

# SHARLOT HALL MUSEUM Messenger

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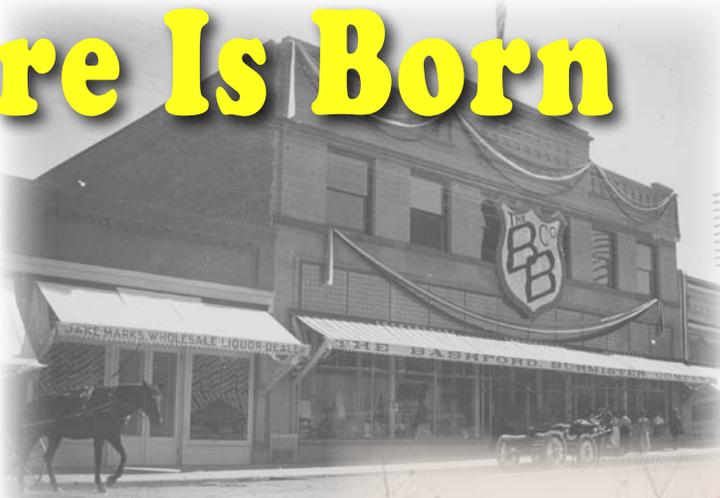
[www.sharlot.org](http://www.sharlot.org)

## A Store Is Born

Driving by the Museum, one's eye naturally notices two unique buildings on the campus: the territorial Governor's Mansion and the Bashford House. While the history of the Governor's Mansion is showcased by lectures, tours, and print materials, the lovely Victorian "gingerbread" house's background remains in obscurity.

When you step into the William C. Bashford House, you enter not only the Museum's store, Sharlot's Timeless Treasures, but also cross the threshold into the former home of one of Prescott's leading business families. In doing so, you can experience the delight of shopping for one-of-a-kind items as you enjoy many permanent features of this beautiful home and read about the history of the building, the Bashford family, and the store its occupants owned in the town's early days.

Will Bashford took over the management of L. Bashford



and Company in 1886, changing the name to W. C. Bashford and Company. Two years later, it was merged with Robert Burmister's store to form the Bashford-Burmister Company, which occupied a store front on the Plaza until the mid-1940s. L. Bashford and Company had been started by Levi Bashford in 1867 as the New Store and subsequently the New York Cheap Store before settling on the final name in 1875 after moving into a new brick building.

Will Bashford was a driving force not only in Prescott, but also the territory. He served as Arizona adjutant general from 1879 to 1883. He was



the founder and director of the Prescott National Bank and was a member of the local Dudes Hose Company, eventually serving as Prescott's volunteer fire chief.

Bashford's wife, Louise, was one of five Evans sisters who moved to Prescott and married prominent men in the city. She was involved in Prescott's social life. She took a small two-story house on the southeast corner of Gurley and Marina streets and over the years transformed it into a much larger dwelling with a

The photo at left shows the Bashford-Burmister Company store on Gurley Street, July 4, 1905. The photo below shows the Bashford House in its original location on the corner of Gurley and Pleasant streets during the 1870s.

formal dining room, attached kitchen, and the unique solarium for her plants.

Around 1900, the Bashfords moved to California. They sold the house in 1904, never to return to Prescott. Will passed away in 1915, remembered by old timers as a man who cared for the community he lived in and one who was fair and honest in his dealings.

After that, the house had several owners and was eventually converted to

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# The Importance of a Sense of Place

*“When a nation goes down, or a society perishes, one condition may always be found; they forgot where they came from. They lost sight of what had brought them along.”*

– Carl Sandburg

A recent visitor survey identified why Prescott attracted tourists as a destination. For a large segment of the people interviewed, whether from elsewhere in Arizona or from other states or countries, visiting cultural and historic sites and museums was the most popular activity. Given the audience’s interest, it is not surprisingly that the top two attractions were Prescott’s historic downtown and Sharlot Hall Museum.



the University of Wisconsin, maintains these places hold meanings and values that cannot be created but evolve and result in intimate connections with particular geographic areas. For more than eight decades, Sharlot M. Hall’s dream to establish a museum that would become “a center of historical and literary interest” that would inspire “by its ideals and purposes” has contributed immeasurably to our distinctive community. To sustain the Museum now and for the future is to sustain the very fabric of Prescott and the central highlands, an excellent representation of what the very best of Arizona was and is.

Miss Hall wrote, “This isn’t a highbrow museum—it’s a place where all sorts of old household things, early tools—the tough things with which the first lap of the wilderness was conquered....” Clearly, she had a clear sense of the uniqueness of this place.

