The National Museum of Transportation will be the leader in protecting and interpreting our North American transportation heritage. As stewards of our heritage, we will provide engaging education programs, create interactive and interpretive exhibits, and conserve transportation history for the next generations.
The past year has been one of incredible challenges for the National Museum of Transportation and our community. Like every one of us, the actions of the Museum during 2020 were shaped by the overwhelming effects of the Covid-19 pandemic. In support of public health, TNMOT closed our doors to visitors from March 16 to June 15, 2020. The Museum reopened following numerous facility modifications and reduced activities and capacity. Out of an abundance of caution, field trips, events, in-person group tours, birthday parties, summer camps, and facility rentals were postponed through the rest of the year and remained largely postponed.

Despite these difficulties, we have risen to the occasion again and again to continue serving our community in new and creative ways. During the stay-at-home mandate, we provided increased content on our social media channels, allowing supporters to stay connected. We increased our outdoor attractions, including the development of new walking programs, scavenger hunts, and the summertime Camp Creation Station, in order to encourage guests to enjoy activities with a low risk of exposure. We also debuted The Sanford N. McDonnell Tribute Exhibit and are currently preparing to open American Design, Performance, and Luxury: A Snapshot of the Cadillac later this month. We moved forward on or completed a number of restoration projects to support the continued conservation of our artifacts. Come what may, the Museum remains committed to our mission: “to be the leader in protecting and interpreting North America’s transportation heritage.”

We are incredibly grateful for the continued support of our members and donors who sustained our work in 2020. Though the pandemic continues to affect everyday life in St. Louis, we are seeing signs of positive changes and looking ahead to a bright year filled with new opportunities and exhibits. Several foundations and individuals are making it possible for us to grow our educational programs as well as improve the Museum. We would like to say a special thank you to Mr. Randy McDonnell, Emerson Electric, Mr. Rick Pfarr, the Bluewater Michigan Chapter NRHS, Mrs. Joseph F. Gleason, the Union Pacific Foundation, the James Family, Mr. and Mrs. Don Ross, Dr. and Mrs. Darryl Ross, and the Saigh Foundation.

This brief report highlights just some of the many accomplishments of 2020. Moving forward together, we know there are many good things to come.
Stay flexible and always have a Plan B

This was the year of planning and then planning again. While federal, state, and local government mandates were always changing, the Museum Board of Directors, staff, and volunteers continued to move forward.

In response to Covid-19, The National Museum of Transportation closed on March 16, 2020. While we were closed, the Buildings & Grounds crew used the time to paint artifacts, benches, handrails, and high traffic areas.

The Administration and Education staffs designed programs and projects for reopening that enabled guests to socially distance and/or to stay outdoors as much as possible. Programs included an outdoor ‘Creation Station,’ a socially distanced story time, and a walking program that encouraged guests to take 2,000,000 steps this summer on our campus. Additionally, we realized the entire community was hurting. We wanted to help. The Museum hosted two Red Cross Blood Drives this year and donated gently used toys to local shelters.

The Development Office continued to raise funds throughout the year through online auctions, raffles, donor solicitations, and annual giving. While we continue to evaluate the long-term financial impact of Covid-19 on the Museum, our Mission and Goal remain the same...
Aerotrain Restoration Begins

The Chicago, Rock Island, & Pacific Railroad #3 (the Aerotrain) is one of TNMOT’s most popular artifacts. Situated along the miniature train route, this sleek mid-century modern train has been a part of our collection since its retirement from service in 1966. Now, with the support of generous donors and tireless volunteers, the Aerotrain is getting the much-needed conservation work that will support its continued exhibition for years to come.

Since spring 2020, volunteers have stripped the original paint, cut away and replaced rusted metal with new steel, and completed needed body work. By the end of the year, approximately two-thirds of the locomotive had been primed in anticipation of a final repainting of the exterior. All of the work completed on this project has been performed by volunteers who anticipate the project to be completed in summer 2021.

TNMOT would like to thank the Bluewater Michigan Chapter NRHS, The National Railway Historical Society (NRHS), and the Tom E. Dailey Foundation for their generous financial support.
Other Artifact Restoration Projects in 2020

In addition to the work completed on the Aerotrain, Museum staff and dedicated volunteers continued restoration work on a number of other artifacts from our collection. The Union Tank Lines #14387 and #3882 and the URTX #37467 Milwaukee Road refrigerated car were repainted. All three artifacts are exhibited near the Barrett Station building. Restoration work continued on the Kansas City Birney streetcar. Trolley volunteers replaced needed structural steel and diagnosed issues with the streetcar’s electrical system. Volunteers also continued restoration work on the Baltimore & Ohio #173 Camelback engine. In 2020, the wood frame on the tender was reconstructed and wood was replaced and refinished on the cab. Finally, in early 2020, restoration work was completed on the 1965 Divco Twin Model U dairy truck. A group of dedicated volunteers donated more than 1,000 hours to restore the body, chassis, and interior.
Outdoor Artifact Labels Replacement Project

