

2017 Kansas Housing Markets Forecast

# Manhattan Housing Forecast

# THROUGH THE WOODS

WSU Center for Real Estate



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WICHITA STATE  
UNIVERSITY

Wichita State University | W. Frank Barton School of Business

# Manhattan Housing Forecast

*The Journey Begins*

“You’ll never find your way, my lovely.” The witch’s evil laugh sent chills through Ophelia’s bones. “It’s too long a journey and there are more surprises along the path than you can imagine. Once you make it through the woods, you’ll have to find the key home. Good luck!”

The theme of this year’s forecast is “Through the Woods.” And while this might refer to all the obstacles that have beset the housing market in recent years, it also reflects the fact that at long last the worst may be behind us. Like our heroine Ophelia, through pluck and perseverance, we may finally find our way home.

Dr. Stanley D. Longhofer  
Director, WSU Center for Real Estate  
[wichita.edu/realestate](http://wichita.edu/realestate)



## Special Thanks:

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### Participants in the 2016 Manhattan Real Estate Roundtable

We are especially grateful to Meritrust Credit Union for underwriting the cost of preparing this year’s Manhattan Housing Forecast.



We are also grateful to the REALTOR® boards and multiple listing services that have provided much of the data used to prepare this forecast:



### CENTER FOR REAL ESTATE SPONSORS:

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Security 1<sup>st</sup> Title

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the friendly  
forest sprite

guided her  
through the woods

# Economic Overview

The Manhattan labor market continues to be the strongest in the state, with robust employment growth through most of the past year. Manhattan's unemployment rate remains exceptionally low as well, despite a slight uptick in recent months.

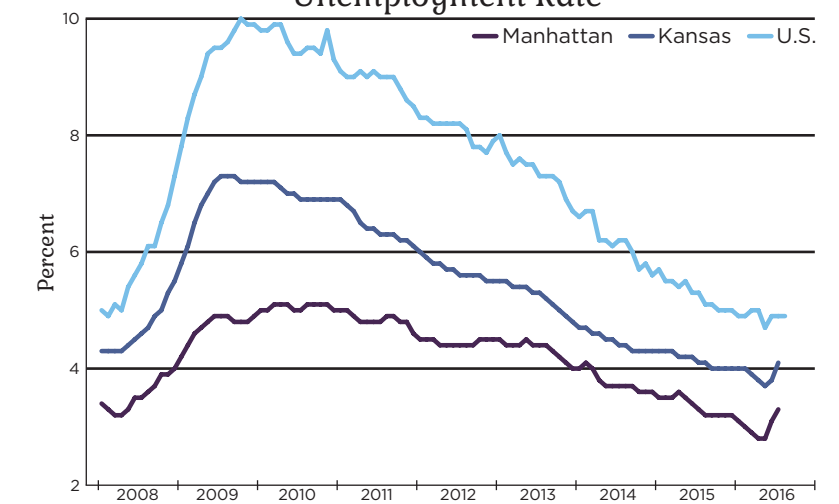
Low mortgage rates continue to support housing markets as well. The Mortgage Bankers Association's August forecast suggests this will continue for the foreseeable future, with the 30-year mortgage rate remaining below 4.5 percent through the end of 2017.

Mortgage rates should remain exceptionally low in the coming year.

