



FASSBENDER PHOTOGRAPHIC COLLECTION



2023 Funding Request

Prepared for: City of Deadwood, S.D.

Prepared by: Richard Carlson, Digital Specialist

June 1, 2022

Amount requested: \$20,000



FASSBENDER PHOTOGRAPHIC COLLECTION

The Fassbender Photograph Collection is a significant photographic resource for historians of the American West. It contains an estimated 800,000 images and hundreds of photographic artifacts and archival materials.

Joseph Fassbender was a prolific photographer, recording many of the most important events in the Black Hills during the 20th century. His photographs appeared in Life Magazine, Time, Ford Magazine, and the Saturday Evening Post. He also purchased historic photos shot by other Black Hills area photographers, including some of the first to arrive in Dakota Territory.

The communities of Spearfish, Lead, and Deadwood purchased the Fassbender Photographic Collection in 2010. Each community appointed individuals to a board of directors to oversee organization and conservation efforts for the collection and have been supporting the efforts with funding. Beginning in 2016, funding from Lawrence County was added to the effort.

For 2023, we are requesting the following amount: **\$20,000**

Currently the digital specialist position at Deadwood History has a primary focus on making the collection accessible to the public and also to the volunteers that assist with the conservation efforts.

Conservation efforts remains an important part of the mission. In addition, educational opportunities and field trips related to photography and the history of the area have enhanced the awareness of the general public.

We have continued our participation in various history conferences in addition to publicly presenting information about the collection to various groups in the three communities. In addition, we've fulfilled many requests for images used both commercially and privately. In past years, our efforts were mostly focused on sorting and cataloguing. We hope to shift more toward information gathering by tapping into volunteers and entities with a history-related mission to collaborate.

All of these efforts will be enhanced by the stewardship agreement with Deadwood History, Inc.(DHI) that commenced on January 1, 2022. The agreement formalized a more streamlined management of shared staff resources, exhibit opportunities at DHI properties, financial record-keeping, public outreach, and education opportunities.

A quarterly newsletter that debuted in 2017 continues to be popular and highlights our activities and discoveries.

Please consider continued funding of the Fassbender Photographic Collection, feel free to contact me with questions.

Included in this packet are financial and newsletter documents. More newsletter documents can be found at <https://www.historicblackhillstudios.org/Newsletters>

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BYLAWS
of the
FASSBENDER PHOTOGRAPHIC COLLECTION, INC.

ARTICLE 1
NAME AND PURPOSES

Section 1.01. Name. The name of the organization is FASSBENDER PHOTOGRAPHIC COLLECTION, INC.

Section 1.02. Purpose. The Corporation is organized for the charitable and educational purposes to preserve and conserve the historic Fassbender photographic collection for public enrichment of the Northern Black Hills history.

ARTICLE 2
MEMBERS

Section 2.01. Classes. The membership of the corporation shall consist of three members, namely the serving Mayor of the City of Lead, the City of Spearfish, and the City of Deadwood. Members may establish and provide for associate, non-voting classes of membership to individuals and corporations which support the mission and the purposes of the organization, and who provide in-kind services or other financial support to the corporation.

Section 2.02. Qualifications. The Board of Directors may establish one or more classes of associate, non-voting membership, and establish dues or other financial requirements for obtaining associate membership. Associate members shall have no voting rights. The Board may also provide for suspension or termination of associate members who become ineligible for associate membership, or whom shall be in default in the payment of dues or other financial contributions.

Section 2.03. Meetings. The annual membership meeting shall be held in March of each year, or at any other time established by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall also set the time and place of each annual meeting.

Section 2.04. Quorum. A quorum shall consist of a majority of the members attending in person or through teleconferencing. All decisions will be by a majority vote of those present at a meeting at which a quorum is present. In the absence of a quorum, a majority of the members present may adjourn any meeting until a quorum be had. Notice of any adjourned meeting need not be given.

ARTICLE 3
AUTHORITY AND DUTIES OF DIRECTORS

Section 3.01. Authority of Directors. The Board of Directors is the policy-making body and may exercise all the powers and authority granted to the Corporation by law.

