

FIFTEENTH ANNIVERSARY SIGNATURE EVENT
STONE

You can't drive through Kansas without seeing it. It envelops our buildings, dots our parks in the form of benches and statues, and appears on the Kansas State Capitol. The common thread: limestone. And it's sourced right here in the Flint Hills of Kansas.

Rich with geological and aquatic history, our tallgrass prairie region connects people and places statewide through this one unassuming building material. Limestone's abundance in these parts is matched only by its variety. There are unique limestones, such as post-rock, prairie shell, tuxedo gray, and honey-toned limestone, silverdale, and cottonwood.

That connection to history is quite storied, as limestone has served us more than we realize. In fact, thanks to limestone, the Flint Hills are home to the largest intact tallgrass prairie in the nation. That's because outcroppings of limestone made farming impossible in the highlands, so the prairie was spared.

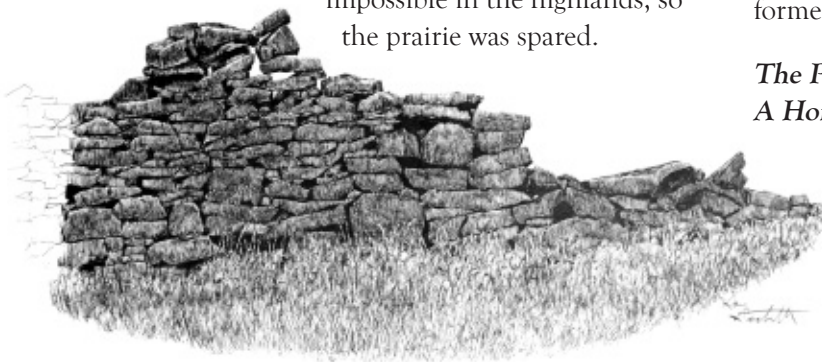
According to the National Park Service, 170 million acres of tallgrass prairie in North America have been reduced to just four percent of that today, with the majority preserved here in the Flint Hills.

But where did all this limestone originate? Kansas as we know it today was once the Permian Sea, a shallow body of water rife with sea creatures that absorbed calcium carbonate from the water to form shells or skeletons. These organisms fell to the ocean floor after they died, and with time the decay and calcium carbonate formed the limestone we have today.

*The People's House:
A Home of Heart and Stone*

– Amy Dvorak, TreanorHL
(excerpt from the 2020 *Field Journal*)

Pen & Ink Drawings by Gary Gackstatter



2020 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 7: Signature Event Ticket Sales

May 2: Prairie Art Show Opens

June 13: Signature Event, Wade Pasture,
Wabaunsee County, Kansas

September 26: WoodFest

OUR PARTNER: THE KANSAS CITY SYMPHONY
A SEASON OF CELEBRATIONS IN THE HEARTLAND

From Isaac Stern's Centennial and Beethoven's 250th birthday year to the annual intersection of nature and magnificent music in the splendor of the Flint Hills, the Kansas City Symphony is proud to be at the heart of it all. Come listen. Get inspired. Be transformed. Visit the all-new kcsymphony.org to join the journey.

FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

This year's concert follows our first ever cancellation since our founding in 2006. The devastation from last summer's microburst was so severe the site was declared unsafe. Our disappointment was equally devastating. Thank you to the many who offered their condolences and encouragement, our patrons, sponsors, and all our supporters for their confidence in our mission, and our partners at the Kansas City Symphony for their long-time support. I would especially recognize the steadfast valor of our new Executive Director, Leslie VonHolten, who joined the organization a mere 5 days prior to that dramatic day.



Kathy Kelly

It is no small feat to create a magical destination on a remote, private ranch located within the Kansas Flint Hills for 7,000 volunteers and guests. We do this knowing that once you experience Symphony in the Flint Hills, you will be forever transformed. I urge you to join us June 13th in Wabaunsee County to once again celebrate the precious majesty of the last remaining tallgrass prairie in the world and become part of the magic that is Symphony in the Flint Hills.

*Kathy Kelly, Board Chair
Symphony in the Flint Hills*

PRAIRIE ART EXHIBIT & AUCTION OPENS MAY 2

SFH is excited to partner again with KC Auction & Appraisal Co. for the 2020 Prairie Art Exhibit & Auction. The Exhibit will be hosted in our Cottonwood Falls gallery this year—therefore, the auction will not be on site at the Signature Event on June 13. This is to better protect the art from damage and to allow more people to view and participate in the auction.