Both these locales retain a strong, authentic flavor of “where it all began” in terms of the Arizona Territory as well as our present state. Local residents and visitors alike recognize this special quality, which has come to be known as a sense of place. Yi-Fu Tuan, a professor emeritus of geography at

## A Store Is Born: From Residence to Retail

(Continued from page 1) apartments. Finally, the property was purchased for a new Jack-in-the-Box restaurant, and the house was donated to the Museum on the condition that it was moved. A local fundraising campaign ensued, motivating Prescott groups of all ages. Nineteen thousand dollars

and the donation of thousands of dollars in construction materials were raised.

On April 19, 1974, the Bashford House was moved intact six blocks to the Museum campus. With the relocation, the school district declared a holiday, and children lined Gurley Street to

watch the building inch down Elks hill, cross the Granite Creek bridge, and be moved onto its new concrete pad. Restoration to bring it back to its beauty during the Bashford ownership soon followed; the building opened to the public during Folk Arts Fair in May 1976.

From its opening on the Museum campus, the building always has had mixed-use occupancy. The west wing has served as a workshop/gallery for the Mountain Artists Guild and the Museum’s store has grown from a small corner to requiring the use of the entire first floor.

For awhile, the building was also a Museum exhibit, much like the Frémont House, but limited access to the second floor and the impact of the

Americans with Disabilities Act, along with the distinct need for office space, led to its present configuration. Now, the upstairs houses offices for administration, education, and graphics staff members, as well as a meeting room. The downstairs contains the store and its related needs. However, a walk through the ground floor still displays the solarium, unique tiled fireplaces, a portrait of Louise Bashford, and exhibit panels telling of the history of the house and the Bashford family.

If you haven’t visited the building lately, come to enjoy its architectural beauty, learn about its history, and should you find a unique item to purchase in Sharlot’s Timeless Treasures, well, that is all the better!

*“Yet even there some dream of you, I think  
Will follow like sweet music after me.”*

“Fragments,” from *Poems of a Ranch Woman*,

Sharlot M. Hall (1870-1943)

# Living Historians Breathe Life into History

How many times have you heard that “History is boring”? Presented with little but dry facts and no relevant social context, many people find it so. But bring these naysayers to the Museum and their opinion on history will certainly change. The Arizona History Adventure, presented every second Saturday on the main Museum campus and quarterly at the Fort Whipple Museum, brings history to life and provides relevancy to visitors. On these Saturdays, the grounds smell of wood fires and home cooking, and interpreters move about doing everyday chores from laundry, gardening, and food preservation—ultimately bringing history to life.

Living History came to the campus for the first time at the Folk Arts Fair in 1979. Members of the Fifth Cavalry



*Living History interpreters give visitors a taste of life in early Arizona.*

Memorial Regiment, a Tucson-based Living History organization, traveled to Prescott and set up their tent in front of the John C. Frémont House. From that time forward, some sort of Living History program has been a part of the festival.

Living History volunteers came and went without the creation of a formal program,

but finally, in 1996, several women interested in recreating the past in an authentic manner organized our program. Later, that summer, the first interpreter’s newsletter was distributed, offering Living History workshops and training sessions, and the opportunity to dress in period clothing for the dedication of the Ft. Misery Museum and the first Frontier Christmas

Open House celebrations in the Governor’s Mansion.

Today, the program has more than a dozen regular members of men and women, boys and girls, ranging from eight years old to those in their eighties. The children “attend” school, play games, and do chores, while the adults go about their day-to-day lives.

Living History days center around some basic theme of frontier life, such as moving West; treating illnesses and accidents; or exploring the importance of politics, journalism, or education in the territory.

Interested in volunteering? We have an active training program and a growing closet of clothing to lend to get you started. Please contact Jody Drake or Mick Woodcock at 445-3122.

## Living History Explores Range of Popular Themes

One of the things popular with visitors and Living History interpreters alike is the exploration of themes on the Arizona History Adventure Saturdays. Visitors often make a special trip to the Museum when a subject appeals to them. Interpreters also like to focus their interactions with visitors on a particular subject rather than taking the “shotgun” (and often overwhelming) approach to interpretation of frontier life. For 2010, many favorite thematic days have been brought back, along with the delightful surprise of some new interpretations.

### At the Sharlot Hall Museum:

- January 9, Moving to Arizona: Taking a Look in the Wagon. Explore America’s westward expansion and what it “took”

to get there.

