

## 2008: 2100 Series

For our 21st season, Sunflower Journeys continued to explore a variety of topics related to the history, heritage and culture of the Sunflower State. In much the same manner in which we celebrate a youth's 21st birthday as a "coming of age," we celebrated the ever-maturing, life-changing aspects of Kansas and people living in Kansas. As with the tradition of Sunflower Journeys programs, we again shared insights and stories that give viewers a connection with their past as it relates to their sense of place, both in their communities and in Kansas.



### #2101: "Fame & Notoriety"

**Ambrose Sisters:** We'll examine the lives of two sisters from Newton, Kansas, who ignored society's expectations of women in the early 20th century and left home for New York City to seek fame and fortune. Their nephew, Robert Puckett of Wichita, shares photographs and family history of these two accomplished women.

**Vern Miller:** In this segment, we'll meet Vern Miller, a man who became Attorney General of Kansas in the 1970s with enough tough tactics that he earned the nickname "SuperCop."

**Plains People - Marilyn Maye:** Born in Wichita, Kansas, and having had early voice training in Topeka, Kansas, Marilyn Maye is in a personal renaissance as she continues to fill venues from Kansas City to New York City. We meet Marilyn in this Plains People segment as she sings her way through the year of her 80th birthday.

### #2102: "Community Niches"

**Aggieville:** This small shopping district adjacent to Kansas State University has a history of changing to meet not only the needs of students attending school, but the larger Manhattan, Kansas, community as well. KSU Professor David Procter and local historian Dan Walter talk about how this small center of commerce fits into the community as a whole and how changes in liquor laws have helped shape that change.

**UFM Community Learning Center:** In the 1960's, when campuses were facing student unrest and protest, a professor at Kansas State University in Manhattan came up with the idea for a teaching institution that combined the academic elements of a college campus with the broad-based knowledge of a vibrant, intelligent community.

**Plains People - Courtney Neill:** In this segment you'll meet an entrepreneur who took the small Southeastern Kansas town of Toronto by storm when she opened a restaurant that places this community on the culinary maps of Kansas with her delicious Italian cuisine.

## #2103 : “Native Stone & Native Plants”

**Invasive Species:** We learn a few things about invasive species of plants and the threats they impose to native plants with Kelly Kindscher of the Kansas Biological Survey and Jeff Hansen of the Kansas Native Plant Society.

**Native Stone Scenic Byway:** We journey across a portion of the Flint Hills as we travel along the Native Stone Scenic Byway. We start out on its eastern end, which begins along Kansas Highway 4 near Mission Creek, not far to the southwest of Topeka. Deborah Divine of Kansas Scenic Byways describes the route and the sights that can be seen while driving through this rolling prairie roadway.

**Plains People - Vonada Stone Company:** We meet Duane Vonada and his family in Sylvan Grove, Kansas, as we learn how they have made a business of quarrying post rock and shaping it into useful signs, birdbaths and decorative post rock displays.

## #2104: “Environmental Kansas”

**Environmental Change:** We meet some younger Kansans putting their concerns about the environment into action, looking for ways to reverse our negative impact on the earth. James Sherow, professor of history at Kansas State University, reflects on how much time it takes to make changes.

**Solar School Project:** With the help of some local community partners, Southwest Junior High in Lawrence recently added solar power to its mix of energy sources, involving students in the process. Sarah Hill-Nelson of the Bonneville Environmental Foundation, one of the community partners, hopes the project will push students to look at energy consumption and think about where we will get our energy in the future.

**Plains People - Kate Delehunt:** We meet Kate Delehunt, a woman with a passion for river conservation. She works with students and teachers educating them about the human impact on waterways and different ways to clean and rehabilitate the rivers.

## #2105: “Bridges over Water, Land and Time”

**Amelia Earhart Bridge:** Spanning the river banks of the mighty Missouri River at Atchison, the Amelia Earhart Bridge, originally called the Mo-Kan Bridge, connects Kansas and Missouri as it has since it was built in 1937. Scheduled for demolition, we look at the reasons why it is being demolished and how KDOT is documenting its history.

**Eisenhower Ridge:** A group of buildings in Leavenworth, Kansas, formed a community to support soldiers returning from as far back in time as the Civil War. In recent years, a number of the buildings were scheduled to be demolished, but local residents, took on a project to save those buildings. The Pioneer Group, which is currently developing the site, now refers to the complex as “Eisenhower Ridge.”

**Plains People - Jessica Vaughn:** While Jessica’s husband has been stationed in Iraq with his army unit, she and their children have been living on post at Fort Riley. It’s a challenging situation that requires some coping skills to keep the family together. We meet Jessica and see how she keeps her family and her husband in contact, while awaiting his return to Kansas.

## #2106: “State of the Arts”

**Crossroads Arts District:** Over the past several years, a large part of downtown Kansas City, Missouri has undergone a major transformation as arts galleries have cropped up in old warehouses and industrial buildings. Many of these galleries and shops remain open later on the first Friday of each month as live entertainment pervades this area, known as the Crossroads Arts District.

