

Imagining a world



Honoring Willa Cather and her legacy for 60 years

1955 - 2015



To Our Friends and Supporters

It's with abundant enthusiasm that we write you as the Willa Cather Foundation celebrates our 60th anniversary year. Some of you have been supporting the Foundation for decades, and we thank you. Others are relative newcomers, and we're grateful you've been inspired along the way to help us further our work. To all, we hope you'll continue your gracious support long after our next milestone anniversary.

Willa Cather is one of the most respected and acclaimed 20th century American authors. From her little town of Red Cloud, Nebraska where she came of age, we are entrusted with preserving the largest collection of nationally designated historic sites dedicated to an American author. As thousands of visitors pass through our doors each year to pay homage to Cather and tour the places that inspired many of her major works, we're continually humbled.

We're also reminded of our duty to share her enduring literature in a time when reading is seen to be on the decline and a crisis of confidence afflicts the humanities. Fortunately, we have many outlets to help inspire the public to discover Cather's life and work. Whether the first introduction comes by way of attending a dramatic

reading, viewing a special exhibit, or by encountering her world through our virtual tour, we're always ready to share Cather's enduring novels and stories with new audiences.

In the pages that follow, you'll encounter an abbreviated history documenting our organization's growth and development. As we celebrate 60 years and look ahead enthusiastically to the National Willa Cather Center's completion in 2016, it feels appropriate to pause for reflection and celebration. We're very grateful for your continued interest, enthusiasm, and support. Together, we'll ensure that our next 60 years are as promising and productive as our first 60.

With thanks and appreciation,



Thomas R. Gallagher

Thomas Reese Gallagher, Board President

Ashley Olson

Ashley Olson, Executive Director

Highlights of our first 60 years

Founder Mildred Bennett's *The World of Willa Cather* is published (the first Cather biography).

1951

Life magazine runs "Willa Cather Country" photo essay by David E. Scherman.

The "Willa Cather Pioneer Memorial" is formally established in Red Cloud, Nebraska.

1955



Temporary quarters set up in Red Cloud's Besse Auditorium. Early gifts include Cather's high school diploma and letters.

1956

WCPM President Mildred Bennett edits *Early Stories of Willa Cather*. Proceeds support the WCPM.

1957

First publication of the "Willa Cather Pioneer Memorial News Letter."

Historically significant Garber Bank acquired. Built in 1888 by Silas Garber, early Nebraska governor and prototype for Captain Forrester in *A Lost Lady*.

1959



1960

Dr. W. K. Bennett acquires title to Cather's childhood home, donates it to WCPM; funds immediate repairs to protect against deterioration.

The J. M. McDonald Foundation awards challenge grant of \$5,000 to begin restoration of Garber Bank.

1961

A Living Memorial to Willa Cather: The WCF at 60 Years

- 5 WCF-owned historic properties
- 612-acre tract of native prairie
- 6 historic sites preserved in partnership with Nebraska State Historical Society
- 59 Spring Conferences
- 14 International Cather Seminars
- 6,575 visitors (2014)
- 1,645 Opera House patrons (2014)
- 1,290 historic site tours (2014)
- 101 new additions to archive and museum collection (2014)
- 175 issues of the *Willa Cather Newsletter & Review*
- 1,592 donors in last 3 years
- \$151,500 in student scholarships awarded
- \$1.59 million in endowed assets
- \$9.49 million in total assets

All figures as of December 31, 2014



The founders signing the Foundation's articles of incorporation (left to right): Harry Obitz, Mildred Bennett, Frank O'Rourke, Carrie Miner Sherwood, Helen Obitz, and Jennie Miner Reiher.

Our Mission

To promote Willa Cather's legacy through education, historic preservation, and the arts.

Our Vision

To become a premier cultural center that offers broad educational opportunities for patrons to experience Cather's work, explore historic landmarks related to her life and times, foster their own creativity, and embrace the arts and humanities.

John G. Neihardt speaks at dedication of Garber Bank. Guests include Cather's friends Carrie Miner Sherwood and Jennie Miner Reiher, and her sisters, Jessica and Elsie.



WCPM participates in unveiling of Cather's bust at Nebraska State Capitol, by Nebraska-bred artist Paul Swan.

WCPM officially becomes the Willa Cather Pioneer Memorial and Educational Foundation.

The Nebraska Legislature designates western half of Webster County "Catherland."



