



The Kentucky Craft History & Education Association hosted a public forum “*Kentucky Craft History: Gather, Preserve & Present*” in November 2009. Input gathered at this event, that included arts, history, and education representatives, provided KCHEA direction for future programming. The KCHEA Board evaluated the resulting project suggestions in terms of its mission, organizational goals, and feasibility. The Kentucky Craft Encyclopedia was identified as a priority project to serve diverse communities, provide access to our targeted audience, and address a need in the state not currently being met by any of the established institutions.

The KCHEA board set on a path to educate itself and draw from successful projects that mirrored its goals for the development of a virtual Kentucky craft encyclopedia. Work began in earnest through the establishment of a committee of respected experts. In 2012, KCHEA again brought together a group to discuss various aspects of planning and implementation of a Kentucky craft encyclopedia. Through the identification of goals for the project KCHEA has taken first steps toward implementation. The committee continues to work to bring the project to fruition.

A Vision For the Kentucky Craft Encyclopedia

The virtual Kentucky Craft Encyclopedia will be inclusive and embrace:

- different types of craft objects and techniques, craft makers, and supporters
- organizations that exhibit, market, or provide services to crafts
 - crafts in historical periods
 - crafts around the Commonwealth

The Kentucky Craft Encyclopedia will be:

- a portal to information about all aspects of craft and will link to more extensive information.
- a model for similar educational craft resources for the other states.

Funding for the encyclopedia will be

sought from individuals, corporations, foundations, and public sources.

The Kentucky Craft Encyclopedia will include

documents, objects, and both visual and audio media presentations.

The Kentucky Craft Encyclopedia website will be managed

by a professional staff and governed by a committee representing different aspects of Kentucky crafts. It will encourage investigation and be attractive and easy to navigate.

Craft Encyclopedia Committee

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