In August 2020, TNMOT was awarded a Museums for America grant from the federally-funded Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). This $45,000 grant will support the research, writing, and replacement of signage on more than 100 outdoor artifacts. Each of our rail heritage artifacts will receive a new label, replacing the familiar yellow signs which have served Museum visitors for more than 20 years. Work is already underway on this project and completion of the labels is expected in summer 2023.

Congresswoman Ann Wagner phones The National Museum of Transportation staff informing them the Museum would receive nearly $45,000 in federal funds for new outdoor exhibit signage.
Opening of the Sanford N. McDonnell Tribute Exhibit

The Sanford N. McDonnell Tribute Exhibit highlights information and models that showcase the extraordinary history of McDonnell Aircraft Corp. and the McDonnell Douglas Corp. We take a glimpse into the exceptional legacy of Sanford N. McDonnell and the impact his leadership and character made on our community and the country.

We are incredibly thankful to Mr. Randy McDonnell for his generous loan of this extensive collection. The National Museum of Transportation is honored to have the opportunity to share the private collection of American aviation history.

Return of the Y6a

After being loaned out for five years to the Virginia Museum of Transportation, the #2156 steam locomotive returned to The National Museum of Transportation (TNMOT) on June 15, 2020. Oh, the joy and excitement about having the Y6a back on track at TNMOT in St. Louis, MO!
EDUCATION & EXHIBITS

Pop-Up Creation Station
In order to increase outdoor activities in 2020, the Museum opened the pop-up Camp Creation Station over the summer. When the Museum decreased availability at the indoor Creation Station, visitors were able to enjoy the outdoor Camp Creation Station.

Storytime
Miss Sue’s Crayon Caboose was a new addition to our offered children’s activities in 2020. This story time and maker space featured a transportation-themed story read by Miss Sue and an accompanying craft!

SPARK! Independent Field Trip Program
The Museum worked with SPARK! Students from Parkway Schools to develop a hands-on learning activity for use during Museum field trips. These dedicated high school students, as a part of SPARK!, set out to design mutually beneficial learning experiences with community partners. We are so very grateful for the hard work that these students did, and know that their activity booklet will be enjoyed for years to come.

Work, and the Vehicles that Get the Job Done!
Our 2020 featured exhibit, titled "Work, and the Vehicles that Get the Job Done!" featured a number of unique vehicles. Among them: a hand-cranked portable gas dispenser, a Willys fire truck, a Good Humor trike and a Consolidated Service Car Co. automobile.
ALL ABOARD

In 2020, TNMOT launched ALL Aboard, a complimentary admission program benefiting children in need. Beneficiaries include children who come from low-income families, live in foster care, or who are managing a medical crisis. Working with partner agencies, TNMOT distributed 7,500 tickets free of charge which can be redeemed any day the Museum is open, allowing children and families to engage with the Museum on days and times that best suit their schedule. TNMOT would like to thank our 2020 partner programs for their guidance and support – Angel Arms, the Bennett Project, CharacterPlus, Foster and Adoptive Care Coalition, Our Little Haven, and Rainbows for Kids.

While Covid-19 has significantly impacted the first year of the program, the Museum is making plans to welcome ALL Aboard guests whenever they are ready to visit. We are also preparing to launch ALL Aboard 2021 in late spring or early summer. With the support of donors and partner programs, TNMOT plans to distribute 15,000 tickets free of charge.

TNMOT would like to offer our sincere thanks to the Berges Family Foundation, the Saigh Foundation, and many generous individuals who supported ALL Aboard in its inaugural year.

We are proud to announce that 2021 is being sponsored by Emerson Electric! Thank you, Emerson, for supporting transportation education. In addition to Emerson’s generous gift, we are also grateful to the Saigh Foundation which has recommitted their support in 2021.
OUTREACH & EVENTS

MUSEUM MERRIMENT & SEVEN MODEL TRAINS

Our holiday celebrations are an annual favorite for so many and we wanted to be sure that 2020 was just as magical as in years past. In order to provide a safe, magical experience, the season featured a socially distanced Santa Claus, seven model train displays each equipped with a hidden candy cane, and an elf on the shelf scavenger hunt.

Blood Drives

The Museum worked with the American Red Cross to host two blood drives in 2020, where we collected 69 total units of blood. With the help of those incredible blood donors, we saved up to 207 lives!