Mr. V. H. Fette donates Red Cloud's Burlington Depot to the WCPM.



American Association for State and Local History presents Award of Merit to WCPM.

"Catherland" sign unveiled at the highest point on "the Divide."

Cather's childhood home opens to visitors after complete restoration.



Educating Students and the Public

From the outset, supporting educators and students has been at the forefront of our mission. Educational tours, which, in 1956, were by appointment only and limited to a small museum collection in Besse Auditorium, have grown to include seven lovingly restored Red Cloud properties, offered several times daily to students of all ages. In 2014, more than 1,290 visitors took an intimate glimpse at these assets by way of guided tours, in addition to those who independently toured our Willa Cather Memorial Prairie and the dozens of Cather-related sites throughout Webster County.

Likewise, the “Spring Activities” that commenced in 1955 have evolved into our Spring Conference, an annual tradition that fills an early June weekend with the arts, humanities, scholarship, and abundant love of Cather’s literature. Those early days were full of new discoveries and projects, as well as esteemed speakers like John Neihardt, Maya Angelou, Eudora Welty, and Alfred Knopf.



Left to right: Members of the Illusion Theater company visit the Pavelka Farmstead; Cather scholars in Rome; Road Scholar participants discover Cather country.

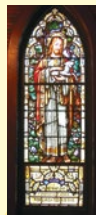
Spring Conference today is every bit as exciting. Our 59th annual Spring Conference in 2014 welcomed more than 150 scholars and guests for guided prairie tours, literary presentations, and a keynote address by one of the nation’s foremost humanities scholars, NPR’s Clay Jenkinson. Focusing

on our theme of “Mapping Literary Landscapes,” Minneapolis-based Illusion Theater presented *My Antonia* on our Opera House stage. Though a familiar story to so many of us, the troupe of young actors brought a fresh perspective and boundless energy to Cather’s words, moving many in the audience to tears.

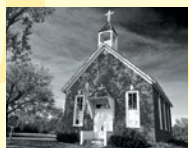


2014 also marked our return to Europe, as we organized “Cather in Europe/Europe and Cather,” a four-day symposium held in Italy. More than 40 scholars, including 12 international scholars, were in attendance at the Centro Studi Americani in the heart of Rome for this event recognizing the importance of European culture and travel to Cather’s life and work.

Heirs of Mrs. Ethel Barnes donate St. Juliana Catholic Church. Anna Sadilek Pavelka (Antonía) and John Pavelka (Anton Guzak) were married here.



1968



Episcopal Diocese of Nebraska donates Grace Episcopal Church. Cather joined this church with her parents in 1922 and was a member until her death. She purchased two of the church’s painted glass windows in her parents’ memory.

1969

Burlington Depot and St. Juliana dedicated at 15th annual Cather Spring Conference.

1970

“Cather Day” in Red Cloud hosts 35 Cather family members.

1971

National Park Service names Cather’s childhood home a National Historic Landmark.

1972

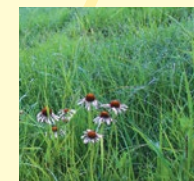


Pulitzer Prize-winners Leon Edel and Eudora Welty join Cather’s friend and publisher Alfred A. Knopf as speakers for 1st International Cather Seminar.

1973

Nature Conservancy purchases 612-acre tract of native prairie near Red Cloud with grant support from the Woods Charitable Fund.

1974



Cather’s proof copy of *April Twilights* added to the collection.

1975

Preserving Cather's Treasured Places

The Farmers' & Merchants' Bank was dedicated as the Willa Cather Memorial in 1962. Fittingly, this first museum dedicated to Willa Cather was situated in a historic building erected by Silas Garber, prototype for Captain Forrester in Cather's *A Lost Lady*. The pause for celebration was brief—there was much more work to be done.



The 1960s and 70s brought a surge of property acquisitions and restoration projects. Cather's childhood home was acquired in 1960 and opened to visitors in 1967. Many of the furnishings came from the estate of Willa Cather's sister, Elsie. Cather's lifelong friend, Mrs. Carrie Miner Sherwood, lent a helping hand and a good memory to the reconstruction of the house.

Red Cloud's Burlington Depot was donated in 1965. The original two-story section of the depot, constructed in 1897, is the building Cather was familiar with during her last years in Red Cloud. Efforts to save the Depot were extensive, requiring relocation and full restoration. Meanwhile, the St. Juliana Catholic Church was donated in 1968. In this church, prototypes for *Antonia* Shimerda and Anton Cuzak were married. Dedication ceremonies for these sites were held in 1970.



