

BHA Banner Newsletter

Brownsville Historical Association

Volume 5, Issue 3

July 2019

Highlighting the BHA Exhibit: *Into the Wild West*

The BHA is proud to present the exhibit, *Into the Wild West: A Collection Donated by Ben Edelstein*. The exhibit is a collection of remarkable pieces of American art by Frederic Remington and Charles M. Russell. It is comprised of various sculptures and paintings by both artists along with some artifacts on behalf of the BHA. Both artists are celebrated for their vivid depictions of the Old American West marked by rustic landscapes, frontier life, and the interactions between man and beast.

Frederic Remington is known to be one of the best interpreters of the Old American West. At a young age, Remington showed interest and potential in art through his sketches and paintings. He studied briefly under John Henry Niemeyer, German born painter and professor of drawing, in the School of Fine Arts at Yale. Following the death of his father, Remington left after only three semesters at Yale and ended up working as a clerk in Albany, New York. Eventually Remington would take a trip to Montana in the summer of 1881 that would ignite his artistic interests in the West. Remington started off as an illustrator for published in magazines such as *Harpers Weekly* and books by authors including, Theodore Roosevelt. From sketches, he started to take on paintings and then eventually sculptures later into his career. Remington managed to successfully market his art while living as well as being recognized by galleries and museums who acquired his work during his lifetime.

Like his contemporary, Frederic Remington, Charles M. Russell gained notoriety for his interpretation of the Old West. Russell became known as America's "Cowboy Artist." Similar to

Remington Russell showed promise at a young age by winning blue ribbons at the St. Louis County Fair and the St. Louis Agricultural and Mechanical Fair. Russell enrolled in life-drawing classes at Washington University, which he enjoyed more than his normal schooling. School was troubling for him being that he transferred schools for "poor writing" and then wound up expelled from a military academy. Russell then traveled west, towards Montana.

Out West, he learned hunting and trapping first hand from his mentor, Jake Hoover. Unlike Remington, Russell lived out the rustic lifestyle he portrayed in sketches, paintings, and sculptures. He spent the rest of his life either working on commissioned pieces or putting together exhibits featuring his work.

In addition to showcasing American Art History, this exhibit commemorates the late Ben Edelstein who was a notable figure in the Brownsville community for his philanthropy and generosity. Edelstein and his family were known for

their furniture business, *Edelstein's Better Furniture*, throughout the Rio Grande Valley. Before his passing in 2009, Edelstein gifted the Brownsville Historical Association his collection of Russell and Remington sculptures and paintings. Not long after his passing, in 2010, BHA displayed *Into the Wild West* at the Historic Market Square. *Into the Wild West: A Collection by Ben Edelstein*, is now on display at the Historic Brownsville Museum, located at 641 E. Madison Street.

By: *Marissa Casas, Museum Assistant*



Into the Wild West: A Collection donated by Ben Edelstein. Bronze statues and paintings displayed at the Historic Brownsville Museum.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Time Travelers Camp



Join us for
three days of
discovery!

July 24, 25, & 26, 2019
9am-12 noon
Ages 8-12

\$30 for all 3 days, BHA Member Price \$25
Limit is 20 children. Sorry, no Refunds.

Deadline to register July 13, 2019 by 4pm.

For registration & more information call:
956-548-1313 or

e-mail: info@brownsvillehistory.org

Registration must be completed in person at the
Historic Brownsville Museum (641 E. Madison St.)

Visit our website: www.brownsvillehistory.org
or Facebook page for details.

UPCOMING EXHIBITS

An Art Exhibit: Impressions from Brownsville

When: May 11, 2019 – July 27, 2019
Where: Heritage Museum, Vezzeti Room,
1325 E. Washington Street

Cost: Exhibit is included with paid museum
admission. In honor of Preservation Month, Juan
Velez, Historic Preservation Officer and BHA
Board member will exhibit a collection of art work
featuring historic buildings of Brownsville.

INTO THE WILD WEST:

A collection donated by Ben Edelstein

**Historic Brownsville Museum
641 E. Madison Street**

This exhibit is available to visitors with paid
museum admission.

For more information call 956-548-1313.