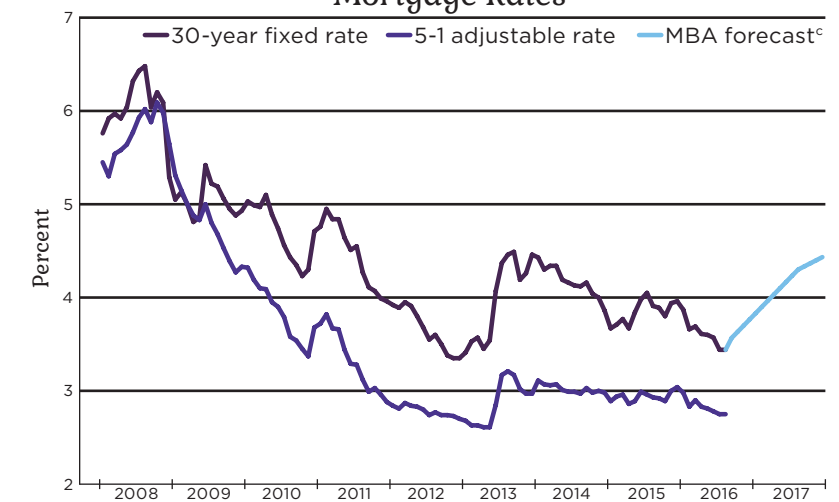
Employment Growth<sup>a</sup>



Unemployment Rate<sup>b</sup>



Mortgage Rates



Sources: Freddie Mac; Mortgage Bankers Association; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Notes:

- a) Year-over-year percentage change in total, non-farm employment; U.S. figures are seasonally adjusted
- b) Seasonally adjusted
- c) Mortgage Bankers Association August 2016 forecast of the 30-year conventional mortgage rate

# Home Sales & Construction

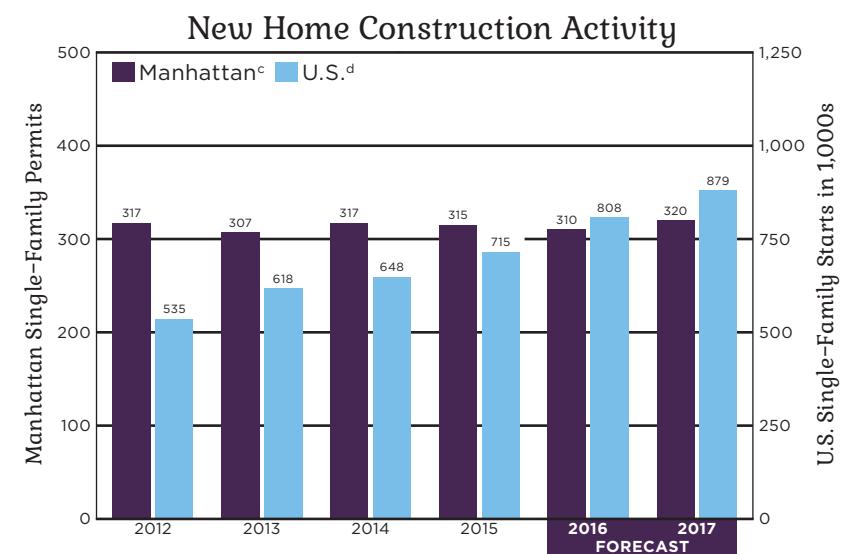
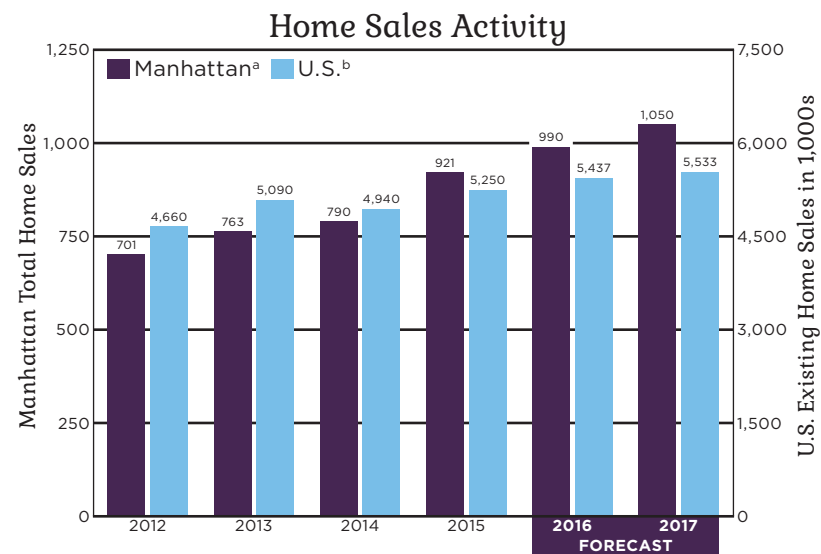
The river's current was  
*strong & swift*  
Ophelia had to be  
careful

with  
each  
step

The Manhattan housing market continues to exhibit strength. We expect this to continue in 2017, with sales rising another 6.1 percent to 1,050 units.

