

## Great Plains Communications to Sponsor The Durham Museum's Digital Learning Initiative

GPC's symmetrical fiber internet will help deliver interactive online classes to learners of all ages in Omaha, Greater Nebraska and beyond

**Blair, Nebraska, January 24, 2023** -- <u>Great Plains Communications</u> (GPC), the Midwestern digital infrastructure provider with a growing, privately owned 18,000+ mile fiber network reaching 13 states, is providing fiber internet services to the Omaha historic Durham Museum. In addition, the company is sponsoring <u>The Durham Museum's Digital Learning initiative</u>, one of the museum's flagship programs for students in Nebraska and Western Iowa.

The Durham Museum is located in Omaha's beautiful art deco Union Station. It offers a fascinating look at the region's history and culture as well as exhibits covering science, industry and more through an affiliation with the Smithsonian Institution and strong ties with the Library of Congress, National Archives and the Field Museum. Durham's mission is to provide relevant educational and entertaining opportunities within the region that exceed customer expectations, while preserving the community's vibrant cultural history.

"Great Plains Communications is honored to sponsor The Durham Museum's digital learning program, leveraging our fiber network to help bring this online experience to participants across multiple locations," said Todd Foje, CEO of Great Plains Communications. "Projects like this open doors and inspire, as well as entertain and educate. It's another example of the power of fiber to further the reach of education."

The award-winning Digital Learning initiative created by The Durham Museum is comprised of two core activities: *Museum Live!* and *Virtual Field Trips*. The *Museum Live!* weekly 30-minute webcast connects classrooms with museums from across the country including the University of Nebraska's Museum and the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History. The Durham also offers *Virtual Field Trips* for classrooms through the Center for Interactive Learning and Collaboration (<a href="www.cilc.org">www.cilc.org</a>). Virtual Field Trips include many of the same topics as their onsite counterparts and feature lessons on the history and development of Omaha and the surrounding region, the Transcontinental Railroad and more.

Dawn Myron, Director of Communications for The Durham Museum said, "Education is such an important part of our mission and technology plays a key role in that endeavor. Programs like *Museum Live!* and virtual field trips help teachers and students access history, no matter where their classroom is located. We value the support of Great Plains Communications in helping us to inspire and connect with young learners through the power of technology."

To ensure the highest network reliability, The Durham Museum's services are monitored locally at the Great Plains Communications MEF-certified 24x7x365 Network Operations Center in Blair, Nebraska.

Great Plains Communications business fiber services include internet, managed Ethernet, GPC SD-WAN, GPC Cloud Connect, LTE Wireless backup, GPC Managed Business WIFI and Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) Protection service, business security, unified communications and voice.

## **About The Durham Museum**

The Durham Museum in Omaha's beautiful art deco Union Station is home to permanent exhibits that preserve Omaha's vibrant history, traveling exhibits covering subjects ranging from history and culture, to science and industry, and many entertaining, educational, family-oriented activities. The Durham Museum is an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution and has strong ties with national and international museums and lending institutions. For information about The Durham Museum please visit the museum's website at DurhamMuseum.org.

## **About Great Plains Communications**

Great Plains Communications is one of the largest privately-owned digital infrastructure providers in the Midwest and is headquartered in Blair, Nebraska. It has over a century of experience providing business and residential customers in Colorado, Iowa, Nebraska and Southeastern Indiana communities with forward-thinking, fiber-based technology services including high-speed internet, Ethernet, GPC Cloud Connect, SD WAN, video and hosted and traditional voice solutions. The company also takes pride in its progressive approach to accommodating the unique needs of all regional and national telecommunications carriers, LECs, ISPs, wireless carriers and other service providers utilizing superior engineering and custom-build strategies. At the core of its service offering is an extensive, MEF-certified 18,000+ mile regional fiber network that reaches 13 states: Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, South Dakota, Wisconsin and Wyoming. The network offers community access rings, last-mile and middle-mile solutions, all fully supported by the company's 24x7x365 Network Operations Center. For more information, visit www.gpcom.com.

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