



EXHIBIT FACT SHEET

MEDIA CONTACT: Wendy Aitkens, Curator
tel 403.320-3907 | waitkens@galtmuseum.com

EXHIBIT OVERVIEW: *Smile! Capturing our lives with cameras*

Since the advent of the camera, people have embraced this technology to capture much of what we do and who we are on tin and glass plates, still and moving film, and now in a digital format. Featuring images and photographic equipment from the late 1800s to today, the feature exhibit *Smile! Capturing Our Lives with Cameras* – on display from October 13, 2007 to January 6, 2008 – delves into how and what we record through this evolving technology.

Each year since the development of the first rudimentary Kodak camera invented by George Eastman, the technology has changed. Film quality, processing techniques, lens clarity and adaptability and camera body design evolved so the amateur photographer could capture high quality pictures to save in their family albums. Today, it is rare to see anyone using a film type camera. Digital technology has placed film on a back burner. Albums are replaced by computer screens. Cameras are tiny and are even fitted into the smallest cellular phones. Eastman would have trouble recognizing what we use today as a camera!

Historic photo equipment from the Galt's artifact collection enhanced by loans from local private collections will show the technological changes from the late 1800s to the late 1900s. Historic photos from the Galt and Glenbow Archives along with images provided by people from the communities in and around Lethbridge will be exhibited. As an integral part of this exhibit, the latest digital video and still photo equipment has been loaned courtesy of London Drugs.

A walk-in *camera obscura* – an optical device originally used in drawing which helped lead to the invention of photography – has been constructed, and a photo studio style backdrop will be placed at a computer station where visitors can shoot their own photo to take away as a memento.

Content

- Artifacts – camera equipment from the 1890s to today
- Audio and interactive stations
- Camera Obscura
- Story panels examining camera use through the decades

Sources

Photography, artifacts and audio/visual materials for the exhibit were sourced from the Galt Museum & Archives, London Drugs Photo Department and local and area residents.

RELATED EXHIBITS

The more we get together... a community exhibit main level hallway

The public is invited to add family reunion photographs to this exhibit. Photos can depict the big summer picnic with the extended family, a smaller gathering of family members who have not seen one another for a long time, a Christmas get-together with cousins... the variety promises to be as numerous as the reunions that take place in southwestern Alberta! Submissions must include the date, location and brief description of the gathering. Laser copies are encouraged, as they will be displayed on bulletin boards. [Forms](#) are available from the Galt Museum website or the information desk. Photos will be accepted until December 15 and displayed until January 6, 2008.

The Archives Exposed... Capturing our lives

main level: Community Savings Learning Studio & Friends of the Galt meeting rooms | *photos selected from the Archives*

Lasting Impressions: Favourite Portraits

lower level & Canbra Foods Archives Reference Room | *Curated by Kate Bossler | selections from the Galt Collections*

This adjunct exhibit presents a selection of recent portraits from the Galt collection important to the history of Lethbridge.

"I was surprised and impressed with the Galt Museum's collection of art, in terms of its size and diversity, and I like that it is all connected to Lethbridge," says University of Lethbridge student Kate Bossler, who has curated the exhibit as part of an Applied Studies project.

Portraiture was an expensive commodity commissioned by wealthy patrons to confirm their position in society. Although the development of photography, affordable to the growing middle class in the 19th century, threatened the status of portrait painting, the established practice endured. Each portrait selected for *Lasting Impressions: Favourite Portraits* communicates a different and particular statement about the subject through the use of pose, facial expression, colour and mood.

Opening Reception

Fri **OCT 12** | 7:00 – 9:00 pm | by invitation

Guests have been invited to bring a family reunion photo to add to *The more we get together...*

RELATED PROGRAMMING AND EVENTS

MEDIA CONTACT: Belinda Crowson, Visitor and Program Coordinator
tel 403.320-4248 | bcrowson@galtmuseum.com

Museum Free Day

Sun **OCT 14** | **10:00 – 4:30** | admission free | photography demonstrations and presentations throughout the afternoon

- 1:00** **Shooting Animals: Pet and Wildlife Photography for Everyone** Learn the basics of capturing quality photos of animals, close to and away from home. Lethbridge-based photographer **Sarah Underwood** will cover some theory, as well as composition, timing and lighting.
- 2:00** **Dynamic Family Portraits: How to capture energy, details and emotion** **Mark Pawlyszyn** from Unique Images Photography will provide professional tips on how you can interact with your subjects to bring out their personalities and improve composition.
- 3:00** **Photography over the ages** Local photographer **G. Wayne Dwornik** will take a look at how photography has changed the way we see the world... then and now.
- 4:00** **LIGHT & LANDSCAPE: Taking Better Outdoor Pictures** Local photographer **Ted Nicholson** will emphasize the benefits of understanding and managing light in outdoor photography. Images illustrating various points will be shown with a Q & A to follow.

Guided Tours of *Smile! Capturing our lives with cameras* or of the permanent exhibit are available for groups. To book a tour or a class visit contact Belinda Crowson:
403.320-4248 | bcrowson@galtmuseum.com

Café Galt

Wednesdays | **7:00 pm** | admission fees apply [includes exhibit access] | free to annual pass holders | refreshments served

- OCT 17** **Scrapbooking: your life / your story / your way** Taking the picture is only the first step – recording and documenting people, places and time and writing the stories is essential for recording an event for history. Includes demonstrations; hosted by **Kerri Weaver**.
- NOV 14** **Frown! When Photographs Get Damaged** To keep your smile and to keep your family snap shots protected learn how to care for and handle them properly. Paper conservator **Juliet Graham** will outline techniques for making our photographs outlast us all.
- DEC 12** **The Origins and Early Development of Photography** | **Ken Allan** teaches modern and contemporary art history at the University of Lethbridge, specializing in the area of Conceptual art of the 1960s and 70s. He will teach “A History of Photography” in the Spring 2008 semester.