The pace of new home construction activity in the Manhattan metropolitan area has slowed over the past two years in the face of constraints in the supply of available lots. This should begin to ease next year, with permits rising 3.2 percent in 2017, and further growth likely beyond that.

Manhattan area home sales should top 1,000 units in 2017.



**Sources:** Manhattan Association of REALTORS®; National Association of REALTORS®; U.S. Bureau of the Census; WSU Center for Real Estate

**Notes:**  
 a) Total home sales in the Manhattan Area (MLS Areas 107-113, 117, 118 & 120) as reported by the Manhattan Association of REALTORS®  
 b) U.S. existing home sales as reported by the National Association of REALTORS®; forecast is the August 2016 forecast by the National Association of REALTORS®  
 c) Single-family building permits issued in the Manhattan metropolitan area as reported by the U.S. Bureau of the Census  
 d) U.S. single-family housing starts as reported by the U.S. Bureau of the Census; forecast is the August 2016 forecast by the National Association of REALTORS®

# Home Prices

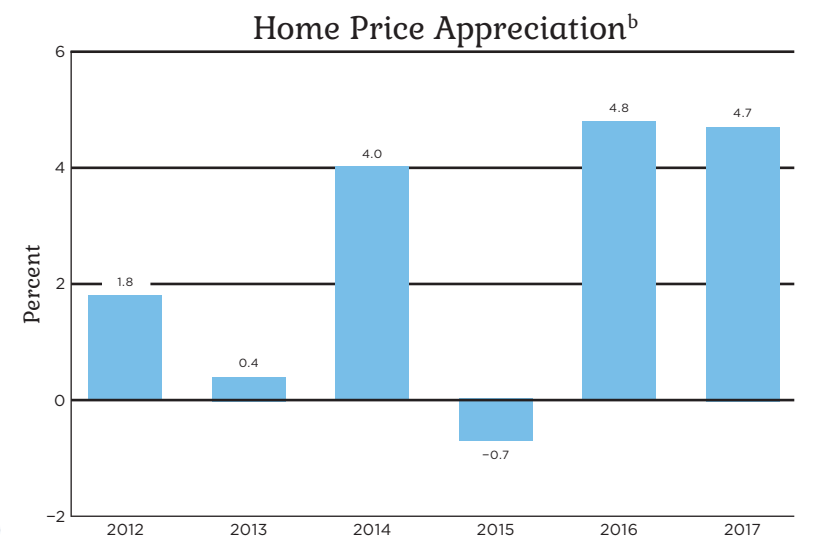
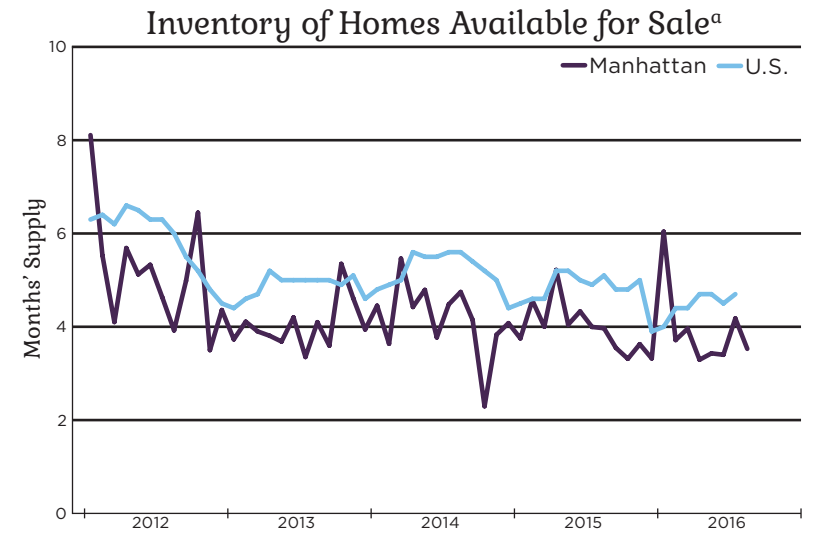
The inventory of homes available for sale in the Manhattan market continues to tighten, as new listings fail to keep pace with record home sales. As a result, multiple offer situations are occurring more and more frequently.

