

NEWS RELEASE

Concordia City Manager

for the National Orphan Train Complex

Dec. 21, 2016

A Chicago Tribune article about Concordia's orphan train children statues has been reprinted in at least 22 newspapers in 16 states. According to Shaley George, curator of the National Orphan Train Complex, the publicity has reached approximately three million readers.

The article by freelance journalist Diana Lambdin Meyer first appeared in the Chicago Tribune on November 30, and has since appeared in newspapers in New York, North Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Mississippi, Kentucky, Ohio, Nebraska, Idaho, Washington, California, Hawaii, Texas, Missouri, and Kansas.

"I'm so excited about how word of our orphan statues is spreading. This is a priceless opportunity," George said.

"Pairing the wonderful bronze statues from the Randolph Rose Collection of Yonkers, New York, with the life stories of real orphans creates a moving experience that we're sure visitors to our community will enjoy," George added.

Four statues are currently installed downtown. Twelve more are on order and scheduled for installation early in 2017. The National Orphan Train Complex hopes to have fifty statues in place by the end of December 2017. Each statue is sponsored by local families or businesses, or the descendants of orphan train riders.