienced a plethora of violence during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Settlers and Native Americans clashed at the Wood River Settlement, while Abraham Lincoln dueled on a Mississippi River island. Racial strife led to the lynching of a Black schoolteacher in Belleville in 1903 and a deadly riot in East St. Louis fourteen years later. Benbow City was a latter-day Wild West town of saloons, gambling dens and brothels, and Pere Marquette State Park screened a cache of Nike missiles. From the birthplace of Martin Luther King Jr.'s killer to the mystery surrounding Jean Lafitte's grave, John Dunphy examines the bloody ledger of southwestern Illinois.

alton museum of history and art: Free Black Communities and the Underground Railroad Cheryl Janifer LaRoche, 2013-12-30 This enlightening study employs the tools of archaeology to uncover a new historical perspective on the Underground Railroad. Unlike previous histories of the Underground Railroad, which have focused on frightened fugitive slaves and their benevolent abolitionist accomplices, Cheryl LaRoche focuses instead on free African American communities, the crucial help they provided to individuals fleeing slavery, and the terrain where those flights to freedom occurred. This study foregrounds several small, rural hamlets on the treacherous southern edge of the free North in Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio. LaRoche demonstrates how landscape features such as waterways, iron forges, and caves played a key role in the conduct and effectiveness of the Underground Railroad. Rich in oral histories, maps, memoirs, and archaeological investigations, this examination of the geography of resistance tells the new powerful and inspiring story of African Americans ensuring their own liberation in the midst of oppression.

alton museum of history and art: **Staring** Rosemarie Garland-Thomson, 2009-04-17 Drawing on examples from art, media, fashion, history and memoir, cultural critic Rosemarie Garland-Thomson tackles a basic human interaction which has remained curiously unexplored, the human stare. In the first book of its kind, Garland-Thomson defines staring, explores the factors that motivate it, and considers the targets and the effects of the stare. While borrowing from psychology and biology to help explain why the impulse to stare is so powerful, she also enlarges and complicates these formulations with examples from the realm of imaginative culture. Featuring over forty illustrations, *Staring* captures the stimulating combination of symbolic, material and emotional factors that make staring so irresistible while endeavoring to shift the usual response to staring, shame, into an engaged self-consideration. Elegant and provocative, this unique study advances new ways of thinking about visibility and the body that will appeal to readers who are interested in the overlap between the humanities and human behaviors.

alton museum of history and art: The Jemima Code Toni Tipton-Martin, 2022-07-01 Winner,

James Beard Foundation Book Award, 2016 Art of Eating Prize, 2015 BCALA Outstanding Contribution to Publishing Citation, Black Caucus of the American Library Association, 2016 Women of African descent have contributed to America's food culture for centuries, but their rich and varied involvement is still overshadowed by the demeaning stereotype of an illiterate "Aunt Jemima" who cooked mostly by natural instinct. To discover the true role of black women in the creation of American, and especially southern, cuisine, Toni Tipton-Martin has spent years amassing one of the world's largest private collections of cookbooks published by African American authors, looking for evidence of their impact on American food, families, and communities and for ways we might use that knowledge to inspire community wellness of every kind. The Jemima Code presents more than 150 black cookbooks that range from a rare 1827 house servant's manual, the first book published by an African American in the trade, to modern classics by authors such as Edna Lewis and Vertamae Grosvenor. The books are arranged chronologically and illustrated with photos of their covers; many also display selected interior pages, including recipes. Tipton-Martin provides notes on the authors and their contributions and the significance of each book, while her chapter introductions summarize the cultural history reflected in the books that follow. These cookbooks offer firsthand evidence that African Americans cooked creative masterpieces from meager provisions, educated young chefs, operated food businesses, and nourished the African American community through the long struggle for human rights. The Jemima Code transforms America's most maligned kitchen servant into an inspirational and powerful model of culinary wisdom and cultural authority.

