We the Museum

Toward a 'More Perfect' Vision for our Changing World



2024 NEMA Annual Conference
November 6-8, 2024
Newport, Rhode Island

nema



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How to Make the Most of NEMA 2024!

CONFERENCE APP
Unlock the potential of the 2024 NEMA Conference with our Whova app! Access everything you need in one spot: sessions, floor plans, evaluations, social media, and Newport information. Download the Whova app from the App Store or Google Play. Open Whova, then search for "2024 Annual NEMA Conference." Click on the conference, then click "Join Event." If it asks for a password, enter "NEMA2024RI."

CONCURRENT SESSIONS
Secure your spot at conference sessions—arrive 5 minutes early and have a backup in mind if the room gets full.

CONFERENCE AMBASSADORS
Need help navigating the Conference? Look for one of our Conference Ambassadors. They're the ones wearing the cheery yellow buttons. They'll be glad to help!

VISIT THE EXHIBIT HALL & LEARN
Wednesday: 8 am – 5:30 pm; Thursday: 8 am – 4 pm
Embrace a wealth of knowledge in the dynamic and bustling NEMA Exhibit Hall, showcasing a wide array of products, services, and information. Find new products, network, attend demos, grab coffee, meet non-profits and funders, connect with business leaders, and win raffle prizes (check your registration envelope for details). You don't want to miss out on all that is happening in the Exhibit Hall this year!

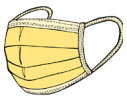
DEMONSTRATION STATION
Exhibit Hall
The Demonstration Station is the place to get helpful information, resources, and how-to tips.

MUSEUM OF BOOKS
Exhibit Hall
A swap area for gently loved books—ideally on museums and best practices.

CHARGING STATION
Registration Area
Take a seat, plug-in, relax, and don't worry about a low battery.

2024 PUBLICATION AWARD WINNERS
Exhibit Hall
Explore this year's NEMA Publication Award winners and discover excellence in design, production, and communication.

POSTER SESSIONS: GALLERY OF IDEAS:
View posters in the registration area and learn more during afternoon session blocks on Wednesday and Thursday.

MASKING

All attendees are strongly encouraged to wear a face mask throughout the conference. Masks will be available at the registration desk.

CODE OF CONDUCT
NEMA has a Code of Conduct for all of its events, whether in person or online. All attendees agree to abide by the code in order for us to work together toward inclusion, safety, respect, and professionalism. Read the code here nemanet.org/code-conduct.

SESSION HANDOUTS
Access submitted speaker handouts at nemanet.org/handouts.

SESSION UPDATES
New sessions: *Artist Talk and Q&A: Historic Interventions with The Haus Of Glitter*, Wednesday, 2 – 3 pm; *Afro-Latin Dance: An Embodied History with The Haus of Glitter*, Wednesday at 3:30 – 4:30 pm; and *The Systemic Bias & Racism in Preservation*, Friday at 9 – 10 am. The BIPOC Peer Support Lounge on Thursday has been moved to an evening meet-up (see page 27). *The Critical Executive Director - Board Chair Relationship* on Wednesday, *Bold Visions: Achieving DEI Work at a Small Museum* and *What is Nature of the Museum?: Integrated Approaches at the deCordova* on Friday have been canceled.

CAREER SUPPORT AREAS

Maximize your networking chances with dedicated spaces at the conference for peer support lounges and associated networking time, and the ever-popular resume review. Resume reviews will be available on Thursday, 2 – 3 pm and Friday, 9 – 10 am. Sign-up at the walk-in registration desk.

NEMA CONFERENCE BOOKSTORE

Wednesday, 10 am – 5:30 pm;
Thursday, 8 am – 5 pm; Friday, 8 am – Noon
Discover interesting reads at the Conference Bookstore to enhance your professional development. Join us in the Registration Area for book signings with the authors too!

NEMA ANNUAL LUNCHEON MEETING
Lewis Hall, Friday, 12:30 – 1:30 pm
Join us as we celebrate the people that make our field great – including presenting NEMA's Lifetime Achievement Award celebrating the career of Kay Simpson, President, Springfield Museums. Plus, you won't want to miss the celebration of the 2024 NEMA Excellence Awards!

SOCIAL MEDIA
Connect using #NEMA2024 and on the Whova community board.

RESTROOMS
All are welcome to use the restroom that is right for them.

QUIET ROOM
Take a break from the hustle and bustle of conference sessions and networking when you step into the Jamestown and Portsmouth rooms. Please no phone calls or Zooming in this area out of respect for your colleagues seeking respite.

FAMILY ROOM
NEMA is a family-friendly conference. We welcome new parents and their small museum fans! A family room key is available at walk-in registration.

MAKE PLANS FOR MANCHESTER IN 2025!
Mark your calendar for the 2025 NEMA Conference, November 5-7, 2025, in Manchester, New Hampshire.

QUESTIONS?
Visit the NEMA Registration Desk from Wednesday, 7:30 am – 5 pm; Thursday, 8 am – 5 pm; and Friday, 8 am – Noon. You can also use the Whova conference app; go to the Ask the Organizers Anything section under the Community tab.

Wednesday, November 6

8:00 am – 5:00 pm
REGISTRATION OPEN
Hosted by COLLECTOR SYSTEMS

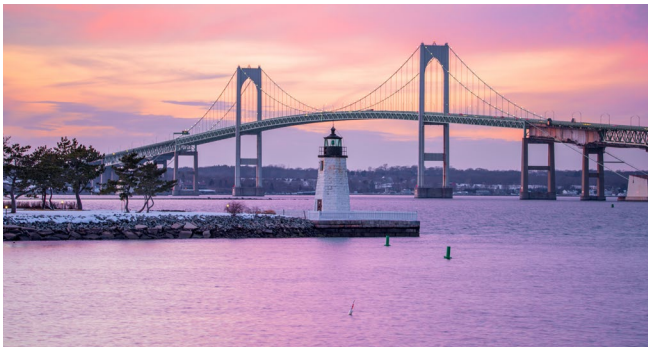
8:00 am – 5:30 pm
EXHIBIT HALL OPEN

8:00 – 8:30 am
NEMA CONFERENCE PREVIEW
Point Judith
Attending the NEMA Conference for the first time? Join other new-to-conference friends and colleagues to connect and learn how to make the most of it! Grab your morning coffee, then head to Point Judith for early networking, a conference overview, and helpful tips for maximizing your time at NEMA.

8:00 – 9:00 am
WAKE-UP COFFEE & MORNING TREATS IN THE EXHIBIT HALL

9:00 – 9:30 am
DEMONSTRATION STATION
Argus: Enhance Outreach & Engagement through your Online Collection Portal
Exhibit Hall
Explore how an online collections portal can be a platform for sharing the stories of individuals, as well as weaving narratives to address broader societal issues. Continue conversations inspired by in-person exhibitions online--introducing ideas and concepts, supported by artifacts and artworks, to a broad global audience.

Speakers: Kipo Saysongkham, Senior Account Executive, Lucidea, BC



9:00 – 10:30 am
CONCURRENT SESSIONS
Engage with Strategy: Transforming Social Media for Small to Midsize Museums
Rose Island I
Reels, carousels, and stories: how to use them and why? Transform your museum's social media presence with today's best practices. Learn from three museums seeing big results after leveraging modern storytelling through social media. Take a deeper dive into tools and strategies to make your online platforms perform better and for the right audience. Social media gives museums a way to tell our story more effectively, so what are you waiting for?