Manhattan area home prices are rising in the face of these supply constraints. Average home values are on track to increase by 4.8 percent this year, and we expect Manhattan home prices to rise another 4.7 percent in 2017.

The cliff face was narrow and treacherous.

If she was careful, she could squeeze by

Manhattan home values should rise by 4.7 percent in 2017.



**Sources:** Federal Housing Finance Agency; Manhattan Association of REALTORS®; National Association of REALTORS®; WSU Center for Real Estate

**Notes:**  
 a) Ratio of active listings to home sales, seasonally adjusted  
 b) Year-over-year percentage change in the Federal Housing Finance Agency all-transactions housing price index for the Manhattan metropolitan area, as measured using 4<sup>th</sup> quarter values

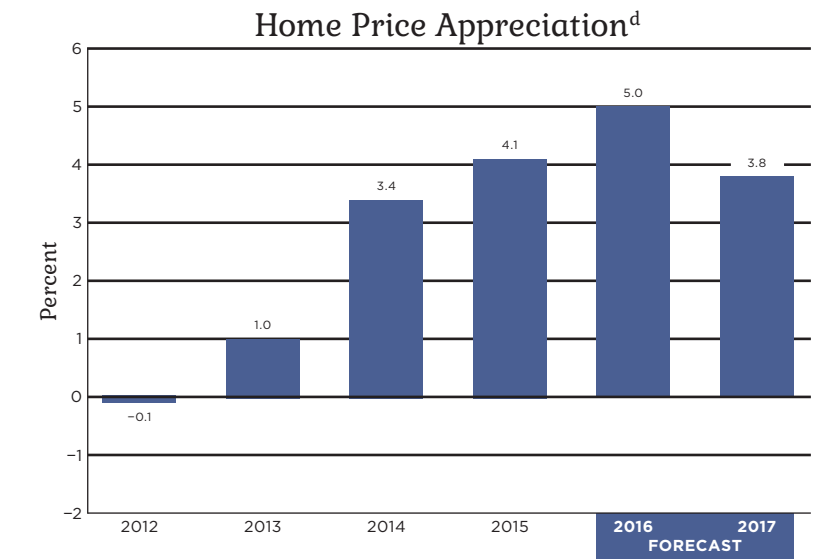
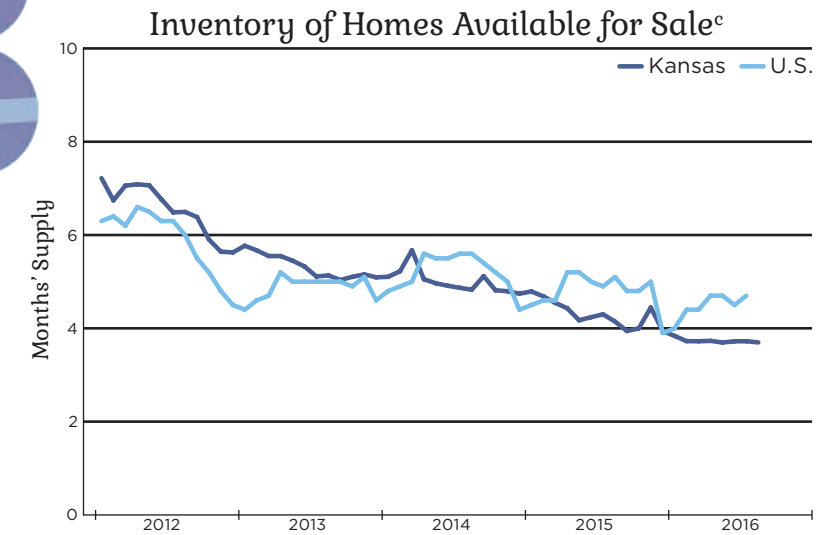
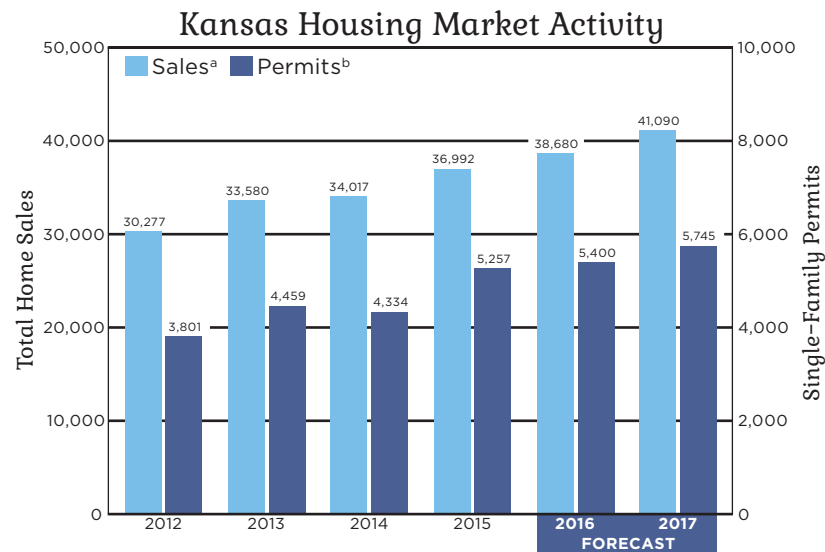
# Kansas Forecast