Saturdays at 1:00

OCT 20-DEC 15 | 1:00 pm

weekly family program | free with admission

- OCT 20 Photo Historians and Giant Grasshoppers** Favourite pictures from the Archives and Lethbridge history will be used to highlight Lethbridge history.
- OCT 27 Bootiful Frames** Make your own photo frame to show off your Halloween pictures.
- NOV 03 Pinhole Camera** Using a recycled potato chip can (please bring an empty Pringle chip can with lid if you have one), learn how to make a simple camera.
- NOV 10 Peace in Our World Angel Craft** Craft an angel in honour of Remembrance Day.
- NOV 17 Birds of a Feather What's a tree without a few birds?** Make a variety of Origami birds and then stop by the Museum Store for the book signing of *The Sakura Tree*.
- NOV 24 Scrapbooking** Participants will help make a scrapbook that explains life in Lethbridge.
- DEC 01 Ornaments Yours** Bring in a copy of a Christmas photograph and make it into an ornament for your tree.
- DEC 08 Wonder Turner** Before the movie, there was the thaumatrope. Make and use your own.
- DEC 15 Quicker than the Eye** Optical illusions and tricks will be explored.

The Curator Presents... From Pixels to Paper: Preserving our lives in the digital age

Wed **NOV 28 | 7:00 pm** | admission fees apply [includes exhibit access] | free to annual pass holders | refreshments served

What can you do with digital cameras, software and printers? **Mark Orenstein** from de Jourdan's Photo.graphics demonstrates the wizardry of digital photography and computer editing. Learn how to keep your images safe for your grandchildren and how to keep the 'smile' in photography.

Archives Homecoming

MEDIA CONTACT: Greg Ellis, Archivist | tel 403.329-7302 | archives@galtmuseum.com

Archives needs your help! We have received 400 photos of houses from the City's Infrastructure Services old engineering department. Taken in the 1950s and 60s, these photos show a variety of houses in Lethbridge from heritage homes to homes under construction. Unfortunately, they are completely unidentified! Please stop by and help add to our historic knowledge by identifying their locations.

ADDITIONAL MEDIA CONTACTS:

Museum Free Day:



Sarah Underwood* 403.381-2745 | sarah.underwood@uleth.ca

A University of Lethbridge student and avid outdoors person, Sarah has combined her love of horses and cameras into an equine photography specialty. She has done wedding photography personally and with Litwin Photography, and is a freelance photographer for *Lethbridge Living Magazine*.



Mark Pawlyszyn*
403.795 2036 | mark@uniqueimagesphotography.ca

Mark Pawlyszyn is the owner of Unique Images Photography, a wedding and portrait business in Lethbridge. With his wife, Sherri, they approach family photography through lifestyle portraiture, a blend of semi-posed high fashion and observational photo-journalistic styles.



G. Wayne Dwornik 403.381-2720 or 329-0555 | gwd4la@gmail.com

Wayne Dwornik was born and raised in southern Manitoba. He attended college in Winnipeg, graduating in 1973 (Advertising Arts) majoring in photography. He worked for 24 years in television, 10 years as a photographer, videographer. Wayne and his wife Sandra moved to Lethbridge in 1976. They have two grown children, Spencer and Brittany, who both work in northern Alberta. Currently Wayne works at the Best Western Heidelberg Inn, Lethbridge.



Ted Nicholson* 403.381-7510

Ted is an amateur photographer, retired, who has lived in Lethbridge for over 30 years. He is a long time member of the Lethbridge Photography Club, including several years on the executive. His transition from film to digital photography occurred less than two years ago... an experience that for him reaffirmed the truth that photography commits one to a lifelong learning curve.

** member of the Lethbridge Photography Club*

The Curator Presents... :



Mark Orenstein 403.327-2658 | mark@dejourdans.com

Mark Orenstein apprenticed under master photographers in one of Canada's oldest studios – the Harvey Studios in New Brunswick managed a commercial studio in Manitoba then headed west to join de Jourdan's Photo.graphics in 1996. He holds national accreditations and was nominated for Alberta Portrait Photographer of the Year in 2004.

Café Galt :



Kerri Weaver 403.328-2644 | weaverj@telusplanet.net

Kerri Weaver is a Creative Memories consultant. Born and raised in the Lethbridge area, she attended the University of Lethbridge where she earned BA (Psych.) and B Ed. degrees before beginning a teaching career in the elementary and junior high grades. Having been an avid photographer and album maker since Grade 2 (a long time!), this evolved into a love of scrapbooking and a passion for memory keeping that fits in well with also being a busy mom of two boys, ages 1 and 3.



Juliet Graham 403.317-0285 | julietgraham@shaw.ca

Juliet Graham is a paper conservator providing conservation treatment of artwork on paper, archival material and photographs. Preventive conservation services include preparation of artifacts for exhibition, collections surveys, conservation instruction, and advice on framing and storage methods. Juliet was accredited in 2004 by the Canadian Association of Professional Conservators. She was employed by Parks Canada, the Canadian Conservation Institute, and the Gatineau Preservation Centre for the National Archives of Canada before establishing a private practice in Lethbridge, Alberta in 2000.



Ken Allan 403.328-2644 | kenneth.allan@uleth.ca

Ken Allan teaches modern and contemporary art history at the University of Lethbridge, and he specializes in the area of Conceptual art of the 1960s and 70s. He will teach the course "A History of Photography" during the 2008 January to May semester.

For additional information, or to obtain high resolution images, please contact:

Anine Vonkeman, Marketing/Communications Officer
Galt Museum & Archives
403.320-4009 | avonkeman@galtmuseum.com