Speakers: Michelle Cartwright Soverino, Deputy Director, Development & Marketing, and Erika Neenan, Digital Assets Manager, Plimoth Patuxet Museum, MA; Corinne Flax, Manager of School and Community Partnerships, Bruce Museum, CT; Drew Furtado, Communications and Marketing Manager, New Bedford Whaling Museum, MA; Rebecca LaPoint, Curatorial Assistant, Peary-MacMillan Arctic Museum, ME

Exhibit Under Repair: Designing for Durability
Ballroom D
Visitors can be rough on exhibits, especially interactives. In this session, we discuss the ways of anticipating visitor use and abuse, and dealing with the things you just can't anticipate. Even in a perfect museum, exhibits wear out and break. Where do you focus your limited time, energy, and funds to make an exhibit that doesn't become a headache?

Speakers: Terra Fletcher, The Artistic One, and Evan Tvrdik, The Technical One, Panoptic Design/Build, LLC, MA

Implementing NAGPRA: A Conversation with NAGPRA Practitioners
Rose Island II
Compliance with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) can feel complex and fraught for many museum professionals—but it doesn't have to. Join an open conversation between NAGPRA practitioners and Tribal representatives to demystify the steps of the process, learn from your colleagues, and hopefully identify opportunities for collaboration. Come prepared with questions!

Speakers: Meredith Bissett, NAGPRA Project Coordinator, Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, MA; Andy D'Agostino, Student, University of Buffalo, NY; Julia Gray, Executive Director, Wilson Museum, ME; Lorén Spears (Narragansett), Executive Director, Tomaquag Museum, RI; Sara Regensburger, Program Coordinator, Stockbridge-Munsee Band of Mohican Indians, MA; Marla Taylor, Curator of Collections, Robert S. Peabody Institute of Archaeology, MA

10:45 am – 12:15 pm

KEYNOTE SESSION

Lewis Hall

Democracy in Stone: Monuments and National Memory






With the Semiquincentennial on the horizon, it is a "perfect" time to reflect on the narratives in our history, who is telling these stories, which stories should be told, and who should be represented. As the country continues to dismantle, commission, and erect works of art in public spaces under the notion that it's for us all, we have an opportunity to examine what this notion has meant throughout history, what it means in its current state, and what the future possibilities can be.

While this is a conversation that is going on nationally, it is especially occurring in the Northeast. With the push for more inclusive narratives and equality in historic representation of marginalized people, this keynote is a unique opportunity to contribute to that conversation by exploring our regional history and the role museums and institutions play in ensuring that these narratives are told—on and off the walls. While the U.S. Constitution seeks a "more perfect union," how can we work towards a "more perfect" museum world? How can we be better, if perfection is out of reach?

Panelists: Heather Leavell, Director and Curator, Cyrus Dallin Art Museum, MA; Betsy Richards (Cherokee Nation), Executive Director & Senior Partner with Wabanaki Nations, Abbe Museum, ME; Dr. Micah E. Salkind, Deputy Director, The City of Providence Department of Art, Culture and Tourism, RI. Moderated by Kayla G. Coleman, Executive Director, New England Museum Association

Hosted by Art Bridges

New Strategies for LGBTQIA+ Interpretation at Historic Sites

Ballroom C

Hear from panelists working to broaden the LGBTQIA+ interpretation at their sites. Using Historic New England's latest exhibition *The Importance of Being Furnished: Four Bachelors at Home* as the starting point, learn how three historic house museums evolved in their discussion about how these men challenged traditional notions of the family home through a variety of distinctive stylistic approaches—a range made possible by their self-determined bachelorhood (read Queer).

Speakers: R. Tripp Evans, Professor of the History of Art, Wheaton College, MA; Meghan Gelardi Holmes, Curator, Gibson House Museum, MA; Wendy Hubbard, Lincoln Site Manager (Codman and Gropius Houses), Historic New England, MA; Ken Turino, Senior Search Consultant, Museum Search & Reference, NH, and Lecturer, Tufts University Museum Studies, MA

Startup Museums: From Concept to Opening Day

Hamilton

Startup museums present unique challenges in terms of becoming established institutions. Within the New England museum community, there are five new museums that seek to gain a foothold in the cultural landscape. This session will focus on the challenges and successes of bringing a new museum from concept to opening day.

Speakers: Kate Benson, President, Museum of Disability History, Belchertown State School Friends Association, MA; Kim Chisholm, Executive Director, Development & Institutional Advancement, 26.2 Foundation, MA; Jean Dolin, Founder, Chief Executive Officer & President, Boston LGBTQ+ Museum of Art, History & Culture, MA; Paul Piwko, Co-Founder & Co-Developer, National Museum of Mental Health Project, Inc., MA; Heather Ruhsam, Opening Executive Director, The Sailing Museum, RI

Story Time! How (and Why) to Tell Your Small Museum Success Story

Watch Hill

Learn how to tell your museum story effectively in this interactive session! We'll use the "Storyteller's Toolkit" and COINS to share and hone our stories of small museum successes. COINS is a set of small museum self-assessment standards that we'll use as story themes: Collaborative, Oriented to community, Innovative, Nimble, and Specialized. Share your surprising, innovative, weird, and funny small museum work anecdotes in a safe space, while connecting and commiserating with small museum colleagues!

Speaker: Doria Hughes, Archivist & Collection Manager & Storyteller, Rosemarie Beck Foundation, NY

(continued on page 4)

(continued from page 3)

The Climate Emergency and Sustainability Task Force at the RISD Museum

Newport

This session highlights RISD Museum staff collaborations on the topic of sustainability. The task force has been studying the museum's carbon footprint; researching ethical, economical, and sustainable business partnerships; and identifying best practices for sustainability and climate justice. Come hear about recent accomplishments as well as action steps and future initiatives at the museum.

Speakers: Brendan Campbell, Graphic Designer, Wai Yee Chiong, PhD, Curator of Asian Art, and Ingrid Neuman, Senior Conservator, RISD Museum

9:45 – 10:15 am
DEMONSTRATION STATION

How is Your Museum Prepared for Climate Change?

Exhibit Hall

Join GreenerU for a facilitated discussion on topics of climate mitigation, resilience, and programming and learn how to engage your community of stakeholders to prepare.

Speakers: Jennifer Haugh, Vice President of Planning & Customer Engagement, GreenerU, MA

10:00 am – 5:00 pm
BOOKSTORE OPEN

Hosted by Church Mutual Insurance

Top 5 Reasons to Visit the Exhibit Hall

On Wednesday and Thursday, say "hello" to exhibitors who help make the NEMA conference affordable and possible!

1. Meet vendors dedicated to building partnerships, offering educational resources, and sharing their services.
2. Explore innovative products and reliable materials with experts.
3. Visit the non-profit table to network and leave a message for NEMA 911, a resource that helps untangle problems.
4. View a Demo Station to get hands-on tips.
5. Coffee!