Two additional noteworthy sites rounded out our 15+ years of restoration work. Grace Episcopal Church was donated in

1969. Cather joined this church in 1922 and remained a member until her death. Two of the church's beautiful painted glass windows were donated by Cather in memory of her parents. In 1976, the Pavelka Farmstead, setting of the final scene in *My Antonia*, was donated.

The six sites mentioned above are today collectively known as the Willa Cather State Historic site, owned by the Nebraska State Historical Society and managed by the WCF. Later decades would bring about resurgence in our efforts to preserve sites meaningful to Cather and her work.

Cather's beloved Red Cloud Opera House was donated in 1991 and a grand reopening celebration was held in 2003, after years of careful restoration. The Harling House, a primary setting in *My Antonia*, was donated in 2001. The First Baptist Church, which Cather attended as a child, was donated in 1987. The 612-acre Cather Memorial Prairie was gifted to us in 2006. The Cather Second Home was purchased through a generous gift in 2011 and reopened as a guest house. Last, but not least: the Moon Block, acquired in 2000, will open next year as the National Willa Cather Center.



Mr. and Mrs. Haldine Johnson donate Pavelka Farmstead, a primary setting in *My Antonia*.

1976

PBS's *Into the Morning: Willa Cather's America*, screens at Spring Conference prior to national premiere.

1977

Acquisition of WCPM's six historic properties by Nebraska State Historical Society (NSHS) receives final approval of Legislature, marking new era in our history.

1978

WCPM opens modest office, gift shop, and gallery in downtown Red Cloud.

1979

Prairie Workshop sponsored by Nature Conservancy, Kearney State College, and WCPM.

1980

23-page Catherland spread appears in *National Geographic*.

1981

Maya Angelou delivers keynote at 26th annual Spring Conference.

1982

Prestigious Sower Award presented to WCPM by Nebraska Committee for the Humanities.

1983

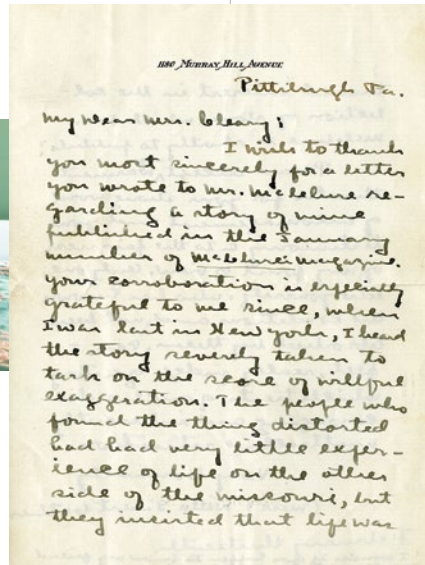
2nd International Cather Seminar held in Hastings and Red Cloud.

1984

Showcasing and Protecting Valuable Collections

When our founding members signed our articles of incorporation in 1955, there's no doubt they had big dreams for "the Memorial." We think they would be pleased with our progress. Cather family members and other gracious donors have been most generous to the WCF for many years, contributing to the collections begun by our founders and creating a rich and varied assortment of artifacts and papers.

Our earliest gifts, including Cather's high school diploma, academic hoods, autographed first editions, photographs, Cather family heirlooms, and letters written by Cather to friends and acquaintances, set the pattern for later gifts and acquisitions. Most interesting, perhaps, is the manuscript for a poem entitled "The Earth Rabbit," written by Cather for her sister, Elsie. Or, a cloak and fur cape of Cather's donated by her niece, Virginia Cather Brockway. Or better yet, the musical Turkish doll described in *O Pioneers!*. Cather likely encountered the doll during her childhood visits to the home of Dr. Henry Cook, whose family facilitated the gift.



Historic Site in Red Cloud, which, under our management, is regularly open for guided tours, as well as study and research.

Some of the richest collections received in recent years include the Helen Cather Southwick Collection, Betty Kort Collection, Southwick Rare Book Collection, and in 2014, the Beatrix "Trix" Mizer Florance and Sidney R. Florance Collection. Pieces that make up these collections are just as rich and varied as those of our early years, including Cather's fine clothing, jewelry, and handbags; rare first editions or pre-publication books inscribed by Cather to friends and family; and a newly identified collection of letters, cards, and notes written by Cather to a lifelong friend in Red Cloud. When the National Willa Cather Center opens in 2016, these treasures will be kept safe and accessible to the public for years to come in a climate-controlled archive and museum.

