



THE EAST TENNESSEE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MUSEUM of EAST TENNESSEE HISTORY  
Making history personal

**For Immediate Release**

**Press Contact:** Cherel Henderson, Director  
865-215-8823 | 865-933-5232  
[cherel@eastTNhistory.org](mailto:cherel@eastTNhistory.org)  
[www.eastTNhistory.org](http://www.eastTNhistory.org)

December 30, 2015

## ***An Inside Look at Lloyd Branson***

### **A Brown Bag Lecture by Adam Alfrey**

**In conjunction with the feature exhibition *Celebrating a Life in Tennessee Art* currently on display at the Museum of East Tennessee History**

**PROGRAM:** *An Inside Look at Lloyd Branson*, A  
Brown Bag Lecture by Adam H. Alfrey

**DATE:** Noon, Wednesday, January 13, 2016

**LOCATION:** East Tennessee History Center  
601 South Gay Street  
Knoxville, TN 37902

**ADMISSION:** FREE | Attendees are encouraged to  
bring a "brown bag" lunch



(Knoxville, TN) In a Brown Bag lecture on January 13, Adam Alfrey, exhibits curator for the East Tennessee History Center, will discuss the life and work of Knoxville artist Lloyd Branson, whose work is the subject of a major exhibition at the Museum of East Tennessee History. *Celebrating a Life in Tennessee Art: Lloyd Branson, 1853-1925*, features an unprecedented gathering of more than 40 paintings highlighting the ambitions and achievements of the artist and his region. The exhibition will be on display at the East Tennessee History Center through March 20, before traveling to Nashville where it will be on display at the Tennessee State Museum.

In the decades after the Civil War, Lloyd Branson rose from a precocious sketcher on his family's East Tennessee farm to become an accomplished artist and Knoxville's most popular portraitist. He won acclaim in his studies at the National Academy of Design in New York City, and upon his return to Knoxville established an emporium with photographer Frank B. McCrary. Branson was a leader on the local art scene and mentored such artists as Catherine Wiley and the African American painter Beauford Delaney.

Although well known as an artist in his time, some aspects of Branson's life remain a mystery or have become distorted. Adam Alfrey will share insights from his research into the life and career of this important figure and will unveil new information that answers many questions, as well as raising new ones. Following the lecture, Alfrey will answer questions about Branson's work in the exhibition.

Adam H. Alfrey is a native of Knoxville and a graduate of the University of Tennessee. He currently serves as operations manager and curator of exhibitions for the East Tennessee History Center and is active within the state's museum and history community, serving as president of the Tennessee Association of Museums and the director of media relations for the Tennessee Association of Vintage Base Ball. Adam is also author of *The Great Smoky Mountains National Park: A Postcard History*.

The Brown Bag lecture is sponsored by Harriet Z. Albers Memorial and is free and open to the public. The lecture will begin at noon at the East Tennessee History Center, 601 S. Gay Street, Knoxville. Guests are invited to bring a "Brown Bag" lunch and enjoy the lecture. Soft drinks will be available. For more information on the lecture, exhibitions, or museum hours, call 865-215-8824 or visit the website at [www.EastTNHistory.org](http://www.EastTNHistory.org).

**End Release**