1:30 – 4:15 pm
OFF-SITE SESSION

Ticket holders meet in the hotel lobby at 1:30 pm. Bus will leave at 1:40 pm.

Behind the Scenes Tour of Fort Adams

Speaker: Steve Marino, Fort Historian, Fort Adams Trust, RI

1:30 – 2:00 pm
SESSION BREAK

2:00 – 2:30 pm
BOOK SIGNING



Bookstore/Registration Area

R. Tripp Evans, Professor of the History of Art, Wheaton College, will be signing his book *The Importance of Being Furnished Four Bachelors at Home*.

2:00 – 2:30 pm
DEMONSTRATION STATION

Integrating Controls Simplicity

Exhibit Hall

Track lighting is in almost every Museum. Artifact conservation, electrical codes, and lighting technologies are ever expanding topics. How do track manufacturers integrate lighting controls into their products and how can designers leverage this control to improve the guest experience while addressing conservation and energy management concerns. Integrating Control Simplicity brings the designer and the manufacturer together for a peek behind the curtain, showing what is possible and what the future may hold.

Speaker: Nick Downham, Control Systems Manager, Lighting Services Inc, NY

2:00 – 3:00 pm
GALLERY OF IDEAS: POSTER SESSIONS

Registration Area

Get a glimpse of the work being done in the field by emerging colleagues.

- Deborah Donnelly-McLay: Indigenous Residential Schools: Museums can bring communities together to promote healing from past traumas
- Ellen Rullo: The Good, The Bad, The Ugly: A Large-Scale Museum Paper Digitization Project
- Haley Luce: Birds of a Feather: Wheaton College's Ornithological Collections
- Isabel Mayers: Fragments of the Past: Wheaton College's Potsherd Collection
- Nadine Richardson: Following the Records: Reestablishing Contact with Lenders and Heirs
- Rachel Lorentzen: Museums as Community Leaders in a Changing Climate

Hosted by Barrett M. Keating Conservators

PROFESSIONAL AFFINITY GATHERINGS (PAG) LUNCH SESSIONS

12:15 – 1:30 pm

PAG sessions are open to all, except the Directors and Trustees Lunch. If you ordered a lunch, please collect it from the Exhibit Hall from 12:15 - 12:45 pm. Sessions begin at 12:30 pm.

College and University Museums PAG

Ballroom D

Are you working at an academic museum (or want to?). If so, this is the lunch gathering for you! Join your new College & University Museums PAG co-chairs, Benjamin Hellings and Jennifer Reynolds-Kaye, as we dive into all things academic. We'll chat over lunch and work towards developing the next phase of our programming based on your needs. Academic museums of all sizes are encouraged to attend!

PAG Chairs: Ben Hellings, Jackson-Tomasko Associate Curator of Numismatics, Yale University Art Gallery, CT; Jennifer Reynolds-Kaye, Director, Housatonic Museum of Art, CT

Directors and Trustees Lunch

Hamilton; Ticket Required

Enjoy an opportunity to connect with fellow museum leaders from across New England. Directors and trustees at any point in their tenure, from new to well-established, are welcome to participate. Panelists from the keynote will be joining the lunch to further the discussion. *This session is limited to directors/presidents/CEOs and trustees of museums and cultural organizations.*

Hosted by

Museum Search & Reference
EXECUTIVE SEARCH CONSULTING

Exhibits PAG

Rose Island II

Whether exhibits are your full-time job, one of many duties, or just an interest of yours, join us for lunch! Come network and help brainstorm upcoming Exhibit PAG activities, including future workshops, conference sessions, meet-ups, and field trips.

PAG Chairs: Katherine Fecteau, Assistant Curator, Old Sturbridge Village, MA; Betsy Loring, Principal, expLoring exhibits & engagement, LLC, MA; Amber Wingerson, Curator of Exhibits and Collections, Norwich University's Sullivan Museum and History Center, VT

Hosted by

42 | design fab

Library and Archives PAG

Watch Hill

Join the Library & Archives PAG for lunch and conversation. We'd love to hear what is happening in your museum library. Share projects you're working on, program ideas, recent acquisitions, or upcoming library exhibition work. You may even leave with some advice from colleagues or meet a spontaneous collaborator!

PAG Chairs: Rebecca Morin, Head Librarian, Worcester Art Museum, MA

Historic Site Management PAG

Rose Island I

Join the Historic Sites Management PAG for an informal networking lunch. Hop on our open mic to share your successes and challenges to gain feedback and insight from your colleagues. Complete a survey to help guide the future programming of our PAG.

PAG Chairs: Kaleigh Paré Shaughnessy, Executive Director, Whittier Birthplace, MA; Emma Stratton, Executive Director, Portsmouth Historical Society, NH

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NEDCC
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Open Lunch Discussion

Newport

Pick up your lunch and join a few companions for conversation in our open networking lunch zone.

Election Reflection

Visit NEMA's Election Reflection space to unburden your feelings—hopes and dreams, fears and expectations—about November 5th.

You are encouraged to use this area to unload what you may be carrying: write down thoughts on index cards then deposit them into discreet boxes.

These won't be read by anyone publicly or privately, so use this opportunity to share anything you're thinking and feeling.

Share Your Thoughts

2:00 – 3:00 pm
PEER SUPPORT LOUNGE

Museum People with Disabilities
Point Judith

Meet-up with fellow colleagues who identify as people with disabilities to swap stories and advice in our Career Support Areas. This time and space is dedicated to building relationships and creating networks within the NEMA community.

2:00 – 3:00 pm
CONCURRENT SESSIONS

2024 Exhibit Project Slide Show and Tell
Rose Island II

It's time again for some exhibit inspiration at the Exhibits PAG projects slideshow. Hear rapid-fire presentations about recent exhibit projects to see what's new or coming soon, thought-provoking, or worth knowing about. See how exhibit designers and planners solved design challenges large or small, reimagined "tried and true" components, or took a new approach to the exhibit process. There will be time for your questions and discussion after each presentation.

Speakers: Katherine Fecteau, Assistant Curator, Old Sturbridge Village, MA; Betsy Loring, Principal, expLoring exhibits & engagement, MA; Amber Wingerson, Curator of Exhibits and Collections, Norwich University's Sullivan Museum and History Center, VT

Artist Talk and Q&A: Historic Interventions with The Haus Of Glitter
Ballroom D

From 2019-2022, The Haus of Glitter lived in the former home of Esek Hopkins, commander of the slavery ship Sally, as an endurance-based performance, community activation, and historic intervention. Learn about their approach to transform this racist national monument through research; local, state, and national activism; community wellness; and multidisciplinary art and performance. Participants will have space for questions as well as discussion to explore the ways we want to intervene in the world and preserve not only our past, but also our present and future.

Speakers: Matthew Garza, Artistic Director and Co-Founder, Trent Lee, Director of Facilities and Co-Founder, and Kevin Rodriguez, Touring/Technical Director, Musician, and Composer, Haus of Glitter, RI

Breaking Boundaries: Interdisciplinary Cross-Cultural Views in the Museum Field from Emerging Scholars
Ballroom C

Inspired by the Newport Restoration Foundation's *Telling Stories: Uncovering the Vernon House Chinoiserie*

G | R | L | A

INTELLIGENT + SUSTAINABLE DESIGN

We are passionate about creating spaces that inspire and endure. We understand the unique challenges and opportunities of showcasing art, history and culture. From innovative master planning to detailed interior design, we craft environments that elevate visitor experiences and preserve treasured collections.