**Nelson-Atkins Museum:** The Nelson-Atkins Museum is one of the nations’ premier art museums and a familiar landmark in Kansas City. A recent construction project to expand and enhance the museum has generated both national and international interest. Architect Steven Holl, whose idea was to fuse the landscape and the architecture together, designed an addition that pays respect to the original gallery building.

**Plains People - Jon Rappleye:** Some well-known artists have emerged from Kansas through the years, and many communities have served as incubators for artists to develop their skills. In this segment we meet a man who temporarily leaves his New York workspace to become an artist-in-residence at the Salina Art Center, not only to teach, but also to learn how this Kansas community supports the arts.

## #2107: “Western Lore”

**Buffalo Bill in Kansas:** Bill Cody wasn’t a Kansas native, but he spent time here shooting buffalo under contract with the railroad. The town of Oakley commissioned an artist to create a larger-than-life bronze statue of Buffalo Bill. Raymond Wilson, a professor of history at Ft. Hays State University, gives us more background on young Bill, his time in Kansas and his later career with western shows.

**Drovers Hall of Fame:** Ellsworth’s Signature Insurance Building is in the process of getting an extreme make-over. The community has developed a plan to save the building and repurpose the space for the National Drover’s Hall of Fame Museum. We observe a cattle drive down the center of the town’s main street, which was part of a benefit to raise money for the project.

**Plains People - John Schaffner:** John Schaffner doesn’t cook much indoors because he makes “too much of a mess.” But give him a few Dutch ovens and 70 hungry cowhands and this part-time trail cook is in his element.

## #2108: “Out on the Farm”

**Farm Safety for Kids:** People who live in the country know that farming can be a dangerous occupation. It can be especially dangerous for kids. We learn about an education program intended to help keep young kids safe, while working or playing on the farm.

**Hudson Cream Flour:** For more than 100 years, a milling operation in the small town of Hudson, Kansas, has been turning wheat into a variety of flour products. We head to Hudson to see how one of the last remaining independent flour mills in the country produces its Hudson Cream Flour.

**Plains People - Harvest Farm & Pumpkin Patch:** For many folks who live in cities, an annual fall ritual involves a trip to the country to pick up a few pumpkins at the farm. In this segment, we meet a farm family in Reno county who not only open their farm to ecotourists, but entertain the visitors with the aid of a pumpkin cannon they call “The Pumpkinator.”

## #2109: “Selfless Servants”

**Life in a Jar:** Several years ago, some high school students in the southeast community of Uniontown, Kansas, embarked on a history day project that has had more of a lasting impact than they could have ever imagined. Through their research, they uncovered the story of a Polish woman whose actions saved thousands of children from Nazi concentration camps during World War II.

**Sisters of St. Joseph of Concordia:** Located in Concordia, Kansas, the Sisters of St. Joseph recently celebrated their 125th anniversary. The Catholic sisters formed an apostolic community, whose mission is to go out into society and meet the needs of the people, whatever those needs might be. Other orders of the time were quietly cloistered, making the Sisters of St. Joseph a very different organization.

**Plains People - Dr. Rebecca Allard:** Several years back, the network television show *Northern Exposure* portrayed a doctor who was grudgingly “forced” to practice in a remote Alaskan village while he was paying off his loans for medical school. That’s not how the process of becoming a doctor worked for Dr. Rebecca Allard. In this segment, we learn how working in a clinic in St. Francis, Kansas, was exactly what this doctor was looking for.

## #2110: “Adaptation & Growth”

**Carbon & Our Climate:** What role does the prairie play in counteracting global warming? We head out on the Konza Prairie near Manhattan to learn about some award-winning research that’s being done on that subject.

**Rebuilding Greensburg:** It was May 4, 2007, when Greensburg, Kansas, was devastated by a tornado that hit the small south central Kansas community. In this segment, we look at how the people of Greensburg commemorated the first anniversary of the tornado, how much the city has come back in the first year, and what their hopes are for the future as they attempt to rebuild as a “green” community.

**Plains People - Charles Eby:** While some folks like to spend their retirement years sitting on front porches, Charles Eby would rather be out building them for needy families. After years of managing construction projects from behind a desk, he now spends his time volunteering at various agencies in Wichita, including Habitat for Humanity.

## #2111: “Outside the Box”

**Little Red Schoolhouse:** Racially integrated preschools were not common in the late 1940s when the Lawrence Community Nursery School, nicknamed “The Little Red Schoolhouse,” set up shop in various church basements. In this segment, we look at the history of the Little Red Schoolhouse and learn about its mission to provide low-cost early education to diverse populations.

**Aaron Douglas:** We learn about the noted illustrator and artist, who was once called “The Dean of African-American Painters.” Born in Topeka, Aaron Douglas (1899-1979) was part of the “New Negro Movement,” also known as the “Harlem Renaissance,” which took place from 1925 into the late 1930s.

**Plains People - Jay Armbrister:** We meet a Douglas County sheriff’s deputy who works to prevent traffic accidents as part of his job, but in his spare time he finds himself smashing up cars as a demolition derby driver.