- February 13, Every Man His Own Physician: What to Do Before You Called the Doctor. Learn how people dealt with sickness and injury on the frontier.
- March 13, The Indomitable Henry Fleury. Look at the life of the long-time Prescott resident.
- April 10, Childhood on the Frontier. Glimpse into what it was like to grow up during America’s frontier years
- May 8, Victorian Mourning Practices. Observe the rituals of death and dying in 19th-century America.
- June 5 & 6, Folk Arts Fair
- June 12, Fresh From the Garden: Vegetables and Fruit in a Frontier Setting. Unearth how people fed themselves in Prescott.
- July 10, Politics in Frontier Arizona. Examine America’s favorite territorial pastime—

discussing politics.

- August 14, All the News that’s Fit to Print. Ponder how news was received and distributed in the West.
- September 11, Scrub Board and Press Board: Doing the Family Laundry in the Nineteenth Century. Delve into how things got clean “back then.”
- October 9, Salted, Pickled, and Smoked: Preserving Food in the 19th Century. Learn about food preservation for the winter months.
- November 13, Slate Pencil and Dip Pen: Education in Central Arizona. Peruse how our youngest interpreters demonstrate the importance of an education on the frontier.
- December 4, Frontier Christmas Open House, 6-9 p.m.
- December 11, A Trip to

Town: Shopping at the General Store. Discover what commerce was like in early Arizona.

### At Fort Whipple Museum:

- February 20, Red, White, and Black: Race and Ethnicity in the Frontier Army
- May 15, Armed Forces Day: Honoring Those Who Have Served and Those Who Now Serve
- August 21, A Fort and A Town: The Mostly Peaceful Coexistence of Whipple and Prescott
- November 11, Veterans’ Day Parade
- November 30, The Army Called It Home: Life a Fort Whipple

Living History programs are free with Museum admission at Sharlot Hall Museum and by donation at Fort Whipple. Events run 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

# Paint! Exhibit Next Features Imaginative Baje Whitethorne, Sr.

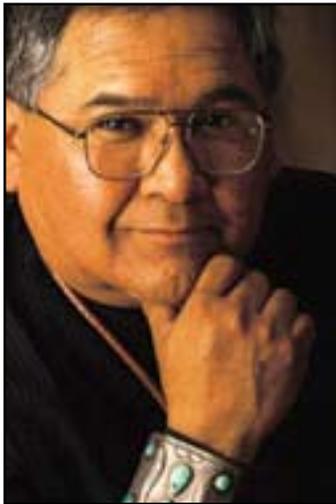
**P**aint! *Breaking the Buckskin Ceiling* opens another Arizona American Indian contemporary art show on February 27. Members are invited to a special celebration of Baje Whitethorne's art, and the opportunity to meet the artist Friday, February 26 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Born near Shonto, Arizona, Whitethorne has been painting since he was "old enough to catch a pony." He says, "After taking care of the sheep, my brothers and I would sit around in our *hogan* and make up stories. I had a lot of fantasies and my imagination ran wild." Using his paints, he brought Godzilla to life in a place bleached by sun and flooded with sunsets—colors he caught with his paint palette. "It's not bad to throw colors at each other," he states, "to get the feel of the land."

Whitethorne was not always "throwing" paint. His art career had barely begun when an unscrupulous Scottsdale gallery owner stole some of his work. He looked for another way to make a living, apprenticing as a boilermaker for an energy company. "But I soon learned the importance of giving respect back to

Mother Earth—making nuclear reactors is just taking."

Today, this sculptor, illustrator, easel painter, printmaker, and author still finds inspiration in his Black Mesa roots—including sheepherding, *hogans*, the feet of Navajo dancers, and the voices of Navajo singers. "That's part of why I paint. I want it to be known two hundred years from now that this is the way it used to be."



Baje Whitethorne, Sr.

In 1984, Whitethorne created a poster for the Museum of Northern Arizona's annual Navajo art show, an interpretation of Navajo singers and dancers engaged in a healing ceremony—*Eight is Enough* (shown above). The poster went international, and so did demand for Whitethorne's art. His paintings appear in many museum collections including the Heard and the Smithsonian. He has exhibited at a variety of museums, including Chicago's Field Museum, Santa Fe's Wheelwright, and Los Angeles's Autry National Center of the American West. He has been an anchor at the Santa Fe Indian art Market since 1973. In spite of the accolades, encouraging children excites him the most. In 1998, the Arizona Library



Eight is Enough by Baje Whitethorne, Sr.