Trick-or-Track

Trick-or-Track, one of our most popular events, was back in 2020, but was adapted to meet social distancing and safety guidelines. Trick-or-Treaters dressed in their best costumes and travelled around the grounds on a beautiful October afternoon.

2,000,000 Steps

In 2020, we challenged Museum guests and staff to walk 1,000,000 steps; we did that in no time, so we quickly DOUBLED our goal to 2,000,000! We successfully met that goal and gave out a few Museum memberships to lucky participants along the way.
CAMPUS - BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

Union Pacific Crossing Gates

Work continued to replace the crossing gates for the miniature train. The first two gates were replaced in 2019 and an additional gate was replaced in 2020. This project was made possible in part by the Union Pacific Foundation which provided generous grant support in 2019 and 2020.

Lookout Platform

Trolley volunteers restored the trackside viewing stand to pristine condition and will allow Museum guests to view trains making their way past the Museum on the mainline.

Electronic Welcome System

In response to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Museum added an electronic buzz-in system at the William R. and Laura Rand Orthwein Education and Visitor Center. Guests wait outside under a covered awning until the Welcome Desk attendant is ready to wait on them. This ensures that social distancing is maintained as guests arrive and eliminates congestion in the visitor center vestibule.

Pollinator Gardens

Even during a pandemic, our pollinator gardens were buzzing with activity all year long. Museum guests found many new additions to the gardens including ‘plant pot trivia’ and a display case that features items found in nature (snake skins, wasp nests, etc.). The painted rock hunt was more creative than ever, with kids travelling through the garden finding and hiding these beautifully painted rocks.
The Library and Archives saw a number of accomplishments and received significant accolades in 2020. Highlights included:

The Missouri State Historical Society and the Missouri State Archives selected the 1856 Map of the Final Location of the St. Louis and Iron Mountain Railroad plat atlas and the 1862 Pacific Railroad Regiment Muster Roll to be included as part of the Missouri Digital Heritage website.

An upcoming 2021 display will incorporate eight Fisher Body Craftsman’s Guild competition models the Museum obtained in 2020.

The Museum installed high-density, mobile shelving units to increase storage space and better protect the collection. The National Railway Historical Society - St. Louis Chapter invested significantly in bringing this project to fruition.
2020 was a year like no other, but one thing has remained unchanged – we are so very grateful for our members and their support. This pandemic brought on many Museum changes, and our members and their benefits were of the utmost importance as we adapted to a socially distanced life.

The health and safety of our members and guests has always been our number one priority, and we hope you felt that when you arrived on campus. Whether you renewed your annual membership, purchased a gift from the gift shop, or spread the word about how great of a value our membership is, you helped get us through this unprecedented time, and we thank you. We appreciate each and every one of you.

Now that we have closed the book on 2020, we look forward to 2021. We are planning for the return of many crowd favorite events, including Trick-or-Track, Pumpers & Pistons and the 2nd Annual Acoustic Music Festival. Members will continue to receive priority registration to events, as well as discounts on gift shop purchases, facility rentals and birthday parties.

As we recover from this pandemic and get back on track to the road to normal, we hope you will remain by our side. We look forward to the day when we are able to safely remove the Plexiglas between the seats on the miniature train, so you’re able to once again enjoy chats with fellow train lovers as you hop on board. 2021 is already underway, but we know it will be one of the best years ever, and we could not do it without you. Thank you!

THANK YOU

9,946
TOTAL VOLUNTEER HOURS

Al Weber
Carl Horn
John Crowley
HIGHEST NUMBER OF VOLUNTEER HOURS

TOTAL VOLUNTEER HOURS
A PANDEMIC YEAR
BY THE NUMBERS

$172,580
Coronavirus Aid, Relief, & Economic Security Act (CARES Act) Funding

31,750*
TOTAL NUMBER OF MUSEUM GUESTS

29,518
MINIATURE TRAIN PASSENGERS

8,182
TROLLEY RIDERS

4,037
HANDCAR GUESTS

7,500
ALL ABOARD TICKETS DISBURSED

7
HOLIDAY TRAIN DISPLAYS

2
NEW EXHIBITS OPENED

*non-pandemic annual attendance approximately 200,000. The NMOT hosted no events, facility rentals, field trips, summer camps, tourism groups, birthday parties or Scout groups in 2020 due to Covid-19.
GOAL

Preserve and protect our transportation heritage so we are able to teach our children and our children’s children about the significant role transportation played in the development of our country. We preserve history every day for the next generations!
THE NATIONAL MUSEUM
OF TRANSPORTATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dr. Darryl A. Ross
President of the Board

