



50 States

ABOUT THE EXHIBITION

Nick Vaughan and Jake Margolin explore the connections between LGBTQIA+ histories and contemporary queer experiences in the United States. *50 States* is an ongoing series of installations made in response to little-known LGBTQIA+ histories from each state predating the 1969 Stonewall riot that launched the modern LGBTQIA+ rights movement. This multi-decade endeavor engages critically with perceptions of history and community in a time where our culture's views of gender and sexuality progress at an astonishing pace while provoking deeply troubling social and legislative backlashes. Their research draws from recent groundbreaking academic work, the artists' archival research and significant time spent learning from and collaborating with local LGBTQIA+ community members.

In addition to their installations, the two artists create intricately hand-cut works on paper in which they layer LGBTQIA+ imagery over found road maps then selectively cut away the layered "land" to reveal a delicate system of roads and waterways beneath. Inspired by anatomical drawings of the human vascular system, the cut maps assert that the iconography of the LGBTQIA+ community has a deep, corporeal connection to the nation's geographies.

February 12 — June 29, 2019

museum.okstate.edu/50-states

ABOUT THE ARTISTS



1 - Photo credit: Jeremy Charles

Nick Vaughan & Jake Margolin

Based in Houston, Texas, married couple Nick Vaughan and Jake Margolin have introduced local solo shows at Devin Borden Gallery, Art League Houston, and Aurora Picture Show. The artists have also revealed their work in non-traditional venues such as community college campuses, libraries and queer bars—reaching audiences that may have limited opportunities to experience cutting-edge contemporary art. The artists are currently developing *50 States: Arkansas*, which will debut March 2019 at The Invisible Dog in Brooklyn, New York.

PROGRAMS

All events are free and open to the public.

- [Lunch + Learn with artists Nick Vaughan and Jake Margolin](#) February 12, 12- 1 p.m. | OSU Museum of Art
- [VIP EQUAL + OSQ&A Tour](#) February 13, 6 p.m. | OSU Museum of Art
- [Reception with *50 States: Oklahoma Performance*](#) February 14, 5 - 7 p.m. | OSU Museum of Art. RSVP to Kelly Bradshaw at kebrads@okstate.edu or 405.744.2779
- [Community Conversation - Queer Voices: Representation Matters](#) March 7, 5:30 pm | OSU Museum of Art
- [Make Your Own Media: A DIY Zine Workshop](#) March 8, 9 - 4 p.m. | OSU Museum of Art
- [50 States: Texas Performance](#) March 26 at 6 p.m. | [\[Artspace\] at Untitled](#), Oklahoma City, OK
- [50 States: Colorado Performance](#) March 27 | [Living Arts, Tulsa](#)

- [WORKSHOP: Strategies for Collaborative Creation of Historically-Based Work](#) March 28 | OSU Museum of Art. Attendees will explore methods of creating collaborative works inspired by historical research or identity politics. Register [here](#).
- [WORKSHOP: Identity, Community and Practice—Making Work That is About Something](#) March 29 | OSU Museum of Art. Discover the possibilities of integrating identity into the personal practice of art making. Register [Here](#).
- **50 States: Wyoming Performance** March 30 | [Lake Carl Blackwell in Stillwater, OK](#)
- [Payne County Pride #igniteYOURflame](#) April 6 | Stillwater, OK
- **Lunch + Learn with Dr. Beauchamp-Byrd** April 18, 12 - 1 p.m. | OSU Museum of Art. Dr. Beauchamp-Byrd, professor of art history and curatorial coordinator, will present a lecture on gender-defining visual representations associated with Riggs' *Oklahoma!* and *Green Grow the Lilacs*.
- **Herland Documentary premier and talk with University of Central Oklahoma filmmakers and Herland founder** April 25, 6 pm | OSU Museum of Art