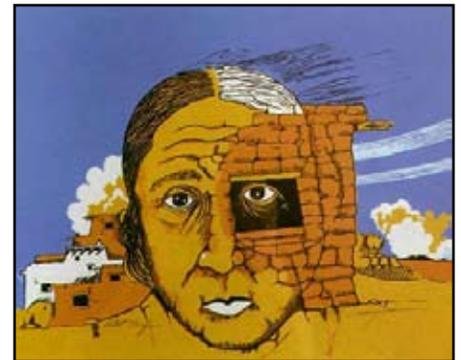
Association honored him as an "Outstanding Contributor to Children's Literature" for his illustrated books such as

*Monster Slayer: A Navajo Folktale* and *Spider Spins a Story: Fourteen Legends from Native America*.

## Artist Michael Kabotie Passes Away

Hopi artist Michael Kabotie, scheduled to be the fourth artist featured in the Sharlot Hall Museum's *PAINT! Breaking the Buckskin Ceiling* exhibition, passed away October 23, 2009 from swine flu and related complications. He was 67.

Kabotie, a renowned and respected Hopi painter, silversmith, sculptor, and poet, had begun working on several new pieces for the *PAINT!* exhibition. The Museum is in touch with Kabotie's family and other museums to try to assemble enough of the artist's works for a retrospective exhibit at the Museum later this year.



Michael Kabotie referred to this work as his "self-portrait."

Kabotie, whose colorful paintings reflected traditional Hopi life, created many beautiful works of art, among them murals at Sunset Crater and the Museum of Northern Arizona and a gate at the Heard Museum in Phoenix designed to look like a piece of overlay jewelry. The Heard will honor Kabotie as the featured artist at its Indian Fair & Market in March.

During his career, Kabotie lectured across the United States, New Zealand, Germany, and Switzerland, and taught Hopi overlay techniques at the Idyllwild Arts Foundation, Idyllwild, California, for many years. His works are on display in museums, from the Heard Museum to the British Museum of Mankind in London, and the Gallery Calumet-Neuzzinger in Germany. Michael is the son of famous Hopi artist Fred Kabotie, who painted the Watchtower murals at the Grand Canyon.

# 2010 Lecture Series Features Eclectic Line-up

The Humanities Lecture Series (HLS) is off to a great start in 2010 with lectures by Museum volunteers. Tour guide and docent Norm Delucchi will present the opening talk on January 17, "Five Cent Ride Down Gurley: The Prescott & Mt. Union Railway." Here, Delucchi takes a look back to 1903-1910, the years the city's one and only streetcar line ran. This talk was originally researched and presented for Volunteer Training and subsequently published as two "Days Past" articles in the *Daily Courier*. After presenting this to the local corral of The Westerners International, it was nominated for and was awarded third place for the 2009 Philip A. Danielson Award from that organization.

February, the month of romance, will feature Archives volunteer Dr. Tom Collin's

research on "Arizona's Army Belle: Carrie Wilkins and Her Lovelorn Suitors." Wilkins resided at Fort Whipple between 1874 and 1876, and captivated the heart of practically every young unmarried officer she met. Collins, Professor Emeritus in Theater from the University of Wisconsin-Platteville, presents this as Readers Theater in two voices, accompanied by Assistant Curator of Education Karen Churchill.

Other 2010 presentations include:

- March 21, T.J. McMichael's "Aldo Leopold: A Chautauqua"
- April 18, Dr. Amy Ilona Stein and Howell Davis Usher's "The Worst Journey in the World: A Cheeky Reflection of Thirty Years of Colorado River Adventures"
- May 16, Dr. John P. Langellier's "Frederic

- Remington and the Buffalo Soldiers in Arizona"
- August 22, Dr. Robert Kravetz's "Prescott and the White Plague"
- September 19, Dr. Sandra Lynch's "Beasts! Savannah South of the Snow"
- October 17, Dr. Ricardo Carreras's "Mexican Traditions of the Day of the Dead: Iconographic Myths, Legends, Essences, and Factuality"
- November 21, Karen L. Churchill's "A Room with a (Southwestern) View: Mary

Colter, Fred Harvey, and the Opening of Tourism along the Santa Fe Railroad"

The HLS, which features talks by local scholars from a multitude of disciplines, runs throughout the year at 1 p.m. in the Blue Rose Theater, Lawler Exhibit Center. Admission is \$3 for Museum members, \$5 for adults, and free for children 17 and under. Seating is limited. For further information, contact Karen Churchill at 445-3122 or [kchurchill@sharlot.org](mailto:kchurchill@sharlot.org).