## #2112: “Imagination & Moving Images”

**Paul Boyer:** Located on US Highway 81 in north central Kansas, Belleville is the county seat of Republic County. It’s also the home of the Boyer Museum of Animated Carvings, an amazing collection of hand-carved displays motivated by rods, gears and all sorts of mechanical mechanisms that bring the figures to life. We meet the creator of these amazing pieces and tour the museum.

**Edington Spencer Studio:** We meet Mark and Patti Spencer who carry on a family tradition of photography that began in the 1890s. We see how changing technology and changing times have altered their approach to photography.

**Plains People - Jay Antle:** In this segment we tag along with a storm chaser from Lawrence, Kansas, who is on the road observing a developing storm. Later that night, the storm creates a tornado that touches down in Chapman and Manhattan, Kansas.

## #2113: “Different Perspectives”

**Julia - Foreign Exchange Student:** In this story, we meet a young woman from Russia who’s come to live with a LeCompton, Kansas, family while she attends the local high school. Yuliya Yermakova (Julia) compares her high school experiences here with schools she has experienced in Russia.

**Joe Hedrick’s Animals:** We travel to “Hedrick’s Bed & Breakfast Inn” near Nickerson, Kansas, where a native Kansas rancher has developed his own exotic animal farm. Joe Hedrick describes his background growing up with animals and how the collection he later would gather turned into a destination attraction.

**Plains People - Dr. Gilbert Parks:** In this segment, we meet Dr. Gilbert Parks of Topeka, Kansas, who draws upon years of experience in the rodeo arena to help train the next generation of up-and-coming rodeo riders.

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# Sunflower Journeys

## The Complete Seasons

*Produced by KTWU/11 Public Television, this series has been made possible by the generous support of the agencies and individuals listed in this binder at the end of each season.*

*DVDs are available at libraries throughout Kansas or by contacting:  
KTWU/11  
1700 College  
Washburn University  
Topeka, Kansas 66621  
785-670-1111  
ktwu@washburn.edu*



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# Where to Tune in to Sunflower Journeys...

KTWU/CHANNEL 11, Topeka  
K30AL/Channel 30, Iola - Ft. Scott - Chanute  
[ktwu.washburn.edu](http://ktwu.washburn.edu)

KPTS/Channel 8, Wichita  
[kpts.org](http://kpts.org)

Smoky Hills Public Television  
KOOD/Channel 9, Bunker Hill  
KSWK/Channel 3, Lakin - Garden City  
KDCK/Channel 21, Dodge City  
[shptv.org](http://shptv.org)

KCPT Public Television  
Channel 19, Kansas City, MO  
[kcpt.org](http://kcpt.org)

\*\*\* Check local listings for times and dates \*\*\*

## Where to Purchase DVDs...

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Or online... [ktwu.washburn.edu](http://ktwu.washburn.edu)  
(785)670-1111

## Where to Borrow or Rent DVDs...

Emporia Public Library, 110 E. 6th (620) 342-6524 [skyways.lib.ks.us/library/emporia/](http://skyways.lib.ks.us/library/emporia/)  
Hays Public Library, 1205 Main (785) 625-9014 [www.hayspublib.org/](http://www.hayspublib.org/)  
Lawrence Public Library, 707 Vermont (785) 843-3833 [www.lawrence.lib.ks.us](http://www.lawrence.lib.ks.us)  
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Ottawa Public Library, 105 S. Hickory (785) 242-3080 [www.ottawalibrary.org/](http://www.ottawalibrary.org/)  
Johnson County Public Library, 9875 W. 87th St. (913) 495-2400 [www.jocolibrary.org/](http://www.jocolibrary.org/)  
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Topeka & Shawnee County Public Library, 1515 SW 10th (785) 580-4400 [www.tscpl.org/](http://www.tscpl.org/)  
Kansas Heritage Center, Dodge City (620) 227-1616 [ksheritagestore.org/](http://ksheritagestore.org/)  
Mabee Library, Washburn University, Topeka (785) 670-1485 [www.washburn.edu/mabee/](http://www.washburn.edu/mabee/)  
Kansas State Historical Society, Education/Outreach (785) 272-8681 ext. 414 [kshs.org](http://kshs.org)  
Southeast Kansas Education Service Center, Girard, Kansas (620) 724-6281 [www.greenbush.org/](http://www.greenbush.org/)

## More Resources...

Selected segments can be seen with iTunes software by searching “ktwu” in the iTunes Store  
Sunflower Journeys — [sunflowerjourneys.org](http://sunflowerjourneys.org)  
Kansas Humanities Council — [kansashumanities.org](http://kansashumanities.org)  
Kansas Sampler Foundation — [www.kansassampler.org](http://www.kansassampler.org)  
Center for Kansas Studies — [washburn.edu/reference/cks](http://washburn.edu/reference/cks)  
Kansas Heritage Server — [ku.edu/heritage](http://ku.edu/heritage)  
PBS (Public Broadcasting Service) — [pbs.org](http://pbs.org)  
State of Kansas — [kansas.gov](http://kansas.gov)