Services offered include:

Master Planning	Sustainable Design	Building Envelope Services
Cafe & Store Design	Accessibility	Archive Rooms
Lobby Upgrades	Performance Spaces	Classrooms
Office & Storage Spaces	Exhibit Design Support	Deferred Maintenance





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Panels project, we have been deeply contemplating the global nature of "America" and the amalgamation of multicultural influences reflected in local productions and museum practices. How has the narrative of American history evolved over time through these creations? Hear from three emerging museum scholars who will present their various approaches used in different types of museum institutions to craft multicultural narratives and to expand our understanding of "American" history.

Speakers: Allison Donoghue, Tiffany & Co. Foundation Curatorial Intern in American Decorative Arts, Metropolitan Museum of Art, NY; Angela Hermano Crenshaw, PhD Student, Bard Graduate Center, NY; Gina Tangorra, Director of Engagement & Presidential Initiatives, Newport Restoration Foundation, RI; Luli Zou, Telling Stories Intern, Newport Restoration Foundation, RI

Creating Mutually Beneficial Internships

Newport

How can small museums develop successful internship programs? What do prospective interns need to succeed? How can universities utilize local museums to develop experiential learning opportunities? A small museum's curator, a history professor, and a former intern present three perspectives on the needs and challenges faced when developing and implementing an internship program that benefits everyone involved.

Speakers: Christopher Mattoon, Curatorial Consultant, Polish Center of Discovery & Learning, MA; Damien Murray, Professor of History, Director of Faculty Development, Elms College, MA; Ray Radigan, Curator & Assistant Director, Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association (Memorial Hall Museum), MA

Getting on the Map: Community College Art Museums and Galleries

Narragansett

Community college art museums and galleries play a critical role in delivering high-quality exhibitions and programs to students at two-year institutions across the country. Despite their importance to their students, faculty, staff, and community, they have been historically overlooked by the larger museum community. In this session, leaders from these museums and galleries will share the benefits and challenges of working within these institutions, and suggest opportunities for collaboration on a local and national level.

Speakers: Kathleen Hancock, Director, Grimshaw-Gudewicz Art Gallery, Bristol Community College, MA; Sondra Peron, Professor of Arts and Humanities and Gallery Coordinator, Amy H. Carberry Fine Arts Gallery, Springfield Technical Community College, MA; Jennifer Reynolds-Kaye, Director, Housatonic Museum of Art, CT; Rachel Rushing, Director, Taber Art Gallery, Holyoke Community College, MA

Making the Most of the Semiquin: National, State, and Local Perspectives on the 250th

Hamilton

This session will offer examples of how museum practitioners at a range of different institutions are responding to the challenges and opportunities of the U.S. 250th anniversary. How can we share history that reflects everyone's story? How do we balance competing priorities in our approach to the 250th? How do we serve communities with divergent views of the U.S. past and present? The session will provide examples from the field and recommendations for next steps.

Speakers: Max van Balgooy, President, Engaging Places, LLC, MD; John Marks, Director, Research & Strategic Initiatives, American Association for State and Local History, MD; Marjory O'Toole, Executive Director, Little Compton Historical Society, RI; Dr. Noelle N. Trent, President & CEO, Museum of African American History in Boston and Nantucket, MA

Moving Beyond the Rainbow: A How-To Guide to Incorporating Queer Inclusion Throughout Your Museum

Watch Hill

As LGBTQIA+ inclusion becomes a priority of many organizations, there has been considerable conversation surrounding uncovering queer historical narratives. However, incorporating LGBTQIA+ history initiatives requires organization-wide buy-in and changemaking to be effective. Based on interviews with three distinct LGBTQIA+ history initiatives, speakers will share promising practices, empower action-planning, and foster knowledge-sharing for any museum seeking to operationalize authentic queer inclusion across all departments.

Speakers: Sam Dinnie, PhD Candidate, Early American History, George Washington University, DC; Ali Kane, Founder & Principal, ALK Consulting, MA

The Risks and Rewards of Reinvention: Change Happens One Interaction at a Time

Rose Island I

Four museums located within 10 miles of each other offer up their unique goals, strategies, and debriefs, as they seek to become more nimble, viable, inclusive, and relevant in the civic landscape. As the age of curiosity cabinets and their financial viability are long past, how do we act on our missions, tackling issues of inclusivity, underrepresented histories, and climate change? What happens when we challenge our audiences?

Speakers: Raney Bench, Executive Director, Mount Desert Island Historical Society, ME (NEMA Board); Erin Cough, Executive Director, Bar Harbor Historical Society, ME; Nikki Moser, Experience Manager, Bar Harbor Historical Society, ME; Betsy Richards (Cherokee Nation), Executive Director & Senior Partner with Wabanaki Nations, Abbe Museum, ME

2:00 – 3:30 pm
OFF-SITE SESSION

Ticket holders be at meet at Storer Park, right next to the causeway bridge to Goat Island at 2 pm.

Point Neighborhood Walking Tour

Speakers: Lauren Craig, Membership Engagement & Social Media Coordinator, Ingrid Peters, Deputy Executive Director, and Jenny Sullivan, Manager of Learning and Public Programs, Newport Historical Society, RI

2:05 – 4:15 pm
OFF-SITE SESSION

Ticket holders meet in the hotel lobby at 2:05 pm. Bus will leave at 2:15 pm.

A Name, A Voice, A Life: Interpreting the Stories of Black Newporters from the Page to the Panel

Speakers: Kaela Bleho, Collections and Digital Access Manager, and Heather Bollinger, Research Assistant, Newport Historical Society, RI; Larissa Hansen, Exhibit Designer, H2 Design Studio, MA; Zoe Hume, Visiting Curator, Florida State University

2:30 – 3:00 pm
BOOK SIGNING

Bookstore/Registration Area

Richard Stone, founder of Mayflower Event News, will be signing his book *Project Mayflower.*

3:00 – 3:30 pm
SNACK BREAK IN THE EXHIBIT HALL

3:30 – 4:00 pm
DEMONSTRATION STATION

Intro to Google Analytics

Exhibit Hall

Want to know more about who is coming to your organization's website? How are they finding you? What are they engaging with? We'll introduce you to the basics of Google Analytics to learn about users and their engagement with your site and will share some of our favorite resources so you can take a deeper dive on your own. Bring your laptop and follow along or just listen and learn.

Speaker: Julie Arrison-Bishop, Director of Marketing, Mass. Office of Travel and Tourism



Museum Insurance Specialist

Museums house valuable artifacts. Do you have coverages in place to protect them? Find out at **churchmutual.com/NEMA**

Church Mutual INSURANCE

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3:30 – 4:00 pm
BOOK SIGNING

Bookstore/Registration Area

Kathryn Leann Harris, CEO, and Doug Stark, Museum Consultant, Interpreting Sports, will be signing their book *Interpreting Sports.*

3:30 – 4:30 PM
CAREER CONVERSATION



Narragansett

How does The History Project— a repository, historical society, and museum dedicated to the LGBTQIA+ community—document, preserve, and share New England's LGBTQIA+ history? Find out from Joan Ilacqua, a public historian, community archivist, oral historian, and the Executive Director of The History Project! Join this conversation to learn about skill sets gained through experiences in archives, libraries, and museums across America (hat tip, National Park Service!). Ask questions and gain valuable career insights in this informal conversation.