## New TV Show Brings Museum Into Local Area Living Rooms

Do you like to watch television? Are you a fan of the History Channel or PBS? Starting in January, Sharlot Hall Museum will be broadcasting a regularly scheduled television show "Sharlot Hall Museum Musings" on Prescott's public-access channel, Access 13. The series will be educationally based and feature many of the different activities and people associated with the Museum.

It will include interviews with local historians and long-time residents of the Prescott area, as well as Museum staff and volunteers. Some programs



## Raffle To Aid Education Department

The Sharlot Hall Museum's Education Department has a long history of providing area students with their first taste of history and offering adults a wonderful look into the past. This year, the department will create programs that will bring the Museum experience to more people, with DVDs of lectures, presentations, and classes; webinars; and podcasts. To enable viewers to partake in these electronic educational opportunities, we need a big screen television for the education classroom in the Sharlot Hall Building.

To make this possible we are holding a raffle! For only twenty dollars you can be entered to win two season tickets to every production of the Blue Rose Theater and the Arizona Music: All Folked Up series for 2010. Don't delay, tickets are

limited with only one hundred available.

Contact Jody Drake at 445-3122 x34 or [jody@sharlot.org](mailto:jody@sharlot.org) for tickets or details.

### All Folked Up!

When American composer Aaron Copland was asked, "is there a meaning to music?" he simply replied, "yes." Copland was then further queried, "can you state in so many words what the meaning is?" The composer answered emphatically, "no."

In last year's music series, Defining Folk Music, the artists were asked to reflect on the influence Arizona had on their music and lyrics. Their answers laid the foundation for this year's series, Arizona Music: All Folked Up. For 2010, eight of Arizona's finest performers have been invited to share their music with the Museum audience. Scheduled for the last Saturday of each month at 7:30 p.m., these performances will build to the cumulative musical experience—the Folk Music Festival on October 2 and 3.

Check the Museum Web-site ([www.sharlot.org](http://www.sharlot.org)) for performers and details of each concert as the concert dates approach.

will be geared toward exhibits, tours, and presentations. Events, such as Prescott Indian Art Market, Folk Music Festival, and Day of the Dead, will all be a part of the programming, providing the public with more information on the Museum's events and another opportunity to experience them.

While at press time the day/time slot has not been determined, we are hoping to get both a prime and a non-prime spot each week. The show will be produced monthly by Education Assistant Austin Bacak and will air twice a week for a minimum of eight times. Access 13 is a great resource and will allow us to reach further out into the community.

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## Prescott Westerners Round Up Support

In 1944, as World War II was drawing to a close, two Chicago men, Leland D. Case, editor of *The Rotarian* magazine, and Elmo Scott Watson, newspaperman and educator, looked toward a time when peace would return. In those days the Windy City was the center of a major meat-packing industry with vast stockyards that still drew cowboys in droves. These rowdy hands told tales right out of the Wild West, and the men were determined to capture these colorful stories.

To do so they established an organization they called the Westerners. Their movement grew and by January 1945, Denver established a branch followed over the next half-dozen years by St. Louis, Los Angeles, New York City, Tucson, Laramie, the Black Hills, and Washington, D.C.



*Outgoing Prescott Corral Sheriff (president) Don Shaffer (right) and Sharlot Hall Museum Executive Director John Langellier accepting first installment of pledge.*

The first overseas chapter, known as corrals, was established in England. So by 1959, the group had gone international, and today there are more than 138 corrals or posses (as they are also known) throughout the United States and overseas.

One of the largest and most active corrals is right here in Prescott. Established in 1962, the Prescott Corral meets the first Thursday of every month for a program held for most of the organization's existence at the Hotel St. Michael. Other benefits to its members include a fine publication *The Frontier Times*. In addition, the corral contributes in many ways to the local community. For instance, over the past half-dozen years they have co-sponsored the annual Western History Symposium with the Museum. At their recent installation of officers, they also responded to the Museum's appeal for support and pledged \$5000 over a year's period to assist in a wide range of needs for our library and exhibits. This generous contribution calls for us to tip our Stetsons to our good friends from the Westerners!

# Calendar of Events

For the latest information on upcoming events,  
please go to [www.sharlot.org](http://www.sharlot.org)

**Through Sunday, February 14, 2010**  
“Judith Durr’s Enduring Legacy” as part of the ongoing *PAINT! Breaking the Buckskin Ceiling* exhibition in the John and Helen Lawler Exhibit Center Gallery. Experience Durr’s exquisite detail and realistic style. Included with Museum admission.