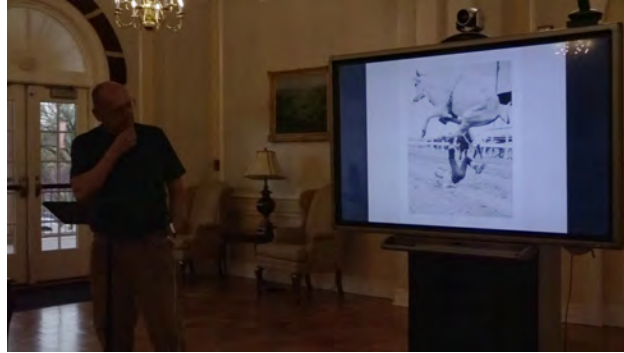
Opportunities for University Student Engagement

- Share your research during one of our late night invitationals, represent your student organization during a Final Friday Art Crawl, or schedule a tour with your friends. Reach out to [Carrie Kim](#), Curator of Education and Public Programming for details.

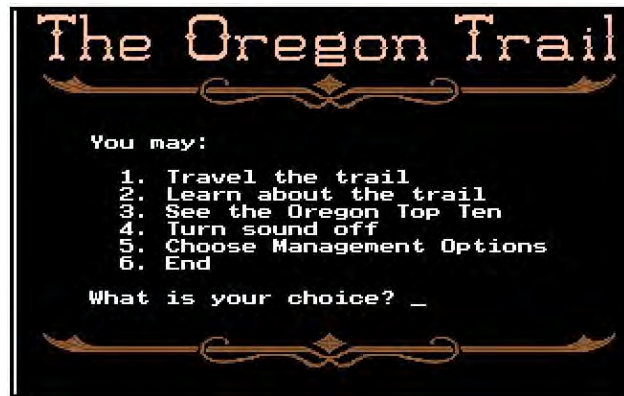
RESOURCES

The museum has many resources provided by the artists in our gathering space. Please feel free to enjoy the following materials (and more!) the next time you visit the museum.



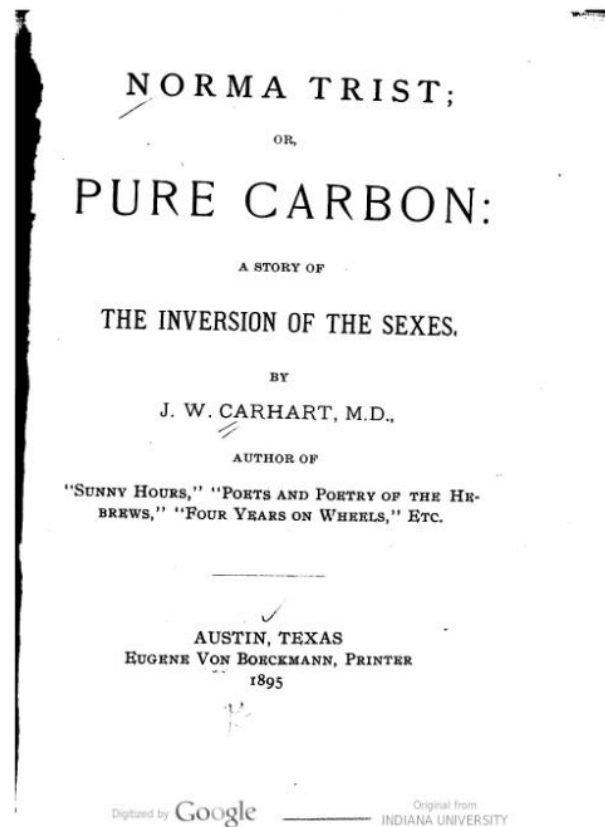


Wyoming



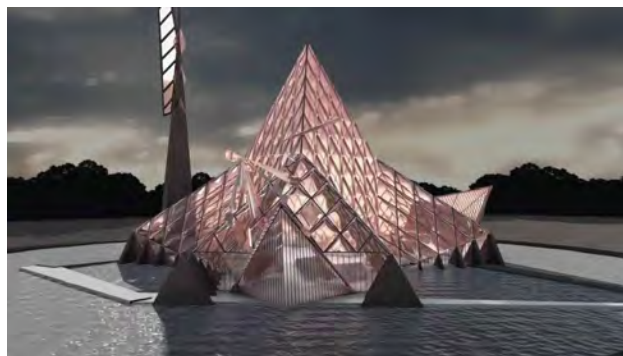
The artists discuss the ruts left in the dirt by explorers, pioneers, and others journeying the many trails. Rediscover one such trail in this classic throwback game. Play [Oregon Trail](#).