Hosted by UMass Boston | Graduate Studies in Public History

3:30 – 4:30 pm
CONCURRENT SESSIONS

A Tale of Two Museums: Mitigating Insect Infestations in Museum Collections

Ballroom D

Join collections staff from the Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology and the Fairbanks Museum & Planetarium for an overview of insect pests in museums, highlighting moth infestations at both museums. We will discuss challenges encountered and lessons learned in developing procedures in mitigating moth infestations in these two different collections with the same issue. We will also highlight prioritizing and practicing cultural care and managing a publicly visible recovery.

Speakers: Cassy Cutulle, Assistant Conservator, Peabody Museum of Archaeology & Ethnology, MA; Beau Harris, Director of Collections, Fairbanks Museum & Planetarium, VT (NEMA Board)

Afro-Latin Dance: An Embodied History with The Haus of Glitter

Lewis Hall

The Haus of Glitter specializes in dance lineages that come from Africa and Latin America. Explore a journey through Traditional West African Dance, Afro-Caribbean Dance, and LGBTQ+ Afro-Latinx dance forms like vogue and Ballroom as embodied history, civil rights advocacy, gender affirming care, and community wellness practice. Come prepared to strut and explore the transformative power of dance as embodied history + herstory. Open to all levels, beginner dancers to advanced, and all backgrounds and demographics. Only requirements are openness and curiosity.

Speakers: Matthew Garza, Artistic Director and Co-Founder, Trent Lee, Director of Facilities and Co-Founder, and Kevin Rodriguez, Touring/Technical Director, Musician, and Composer, Haus of Glitter, RI

Art & History Unite: A Blueprint for Innovative Partnerships

Hamilton

Join Portsmouth Historical Society and New Hampshire Art Association as they share insights from their 2024 collaborative exhibition *The Matter of Memory*. This innovative partnership seamlessly blends art and history, enhancing revenue streams, artist exposure, and audience diversity. Discover key takeaways, overcome challenges, and explore replicating this model at your institution. Gain valuable insights into fostering successful community partnerships for exhibitions.

Speakers: Amanda Kidd-Kestler, Executive Director, New Hampshire Art Association; Emma Stratton, Executive Director, Portsmouth Historical Society, NH

Building (Art) Bridges: Insights into Museum Collaboration

Ballroom C

Explore how this collaboration between museums located in different geographic regions mirrors our changing worldviews. In this discussion, members from curatorial, learning & engagement, and registration departments will share insights into a multi-institutional, multi-year collection sharing program, centered on American art, from historic to contemporary. Participants will hear about the challenges and opportunities of partnerships and learn about strategies that emerged to support the development, coordination, and implementation of small-scale and mid-sized exhibitions.

Speakers: Kristi Dane, Director of Cohorts, Art Bridges Foundation, AR; Jama Holchin, Evaluation and Digital Interpretation Specialist, Laura Leonard, Art Bridges Project Coordinator and Curatorial Researcher, Erin Monroe, Krieble Curator of American Paintings and Sculpture, and Alison Parman, Art Bridges Fellow, Registrar, Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, CT

(continued on page 10)

Member Benefit: NEMA 911

NEMA 911 connects museum leaders with senior-level experts to help them navigate issues and problems confidentially on an informal, colleague to colleague basis. Connect in person with the team when the "Doctors are in" at Booth 106 or if the "Doctors are out" leave a message and they'll follow up with you.

(continued from page 9)

Events… Appeals… Membership… Campaigns… HELP!!!!!!!!!

Rose Island I

Tired of the same old fundraising events? So am I! Say goodbye to the gala nightmares and embrace a new approach. Join this session for a lively look at debunking the myth that events are the only solution. Discover strategic ways to leverage events for fundraising success without causing your development team to flee. It's time to turn those galas and bake sales into big wins and make events work for you, not the other way around!

Speaker: Joe April, Director of Development, Strawbery Banke Museum, NH

Guiding Visitors through "Entwined" Histories

Rose Island II

Mystic Seaport Museum staff share their experiences as guides in the museum's latest exhibit, *Entwined: Freedom, Sovereignty, and the Sea*. Interpreters took part in a six-week training course, run by the exhibit's curators, to learn about maritime history from Black and Indigenous perspectives, recent nuances/historiography, and navigating visitor conversations. Staff developed skills to guide visitors who may be curious, wary, or unfamiliar with the content, both historic and contemporary. Moderated by the exhibit's curator, Akeia de Barros Gomes, this presentation will focus on the training experience, implementation, and daily interactions with visitors.

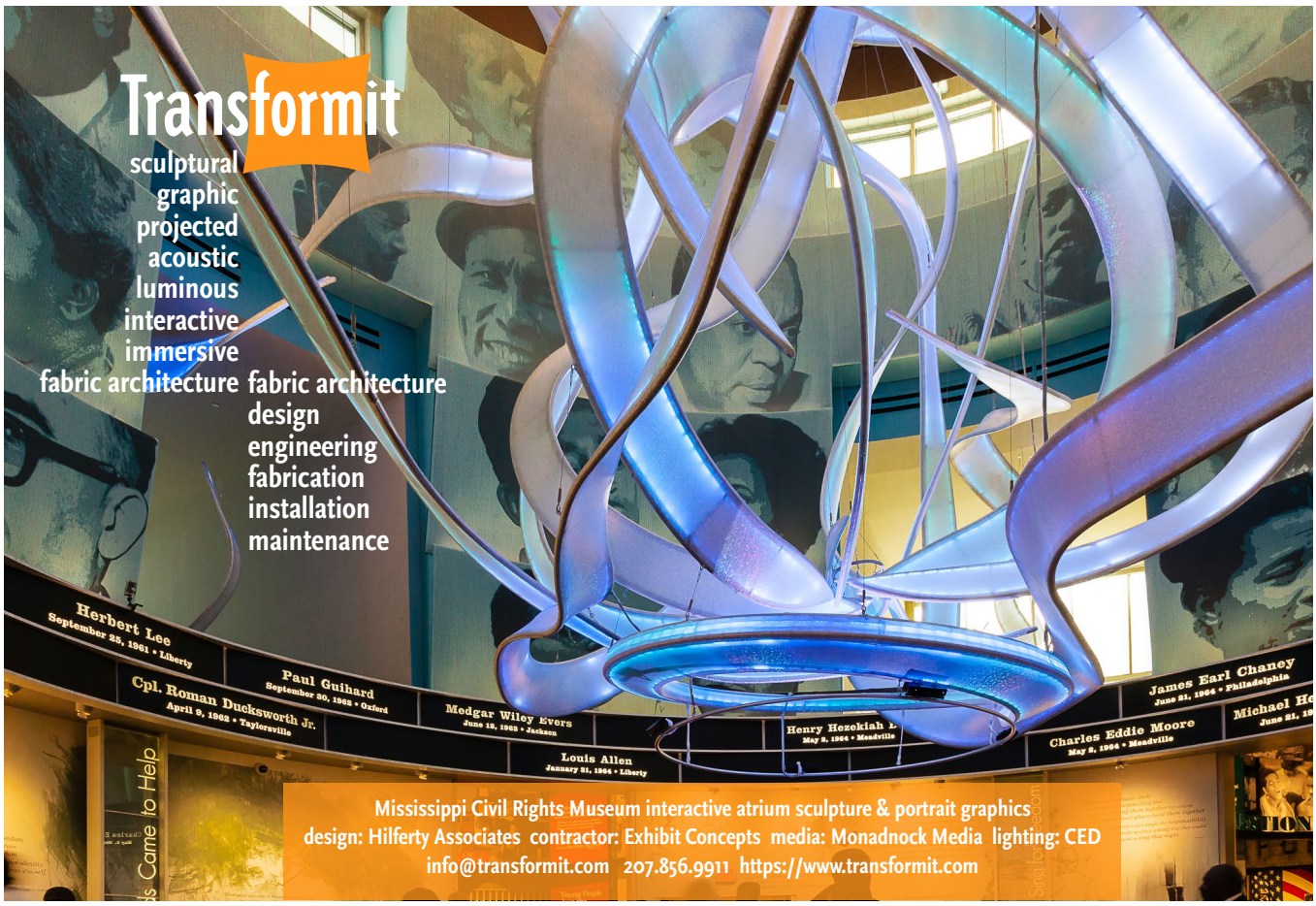
Speakers: Bridget DeLaney-Hall, Associate Curator of Maritime Social History, Aidan Evenski, Museum Interpreter, Steve Gibbs, Interpreter, Akeia de Barros Gomes, Vice President, Maritime Studies, Andy King, Interpretation Volunteer Coordinator, Emily Phillips-Geeza, Interpretation Working Waterfront Supervisor, and James Weitlauf, Interpreter, Mystic Seaport Museum, CT