Left to right: Cather's steamer trunk; a 1905 Cather letter to Nebraska author Kate M. Cleary, recently donated to the Foundation; W. T. Benda's drawing of Jake and the Christmas tree from *My Ántonia*, one of several Benda originals in our collection.

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Timeline of WCF events:

- 1985**: WCPM organizes its first international tour, tracing Cather's 1902 European trip. *Architectural Digest* features story on Cather's childhood home by her friend Yehudi Menuhin.
- 1986**: Historian David McCullough is guest speaker for 31st annual Spring Conference.
- 1987**: Actress Julie Harris delivers Spring Conference keynote. First Norma Ross Walter Scholarship is awarded.
- 1989**: WCPM hosts 3-day writers workshop in Red Cloud.
- 1990**: Academy Award-winner Eva Marie Saint and her husband Jeffrey Hayden present a reading from *O Pioneers!* at Spring Conference.
- 1991**: The Frank Morhart family donates Red Cloud Opera House to the WCPM. Garrison Keillor's *A Prairie Home Companion* broadcasts live from Red Cloud.
- 1992**: Distinguished actor E. G. Marshall performs at Spring Conference.

Engaging Artists and Arts Patrons

When our restored Red Cloud Opera House opened its doors in 2003, we shared the enthusiasm of Cather fans nationwide that another site meaningful to Cather's life and work was meticulously preserved for the benefit of future generations. Even while embracing a vision to host and develop public arts and cultural programs, we could not have imagined what an important staple the Opera House would become to residents of Red Cloud and the surrounding communities.

From our 2003 dedicatory performance of *The Bohemian Girl* produced by Ariel Bybee and James Ford to 2014's moving production of *My Ántonia* by Illusion Theater, the Opera House is once again a vibrant and bustling community arts center. Since opening, the Opera House has hosted nearly 200 concerts and theater performances. The walls of our art gallery have been graced with the artwork of more than 75 artists from the Midwest and beyond, as well as traveling exhibits from the "NEH on the Road" series, Exhibits USA, and the Museum of Nebraska Art. All of our exhibits are open to the public at no charge.

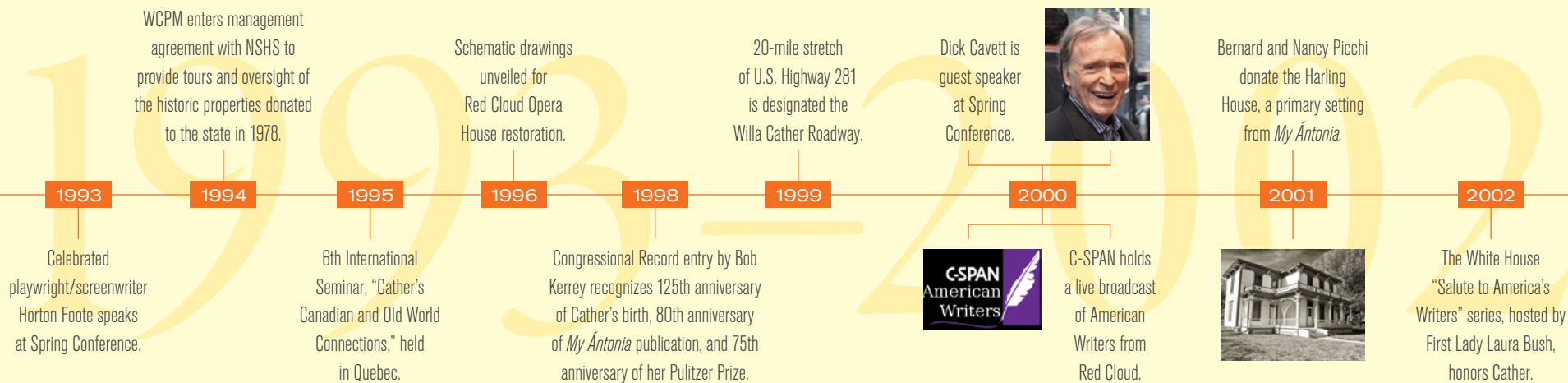


Left to right: *The Opera House stage in 1903; members of the cast of Illusion Theater's My Ántonia; Emma Jewell, Jane Kleeb and Mary Henning reading from Cather's letters.*

Some of our most memorable events in 2014 included Mary Carrick's cabaret featuring Broadway music, a concert by emerging local band Lester Junction, a Missoula Children's Theatre production of *Treasure Island* put on by local students, and a traveling exhibit from Exhibits USA entitled *Grand Ole Opry* paired with tribute performances to Patsy Cline and Johnny Cash.



