

“Orphan Train Journeys to Nebraska”

A Presentation by Heather Bigwood,
Curator of the National Orphan Train Complex

The State of Nebraska played its fair share in the Orphan Train Movement which lasted from 1854 to 1929 and placed in families an estimated 250,000 children in its seventy-five years of operation. Of the forty-eight contiguous states in the U.S., Nebraska was one of the top eight states to receive the most children from the orphan trains. What made Nebraska such a popular state? How did the orphan trains decide where to place children? Why were there so many orphans needing homes? Heather Bigwood, curator of the National Orphan Train Complex will answer these questions and more in her presentation of “Orphan Train Journeys to Nebraska”. She will explain the complex history of the orphan trains, sharing heartfelt stories of real Orphan Train Riders as each found their way home to Nebraska.

Falls City Library & Arts Center February 27, 2025 - 5:30pm

This program is supported by a grant from the Nebraska State Historical Society Foundation.