Museums for All: A More Perfect Representation of Your Community

Watch Hill

Museums for All, a partnership between the Institute of Museum and Library Services and the Association of Children's Museums, encourages low-income families to visit museums and build lifelong museum habits. Learn about the Museums for All initiative and why museums want to participate in this program. Hear from regional organizations on what they've gained from their involvement, what challenges they've experienced, how they've individually tailored to meet their needs, and how they've supported the program.

Speakers: Brendan Cartwright, Project Manager, Special Initiatives, Association of Children's Museums, VA; Leila



McRae, Membership & Database Manager, Children's Museum of New Hampshire; Caroline Payson, Executive Director, Providence Children's Museum, RI

Promoting Positive Outcomes for Neurodiverse Adults: Museum-Based Transition Education
Newport

A main purpose of special education is helping students with disabilities transition to adulthood in the areas of employment, education, and independent living/community participation. How can museums support positive outcomes for students with disabilities? Learn about a partnership between an art museum and transition program for individuals with disabilities. Session participants will examine how their institution can contribute to student-centered transition planning and leave with concrete ideas for supporting transition to adulthood for neurodiverse students.

Speakers: Matthew Capezzuto, Educator, K-8 Family and Access Programs, and Linda Friedlaender, Head of Education, Yale Center for British Art, CT; Jennifer Kowitt, Assistant Professor, Special Education, University of Saint Joseph, CT; Tina Menchetti, Art Director, Chapel Haven Schleifer Center, CT

4:00 – 4:30 pm
BOOK SIGNING

Bookstore/Registration Area

Ken Turino, Senior Search Consultant, Museum Search & Reference, and Lecturer, Tufts University Museum Studies, and Max van Balgooy, President of Engaging Places, *Interpreting Christmas at Museums and Historic Sites.*

4:30 – 5:30 pm
EXHIBIT HALL OPENING RECEPTION

Join your fellow colleagues at the opening reception in the Exhibit Hall. It's the perfect opportunity to catch up with old acquaintances, make new friends, network with colleagues, and visit the vendors. And let's not forget about the raffle cards—get them signed early for a chance to win some amazing prizes on Thursday! Grab some delicious hors d'oeuvres and enjoy the kick-off celebration for the NEMA Exhibit Hall.

Hosted by LUCIDEA



WEDNESDAY EVENING EVENTS



OPENING RECEPTION: AN EVENING AT ROUGH POINT

5:35 – 7:30 pm

Chart your course for an evening with colleagues at Newport Restoration Foundation's Rough Point! Originally constructed in the late 19th-century, Rough Point was the summer home of philanthropist (and NRF founder) Doris Duke for most of the 20th-century.

Ticket holders meet in the hotel lobby at 5:35 pm. Bus will leave at 5:45 pm.

MEET-UPS

Make sure to check the app for the most up-to-date offerings and locations.

LGBTQIA+ Museum Staff and Students PAG Meet-Up

Join the LGBTQIA+ Museum Staff and Students PAG for a cocktail or mocktail during our Happy Hour! Come network with like minded peers, build community, and share what LGBTQIA+ inclusion means to you and your organization. We also welcome hearing about what you'd like to see from the PAG in the coming months!

Small Museum PAG Meet-Up

Hey small museum friends: let's hang out! We know you do everything from fundraising to floor sweeping, but this evening all you have to lift is your glass. Bring your stories of volunteer antics, metadata mysteries, and raccoon invasions—we can laugh and cry together over drinks and snacks!

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Thursday, November 7

7:30 – 8:30 am
IMP PAG BREAKFAST
Unveiling the Key to Successful Collaboration between Museums and Consultants
Harborview Room
Breakfast will be provided for those who registered for it in advance and have a ticket. All may attend the meeting.
Museums are increasingly challenged to find the expertise required to successfully fundraise, create exhibits, manage IT, and many other areas. To meet these needs, museums are turning to consultants. How best to manage this relationship? How can each party best serve the other?

Facilitators: Ernesto Mendoza, Designer/Owner, One by Design, MA; Phelan R. Fretz, PhD, Principal, Fretz Consulting Services, VT

8:00 am – 4:00 pm
BOOKSTORE OPEN
Hosted by Church Mutual Insurance

8:00 am – 4:00 pm
EXHIBIT HALL OPEN

8:00 am – 5:00 pm
REGISTRATION OPEN
Hosted by COLLECTOR SYSTEMS

8:00 – 9:00 am
WAKE-UP COFFEE AND MORNING TREATS IN THE EXHIBIT HALL
Hosted by HAFFENREFFER MUSEUM OF ANTHROPOLOGY

8:10 am – Noon
OFF-SITE SESSION
Ticket holders meet in the hotel lobby at 8:10 am. Bus will leave at 8:15 am.

Writers in Residence: How Your Museum Can Inspire New Works from Old Stories

Speakers: Cara Massey, Executive Director, and Leigh Medieros, Residency Program Director, Linden Place, RI

8:35 am – Noon
OFF-SITE SESSION
Ticket holders meet in the hotel lobby at 8:35 am. Bus will leave at 8:45 am.