Stunning encaustic work by Margaret Berry, photography by Peter Brown, landscapes by Catherine Meier, and watercolor images by Scott Kirby ornamented our gallery spaces.



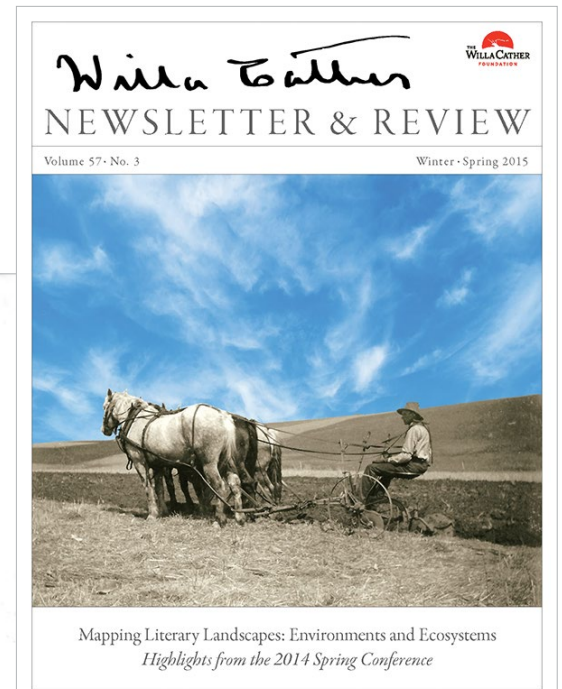
Supporting Scholars and Publishing New Work

When the Willa Cather Foundation was chartered in 1955, founder Mildred R. Bennett already had two Cather publications to her credit: *Early Stories of Willa Cather* and *The World of Willa Cather*, her groundbreaking biography of Cather's life in Red Cloud. Since then, the WCF has supported researchers of all levels in their scholarly pursuits by not only providing access to primary source material and sites, but also by providing a journal dedicated to Cather literary scholarship and discovery.

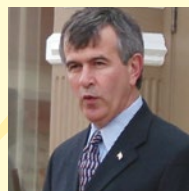
Long before officially becoming the *Willa Cather Newsletter & Review* in 1997, the *Willa Cather Pioneer Memorial Newsletter* offered members new insights on Cather's work by publishing original scholarly essays, as well as those of our scholarship recipients. Edward Johnson of Lincoln East published his winning essay in 1968, taking home \$150. In 2014, Grace Iaquinata, also of Lincoln East, won the Norma Ross Walter Scholarship for her original essay. Her \$2,000 award demonstrates

that while some things remain the same, the cost of college does not. Through the years, more than \$150,000 has been distributed to high school students in the forms of essay contest prizes and scholarships, an original goal of our organization.

All told, 336 students, historians, and scholars have published original research and criticism in our nearly 1,000 published pages. All materials published in the *Willa Cather Newsletter & Review* are donated by students, scholars, and professionals committed to Cather studies and to the success of the Willa Cather Foundation. Members of our Board of Governors volunteer their time and expertise to support this exemplary publication. The informative journal is a living history of the Foundation itself.



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2003

Nebraska Governor Mike Johanns dedicates the restored 1885 Red Cloud Opera House.

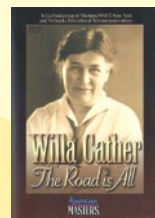
WCPM publishes limited edition reprint of Cather's "December Night," first published in 1933.

2004



PBS documentary *The Road Is All* premieres in Red Cloud.

2005



My Ántonia selected as "One Book One Nebraska" reading selection.

WCPM receives the Helen Cather Southwick Collection of Cather's personal papers and possessions, followed by a large selection of volumes from Cather's personal library.

Nature Conservancy donates the 612-acre Cather Prairie and establishes endowment for its continued restoration and maintenance.