2022 Fassbender Collection Proposed Budget

EXPENSES	BUDGET	
Wages/Administrative/Benefits	\$46,940.00	
Storage 1 (vault)	\$10,560.00	
Storage 2 (office)	\$0.00	
Equipment	\$3,500.00	
Supplies	\$5,000.00	
Accounting/Administrative	\$0.00	
Marketing/Web	\$2,500.00	
Insurance	\$1,500.00	
Total	\$70,000.00	
REVENUE		
City of Deadwood	\$20,000.00	
City of Lead	\$20,000.00	
City of Spearfish	\$20,000.00	
County of Lawrence	\$10,000.00	
Total	\$70,000.00	

HISTORIC BLACK HILLS STUDIOS

HOME OF THE FASSBENDER PHOTOGRAPHIC COLLECTION

Featured Artifact

The Argus Argoflex E is a twin lens reflex camera. The camera had Vorex 75mm f4.5 lens and used 120 and 620 films. It was made from 1940 to 1948 by Argus.



Argus Argoflex E

Photography Quote:

When people look at my pictures I want them to feel the way they do when they want to read a line of a poem twice.

-Robert Frank



Day in the Darkroom

The photography room at Spearfish High School was busy with “non-traditional” students in February. Participants attending the “Day in the Darkroom” event had access to the high school’s darkroom and also the expertise of a teacher and some of her students.

Black and white film was distributed in the weeks leading up to the day in the darkroom. Photographers exposed those rolls of film and gathered at the school to see the results.

The day consisted of demonstration and instruction on film processing followed by work with equipment to enlarge the negatives to prints up to 8”x10”.



Left: Spearfish High School Visual Arts Instructor Elise Fowlkes demonstrates some of the procedures for loading and processing b&w film.

Below: Inspecting negatives on a light table with a loupe.

Photography students at the high school became “teachers” for the day and assisted with all the processes.

Once film was processed, it was hung up to dry. The dry negatives were then cut into strips and put into clear sheets for handling.

The sheets of negatives were then printed onto a sheet of photosensitive paper by exposing a controlled amount of light yielding a positive “contact sheet”. A correctly exposed contact sheet would help with the editing process (selecting which of the negatives to enlarge.)

(More photos continued on page 2)



From the Collection



Undated "Winter Golf" Spearfish.



Winter Storm March 1929 Spearfish.



Winter Storm March 1929 Spearfish.



Winter Storm May 1942 Spearfish.

Photography Community

•**Black Hills Focus Group**
(historicblackhillsstudios.org/BHFG)

•**Black Hills Photography Club**
(blackhillsphotographyclub.com)

•**Black Hills Photo Shootout** and
related photography events
(blackhillsphotoshootout.com)

Darkroom (cont. from pg. 1)



Above: Pouring chemicals into tank. **Left:** removing film from tank and reel after processing. **Below:** Using a film changing tent to load film into tank while protecting from light. **Bottom:** Samples of prints from participants.



HISTORIC BLACK HILLS STUDIOS

HOME OF THE FASSBENDER PHOTOGRAPHIC COLLECTION

New to the Board

Welcome to Gary Linn as a new board member for the Fassbender Photographic Collection. Linn is currently in his 35th year as the K-12 Librarian for the Lead-Deadwood School District. He is actively involved with our student body being the student council advisor for 32 years and prom advisor 6 years. He has also been South Dakota State Executive Director of Student Councils for 10 years and on the Hearst Library board for 30 years.



Gary Linn

Photography Quote:

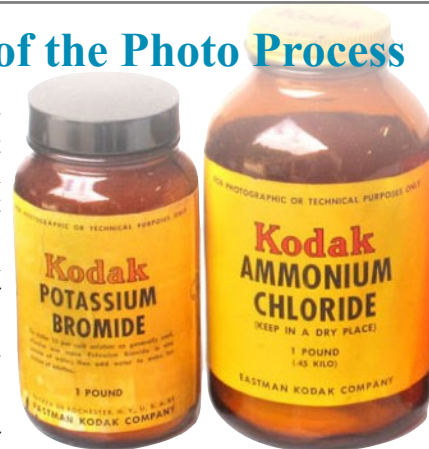
"I began to realize that the camera sees the world differently than the human eye and that sometimes those differences can make a photograph more powerful than what you actually observed."

