

# Billy W. Sills Center for Archives/FWISD

*presents*

## *Ruth Karbach*

### “Caruso in Cowtown”

**February 18, 2017**

Fort Worth for decades has proudly called itself a city of “Cowboys and Culture.” That slogan could never have been more apt than in 1920 when the famed tenor, Enrico Caruso, was invited to sing in North Fort Worth’s Cowtown Coliseum. He sang to a sold-out, standing-room-only crowd who responded to his performance with “whistles, whoops, and stomps.” Historian Ruth Karbach will recount the story of this momentous Fort Worth event from the booking of “The Tenor with the Golden Voice” and includes his arrival, his performance, and his legacy. The singer’s Fort Worth visit was during his final tour before a tragic death in Italy in 1921.

Ruth Karbach has worked with the Southwest Collection at Texas Tech, Thistle Hill house museum, and the Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame. She is currently an active independent scholar who has contributed to a number of books, including *Texas Women: Their Histories, Their Lives*, winner of the 2016 Liz Carpenter Award for the Best Book on Texas Women from the Texas State Historical Association.



*Caruso sings an aria from La Bohème.*

Join us for coffee and “nibbles”  
beginning at 9:30 a.m.

**Saturday, February 18, 2017**

10:00 to 12:00

Billy W. Sills Center for Archives/FWISD  
(Metro Opportunity High School, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor)

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