2006

WCPM meets NEH challenge grant to establish endowment for Red Cloud Opera House.

11th International Cather Seminar, "Willa Cather: A Writer's Worlds," held in France.

2007

Preliminary plans created to restore Red Cloud's Moon Block and transform it into the National Willa Cather Center.

Our first Elderhostel (now known as Road Scholar) held in Red Cloud.

2008



Writing Our Next Chapter

Recent years have brought great good fortune. With the National Willa Cather Center set to open in 2016, we are closing a period of unprecedented achievement focused on this most ambitious building project in our history. We are looking now to making the fullest use of the Center's facilities and to extending this focus to our work as a whole.



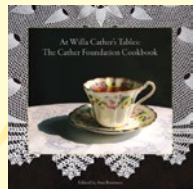
In the scholarly and critical communities, recent decades have brought a surge of appreciation for Cather's work. Once dismissed as a Midwestern woman writer, she is now regularly named with Fitzgerald, Hemingway, Faulkner, and Wharton as among the greatest American writers of her era. But this critical acclaim has not yet captured the attention and kindled the interest of the general public to the extent we would like. In keeping with our mission, we continue to work to extend her reach.

The NWCC's enhanced archival facilities will offer further outreach opportunities, including the creation of scholarships to fund research residencies and fellowships for visiting scholars and students, as well as research seminars drawing on our unique trove of materials. We're planning the design, fabrication, and installation of a permanent exhibition entitled *American Bittersweet: The Life and Writing of Willa Cather*, which will lend itself well to reproduction as a traveling exhibit for libraries and museums nationwide.

Finally, two Cather properties year after year speak with special power to our visitors and pull them into Cather's life and work. One is the home where she lived during the crucial years between the family's move to Red Cloud and her departure for the University of Nebraska, a house that serves as backdrop for many of her works, and where she herself chose and hung the wallpaper for her own attic room. The other is the Pavelka Farmstead on the prairie north of Red Cloud, the setting for the final book of *My Ántonia*. These two buildings are at the heart of our mission. We recognize that as property stewards, we must work with our partners at the Nebraska State Historical Society to preserve and utilize these priceless assets to the fullest extent.



The wallpaper in Cather's bedroom — which she selected and hung herself.



At Willa Cather's Tables: The Cather Foundation Cookbook published.

2010

We partner with NSHS to create the clothing and textile exhibit "Willa Cather: A Matter of Appearances."

A Cather family member donates the Cather Second Home, which later opens as a guest house.

2011

Capital campaign begins to create the National Willa Cather Center, with Ken Burns as Honorary National Chair.



The restored Red Cloud Opera House celebrates its 10th season of events under Cather Foundation ownership and direction.

2012

WCPM officially adopts its long-time shorthand name, the Willa Cather Foundation.



First Antonette Willa Skupa Turner Scholarship is awarded.

2013

O Pioneers! is named the "One Book One Nebraska" selection; nationwide high school essay contest celebrates the novel's 100th anniversary.

2014

In partnership with Centro Studi Americani, three-day Cather symposium held in Rome.

2015

Historian Richard Norton Smith and 200+ patrons attend ceremonial groundbreaking for the National Willa Cather Center.



Financial Summary 2014

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

December 31, 2014 and 2013

	2014	2013
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$235,875	\$444,867
Investments	3,836,418	2,338,348
Accrued interest receivable	29	29
Pledges receivable, net	472,685	558,196
Contributions receivable, net	997,584	1,124,025
Assets in charitable remainder trust	536,949	511,941
Bookstore inventory	41,109	42,401
Property and equipment, net	3,104,810	2,655,315
Art and historic structures	265,760	181,485
Total assets	\$9,491,219	\$7,856,607
LIABILITIES		
Accrued expenses and taxes withheld	\$34,339	\$22,669
Deferred revenue	977,853	1,128,765
Split interest charitable remainder trust	444,225	428,282
Capital lease obligations	7,643	10,701
Total liabilities	\$1,464,060	\$1,590,417
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted	\$3,082,786	\$2,653,215
Temporarily restricted	2,896,675	1,565,277
Permanently restricted	2,047,698	2,047,698
Total net assets	\$8,027,159	\$6,266,190
Total liabilities and net assets	\$9,491,219	\$7,856,607

The financial statements of the Willa Cather Foundation are audited annually by an independent public accounting firm. A copy of the audited financial statements and the Foundation's tax filing (Form 990) may be obtained by contacting the Foundation's office.