We encourage you to visit Cottonwood Falls to view the art in person—and enjoy our charming architecture, good food, and shopping while you are here. If you can not make the trip, you can view the exhibit and bid on art at kcauctioncompany.com. The exhibit is open May 2-June 19. Visit symphonyintheflinthills.com soon for auction bid dates.

James Martin, 2020 Prairie Art Juror

We are honored to have James Martin, Public Art Administrator for the City of Kansas City, Missouri, as the 2020 Prairie Art Juror. Martin is well-known in the metro art world, having served as assistant curator for modern and contemporary art at the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, curator of the Sprint corporate collection, and as an independent consultant, educator, and writer based in the Kansas City area.

2020
Major Presenting SPONSOR



As a Major Presenting Sponsor for Symphony in the Flint Hills through 2021, BNSF Railway is honored this year to celebrate Stone in the Flint Hills. Shallow deposits of limestone, the foundation rock in the Flint Hills, are a critical element of prairie conservation, thus preserving the rich ecological diversity. BNSF's commitment is strong in Kansas, partnering to build the state's economy by accessing markets around the world. BNSF is proud to partner with Symphony in the Flint Hills to educate and celebrate the role of stone in protecting the prairie.

Zak Andersen, President BNSF Railway Foundation

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS AND PATRONS

Donors are essential to the sustained success of Symphony in the Flint Hills and our mission to *heighten appreciation and knowledge of the Flint Hills tallgrass prairie*. Our programs and events happen only with your support. Thank you for making Symphony in the Flint Hills a top priority in your philanthropy.

Donations received October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019, reflecting SFH Fiscal Year 2019:

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SYMPHONY IN THE
FLINT HILLS

331 Broadway, P.O. Box 370
Cottonwood Falls, KS 66845
SymphonyintheFlintHills.org

Mission: Heighten appreciation
and knowledge of the
Flint Hills tallgrass prairie.

2020 • Issue 24

Pen & Ink Drawing by Gary Gackstatter



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TICKETS ON SALE: MARCH 7, 2020

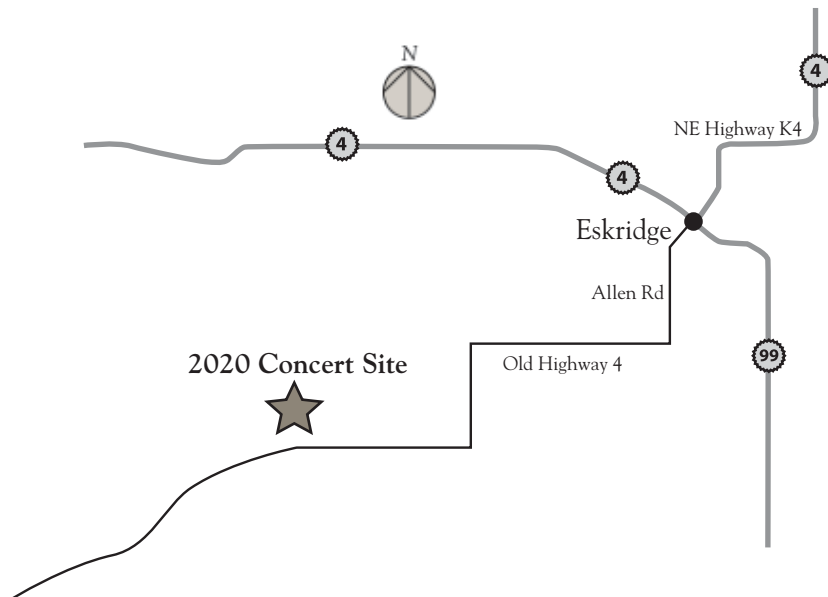
2020 Event Information

Wabaunsee County - Wade Pasture
Saturday, June 13, 2020
Gates Open at Noon
Rain Date: Sunday, June 14, 2020

Ticket Information

Buy tickets online or in person starting
Saturday, March 7, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.
Adult: \$95 plus tax
Child: \$50 plus tax (12 and under)
No Refunds, No Exchanges
Online: Eventbrite.com
SymphonyintheFlintHills.org
Phone: 620-273-8955

In Person:
Symphony in the Flint Hills
331 Broadway
Cottonwood Falls, KS



Directions

- Go south from Eskridge on S. Main Street, which turns into Allen Rd for 1 mile
- Turn west on Old K4 Rd
- Stay on Old K4 Rd for 5 miles to entrance of site.