Home sales activity continues to rise in markets across the state. We forecast that statewide sales will rise by 4.6 percent this year, and increase another 6.2 percent in 2017, to 41,090 units.

Outside of the Kansas City area, new home construction activity has posted only modest gains. We are forecasting that new single family building permits will increase by 6.4 percent in 2017 to 5,745 units, with much of the gain being driven by activity in the Kansas City area.

Markets all across the state are reporting tight inventories of homes available for sale. As a consequence, we are seeing widespread price gains. We forecast that average Kansas home values will rise by 5 percent this year, followed by another 3.8 percent rise in 2017.

A fin glistened and glittered next to her as the mermaid pulled her up towards the opening.



**Sources:** Federal Housing Finance Agency, National Association of REALTORS®, Participating REALTOR® multiple listing services across Kansas, U.S. Bureau of the Census, WSU Center for Real Estate

**Notes:**  
 a) Total home sales in Kansas as reported by participating REALTOR® multiple listing services across the state  
 b) Single-family building permits issued in Kansas as reported by the U.S. Bureau of the Census  
 c) Ratio of active listings to home sales, seasonally adjusted  
 d) Year-over-year percentage change in the Federal Housing Finance Agency all-transactions housing price index for Kansas, as measured using 4<sup>th</sup> quarter values

# Forecast Summary

The WSU Center for Real Estate prepares housing market forecasts for each of the major markets across the state. A summary of those forecasts is provided here.

To download a copy of the complete forecast for each market, visit our website at [wichita.edu/realestate](http://wichita.edu/realestate). While there, you can also explore the wealth of additional data and analysis we provide on housing markets across the state.