Shifting Perspectives & Bridging Differences: VTS with a Social Justice Lens

Speakers: Erin Wederbrook Yuskaitis, Principal, Yellow Room Consulting, MA; Walae Hayek, Founder and President, ROYA, MA

9:00 – 9:30 am
DEMONSTRATION STATION
Designing Bilingual Exhibits
Exhibit Hall
Museum Environment's creative director, Mariano Desmarás, will share his design approach to creating bilingual exhibits. He will cover a variety of languages with a particular emphasis on Spanish and Latinx exhibits. Mariano will draw lessons from his recent project for the National Museum of the American Latino Smithsonian.

Speaker: Mariano Desmarás, Creative Director, Museum Environments, NY

9:00 – 10:30 am
CONCURRENT SESSIONS
Cede the Space: The Urgent Work of Decentering Whiteness in Projects Honoring the Enslaved
Narragansett; Ticket Required
Twenty years ago, a watershed examination by Brown University sparked a wave of initiatives by universities, museums, and municipalities to uncover hidden histories of slavery in New England. A number of local initiatives, including Research BIPOC History (RBH), took off in the wake of George Floyd's murder in 2020, with largely white scholars, curators, and historic preservationists launching collaborations that pledged to engage and work hand in hand with descendant communities. While cross-racial efforts like RBH have played an important role in historical truth-telling, they can often reproduce the very same racialized dynamics of power, control, and white-centered dominance that were central to slavery. These dynamics can result in the marginalization of the very descendants these projects sought to engage. This participatory session will bring attendees and RBH team members together to engage in uncomfortable truth-telling about the present—naming the harmful impacts that can occur in such collaborations, exploring lessons learned, and unpacking what it means for white allies to

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cede space, show up in humility, and create an antiracist accountability culture.

Speakers: Francie Latour, Co-Founder and Director, Wee The People Boston, MA, and Outreach and Communications Coordinator, Research BIPOC History, RI; Kendall Reiss, Professor of the Practice in Metals, Tufts University, MA, and Project Coordinator, Research BIPOC History, RI

Climate Change is Now: How Will You Lead? How Will You Educate?

Watch Hill

Climate change is not coming at some murky time in the future: it's here now and affecting us in ways that we must acknowledge and work to mitigate. The panelists, all experts in climate change, will present both current information and strategies to cope with this ongoing and increasing crisis. Climate change is both an opportunity and an obligation for the museum field to lead and to educate.

Speakers: Raney Bench, Executive Director, Mount Desert Island Historical Society, ME (NEMA Board); Jim Chase, Executive Director, Seacoast Science Center, NH (NEMA Board); Phelan R. Fretz, PhD, Principal, Fretz Consulting Services, VT; Pieter Roos, Roos & Associates Consulting and Wells Boat Hall Exhibition Curator, Mystic Seaport Museum, CT; Rodney Rowland, Director of Facilities & Sustainability, Strawbery Banke Museum, NH

Decolonizing the Colonial Trifecta: 1524-2024, 1675-2025, 1776-2026

Lewis Hall

This session calls on the museum community to use the anniversaries of three significant turns in the colonial history of the Northeast's Native nations—the 500th anniversary of Verrazano's voyage (2024), the 350th anniversaries of King Philip's War's start (2025) and end (2026), and also the American Revolution's 250th anniversary (2026)—to reassess our collections and work collaboratively with New England's Native communities to integrate their full 13,500-year history into our missions.

Speakers: Jonathan James-Perry, Councilman, Artist, Singer, Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head, Aquinnah, MA; Marjory O'Toole, Executive Director, Little Compton Historical Society, RI; Kevin Smith, Partner, Osprey Heritage Consulting, LLC, RI; Rashad Young, MPTN Language Project Director, Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation, CT

Developing & Marketing K-12 School Programs Workshop

Newport

Whether you're a student, an early career educator, or a seasoned practitioner, this interactive workshop will provide a comprehensive overview of K-12 program development and marketing at small museums, along

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with practical tools, tips, and takeaways to support your work with K-12 school groups.

Speaker: Amanda Goodheart Parks, PhD, Director of Education, New England Air Museum, CT (NEMA Board)

Let's Talk Business! Leveraging Your Museum's Business Model

Hamilton

Who hasn't had a board member who insists that "this museum should be run more like a business?" This workshop will help museum directors and other stakeholders to understand and communicate the unique nature of their museum's business model to board members and how understanding and articulating it more clearly can help the museum reach more people and build support for the organization's mission and objectives.

Speakers: Guy Hermann and Sara Patton Zarrelli, Museum Master Planners, Museum Insights, MA

Maps are Not Neutral

Ballroom C

The world is changing and the way we visualize it needs to keep up. Hear from a cartographer and an exhibit designer about the ways that maps in museums inadvertently express the values of their makers. Participate in a hands-on mapmaking activity, learn terms and concepts of modern cartography, and come away with tips for how to evaluate maps you already have and commission maps that communicate with intention.

Speakers: Andrew Middleton, Cartographer and Science Communicator, The Map Center, RI; Margaret Middleton, Exhibit Designer and Museum Consultant, UK

Reconsidering Traditional Approaches to Collections Care and the Museum Environment

Ballroom D

Conservators care for museum collections holistically by attempting to control the museum environment in order to mitigate the rate at which degradation of collection material occurs. However, at the same time, entropy, or the tendency of tangible things to break down, is a real and constant challenge. Understanding the original, historical reasons for museum standards helps the museum professional to reconsider how they can be safely adjusted in order to address issues of climate change.

Speakers: Jim Burke, Facilities Manager, Ingrid Neuman, Senior Conservator, Brianna Turner, Conservation Assistant, and Jess Urick, Associate Textile Conservator, RISD Museum

Shaping a More Equitable Future: Feedback and Strategies for Gender Equity in Museums with GEMM

Rose Island I

Join GEMM (Gender Equity in Museums Movement) for a discussion focusing on their upcoming book about the contemporary landscape of the museum field. Through an interactive discussion, participants will gain insights into GEMM's research and contribute valuable ideas and feedback on the book's content. This session offers a crucial opportunity to collectively address gender disparity and pave the way for a more inclusive and equitable museum future.

Speakers: Elise Couture-Stone, Editor in Chief, Gender Equity in Museums, MA; Scarlett V. Hoey, Director of Member Experience, NEMA, MA; Marieke Van Damme, Executive Director, History Cambridge, MA

Yes, Again: Museums in Community During Incidents of Mass Violence

Rose Island II

On October 25, 2023, the residents of Lewiston, Maine, experienced a mass shooting. Learn how, as a community museum, Maine MILL quickly stepped up to find their role in supporting their community during this traumatic event, and how members of Maine's cultural community stepped up to support the team at Maine MILL. How can the work you are doing now better serve your community and prepare you to respond if this happens in your town?

Speakers: Rachel Ferrante, Executive Director, Maine MILL; Julia Gray, Executive Director, Wilson Museum, ME; Rainey Tisdale, Consultant, ME

9:45 – 10:15 am
DEMONSTRATION STATION

Sailing Through Time: Discovering New Insights Together

Exhibit Hall

Historian Richard Stone's "Project Mayflower" demonstrates how a fresh approach can bring new life to iconic artifacts, like the Mayflower II replica. Stone approached the famous object the way a detective might reopen a cold case—using new evidence and perspectives to weave a richer story. Join the conversation and share how you, too, engage in detective work—fitting together different clues from your collections to reveal new insights and revitalized narratives.