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story of the expedition, beginning east of the Mississippi River as Thomas Jefferson and Meriwether Lewis planned, and Lewis trained and traveled. Then follows Lewis and Clark and company to the Pacific and back to St. Louis. Accessible history text combines with tourism information on following their path today, and maps combine both then and now.

alton museum of history and art: Mysterious Creatures [2 volumes] George M. Eberhart, 2002-12-17 A comprehensive guide to cryptozoology—the quest to identify animals that have not been officially catalogued by science and to place these unknown animals into their proper zoological categories. In this fascinating two-volume encyclopedia, author George M. Eberhart provides a comprehensive catalog of nearly 1,000 cryptids—unknown animals usually reported through eyewitness accounts and not yet described by science. Cryptids are the stuff of folklore, hoaxes, and genuine scientific breakthroughs. There are 400 now-classified cryptids once considered either extinct or pure fantasy. The cryptozoologist's job is to strip away the myth, misidentification, and mystery—and separate fact from fiction. *Mysterious Creatures* covers everything from dinosaurs and the emala-ntouka, an elephant-killing dinosaur-like animal of central Africa, to searches for the Loch Ness monster, Bigfoot, and other cryptozoological hoaxes. Entries about specific animals include the derivation or meaning of each cryptid's name, its scientific name, variant names, a physical description, behavior, description of tracks, habitat, significant sightings, present status, and possible explanations. Illustrations and photographs accompany many entries. The book also includes resources and references for further information.

alton museum of history and art: Freedom's Champion--Elijah Lovejoy Paul Simon, 1994 In this revised edition of his earlier biography, Paul Simon provides an inspiring account of the life and work of Elijah Lovejoy, an avid abolitionist in the 1830s and the first martyr to freedom of the press in the United States. Lovejoy was a native New Englander, the son of a Congregational minister. He came to the Midwest in 1827 in pursuit of a teaching career and succeeded in running his own school for two years in St. Louis. Teaching failed to challenge Lovejoy, however, so he bought a half interest in the St. Louis Times and became its editor. In 1832, after experiencing a religious conversion, he returned east to study for the ministry at Princeton Theological Seminary. After his graduation, Lovejoy was called back to St. Louis by a group of Christian businessmen to serve as the editor of a new religious newspaper, the Observer, promoting religion, morality, and education. It was through this forum that Lovejoy took an ever stronger stance against slavery. In the slave state of Missouri, such a view was not only unpopular, but in the eyes of many, criminal. As a result, Lovejoy and his family suffered repeated persecution and acts of violence from angry mobs. In July 1836, in hopes of finding a more tolerant community in a free state, he moved both his printing press and his family across the Mississippi River to Alton, Illinois. The move to Alton was a fateful one. Lovejoy's press was dismantled and thrown into the river by a mob on the night of its arrival. Lovejoy ordered a new printing press, and it, too, was destroyed eleven months later. A determined and dedicated man, Lovejoy ordered a third press, and city officials took special precautions to ensure its safety after delivery. Nevertheless, an organized and angry mob rolled this third press, still in its crate, into the river exactly one month after Lovejoy's second press had been destroyed. A fourth press, housed in a large stone warehouse and guarded by Lovejoy and his supporters, met the same fate but only after a drunken mob had killed Lovejoy himself. He was buried two days later, 9 November 1837, on his thirty-fifth birthday. No one was ever convicted of his murder. Rather than suppressing the abolitionist movement, Lovejoy's death caused an eruption of antislavery activity throughout the nation. At a protest meeting in Ohio, John Brown dedicated his life to fighting slavery, and Wendell Phillips emerged from a Lovejoy protest meeting in Boston to become a leader in the antislavery fight. Simon defines Lovejoy's fight as a struggle for human dignity and the oppressed. He distinguishes Lovejoy as a courageous and admirable individual and his story as an important and enduring one for both the cause of freedom for the slaves and the cause of freedom of the press.

alton museum of history and art: To Kill a Mockingbird: A Novel by Harper Lee (Trivia-On-Books) Trivion Books, 2016-09-09 Trivia-on-Book: To Kill a Mockingbird: A Novel by