—Galen Rowell



Chemicals Part of the Photo Process

Chemicals were a necessary part of the process when it came to the end product in photography. The light sensitive component in film is silver and it was embedded in an emulsion on the glass or celluloid substrate. A recipe with numerous chemicals and instructions were used to convert the films to an image we can see. Developer changed the silver to a silver halide and, after rinsing and halting the actions of the developer, other chemicals were used to clear away the undeveloped portions and leave a negative image that we can see. (more on pg. 2)



Above: Potassium bromide was typically used as a 'modifier' in developer (to change contrast or limit fogging of the film). Ammonium chloride was sometimes used in developing, toning and bleaching processes.

Featured Artifact

Photogenic has been a long time manufacturer of photographic lighting and still provides many studio products to this day. This Photogenic Speed-Lite is accompanied by a companion power supply. This and other similar models date to the late 1960s.

Photogenic was founded in 1903.



Photogenic Speed-Lite 8080 with power supply model S-200. (35mm film camera for scale)

Recently Digitized...



Undated image Spearfish Bus Co.



Undated image of Tourist Park cabin in Spearfish.



1928 Days of 76 Parade float



Undated Spearfish High School Girls Glee Club

Photography Community

- **Black Hills Focus Group**
(historicblackhillstudios.org/BHFG)
- **Black Hills Photography Club**
(blackhillphotographyclub.com)
- **Black Hills Photo Shootout** and related photography events
(blackhillphotoshootout.com)

Chemistry (cont. from pg. 1)

Some chemicals were hazardous to handle, while others were relatively harmless. Digital photography has mostly displaced the chemical-based process. However, some hobbyists are returning to the film and chemical methods in recent years.

Locally, students enrolled in the photography program at Black Hills State University are required to do a semester with traditional, chemical based black & white film in the darkroom before enrolling in digital photography classes. Spearfish High School is among very few high schools that still have a traditional darkroom.

Watch for an opportunity to participate in a “Day in the Darkroom” at Spearfish High School in February by visiting blackhillshistory.org and clicking on “EDUCATION”.



Above: A variety of chemicals used in the photographic process.

Stewardship Agreement with DHI

The board of directors for the Fassbender Photographic Collection (FPC) are pleased to announce a stewardship agreement with Deadwood History, Inc. (DHI)

The collection has been co-owned by the Cities of Lead, Deadwood and Spearfish since 2010. Since then, the cities have provided funding for storage and conservation efforts. Lawrence County has also provided funding in recent years.

During that time, the FPC board of directors has contracted with DHI for the storage of the collection which includes an employee dedicated to the conservation efforts.

The new stewardship agreement takes the prior contract a bit further by streamlining financials, sharing of staff resources and increased exhibit opportunities at DHI properties and elsewhere.

Shared staff resources include expertise in museum and archives industry best practices, financial record-keeping, public outreach, marketing and education.

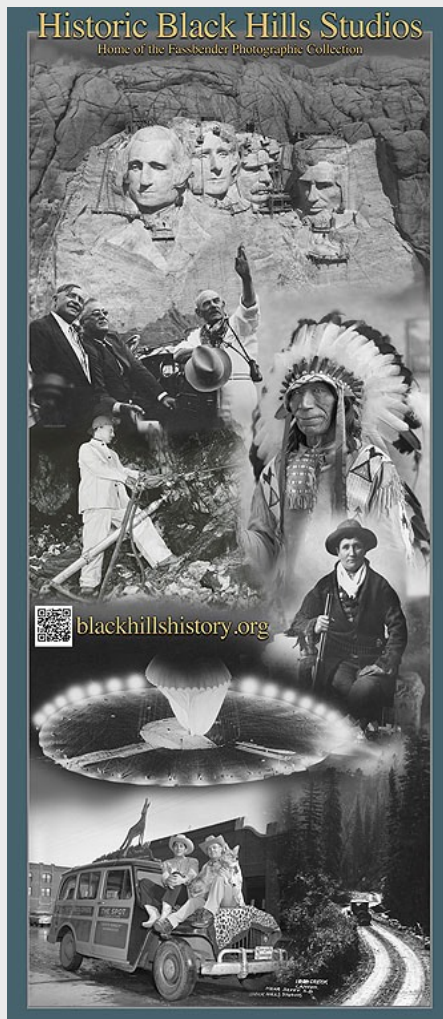
The stewardship agreement will commence January 1, 2022.