The WSU Center for Real Estate:  
Laying a Foundation for Real Estate in Kansas

Sources:  
Federal Housing Finance Agency; Heartland Multiple Listing Service; Kansas Association of REALTORS® and participating multiple listing services across Kansas; Lawrence Multiple Listing Service; Manhattan Association of REALTORS®; South Central Kansas Multiple Listing Service; Sunflower Association of REALTORS®; U.S. Bureau of the Census; WSU Center for Real Estate

Notes:  
Total home sales, average price and sales volume figures include both existing and new home sales. Building permits reflect single-family residential building permits. Home price appreciation figures are the year-over-year percentage change in the Federal Housing Finance Agency all-transactions house price index, as measured using 4<sup>th</sup> quarter values. Kansas City figures include transactions from both Kansas and Missouri.



## Kansas

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Total Home Sales	33,580	34,017	36,992	38,680	41,090
Building Permits	4,459	4,334	5,257	5,400	5,745
Home Price Appreciation	1.0%	3.4%	4.1%	5.0%	3.8%
Sales Volume (in millions)	\$5,817	\$6,093	\$6,948		
Average Price	\$173,223	\$179,128	\$187,814		

## Kansas City

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Total Home Sales	32,059	32,266	35,394	36,820	38,460
Building Permits	4,209	4,129	4,550	5,585	5,810
Home Price Appreciation	1.5%	4.5%	6.5%	4.9%	4.2%
Sales Volume (in millions)	\$5,863	\$6,204	\$7,178		
Average Price	\$182,866	\$192,277	\$202,803		

## Lawrence

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Total Home Sales	1,269	1,309	1,383	1,400	1,510
Building Permits	212	179	221	225	220
Home Price Appreciation	1.3%	1.2%	0.8%	5.1%	4.1%
Sales Volume (in millions)	\$256	\$256	\$277		
Average Price	\$202,084	\$195,685	\$200,569		

## Manhattan

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Total Home Sales	763	790	921	990	1,050
Building Permits	307	317	315	310	320
Home Price Appreciation	0.4%	4.0%	-0.7%	4.8%	4.7%
Sales Volume (in millions)	\$153	\$163	\$189		
Average Price	\$200,328	\$206,163	\$205,483		

## Topeka

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Total Home Sales	3,004	2,965	3,189	3,460	3,530
Building Permits	270	262	302	275	275
Home Price Appreciation	0.1%	1.4%	1.8%	3.7%	1.9%
Sales Volume (in millions)	\$374	\$366	\$424		
Average Price	\$124,390	\$123,411	\$132,956		

## Wichita

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Total Home Sales	9,137	9,342	9,719	10,280	10,800
Building Permits	916	918	823	925	900
Home Price Appreciation	0.0%	3.1%	1.7%	5.8%	3.5%
Sales Volume (in millions)	\$1,270	\$1,356	\$1,463		
Average Price	\$139,000	\$145,202	\$150,501		

FORECAST

# Center for Real Estate

Do you keep getting lost in the wilderness as you try to understand what's happening in Kansas real estate markets? The WSU Center for Real Estate's new website may be just the map you need to help you find your way. With data on every major market in the state, our new Market Graphs and Analysis tool lets you explore real estate data to get just the information you need. Begin your journey by visiting us at [WICHITA.EDU/REALESTATE](http://WICHITA.EDU/REALESTATE).



Ophelia found  
the key  
at last. Looking at the  
map on the wall,  
she determined  
the path  
she would take home.





