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Walt Disney Archives to Hold Major Exhibition at the Bowers Museum!



November 14, 2019 (Santa Ana, California) –Coming to the Bowers March 7, 2020, the exhibition *Inside the Walt Disney Archives: 50 Years of Preserving the Magic* celebrates the legacy of The Walt Disney Company on the 50th anniversary of its archives, with behind-the-scenes access never before granted to the public. The 10,000-square-foot traveling exhibit, which premiered at D23 Expo Japan in 2018, will offer several rare items only on loan to the Bowers.

Guests are invited to step into the Walt Disney Archives as they walk through a dazzling display of more than 400 objects, including original artwork, costumes, and props that tell the story of the Archives, The Walt Disney Company, and Walt Disney himself. From nostalgic classics like never-before-displayed sketches for *Fantasia* and ghouls from the *Haunted Mansion* attraction, to modern-day favorites like maquettes from *Frozen* and super hero costumes, this enchanting exhibition is an immersive treasure-trove the entire family will love.

The exhibition will open with a full schedule of diverse programs, beginning with an opportunity for the press to preview the exhibition on the morning of Thursday, March 5 at 11 AM. The preview will be followed by an evening Gala fundraiser with an international VIP guest list. Bowers' exclusive Member Opening Night will take place on Friday, March 6 and include a special presentation by a speaker soon to be announced. The exhibition opens to the public on Saturday, March 7 and will continue through August 30, 2020 with family-friendly programming and presentations.

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This exhibition kicks off a larger celebration for the Walt Disney Archives' 50th anniversary, with festivities continuing throughout the year in 2020. Members of [D23: The Official Disney Fan Club](#) will be invited to enjoy an exclusive look at the exhibit before it opens to the general public during a special preview night where they can chat with Disney archivists while exploring the exhibit, which runs through August 30, 2020, before heading to other locations around the

country (to be revealed in 2020). D23 Gold Members will also receive a discount on tickets to the exhibit, as well as a discount on merchandise in the museum store.

Inside the Walt Disney Archives: 50 Years of Preserving the Magic is curated by the Walt Disney Archives in conjunction with the Bowers Museum.

About the Walt Disney Archives

For nearly five decades, the Walt Disney Archives has carefully safeguarded the most treasured items from The Walt Disney Company's history, including original scripts, movie props and costumes, Walt Disney's correspondence and script notes, theme park artifacts, merchandise, millions of archival photographs, and many of Walt's personal effects. Founded by Disney Legend Dave Smith in 1970, the Walt Disney Archives is a vital resource for every part of Disney, as well as an important research center for Disney scholars, researchers, and writers. The Archives also shares its countless pieces with Disney fans everywhere through its exhibitions and close association with D23: The Official Disney Fan Club.

About Bowers Museum

The **Bowers Museum** has earned an international reputation through its world-class exhibitions, including *Guo Pei: Couture Beyond*; *A Quest for Beauty: Van Cleef & Arpels*; *Warriors, Tombs and Temples: China's Enduring Legacy*; *Terra Cotta Warriors: Guardians of China's First Emperor*; and *Mummies—Death and the Afterlife: Treasures from the British Museum*, as well as its own extensive art collections from the Americas and the South Pacific. Enjoy a leisurely luncheon at our award-winning Patina restaurant, **Tangata**. Browse the rare and exotic at the **Bowers Museum Gallery Store**. It's more than just a shopping trip—it's a cultural experience. Visit bowers.org for information and tickets.

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Spectacular Opening Events Usher in Walt Disney Archives Exhibition at Bowers Museum



January 17 (Santa Ana, California) –The highly anticipated exhibition *Inside the Walt Disney Archives: 50 Years of Preserving the Magic* opens at the Bowers Museum to the public Saturday, March 7, surrounded by an array of world-class programs and celebrations. While early **ticket sales became available for Bowers Members starting January 15, public ticket sales begin February 1 and are expected to sell out quickly!**

After an **evening preview for D23 Members** on Wednesday, March 4 and a **press preview** the following morning, the Bowers Museum proudly presents a night of extravagant celebrations during its annual Gala, held this year in celebration of the magic of Disney. The **Honorary Chair of the Disney Gala, held on Thursday, March 5**, will be none other than Bob Weis, President of Walt Disney Imagineering, the creative engine behind experiences found in Disney theme parks, resort hotels, and cruise ships. Weis also has oversight of games and publishing, as well as global product creation.