HISTORIC BLACK HILLS STUDIOS

HOME OF THE FASSBENDER PHOTOGRAPHIC COLLECTION

New Banner

A new banner for display was printed by Quik Signs of Spearfish. The display measures 33" wide and 79" tall. The retractable banner is easily transported and will help with our visual presence at a variety of events. The design used a collage of 8 photographs from the collection.



Photography Quote:

"Photography records the gamut of feelings written on the human face, the beauty of the earth and skies that man has inherited, and the wealth and confusion man has created. It is a major force in explaining man to man."

- Edward Steichen

Getting the Collection out to the Public



Above: Attendees at the Photographic Society of America festival in Rapid City get a closer look at a Century No. 7 camera on display. The camera dates to 1910.

We were able to share the Fassbender Photographic Collection with the public by displaying at several events this fall.

Historic photographs and equipment were on display at the West River History Conference in Spearfish, Photographic Society of America Festival in Rapid City and a joint convention of the South Dakota Newspaper Association and the North Dakota Newspaper Association in Deadwood.

The new banner featured in the story on this page made its debut appearance at the West River History Conference at the High Plains Western Heritage Center in Spearfish. More than 200 people were registered for the photography festival and nearly 100 for the history conference. **(more on page 2)**

Below: Fassbender Photographic Collection images were featured in the gallery at the festival in addition to several vintage cameras.

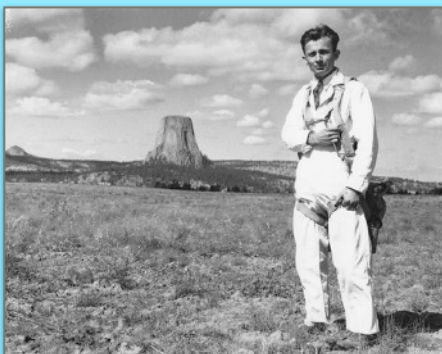


80 Years Ago

Parachutist George Hopkins made his infamous jump onto Devils Tower in October of 1941. Hopkins ended up stranded for 6 days before being rescued by a team of climbers. The story ended up getting national attention. Here are a few photos of the event from the Fassbender Collection.



Pilot Joe Quinn and George Hopkins prior to the Devil's Tower parachute jump Oct. 1, 1941.



Hopkins posed in front of Devils Tower.



Hopkins getting interviewed after his rescue from the top of Devils Tower.

Public (cont. from pg. 1)