Historical Happy Hours

These events are open to the public and for adults 21 years old and older only.

Cost: Free for BHA members, \$5 if you RSVP and pay before the event, \$10 at the door. Sorry no refunds.

RSVP by calling: 956-548-1313

Friday July 19, 2019, 5-7pm at the Heritage Museum, 1325 E. Washington Street

Friday August 23, 2019, 5-7pm at the Historic Brownsville Museum, 641 E. Madison Street

Friday September 27, 2019, 5-7pm at the Heritage Museum, 1325 E. Washington Street

Thank you L&F Distributors for making this program possible!

Welcome!

NEW BHA MEMBERS

Quintero, Armando
Rentfro, Irwin & Irwin, PLLC
Ruiz, Mariajose
Suarez, Miriam & David

Teigen, David & Sandra
Tovar, Edgar
Shull, Stephen R.

Sponsorships help make this newsletter possible!

Please call us at 956-541-5560, to inquire about newsletter sponsorship opportunities, or visit our website at www.brownsvillehistory.org for more information.

Historical Happenings



B.I.S.D.: Autism Awareness Exhibit & Reception



Oscar Casares Book Signing



Historic Preservation Month Tour & Lecture



4th Annual Father's Day Classic Car Show



STAFF SPOTLIGHT



We are proud to highlight a staff member in each newsletter and introduce to you our committed team. In this issue we introduce to you Richard (Ricky) Garza, Program and Events Coordinator. Ricky has been with the Brownsville Historical Association staff since October 2016 when he was hired as Museum Assistant. Prior to becoming a member of our staff, Ricky was a volunteer at various BHA events like the *Paella Cook-Off Festival* and the *Annual Father's Day Car Show*. After being hired, he assisted in programming and major events like the *Taste of Texas* and worked on a variety of exhibits. This year, Ricky became the Program and Events Coordinator through which he organizes and plans the BHA's fundraising events and outreach programs. Ricky shares that his most memorable and proudest moment with the BHA is organizing the *1st Annual Christmas Tree Forest Exhibit*. He felt the exhibit highlighted what he enjoys most from his job which is working with members of the community.

The BHA is fortunate to have staff like Ricky who are passionate about their work, dedicated to Brownsville's history and its community, and above all, reliable! To quote fellow staff member Dave Parsons, "We need more Rickys!"

Thank you for everything that you do Ricky!

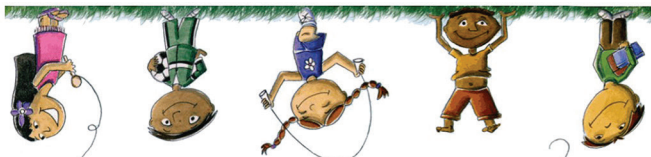
Brownsville Historical Association
 1325 E. Washington Street
 Brownsville, Texas 78520
 956.541.5560 Fax: 956.435.0028
 Email: info@brownsvillehistory.org
www.brownsvillehistory.org

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PAID

Permit No. 47
 Brownsville, TX

Experience the Historic Brownsville Museum, the Old City Cemetery, the Old City Cemetery, and the Laureles Ranch House Museum
 Day 3: Old Brownsville Day
 Learn about our local battlefields: Palo Alto, Resaca De La Palma, and Fort Brown
 Day 2: Battlefield Day
 Explore the Historic Downtown locations like Market Square and the Stillman House Museum
 Day 1: Downtown Discovery Day
 Visit our website or Facebook page for details.
 Registration must be completed in person at the Historic Brownsville Museum (641 E. Madison St.)
 For registration & more information call: 956-548-1313 or e-mail: info@brownsvillehistory.org
 Limit is 20 children. Sorry, no Refunds. Deadline to register July 13, 2019 by 4pm.
\$30 for all 3 days, BHA Member Price \$25
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Discover
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 History!



Time Travelers
 Camp

INTO THE WILD WEST :

A COLLECTION DONATED BY BEN EDELSTEIN



NOW ON DISPLAY!

EXHIBIT ON DISPLAY AT THE HISTORIC BROWNSVILLE

MUSEUM

LOCATED ON 641 E. MADISON STREET