

Thomas Hart Benton left a legacy that will inform and inspire far beyond our times. Benton was one of the 20th century's pre-eminent artists, a man with a deep sense of the history of the American people. Born in Neosho, Missouri, he was a resident of Kansas City, Missouri from 1935–1975. The Thomas Hart Benton Home and Studio, a Missouri Department of Natural Resources Historic Site, is an anchor point for telling the story of Benton.

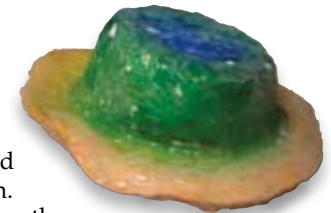
On this 125th anniversary of Benton's birth, consider a tour of the home which he shared with his wife, Rita, and their family at 3616 Belleview Avenue. You can also learn more through the events planned by regional organizations list on the following page.



Celebrating
the Artist,
Writer and
Musician



Thomas Hart Benton (April 15, 1889–Jan. 19, 1975)
Benton (left) shown at age three in 1892. He was named after his great, great uncle, Missouri's first U.S. Senator.
Photo: Kansas City Art Institute

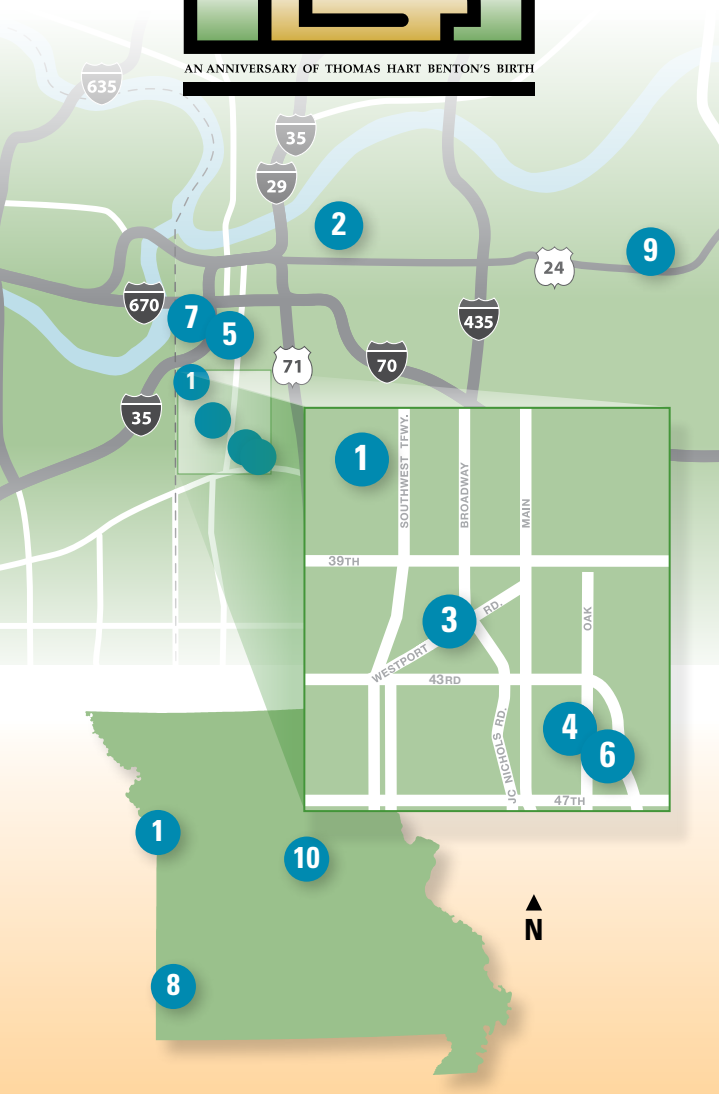


Tom's birthday hat, was created by KCAI as a faculty and student collaboration. Shown to left adorning the Charles Banks Wilson (1918–2013), *Thomas Hart Benton*, 1988, bronze, located east of the Jannes Library on permanent loan to the Kansas City Art Institute from the Thomas Hart Benton Foundation in Kansas City, Missouri.
Source Photos: Derek Dobbins

A traveling exhibition exploring Benton and Hollywood will be on display at The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art in the fall of 2015.

This online brochure was produced in conjunction with the staff at the Thomas Hart Benton Home and Studio by the Friends of the Benton Home.





1 Thomas Hart Benton Home and Studio State Historic Site

3616 Belleview Ave. • Closed Tuesdays & Wednesdays
mostateparks.com/benton.htm • 816-931-5722

A trip to the home and studio of the painter, musician and writer offers a glimpse into how Benton lived and worked.



Friday, April 11 • 5–6 p.m. Tour the site and view a special work on loan before attending the Benton Bash at Kelly’s Westport Inn (location **3** below).

Sunday, April 27 • 2 p.m. KCAI’s student-led GRUPPO performs a musical-theater work celebrating Benton’s life, art and music at his historic home courtyard.

November 26–December 31 Benton-designed, family Christmas cards are on display in home.

2 The Kansas City Museum at Corinthian Hall

3218 Gladstone Blvd.
kansascitymuseum.org
 816-483-8300



February 22–June 8 *The Kansas City Canvas: Thomas Hart Benton and Beyond* - Benton lithos and 19th and 20th century local art from the museum’s collection.

Tuesday, April 29 • Reception at 5:30 p.m., Presentation at 6:30 p.m. Community Curator – Speaker: Steve Sitton, Admin., T. H. Benton Home

3 Kelly’s Westport Inn

500 Westport Rd.
kellyswestportinn.com
 816-561-5800



Friday, April 11 • 6–8 p.m. Celebrate Tom’s birthday at the annual Benton Bash; raise a toast and have some birthday cake.

4 Kansas City Art Institute

4415 Warwick Blvd.
kcai.edu
 816-472-4852



Sunday, April 13 KCAI designed birthday hat will adorn bronze sculpture of Benton.

April 1–30 Jannes Library and Learning Center, Benton Books & Photos Display

April 27 GRUPPO performs (see location **1** above)

5 National World War I Museum at Liberty Memorial

100 W. 26th St.
theworldwar.org • 816-888-8100



April 19–October 12 *Razzle Dazzle* - Display telling the impact of Benton’s U.S. Naval experience in 1918 (as a camoufleur and draftsman) and how this influenced his development as an artist.

6 The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art

4525 Oak St.
nelson-atkins.org • 816-751-1278



May 21–February 14, 2015 *Benton in Black and White—Lithographs by Thomas Hart Benton* - View a new exhibition of prints, enjoy old favorites from the museum’s permanent collection of Benton’s art, and visit the library for a Benton-related book display.

7 The Mattie-Rhodes Gallery

919 W. 17th St.
mattierhodes.org
 816-471-2536



May 2 (First Friday)–August 8 A display showing the influence of the Mexican Social Realist School on Benton’s art and murals.

More Places to Experience Thomas Hart Benton

8 Newton County
newtoncountymotourism.org

Neosho, Mo.
(Benton’s hometown)
neoshomo.org

Joplin, Mo.
Joplin at the Turn of the Century, mural
visitjoplinmo.com

9 Harry S. Truman Library & Museum
Independence and the Opening of the West, mural
 Independence, Mo.
trumanlibrary.org

10 Missouri State Capitol Building
A Social History of the State of Missouri, mural
 Jefferson City, Mo.
mostateparks.com