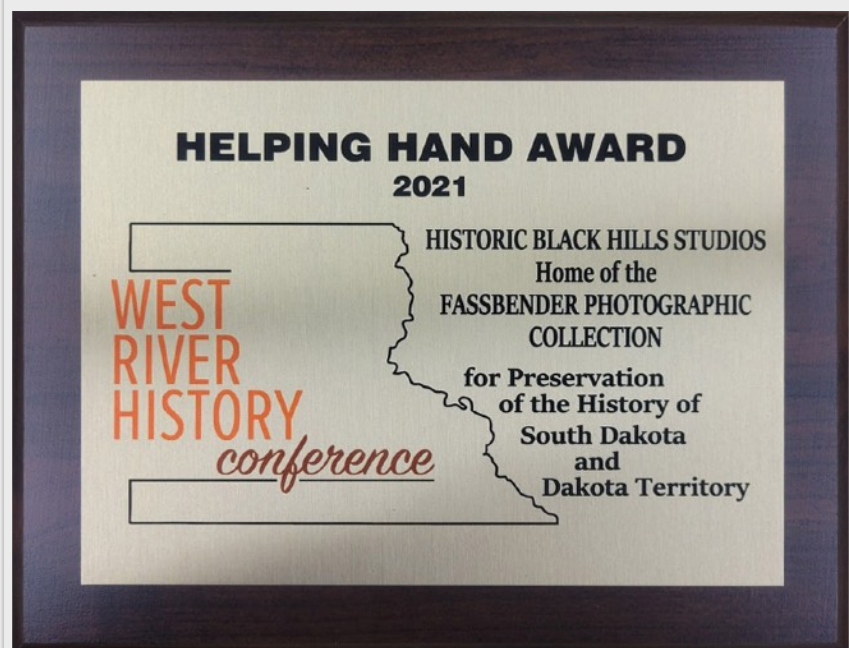


Above: Items on display at newspaper convention in Deadwood. Photos from the collection were published in the Belle Fourche Beacon related to a dedication to law enforcement officers slain in 1946.

Helping Hand Award

The Fassbender Photographic Collection received a "Helping Hand" award at the West River History Conference held at the High Plains Western Heritage Center Oct. 9. The award is given to individuals or organizations who have made consistent contributions to the success of the conference. Deadwood History, Inc. also received the award.

Fassbender Photographic Collection board president Julianne Zoller was on hand to accept the award.



HISTORIC BLACK HILLS STUDIOS

HOME OF THE FASSBENDER PHOTOGRAPHIC COLLECTION

New to the Board

Welcome to Dan Blakeman as a new board member for the Fassbender Photographic Collection. Blakeman, who replaced Mike Stahl as Lead's city administrator, fills the role of liaison for the city of Lead on the board. Blakeman's most recent service includes council and mayor positions in Pinehaven, WY and operations officer in Moorcroft, WY.



Dan Blakeman

Photography Events

The Black Hills Focus Group will resume as we work on scheduling future presenters, both virtual and in-person. Keep tabs on us on Historic Black Hills Studios Facebook page and email. Also soon to come will be a mini classroom with 3 computers to learn how to edit photos.

The Black Hills Photo Shootout is scheduled for Sept. 24-26, 2021 after an all virtual event last year. For more info goto:
<https://blackhillshotshootout.online/>

Anyone interested in being invited to the Zoom meetings can email Richard at:
fassbendercollection@gmail.com

Retouching Part of the Image Making

Stating that an image has been "Photoshopped" is commonly understood terminology these days. It may mean simple retouching or compositing or completely replacing parts of an image. Digital photography and the software tools used to edit and manipulate images are now the norm. Some of those retouching tasks had a place in the past as well. Spotone and other colored dyes were used for retouching or colorizing images. (more on pg. 2)



Below: Spotone was a commonly used dye for touching up black & white prints. Different bottles in a kit were for matching cool and warm tones in addition to lightness and darkness of the area to be retouched by varying the dilution. Sometimes this method was used simply to remove a light spec on the image resulting from a bit of dust on the print. This saved the cost of reprinting the image.

Featured Artifact

The Kodak "Tourist" camera was produced from 1948-51 and was replaced by the "Tourist II" series. The camera used 620 film with each frame measuring 2 1/4" x 3 1/4" or roughly 6 x 9 cm. One roll yielded 8 exposures. The camera was also capable of using a different sized film called 828 which resulted in a slightly "telephoto" effect due the film's smaller size.



The lens was not interchangeable and the camera was also available with a Kodak Tourist Adapter Kit which consisted of some masks to overlay on the film for different sizes.

The Kodak "Tourist" camera

Recently Digitized...



Queen's Motel Spearfish July 1959



Rainbow Motel Spearfish September 1962



Royal Rest Motel Spearfish June 1961



Excel Motel Spearfish, June 1961

Photography Quote:

"To me, photography is the simultaneous recognition, in a fraction of a second, of the significance of an event."