Texas



[Norma Trist; or Pure Carbon: A story of The Inversion of the Sexes](#) by J. W. Carhart, M.D.

Oklahoma



This animation was developed from (art)n's PHSCologram work of the same title. This piece was inspired by Bruce Goff's breathtaking designs for a nondenominational chapel at the University of Oklahoma. The chapel has been reconstructed with an array of various prisms advancing out into space. Refraction of light and reflection color break up the serene environment and awaken it with new energy.



[Never Built Oklahoma](#) - Explore renderings and a brief history behind Bruce Gough's non-denominational Crystal Chapel, the commissioned design that was never built.



Willow Geer and Jeff Wiesen

Photo by Ian Flanders

[The Roots of "Oklahoma!" Come Alive in "Green Grow the Lilacs"](#) - It was the poetry of Riggs' words, which reflected his own years **growing** up in rural **Oklahoma** at the turn of the 20th century, that inspired Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein to adapt Riggs' play for their landmark 1943 musical, retitled, first, *Away We Go!* and then, finally, **Oklahoma!**



See Rogers and Hammerstein's "Oklahoma!" live at Oklahoma State University.

April 25-27, 7:30 p.m. & April 28, 2:30 p.m. [Click here for details.](#)

Colorado

Learn more about [Trinidad](#) in this documentary.

LGBTQIA+ Resources & General Information



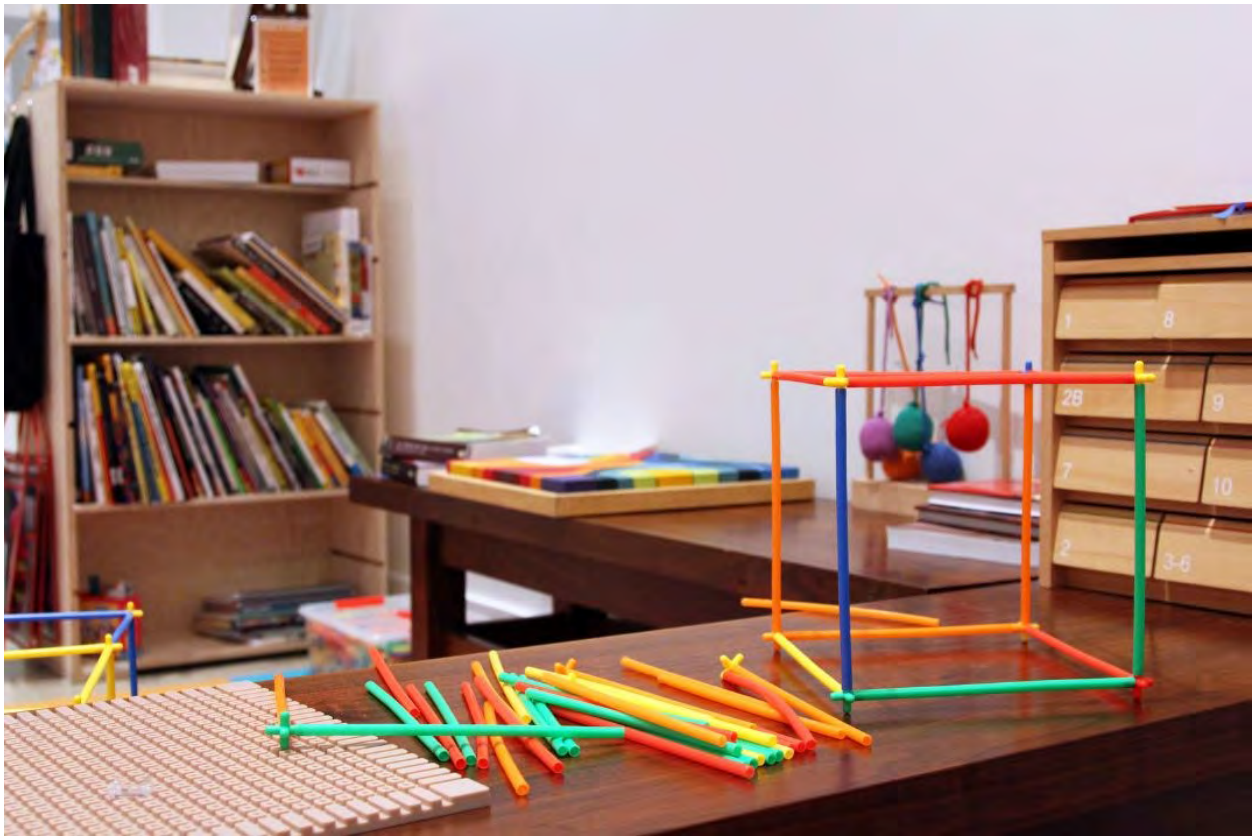
[Payne County Pride: Resources, Organizations, Advocacy Groups, and other links for LGBTQ+ persons and allies](#) - An excellent resource for general information; counseling, housing, or other support; state, OSU, and national organizations and resources; religious organizations; activism and political organizations; educational resources; as well as tips for supporting your LGBTQ+ children or friends. There are also links to Pride celebrations throughout the state of Oklahoma.