More than 300 of the Bowers' most loyal supporters are anticipated to attend what promises to be another evening of stimulating entertainment, from highly coveted live auction items to live performances, and fine dining provided by Patina Restaurant Group. Patina operates Bowers' onsite Restaurant, Tangata, with sister restaurants in Disney Springs in Orlando Florida and Downtown Disney® including Catal Restaurant, Uva Bar & Café, Naples Ristorante e Pizzeria, and Tortilla Jo's.

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Becky Cline, Director of
Disney Archives

Opening Weekend at the Bowers kicks off Saturday, March 7 with the public opening of the exhibition at 10 am. The exhibition will be specially ticketed and timed-entry to accommodate the anticipated crowds. **Becky Cline, Director of the Walt Disney Archives**, will provide an opening day lecture in the Norma Kershaw Auditorium at 1:30 pm.

On Sunday, March 8 the **legendary Disney Filmmaker Don Hahn** will provide a second lecture and wrap up opening celebrations at the Bowers with a bang. Best known for producing beloved films including *Maleficent*, *The Lion King*, and *Beauty and the Beast*, this lecture is expected to sell out early. Tickets are available at bowers.org starting February 1. Member tickets went on sale January 15.

Full Schedule of Opening Events

- Wednesday, March 4: D23 Member Reception
- Thursday, March 5: Press Preview
- Thursday, March 5: Disney Gala
- Friday, March 6: Bowers Member Opening
- Saturday, March 7: Opening Day Lecture by Walt Disney Archives Director Becky Cline
- Sunday, March 8: Lecture by Disney Filmmaker Don Hahn



Don Hahn, Disney Filmmaker

A full schedule of events with programs held every weekend will soon be released by the Bowers. Members are encouraged to take advantage of the opportunity to purchase tickets early for select events, including both opening weekend lectures and a seat at the **'Eat Like Walt' Dinner with highly celebrated author, Marcy Smothers** being held on Saturday, March 21. Details at bowers.org.

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For nearly five decades, the Walt Disney Archives has carefully safeguarded the most treasured items from The Walt Disney Company's history, including original scripts, movie props and costumes, Walt Disney's correspondence and script notes, theme park artifacts, merchandise, millions of archival photographs, and many of Walt's personal effects. Founded by Disney Legend Dave Smith in 1970, the Walt Disney Archives is a vital resource for every part of Disney, as well as an important research center for Disney scholars, researchers, and writers. The Archives also shares its countless pieces with Disney fans everywhere through its exhibitions and close association with D23: The Official Disney Fan Club.

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New Health and Safety Precautions

While the Bowers Museum is excited to welcome back the public, their safety and that of our staff is of the utmost importance. Accordingly, the Bowers Museum Reopening Taskforce has developed the following greatly enhanced health and safety precautions for both our staff and our visitors. Learn more at bowers.org.



Facial coverings are required for all staff and visitors.



6 feet of social distancing



Additional Hand Sanitizers



Increased cleaning protocols in frequency and scope



Helpful safety signs



Closed drinking fountains

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Bowers Museum Announces June 19 Reopening and Disney Exhibit Extension into fall!

June 12, 2020 (Santa Ana, California) – The Bowers Museum is overjoyed to reopen our doors to the public on Friday, June 19 – just in time for Father’s Day! Additionally, Frontline Healthcare and Emergency Services Workers will receive complimentary admission to the Bowers, along with our gratitude.

With the help of a little Disney magic, we are also thrilled to announce our spectacular exhibition *Inside the Walt Disney Archives: 50 Years of Preserving the Magic* will be extended through October 18! Visitors are invited to experience the wonder of Disney at the Bowers and bring home the fun with a range of new virtual programs, visit [bowers.org/Disney](https://www.bowers.org/Disney) for tickets and upcoming Disney events.

DISNEY ON THE GO: With over 25,000 visitors since its launch, Bowers’ digital guide for this exhibition continues to offer accessibility on the go from on any mobile device at [guide.bowers.org](https://www.bowers.org/guide).



June 20: *Walt’s Great Adventures with Walt Disney Archives Director, Becky Cline*

1:30 PM | VIRTUAL | Ticketed Event: Member \$5, General \$10

Additional virtual offerings from the Bowers Museum will continue to be provided through Bowers’ portal **Bowers at Home** at [bowers.org/athome](https://www.bowers.org/athome). BAH provides downloadable projects, virtual exhibition tours and art lessons, music playlists, curated archives of past lectures, podcasts, and virtual festivals for a community that is more global than ever. #bowersathome

About the exhibition *Inside the Walt Disney Archives*

In this 10,000-square-foot traveling exhibit guests are invited to step into the Walt Disney Archives as they walk through a dazzling display of 465 objects, including 50 pieces original artwork, 15 original screen-worn costumes, 3 cars and other props that tell the story of the Archives, The Walt Disney Company, and Walt Disney himself. #disneyatbowers

Inside the Walt Disney Archives: 50 Years of Preserving the Magic is curated by the Walt Disney Archives in conjunction with the Bowers Museum.