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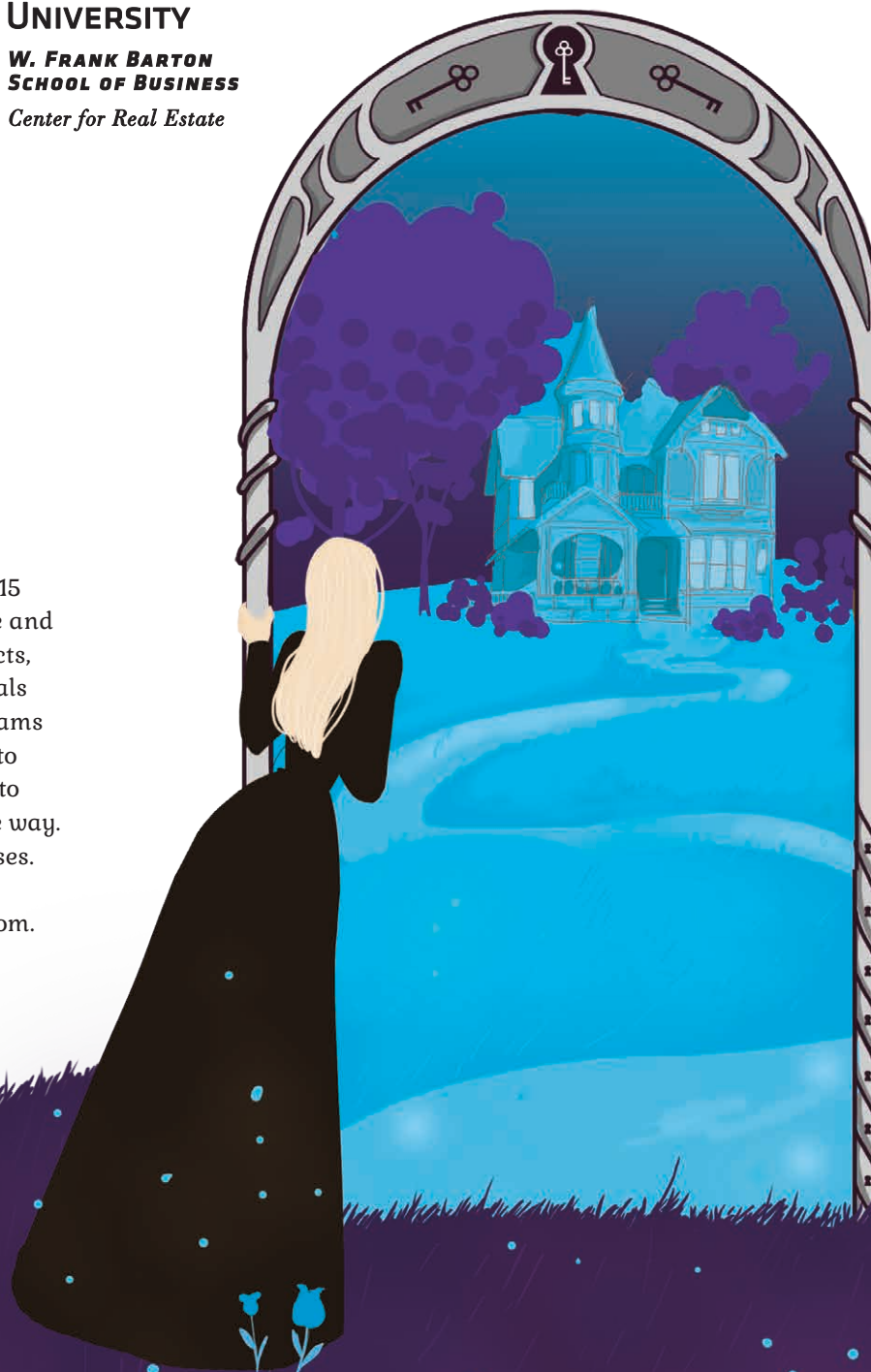


CREDIT UNION<sup>SM</sup>

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Meritrust Credit Union is open to the public with 15 branches in metro-Wichita, Junction City, Lawrence and Manhattan, Kansas. We offer members the products, services and tools needed to achieve financial goals with confidence, including flexible mortgage programs with local servicing. Meritrust brings simplicity to the home-buying process. On the Meritrust path to homeownership, we're here for you, every step of the way. No runaround. No unnecessary delays. No surprises.

For more information, visit [meritrusthomeloans.com](http://meritrusthomeloans.com).



Just like our  
**heroine,**  
Meritrust Credit Union can  
**help you**  
find your way home too.