- Henri Cartier-Bresson

Retouching (cont. from pg. 1)

Hand-coloring black and white photographs can be traced back to the beginning of photography. The arrival of the first Kodachrome color slide film in 1935 diminished the need for the skill. Present day digital artists now use software to add color to historic photos.



Above: Marshall photo color oils used for retouching or coloring photographic prints.

Spearfish High School Job Shadow

Spearfish High School student Madalen Sprigler spent some time with the Fassbender Photographic Collection this spring as a part of her career planning class. Sprigler has interest in pursuing a career as an archivist and used her time to become familiar with the process. Sorting, repackaging, cataloguing and digitizing were all part of the job shadow experience. "I met several people while job shadowing that really helped guide me in a good direction for what schooling I'd need in order to go into a history related job field" said Sprigler who also happens to be a descendant of the Fassbender family.



Above: Madalen Sprigler sorts envelopes to be repackaged and cataloged.

HISTORIC BLACK HILLS STUDIOS

HOME OF THE FASSBENDER PHOTOGRAPHIC COLLECTION

New to the Board

Welcome to Vicki Dar as a new board member for the Fassbender Photographic Collection. Vicki moved to Deadwood several years ago. Her background is in publishing and her current project is "SouthDakotaSenior.com," provides information and resources folks 50+ need to live the best life possible in South Dakota.



Vicki Dar

Black Hills Focus Group

The Black Hills Focus Group will resume as a virtual gathering in April. Pandemic restrictions have kept us from doing in-person meetings and continues to be an unknown. The April presenter is

Grace Pritchett, photojournalist with the Rapid City Journal.



Grace Pritchett

If we are able to resume meetings in person, notification will be on the Historic Black Hills Studios Facebook page and email.

Anyone interested in being invited to the Zoom meetings can email Richard at: fassbendercollection@gmail.com

Panoramas in the Collection

The Fassbender Photographic Collection contains a number of panorama prints and negatives. These images are typically created as horizontal or "landscape" orientation. While scenic images can often be accentuated with such a strong horizontal aspect ratio,

panoramas were often used for large groups as seen in some of the images on page 2.

One of the common (and larger) sizes was a piece of film that measured 8 in. x 4 ft.

(more on pg. 2)



Left: Verichrome panoramic film and boxes for "Cirkut" cameras.

Featured Artifact

The Mazda foil-filled blue flash bulb was among a series of products trademarked by General Electric (GE) in 1909 for incandescent light bulbs. The flashbulbs pictured are likely from the 1930s. They came in a variety of sizes and produced a large amount of light for photography and were used when an inadequate amount of existing light prevented practical exposures.

The duration of the flash was about 1/50th of a second. For comparison, current day flashes (or speedlights) have durations of 1/400th to 1/20,000th of a second.



Recently Digitized...



Early 1940s image of downtown Deadwood



Undated image of Air Fair at Black Hills Airport in Spearfish



Parade in Faith, S.D. dated 1911

Photography Quote:

"When you photograph people in color, you photograph their clothes. But when you photograph people in Black and white, you photograph their souls!"

— Ted Grant

Volunteering Through Pandemic

Jim Muchow has done his share of volunteering for the collection for years. In fact, in 2019, Jim earned a conservation merit award at the West River History Conference. Volunteering usually means coming into the facility where the collection is stored.

However, precautions due to the Covid-19 pandemic led to the decision to not have volunteers working at the facility. With Jim's long and trusted history of handling the collection, we were able to send some boxes with him and he continued his efforts from home.

Muchow enters basic information about the packets in a spreadsheet along with the condition of the film or print.

The sorting of these items amounts to a basic inventory of the items on their way to being catalogued or digitized.



Above: Jim Muchow works on boxes of negatives in his home office.

Panoramas (cont. from pg. 1)

In order to create the image, the lens had to pivot during exposure to cast the image on the entire piece of film. Once the film was processed, a 'contact print' was made by exposing light through the film onto light sensitive printing paper which resulted in a print exactly the same size as the film. Panoramic films were available in smaller sizes as well.



Panoramas from the Fassbender Photographic Collection