Payne County Pride #igniteYOURflame - April 6, 2019 | Stillwater, OK

- [LGBT rights in Oklahoma](#)
- [Stonewall riots](#) - Stonewall riots, also called Stonewall uprising, series of violent confrontations that began in the early hours of June 28, 1969, between police and gay rights activists outside the Stonewall Inn, a gay bar in the [Greenwich Village](#) section of [New York City](#). As the riots progressed, an international [gay rights movement](#) was born. [The stories shared within 50 States all take place prior to the Stonewall riots.]
- [How Gay Bars Have Been a Building Block of the LGBTQ Community: Gay nightlife has always served as vital space for community-building and escaping societal persecution](#) by Patrick Sission. - "Gay bars were our community center, our meet and greet, our place for organizing," Scott Gunkel, President of PrideFest in Milwaukee, told the local [Journal-Sentinel](#). "That was the bars. That was the bloodline of the community."
- [Out of the Closet, Into the Archives Researching Sexual Histories. Edited by Amy L. Stone and Jaime Cantrell. SUNY Press, 2015](#)
 - ***The first book to focus on the experience of LGBT archival research.*** *Out of the Closet, Into the Archives* takes readers inside the experience of how it feels to do queer archival research and queer research in the archive. The archive, much like the closet, exposes various levels of public and privateness—recognition, awareness, refusal, impulse, disclosure, framing, silence, cultural intelligibility—each mediated and determined through subjective insider/outsider ways of knowing. The contributors draw on their experiences conducting research in disciplines such as sociology, African American studies, English, communications, performance studies, anthropology, and women's and gender studies. These essays challenge scholars to engage with their affective experience of being in the archive, illuminating how the space of the archive requires a different kind of deeply personal, embodied research. Amy L. Stone is Associate Professor of Sociology and Anthropology at Trinity University and author of *Gay Rights at the Ballot Box*. Jaime Cantrell is Visiting Assistant Professor of English at the University of Mississippi.
- [Men Like That: A Southern Queer History. By John Howard. 1999 University of Chicago Press.](#)
 - We don't usually associate thriving queer culture with rural America, but John Howard's unparalleled history of queer life in the South persuasively debunks the myth that same-sex desires can't find expression outside the big city. In fact, this book shows that the nominally conservative institutions of small-town life—home, church, school, and workplace—were the very sites where queer sexuality flourished. As Howard recounts the life stories of the ordinary and the famous, often in their own words, he also locates the material traces of queer sexuality in the landscape: from the farmhouse to the church social, from sports facilities to roadside rest areas.
- [Just Queer Folks: Gender and Sexuality in Rural America. Colin R. Johnson](#)

- [A good ol' country time: Does queer rural temporality exist? Research article by Lucas Crawford. Dec. 2016.](#)
 - Some queer theorists have developed a theory of 'queer time', while others question the metronormativity of queer studies. However, we do not yet have an account of rural queer temporality. Drawing from a wide survey of works on queer time, this article sets out to imagine what such a theory might entail and how it might demand changes of queer theory. Considerations of rural queerness have tended to be representative or ethnographic in nature. This article takes a different tack: it lays the groundwork for a ruralizing reorganization of time and queer affect. To do so, it challenges the temporal modes that often underlie the ostensibly neutral preference for cities. It imagines a queer thing indeed: rural modes influencing queer city life.