**Saturday, January 2, 1 pm**  
**Saturday, January 16, 1 pm**  
**Saturday, January 23, 1 pm**  
**Saturday, January 30, 1 pm**  
**Saturday, February 6, 1 pm**  
**Saturday, February 20, 1 pm**  
**Saturday, February 27, 1 pm**  
**Docent-led Tour of Sharlot Hall Museum**, free with Museum admission; meet at Museum’s Lawler Exhibit Center.

**Saturday, January 9, 10 am to 3 pm**  
**Arizona History Adventure: Moving to Arizona: Taking a Look in the Wagon.** Living History interpreters explore America’s westward expansion and bring to life Arizona’s Territorial past. Included with Museum admission.

**Sunday, January 17, 1 pm**  
**Humanities Lecture Series: Norm Delucchi, “Five Cent Ride Down Gurley: A Short History of the Prescott & Mt. Union Railway.”** Blue Rose Theater. \$3 Museum members, \$5 adult nonmembers, children 17 and under are free. Call 445-3122 for tickets and details.

**Saturday, January 23, 9 am to 4 pm**  
**Victorian Accessories Workshop.** \$30 donation to Living History Program. Upstairs in the Museum’s Bashford House. Call 445-3122 to preregister.

**Tuesday, February 2, 8 am to 10 am**  
**OLLI class: Behind the Scenes at the Sharlot Hall Museum.** Meets in Blue Rose Theater (continues on Tuesdays through March 9). Call 717-7634 for registration/fees.

**Sign up on the Museum Website for e-mail reminders about upcoming Museum events!**  
**Click here.**

**Thursday, February 4, 9 am**  
**Radiation Exposure Screening & Education Program (RESEP) presentation** for people who may have cancers related to the above-ground nuclear testing program conducted in Nevada in the 1950s and '60s. Meets in Museum Library & Archives. Call 445-3122 for details.

**Saturday, February 13, 10 am to 3 pm**  
**Arizona History Adventure: Every Man His Own Physician: What to Do Before You Called the Doctor.** Living History interpreters show how people dealt with sickness and injury on the frontier. Included with Museum admission.

**Saturday, February 20, 10 am to 3 pm**  
**Living History Presentation: Red, White and Black: Race and Ethnicity in the Frontier Army.** Fort Whipple Museum on the Veteran’s Administration Hospital campus on Highway 89. Living History interpreters illuminate Arizona’s military past. Admission: Donation.

**Saturday, February 20, 10:30 am**  
**Sharlot Hall Museum’s Readers of Southwestern Literature Book Club,** Margot Mifflin’s *The Blue Tattoo: The Life of Olive Oatman*. Call 445-3122, ext. 30 for information and to reserve a seat. \$3 for Museum members, \$5 for adult nonmembers, and free for students 14-17.

**Sunday, February 21, 1 pm**  
**Humanities Lecture Series: Tom Collins with Karen Churchill, “Arizona’s Army Belle: Carrie Wilkins and Her Lovelorn Suitors,”** Blue Rose Theater. \$3 Museum members, \$5 adult nonmembers, children 17 and below are free. Call 445-3122 for tickets and details.

**Friday, February 26**  
**Members-only preview of the Baje Whitethorne, Sr. (Navajo) exhibition,** part of *PAINT! Breaking the Buckskin Ceiling*. Details in related story on page 4 of this issue. Exhibition opens to public on Saturday, February 27.

## Blue Rose Theater

### Arizona Music: All Folked Up

**Saturday, January 30, 7:30 pm**  
**Saturday, February 27, 7:30 pm**  
A series of monthly folk-music concerts dedicated to Arizona artists at the Museum’s Blue Rose Theater. Check the Museum’s Web-site ([www.sharlot.org](http://www.sharlot.org)) for acts that will be performing.

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All performances at the Gallery — John and Helen Lawler Exhibit Center  
**\$10 Museum Members**  
**\$14 General Admission**  
**\$5 under 18 years old**  
**Tickets available at the Museum’s Front Desk. Seating is limited; advance purchase recommended.**

### SAVE THE DATES!

#### 2010 Schedule of Major Events

June 5 & 6: Folk Arts Fair  
July 10 & 11: Prescott Indian Art Market  
October 2 & 3: Folk Music Festival  
October 31: Day of the Dead Celebration  
December 4: Frontier Christmas Open House

#### Sharlot Hall Museum Messenger

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