



## Who We Are

The J.M. Davis Arms & Historical Museum opened in 1965 and is a State of Oklahoma museum located in Claremore. The museum cares for one of the largest and most important firearms and Americana collections in the US. It serves as an educational resource and a tourist destination for visitors from across Oklahoma and around the world.

The museum preserves the J.M. Davis collection and shares it with the public through exhibits, programs, and educational experiences that explain the role of firearms in American history and culture.

## Recent Progress FY 2025–FY 2026

- Major new exhibition just opened for the Rt. 66 Centennial, *Norman Rockwell: In Search of America*
- Increased marketing efforts to bring in more visitors.
- Planned improvements for museum building and exhibits.
- Capital campaign launched for future museum renovation. \$5M campaign goal.

## Renovation Funding and Progress

- Capital campaign has raised \$1.1 M to support museum renovations.
- Additional funding is being pursued for broader scope renovations, including both interior and exterior improvements (Our last renovation was completed in 1994).

## Budget Request

- FY 2027 Museum Budget Request: \$500K toward museum operations (Unchanged from FY 2026 approp).
- As our Museum Capital Campaign continues, **we respectfully request an additional \$2.5 M from the State of Oklahoma to be used for the museum renovation project.** We will raise the remaining \$1.4M of our \$5M goal through private resources.
- This public-private effort will ensure a more dynamic, comprehensive and successful completion of the project and will greatly enhance the tourism, travel and educational interests of both public and private sectors of our community. This joint effort will directly address our long-overdue need to meet contemporary tourism standards and visitor expectations.

## FY 2026 Planned Work

- Completion of museum improvements including building exterior, front entrance, signage, and landscaping.
- A major exhibition on the American Revolution will open in April.
- Update specific gallery spaces with clearer displays, enhanced didactics and better visitor traffic flow.
- Redesign the museum website to improve access and information.

## FY 2027 Focus Areas

- Completion of museum interior renovation plan, including new exhibits, expanded gift shop and public gathering spaces.
- Continue marketing efforts to increase visitorship and public educational outreach.

## What This Budget Supports

The FY 2027 budget request supports the care of a nationally important collection, completion of long-needed building renovations, improved educational opportunities, and continued growth in tourism and community engagement.