Charley Taylor
Vice-President of the Board

Lee Rottmann
Secretary of the Board

Michael Morhaus, CPA
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Directors:
Charles Baine
Michael Biedenstein
John Brophy
Amy Burkemper
Richard Chenault
Frank Cunetto
Flint Fowler, PhD
Lindley James
David Koller
Neil Norkaitis
John L. Stein
Ronald E. Tindall, Jr.
Ted Williams

Terri McEachern
Executive Director

New to the Board of Directors in 2020:

Dr. Flint Fowler
Flint currently serves as the Executive Director of the Herbert Hoover Boys and Girls Club of St. Louis and has held impressive leadership roles in organizations such as the Boy Scouts of America Greater St. Louis Area Council, Saint Louis University’s Upward Bound Program, Operation Teamwork and INROADS/St. Louis. Flint earned his BA in Psychology and Black Studies and his MA in Psychology with an emphasis on minority mental health both from Washington University St. Louis. He went on to earn his PhD in Education from Saint Louis University.

Amy Burkemper
Amy is the CRM Director - Information Technology at TricorBraun and previously worked as a CRM Technical Platform Architect in Products and Engineering at Bayer. She received her BS in Business Administration from St. Louis University and a Masters of Information Management from Washington University.

David Koller
David is the Managing Director of SLP Lighting, LLC, a division of his family business, Koller Enterprises, which he owns with his brother. David received his BS in Electrical Engineering from Boston University and his MBA from New York University - Stern.

Ronald E. Tindall, Jr
Ron is the President of the Terminal Railroad Association of St. Louis and is known for leading dramatic turnarounds and reducing costs by developing cultures of accountability, problem solving and risk management. He received his BS in Criminal Justice from Kentucky Wesleyan College and his MBA from Kaplan University.

John L. Stein
Prior to retirement, John worked at Anheuser-Busch for 32 years where he led the company’s work on environmental affairs and plant site selection. He received civil and environmental engineering degrees at Washington University, and a graduate degree in engineering management from the University of Missouri - Rolla.
In the past four years, TNMOT has transitioned from a St. Louis County park to an independent nonprofit museum. When making the decision to return to independent management, TNMOT created a plan to increase funding sources so that we can continue to grow and expand. Your membership and donations make it possible for the Museum to serve this generation and generations to come! Please invest today and enable us to design new exhibits, expand our community outreach, and preserve vulnerable artifacts before they are lost.

EVERY PENNY MATTERS
From the ALL Aboard program to the Power to Move You Capital Campaign, to the Daniel Nason Annual Fund, donors can designate their gifts depending on YOUR interests. Interested in making a gift to a particular project or purpose? Please contact Amber Johansen at amber.johansen@tnmot.org or 314-965-6885. 2967 Barrett Station Road, St. Louis, MO 63122 To make a gift online, please visit www.TNMOT.org/giving.

VOLUNTEER AND HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE
Ever wanted to hear about more options for volunteering at the Museum? We love our volunteers and would be honored if you joined us. Contact museum@tnmot.org for the email and phone: 314-965-6885 for information!

☐ Volunteer with the ________________________________________________________________

☐ Volunteer around the office with phone calls and other tasks

☐ Volunteer in a different way: ______________________________________________________

   Send this form by mail to our office at: 2967 Barrett Station Road, St. Louis, MO 63122

Name: __________________________________________________________________________

Phone: __________________________________________________________________________

Email: __________________________________________________________________________

Address: _________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________
2021 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MARCH
15 Cadillac Exhibit Opening
26 Blood Drive with the American Red Cross

APRIL
24 Model Train Swap Meet

MAY
1-10 Hunt for the Golden Spike
15 & 16 Car Show Weekend, Pumpers & Pistons
Thursday Community Helper Days

JUNE
10 Speaker Series
19-20 Father’s Day Car Show Weekend
25 Blood Drive with the American Red Cross
8 Speaker Series

JULY
Sundays Owney’s Dog Days of Summer
Sundae Sunday

AUGUST
12 Speaker Series

SEPTEMBER
25 & 26 Acoustic Music Festival and Car Show Weekend, Plein Air

OCTOBER
14 Speaker Series
16 & 17 Car Show Weekend
16 Trick or Track

NOVEMBER
11 Speaker Series
26 - 28 Kickoff of Holiday Festivities

DECEMBER
Holiday Festivities all month long

THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF TRANSPORTATION

2933 Barrett Station Road, Kirkwood, MO 63122 | tnmot.org | 314.965.6212

The National Museum of Transportation is a private 501(c)(3) organization relying on the generous financial support of our community to continue preserving the past for future generations.