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

For the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013

	2014	2013
REVENUE AND SUPPORT		
Contributions and memberships	\$1,396,333	\$1,686,837
Nebraska State Historical Society appropriations	80,406	68,430
Grants	781,230	258,817
Sales and admissions	82,268	99,347
Rent income	33,369	37,188
Conferences and seminars	38,131	88,910
Change in value of split interest	9,067	12,159
Royalties income	9,403	8,097
Other income	13,815	11,713
Interest and investment gains	104,281	124,963
Total revenue and support	\$2,548,303	\$2,396,461
EXPENSES		
Program		
Cost of sales	\$34,621	\$49,432
Education and scholarships	45,186	93,415
Preservation of sites and collections	18,350	15,627
Historical center operations	143,950	145,115
Opera House and programming	169,246	144,459
Cather prairie operations	16,464	19,664
Supporting		
Management and general	226,492	222,072
Development and fundraising	133,025	152,614
Total expenses	\$787,334	\$842,398
INCREASE IN NET ASSETS	\$1,760,969	\$1,554,063
Net assets, beginning of year	\$6,266,190	\$4,712,127
Net assets, end of year	\$8,027,159	\$6,266,190

National Willa Cather Center Capital Campaign Highlights

- Support received from over 480 donors and grantors nationwide
- Honorary National Chair Ken Burns helps successfully launch public phase of campaign
- Endorsement received from former First Lady Laura Bush
- Enthusiastic crowd attends ceremonial groundbreaking and dinner with esteemed guest Richard Norton Smith
- Initial goal of \$6.7 million reached when a generous anonymous donor puts us over the top
- Final bids received; 4% above preliminary project budget
- Construction underway for facility completion and opening in 2016
- Fundraising continues to raise \$160,000 necessary to meet final project costs
- **A new arts and culture destination will provide a proper home for our priceless materials and preserve the legacy of one of our nation's greatest authors!**

Support

The following individuals and organizations were donors to the Willa Cather Foundation in 2014. Space does not permit us to list donations under \$50.00, but we are grateful for these contributions. Every gift is important to us.

\$100,000 and Above

Anonymous
 Anonymous
 Peter Kiewit Foundation, Omaha, NE
 James Sherwood, Big Pine Key, FL
 James P. & Angela J. Southwick, Heber City, UT

\$50,000 to \$99,999

Joanne Berkshire, Omaha, NE
 James & Trish Schreiber, Meadow Vista, CA

\$25,000 to \$49,999

Robert B. Daugherty Foundation, Omaha, NE
 John & Carmen Gottschalk, Omaha, NE
 Bruce & Gerry Lauritzen, Omaha, NE
 Carol Mousel, Reno, NV
 David L. & Nancy Mousel, Reno, NV
 James E. Mousel, San Diego, CA
 Ken & Ann Stinson, Omaha, NE

\$15,000 to \$24,999

Ron & Carol Cope Foundation, Kearney, NE
 Dillon Foundation, Lincoln, NE
 Inavale Foundation, Cambridge, MA
 Garnet Lewis, Red Cloud, NE
 Nebraska Arts Council, Omaha, NE
 Brad & Nancy Sherwood, Omaha, NE

\$10,000 to \$14,999

Abel Foundation, Lincoln, NE
 Thomas Reese Gallagher, New York, NY
 Kaufmann-Cummings Foundation, Grand Island, NE
 Ann Mactier, Omaha, NE
 National Endowment for the Arts, Washington, DC
 Paul G. & Annette L. Smith, Omaha, NE
 John A Yost & G. Wade Leak, New York, NY

\$5,000 to \$9,999

Marion A. Arneson, Wayne, NE
 The Theodore G. Baldwin Foundation, Kearney, NE
 President & Mrs. George W. Bush, Midland, TX