Inside the Walt Disney Archives: 50 Years of Preserving the Magic by the Numbers

3/7 The date the exhibition opens to the public

465 Items from the Archives on display in *Inside the Walt Disney Archives*

100 Age of the Archives' oldest item, now on display at the Bowers: a megaphone Walt Disney used while making films in the 1920s

3 Cars on display in the exhibition

1,500 The number of dollars it cost in 1959 to create the "jewel"-encrusted *Sleeping Beauty* (1959) storybook cover (on view)

15 The number of feet tall the Baloo Puppet on view would be if stood straight up (on view)

2018 The year Wes Anderson's *Isle of Dogs* was released (dog puppets Duke, Rex, Boss on view)

5 The number of production art pieces on view from *Edward Scissorhands* (1990)

12,000 The number of cels (like the Donald Duck cel on display in the exhibit) it used to take to make an eight-minute short

15 Original screen-worn costumes in the exhibit

1957 The year the first commercially- released motion picture soundtrack, *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*, was released (on view)

50 Pieces of original artwork in the exhibition

8/30 The date the exhibition closes

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WALT DISNEY ARCHIVES IS ESTABLISHED

Walt Disney Productions and the Disney family have announced the establishment of the Walt Disney Archives. It will be the goal of the Archives to collect, preserve, catalog and make available for study and use the historical material relating to Walt Disney and the entire Disney organization.

Although the focal point of the collection will be Walt Disney's personal papers and business files, the Archives will be audio-visual oriented, providing facilities for the scholarly study of the studio's motion picture product, character merchandise, art work, publications, awards, photographs and other business records.

David R. Smith, formerly a Reference Librarian at UCLA, has been named to head the archives program. Smith, the recipient of a Master's degree in Library Science from the University of California, Berkeley, also participated in the internship program at the Library of Congress in Washington, D. C. for eighteen months, before joining UCLA in 1965.

In 1967, Smith began the compilation of an extensive Walt Disney bibliography, listing all motion pictures, television programs, books, comics, periodicals and sheet music created by the

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Disney Studios, as well as all books and articles about Walt Disney, the Studio and Disneyland. In 1969, Smith conducted the initial surveys for the archives program.

Commenting on the program, Smith has said, "The Walt Disney Archives is an important step, not only for Walt Disney Productions, but for the entertainment industry as well. Too few of the motion picture studios have given thought to the preservation of their history, and because of this fact, a wealth of information has been lost."

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Inside the Walt Disney Archives: 50 Years of Preserving the Magic Image Usage Guidelines


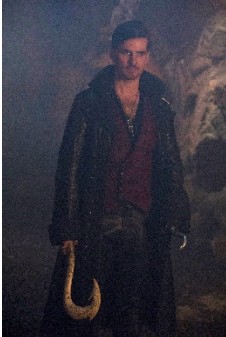
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2. The following credit line should be used on all promotional materials related to this exhibition:

Inside the Walt Disney Archives: 50 Years of Preserving the Magic is curated by the Walt Disney Archives in conjunction with the Bowers Museum.


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	<p>3</p>	<p>Disney Theatrical: <i>The Lion King</i> on Broadway, Original Wildebeest Mask costume, Walt Disney Archives, ©Disney</p>
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	8	<p><i>Mary Poppins</i> (1964) (Walt Disney Productions), Original Alphabet Block Set Prop, Walt Disney Archives, ©Disney</p>
	9	<p>Opening Day Ticket, <i>Disneyland</i> (1955), purchased by Roy O. Disney, Walt Disney Archives, ©Disney</p>

Installation Images available as of 7/22/20

	1	<p><i>Inside the Walt Disney Archives: 50 Years of Preserving the Magic</i> at Bowers Museum, installation shot 2020.</p>
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	2	<p><i>Inside the Walt Disney Archives: 50 Years of Preserving the Magic</i> at Bowers Museum, installation shot 2020.</p>
	3	<p><i>Inside the Walt Disney Archives: 50 Years of Preserving the Magic</i> at Bowers Museum, installation shot 2020.</p>
	4	<p><i>Inside the Walt Disney Archives: 50 Years of Preserving the Magic</i> at Bowers Museum, installation shot 2020.</p>