MISSION
The Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza chronicles the assassination and legacy of President John F. Kennedy; interprets the Dealey Plaza National Historic Landmark District and the John F. Kennedy Memorial Plaza; and presents contemporary culture within the context of presidential history.

VISION
To be an impartial, multi-generational destination and forum for exploring the memory and effects of the events surrounding the assassination of President Kennedy, through sharing his legacy and its impact on an ever-changing global society.

Conceived as a temporary installation to mark the 25th anniversary of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, the Museum opened in 1989 and today helps visitors understand the social and political context of the 1960s, events leading up to the assassination and its aftermath, and Kennedy’s lasting impact on American culture. The Museum is housed on the sixth and seventh floors of the historic Texas School Book Depository building from which accused assassin, Lee Harvey Oswald, allegedly fired the shots that killed President Kennedy on November 22, 1963.

The core exhibition on the sixth floor, John F. Kennedy and the Memory of a Nation, features hundreds of photographs, films and artifacts that explore the world’s response to the assassination and its aftermath, major investigations and Kennedy’s legacy. Special exhibitions, events and public programs are held in the seventh-floor gallery.

Although the core narrative centers on the assassination, the Museum’s cross-curricular programmatic initiatives examine key facets of Kennedy’s legacy including:

- civics and the need for an active citizenry
- volunteers and service
- artists and creators who find inspiration in the story
- journalists
- the lasting influence of Kennedy in popular culture
- the fight for civil rights
- science
- social unrest of the 1960s
- personal courage and leadership

COLLECTIONS
The collections are crucial to the understanding of the historic narrative and undergird all programmatic initiatives. Numbering more than 90,000 objects, the collections include films and photographs; news reels and home movies; more than 2,000 Oral Histories from eyewitnesses, bystanders, community leaders and White House officials; ephemera; newspapers and magazines; documents related to the investigations of the assassination; and artworks. The Texas School Book Depository is a key building within the National Historic Landmark District. Selected items from the collection can be viewed online at emuseum.jfk.org.

More information about the Museum can be found at jfk.org
FISCAL YEAR 2021 AT A GLANCE
October 1, 2020 – September 30, 2021

STUDENTS

2,300+ students served

Distance Learning played a larger role than ever in school programming. Classes throughout North Texas and Dallas ISD participated in virtual school programs, increasing the Museum’s connections with local schools courtesy of Big Thought’s Community of Learning program.

The Museum continued its national collaborations with the Presidential Primary Sources Project and the Center for Interactive Learning presenting virtual workshops for middle and high school students.

VOICES

85 oral histories recorded

including

12 members/volunteers with the Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee

5 1961 Freedom Riders

3 volunteers with the 1965 SCOPE voter registration project

7 activists from the 1968 Poor People’s Campaign

VISITORS

115,870 visitors

The Museum’s operations are still very much impacted by the pandemic. In order to encourage social distancing and to prioritize safety for visitors and staff, the Museum continued to operate at reduced capacity through FY2021.

In addition, demand has not yet returned to pre-pandemic levels. However, more than 115,000 individuals visited the Museum to learn more about the life, death and legacy of President Kennedy.

A series of special programs explored various aspects of President Kennedy’s impact and legacy.

COLLECTIONS

749 objects added to the Collection

250+ research inquiries