John W. Carson Foundation, Encino, CA
 Robert A. Cary, Portland, OR
 The Chief Foundation, Inc., Grand Island, NE
 Charles Gifford & Michele van Deventer, Omaha, NE
 Glenwood Telecommunications, Blue Hill, NE
 Gilbert M. & Martha H. Hitchcock Foundation, Omaha, NE
 Humanities Nebraska, Lincoln, NE
 Hod & Willa Kosman, Scottsbluff, NE
 Paul R. & Lynette R. Krieger, Hastings, NE
 Dan & Leslie Levy, Lincoln, NE
 Geraldine L. Lewis, Red Cloud, NE
 The McGowan Family Foundation, Inc., Omaha, NE
 John P. & Anne Nelson, Omaha, NE
 Rhonda Pauley, Hastings, NE
 Bernard J. & Nancy S. Picchi, New York, NY
 Brian Abel Ragen, St. Louis, MO
 Three Pillars Media Inc., Lincoln, NE
 Webster County Visitor Promotion, Red Cloud, NE

\$2,500 to \$4,999

Dr. Curtis & Lisa Albers, Grand Island, NE
 Adrian K. Almquist, Bloomington, MN
 Heritage Bank, Red Cloud, NE
 Cather Project, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, NE
 Jane Renner Hood, Lincoln, NE
 Rick & Barb Kudrna, Red Cloud, NE
 Dr. Susan N. Maher & Al Kammerer, Duluth, MN
 John J. & Sally Murphy, Newton, MA
 Frank & Shirley Sibert, Kearney, NE
 Richard Norton Smith, Arlington, VA
 Leonard & Kate Sommer, Omaha, NE
 UNANIMOUS, Lincoln, NE
 Dayre & Tere L. Williams, Red Cloud, NE

\$1,000 to \$2,499

Virgil & Dolores Albertini, Fairway, KS
 Bahr Vermeer Haecker Architects, Omaha, NE
 Steve & Deb Bartels, Franklin, NE

Greg Seanson & Jo Bass, Omaha, NE
 Edward & Margaret Bates, Lincoln, NE
 Erma B. Bennett, Indianapolis, IN
 Margaret & John Stevens Berry, Lincoln, NE
 Mark W. & Ashley Bostock, Windsor, CO
 John & Kathleen Brooks, Cameron, MO
 Paul & Djel Brown, Valley, NE
 Phillip & Sharen Buyher, Oakland City, IN
 Marilyn B. Callander, Ph. D, Lebanon, NJ
 John R. Campbell, Omaha, NE
 Mike & Sara Corless, Mission Hills, KS
 Tom & Marianne Culhane, Omaha, NE
 Max Despain, Monument, CO
 Roy & Gloria Dinsdale, Omaha, NE
 Elise R. Donohue, Clyde Park, MT
 William & Joan Dunfey, Jamaica Plain, MA
 Daniel & Gretchen Eakes, Grand Island, NE
 Jack & Judy Ekeler, Fremont, NE
 Ethan & Stephanie Evert, Red Cloud, NE
 John Fonda, Omaha, NE
 Creigh Family Foundation, Lincoln, NE
 Robert & Jeanette Hunt Fund, Blair, NE
 Gary Thompson Agency, Inc., Red Cloud, NE
 Charmion Gustke, Nashville, TN
 Dennis & Sally Hansen, Red Cloud, NE
 Jeffrey Hayden & Eva Marie Saint, Los Angeles, CA
 Mary Lanning Healthcare, Hastings, NE
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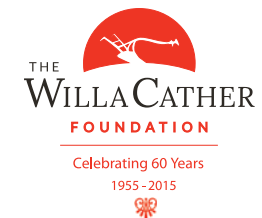
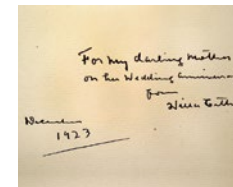
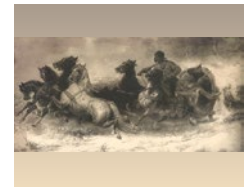
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(The HTDD is supported through a collaborative partnership with the City of Red Cloud, Chamber of Commerce, Nebraska Community Foundation, and Red Cloud Community Foundation Fund.)



Promoting Willa Cather's legacy through education, historic preservation, and the arts.



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Design: Bunny Zaruba, Sausalito, California
Printing: A to Z Printing, Lincoln, Nebraska

On the cover: Imagining a World (2015), Cather's Red Cloud home by Laura Katz.

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The State of Nebraska owns six Cather-related properties and a number of inventoried artifacts and documents held in Red Cloud. The properties are collectively referred to as the Willa Cather State Historic Site and are jointly preserved and maintained by the Nebraska State Historical Society and the Willa Cather Foundation. The Cather Foundation acquired the sites in its earlier years and continues to manage them and care for them alongside its own historic properties.