

STATE OF NEBRASKA

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Sample of state quarter designs on display

LINCOLN – A sample of about 100 designs that were submitted for the Nebraska commemorative state quarter are on display on the secretary of state’s website.

“The display is for informational purposes only,” said Secretary of State John Gale, chairperson of the Nebraska Quarter Design Committee. “These designs came from people of all ages and were chosen from the 6,500 designs received to be a representative cross section for public viewing.”

In mid-August, the design committee plans to post about 25 designs for a nonbinding website vote. By Sept. 30, the committee is to submit five design proposals for consideration by the U.S. Mint.

Gov. Mike Johanns will make the final selection of the quarter around June 2005, and the U.S. Mint will issue the Nebraska quarter in the spring of 2006. A launch ceremony and celebration is being planned.

The 6,500 designs represent one of the best public responses among the states that have undergone the design process, Gale said.

“The designs submitted run from fun and cute to dramatic and professional,” he said. “We’ll have our work cut out for us in winnowing all the ideas down to five designs.”

People can view the sample of designs at www.sos.state.ne.us by visiting the quarter design link.

Gale said no single submitted design would be chosen as a winner. Rather, the design committee will choose themes based upon the array of ideas submitted.

The design committee in recent weeks has been busy reviewing the submissions and listening to testimony of people representing some of the important icons of Nebraska’s history.

“The committee is a very dedicated group of volunteer citizens who are spending considerable time working on this project,” Gale said. “I am proud of their service and commitment. Our goal is to have five uniquely Nebraskan designs, any of which will be the subject of state pride.”

Added Gale: “We have worked hard to involve Nebraskans in this project, and they have responded with enthusiasm. “Our hope is to keep a high level of interest and participation right through the launch ceremony.”

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