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State of Arizona

**ARIZONA STATE  
LIBRARY, ARCHIVES AND PUBLIC RECORDS**  
A DIVISION OF THE ARIZONA SECRETARY OF STATE

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**PRESS RELEASE**  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Celebrate Arizona’s 104th birthday at the Arizona Capitol Museum**

**PHOENIX** – Arizona looks great for a 104-year-old, and the state only keeps getting better with age. Join the [Arizona Capitol Museum](#) (AZCM) to recognize Statehood Day, Feb. 13, 2016 at 10 a.m. Admission and parking are free.

The statehood day celebration will kick off with KTAR 92.3 radio show [Rosie on the House](#) broadcasting live from the capitol grounds.

Doors to the museum open at 10 a.m. with statehood day programming beginning at 10:30 a.m. A proclamation from Gov. Doug Ducey will be read and awards named in honor of Edwynne “Polly” Rosenbaum who served in the Arizona House of Representatives for 45 years and championed education, libraries and museums will be presented.

[Arizona Supreme Court Chief Justice Scott Bales](#) will receive the State Library Polly Rosenbaum Award which acknowledges his appreciation and support for Arizona’s rich cultural resources and his support for the work of the State Library.

Then, the [Arizona Education Foundation](#) will present the Polly Rosenbaum Writing Contest essay winners. The three first place winners will read their essays about what it means to be civically engaged.

At noon, the Arizona Capitol Museum Guild presents C. Gilbert Storms and his talk, “The father of Arizona: Charles Poston.” Dr. Storms has a Ph.D. in English from Rutgers University. When he moved to Tucson in 2003, he became interested in the narratives of Arizona pioneers and began researching their stories. His book “Reconnaissance in Sonora: Charles D. Poston’s 1854 Exploration of Mexico and the Gadsden Purchase” was published by the University of Arizona Press in 2015.

President William Howard Taft signed the official papers making Arizona a state on Feb. 14, 1912. Arizona’s road to statehood is interpreted in the “Arizona Takes Shape” exhibit at the AZCM.

Polly Rosenbaum was a former Arizona State Representative and teacher who passed away in 2003 at the age of 104. This writing contest is a long-standing tradition honoring Mrs. Rosenbaum, who believed Arizona’s young people are the state’s greatest resource.

The AZCM is open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., except state holidays. Admission and parking are free. For more information about AZCM exhibits, or to schedule a tour, go online to [www.azlibrary.gov/azcm](http://www.azlibrary.gov/azcm) or call 602-926-3620.

The Museum is a branch of the Arizona State Library, Archives, and Public Records, a division of the [Secretary of State](#).

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