IN THE ARTLAB





The artists have kindly provided an extensive selection of books that directly relate to their research for *50 States*. Come relax in the artLAB and browse at your leisure.



2 - George R. Kravis innovationLAB



3 - Draw Bag



4 - Looking + Talking cards



5 - Art Criticism 101

- Create digital art using our full Adobe Suite (including InDesign, Photoshop, and Illustrator), research your latest inspiration, mix a song on Garage Band, create a stop motion animation using iMovie, or digitize your art or explore a near-microscopic world using the Elmo Document Camera - all this and more at our **George R. Kravis InnovationLAB**, found in the artLAB. Not sure how to use the equipment? Ask an artLAB attendant for help.

- Feeling creative? Pick up a **Draw bag** stuffed with paper, pencils, and a clipboard and sketch in the artLAB or galleries. Stools are available in the galleries.
- Not sure how to look at art? Take a look at one of the "**Looking and Talking**" boxes. Each box holds a set of cards to help jump-start your experience.
- Have some fun with this list of actual quotes from art critics with **Art Criticism 101**. Find the works of art that you feel fit the critique. Critique a work of art with randomly selected card. Anything goes with this game, you're the critic!



6 - Check out our educator resources!

we support educators

**TOURS +
HANDS-ON
ACTIVITIES**



**BUS +
SUBSTITUTE
SUBSIDIES**



**PD W/
VISITING
ARTISTS**



**GRANTS
FOR STILL-
WATER
SCHOOLS**



**DAVIS ART
CURRICULUM**

To learn more, visit museum.okstate.edu



7 - Enjoy a book in our comfortable, sensory friendly chairs.



8 - Relax in our seating area or shake up your study scenery.



9 - We have lots of toys that foster play and learning.

Looking + Talking/Writing

Click the description links to download a copy.

ARTIFACT ANALYSIS

What materials is it made out of?
(Some possibilities: wood, glass, metal, plastic, bone, pottery, leather, cardboard)

What color is it? Does this appear to be its natural coloring or has it been painted or dyed?

DESCRIBE THE ARTIFACT

What is the general shape?

Does it have any moving parts? Describe them.

What is the size? (Height, length, width)

Are there any words, pictures, or symbols printed on the artifact? Describe them.

Draw a sketch of your object.

7 WAYS TO READ AN OBJECT

MANUFACTURE
WHAT IS THE OBJECT MADE OF? HOW WAS IT MADE?

FUNCTION
WHAT PURPOSES DOES THIS OBJECT SERVE?

ENVIRONMENT
WHERE MIGHT PEOPLE USE THIS OBJECT?

DEVELOPMENT
WHAT IS THE HISTORY OF THE OBJECT? IS IT SIMILAR TO OTHER OBJECTS MADE IN THE PAST?

CONTINUE ON BACK

[Artifact Analysis Worksheet](#) - OSU Museum of Art

What can we conclude about an artifact by looking closely and studying the object?

[7 Ways to Read an Object](#) - OSU Museum of Art

These questions guide students to consider an object more closely. Where did it come from? Who may have used it? Etc.

ABOUT THIS GUIDE

This Resource Guide was created by the Education and Programming team at OSU Museum of Art. As a teaching museum, we are passionate about arts education and visual literacy. To find more guides like this, visit the exhibition pages and look for the "Additional Resources" link, or visit <https://museum.okstate.edu/educator-resources>.

To learn more about visiting the museum, scheduling tours, or to access our Letter of Support for Educational Administrators, visit <https://museum.okstate.edu/tours>.

Come back soon!

[Check our website for extended hours. Admission is always free.](#)

Is there something you'd like to see at the museum? [We would love to hear from you.](#)

Oklahoma State University Museum of Art

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