Harper Lee Take the challenge yourself and share it with friends and family for a time of fun! The many events that reveal the darker side of human nature in *To Kill a Mockingbird* threaten the youthful innocence of Scout and Jem. Incidents like false accusations against Tom Robinson and Bob Ewell beating his daughter, cause Scout and Jem to begin to lose faith in the human ability to behave morally. Atticus Finch, Scout and Jem's father, agrees to defend Tom Robinson, a black man accused of raping a white woman. Scout and Jem cannot believe that a jury convicts Tom when it is clear that he is innocent and that the claims against him were a fabrication to protect the child abuser, Bob Ewell. Scout and Jem question the morals their father has taught them, and realize that sometimes the world is not fair. You may have read the book, but not have liked it. You may have liked the book, but not be a fan. You may call yourself a fan, but few truly are. Are you a fan? Trivia-on-Books is an independently curated trivia quiz on the book for readers, students, and fans alike. Whether you're looking for new materials to the book or would like to take the challenge yourself and share it with your friends and family for a time of fun, Trivia-on-Books provides a unique approach to *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee that is both insightful and educational! Features You'll Find Inside: • 30 Multiple choice questions on the book, plots, characters and author • Insightful commentary to answer every question • Complementary quiz material for yourself or your reading group • Results provided with scores to determine status Promising quality and value, come play your trivia of a favorite book!

alton museum of history and art: *Genealogist's Address Book. 6th Edition* Elizabeth Petty Bentley, 2009-02 This book is the answer to the perennial question, What's out there in the world of genealogy? What organizations, institutions, special resources, and websites can help me? Where do I write or phone or send e-mail? Once again, Elizabeth Bentley's Address Book answers these questions and more. Now in its 6th edition, The Genealogist's Address Book gives you access to all the key sources of genealogical information, providing names, addresses, phone numbers, fax numbers, e-mail addresses, websites, names of contact persons, and other pertinent information for more than 27,000 organizations, including libraries, archives, societies, government agencies, vital records offices, professional bodies, publications, research centers, and special interest groups.

alton museum of history and art: *"How Tall Are You?"* Don Doxsie, 2023-04-04 Most people believe that being extremely tall would be fantastic. It isn't. It has its advantages, but it also has nearly as many disadvantages. It can be useful in basketball, business, and politics, and when friends are trying to find you in a crowded place. However. it's also inconvenient, expensive, sometimes harmful to one's health, and a little tedious to be bombarded almost daily with questions about how the weather is up there. In this book, the author takes a lighthearted look at the various aspects of extreme height, and those affected by it, from the perspective of someone who has spent the majority of his life towering above the crowd.

alton museum of history and art: *The Tall Book* Arianne Cohen, 2009-07-01 The Tall Book is a celebration of the tall-advantaged, which notes and explores the myriad benefits that come with living large--from the simple pleasures of being able to see over crowds at a parade, to the professional joys of earning more money, and having others perceive you as a natural leader. The Tall Book also offers well-researched explanations into the great unanswered questions of tallness, including: Why are people tall to begin with? How have tall people figured throughout history? Why are CEOs so tall? And how does tallness affect the dating game? Filled with illustrative graphics, charts, and piles of tall miscellanea and factoids, The Tall Book is a wonderful and much-needed exploration of life from on high.

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alton museum of history and art: Historical and Cultural Agencies and Museums in Illinois , 1993

alton museum of history and art: *The Great Loop Experience - From Concept to Completion*

George Hospodar, Patricia Hospodar, 2014-11-25 After almost 40 years of marriage and boating together, Captain George and Pat Hospodar completed a yearlong Great Loop odyssey aboard their boat, "Reflection". This trip resulted in their first book, *Reflection on America's Great Loop*, a personal, light-hearted, real-life account of the couple's travels while circumnavigating the waters of the United States and Canada. Their newest book, *The Great Loop Experience - from Concept to Completion*, is a comprehensive guide written to help others plan, prepare, and successfully execute their own Great Loop adventures. It also addresses the questions that these authors/lecturers are most frequently asked by future "Loopers". Some of the many topics covered include: selecting and equipping your boat, choosing your route, financial considerations and trip costs, managing your onboard life, vessel security, Customs and border crossings, boating protocol, locking procedures, safely negotiating the waterways, open-water crossings, and great stops along the way. This how-to guide not only informs and educates you, but also hopes to inspire those who want to one day make this wonderful journey! The Great Loop Experience has the information you need so that you can confidently and knowledge-ably cast off your lines for your own exhilarating Great Loop adventure!

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