

March 2024 On-Site Visitors: 971
Nook Functions in March: 9

TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE REPORT

At this point, we are totally dependent upon the weather conditions. We have a great plan in place with a team that has put in thousands of hours of work to plan and execute a variety of activities and events. We are writing this on April 1, a week prior to the eclipse. As it stands today, weather conditions do not look favorable, but we remain hopeful.

LOFTS OFF MAIN OPEN

It took longer than we planned, but the Lofts Off Main are now open and available for rent. We have seven offices/studios available for roughly \$350 per month, with all utilities included. This includes high-speed internet and telephone service. The offices/studios share a common reception area and restroom.

ARKANSAS MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

Our staff attended the Arkansas Museums Association Annual Conference at the US Marshal's Museum in Fort Smith in late March. Gloria Sanders is entering her final year as president of the association. My Kim Parnell completed a four-year term on the association board as a NE District Representative. At the conference, our museum won two awards: Outstanding Achievement in Exhibit Design for the Tomlinson Art Gallery expansion and Outstanding Achievement in Conservation for our work in archiving our community's history. There is always fierce competition for these awards and it is a high honor to be recognized.

MAIN STREET CALICO ROCK

We will be investing \$9,000 in our community through Main Street Arkansas funds with \$4,000 invested in portable toilets for the eclipse and \$5,000 for improvements to a small business. This is another example of the great work we are doing, in partnership with the city and county, to benefit our local economy.

MEETING WITH NATIONAL OFFICIALS

Representatives from our museum attended a one-on-one meeting with Chair Shelly Lowe of the National Endowment for the Humanities and Jama Best, Executive Director of the Arkansas Humanities Council, in Little Rock in early March. Our museum was the only organization in the state invited to meet with NEH officials during their stop in Arkansas. We shared with these inspiring stories from how our community survived COVID and how we engage with members of our community.

Respectfully submitted,