Speakers: Richard Stone, Founder, Mayflower Event News, CT

10:30 – 11:00 am
COFFEE BREAK IN THE EXHIBIT HALL



11:00 - 11:30 am
DEMONSTRATION STATION

Papercraft Geography

Cut out and fold your own globe—a tiny personalized model of the planet you can use to explore all the different ways of telling Earth's stories.

Speaker: Andrew Middleton, Director, The Map Center, RI



FINDING THE BEST MUSEUM LEADERS

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11:00 am – 12:30 pm
CONCURRENT SESSIONS

A More Perfect Paradigm: Alternative Museum Leadership Models
Rose Island II

The museum leadership paradigm of a top-down board and executive format is inherently built on the inequity of the past. Our structures aren't equipped to support the change that many are trying to create as we modify our organizations to facilitate future equity and belonging. Join this think tank to challenge the leadership structure status quo. Let's challenge the past and explore options to envision new, alternative museum leadership structures for the future.

Speakers: Laurie Pasteryak, Business Development Manager, and Dan Yaeger, Senior Search Consultant, Museum Search & Reference, NH

All In for the Semiquin: America250 Think Tank
Lewis Hall

Is your site gearing up for the Semiquincentennial? Curious about what's happening across the region at other organizations? Hoping to make connections as you solidify your 2026 programming? Then this think tank session is for you! Hear about America250 plans at a national level from AASLH (including free resources to help you structure your commemorative events!) and from local museums about their plans and initiatives before segueing into generative conversation and brainstorming with fellow attendees. Looking for more 250th talk? Come back for lunch and further the discussion!

Speakers: Deirdre Anderson, Executive Director, Hingham Historical Society, MA; Matt Beres, Museum Director, Arlington Historical Society, MA; Stacey Fraser, Assistant Curator, Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library; Jesse Hilton, Curator, Lexington Historical Society, MA; John Marks, Director, Research & Strategic Initiatives, American Association for State and Local History, MD; Jon Mathewson, Curator, Dorset Historical Society, VT; Reed Gochberg, Associate Curator and Director of Exhibitions, Concord Museum, MA; Patrice Todisco, Executive Director, Freedom's Way National Heritage Area, MA

Building Model Cities: a Pathway to Art, Engineering, and Civics
Newport

What will our future look like? Programs and exhibits that engage visitors in building model cities can help us answer this question. By designing experiences that activate shared values and aspirations, we can help the public articulate their visions of the future. With overlap across art, history, and science, these activities are great for any museum. Join us to learn about examples, get hands-on experience, and brainstorm ways to use model-building activities at your museum.

Speakers: Paul Fenton, Director of Environmental and Outdoor Education, Discovery Museum, Acton, MA; Betsy Loring, Principal, expLoring exhibits & engagement, LLC, MA

Finding the Right NEH Grant
Narragansett

Learn about grant opportunities from the National Endowment for the Humanities that support exhibition, preservation, and interpretation projects that foster deeper understandings of cultures, history, and multiple perspectives. Get tips for preparing a competitive application, hear about successful NEH projects at small and large institutions throughout New England, and learn about opportunities available as part of NEH's initiative, *American Tapestry: Weaving Together Past, Present, and Future.*

Speakers: Briann Greenfield, Director of Preservation and Access, and George Lazopoulos, Senior Program Officer, Division of Public Programs, National Endowment for the Humanities, Washington, DC

Inclusive Language: Redefining Nomenclature for the 21st-Century
Ballroom D

AASLH's Nomenclature Committee will describe their work to improve the breadth, depth, and accessibility of Nomenclature for Museum Cataloging, in particular through the addition of Spanish, French, regional Canadian, and Indigenous North American languages—as well as technical improvements to enable ease of access and implementation. Museums are at a critical juncture of reparative cataloging, and the Nomenclature Committee strives to support this important work by ensuring that nomenclature is inclusive and accessible to all.

Speakers: Heather Dunn, Heritage Information Analyst, Canadian Heritage Information Network; John Hart, Archivist & Collections Manager, American Pomeroy Historic Genealogical Association, NY; Joanna McMann, Registrar and Assistant Curator of Heritage Collections, Government of Nunavut, Canada; Amber Wingerson, Curator of Exhibits and Collections, Sullivan Museum and History Center, VT

Interpreting Christmas (and Other December Holidays) at Museums and Historic Sites
Watch Hill

December holidays, including Christmas, Hanukkah, and Kwanza, are a rich tapestry of traditions, shaped by religious, cultural, and historical factors that evolved over centuries. The subject of a new AASLH book, we will examine December holidays and how practitioners can use creative ways to bring in visitors while ensuring the proper care of collections. We will also look at how historic museums can interpret these holidays through the lens of immigration, race, and equity to better engage their communities.

Speakers: Max van Balgooy, President, Engaging Places, LLC, MD; Laurel A. Racine, Supervisory Historian and Program Manager History and Preservation Assistance, National Park Service Interior Region 1, North Atlantic - Appalachian, MA; David D. J. Rau, Curator of Visitor Engagement, Florence Griswold Museum, CT; Ken Turino, Senior Search Consultant, Museum Search & Reference, and Lecturer, Tufts University Museum Studies, MA; Patricia West, Museum Consultant & Author, NY

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Making Magic: Redefining the Visitor Experience through Experiential Design and the Performing Arts

Hamilton

The 21st-century paradigm of activating large and small cultural organizations using immersive experiences to create meaningful and mission-driven engagement opportunities transcends traditional tours and lectures. Join a panel of speakers for an imaginative presentation about how new models of storytelling, programming, interpretive planning, and experiential design are changing the way museums and cultural sites can engage the public.

Speakers: Patrick Gabridge, Producing Artistic Director, Plays in Place, MA; Michael Maler, Founder, Crescendo Productions, MA; Ed Rodley, Co-founder and Principal, The Experience Alchemists, MA

Teaching Hard Histories: Using Museum Education to Support Teachers in Your Community

Ballroom C

Teaching hard histories may seem difficult or daunting, but is imperative for K-12 students to become engaged and informed citizens. Many local and state educational standards and legislation, in fact, require the teaching of difficult topics. Museums are in a unique position to support educators in fulfilling these initiatives. This session will provide museum educators with skills and techniques they can use to support teachers and students through program and resource creation. Join a group of dedicated staff from the Rhode Island Historical Society and the Rhode Island Department of Education to participate in activities that will build up your educational toolbelt.

Speakers: Geralyn Ducady, Humanities and Social Studies Education Specialist, Rhode Island Department of Education; Kelvis Hernandez, Manager of the John Brown House Museum, and Michelle Walker, Education Manager, Rhode Island Historical Society

WHERE2024: Building Momentum for the Historical Recovery Movement

Rose Island I

Convened by the public history nonprofit Atlantic Black Box, the Walk for Historical & Ecological Recovery (WHERE2024) is a broad-based, community-engaged effort to challenge widely accepted narratives and silences in Maine's memoryscape. In this session, we will share with you our journey to engage local communities in the excavation of suppressed histories and in forwarding ongoing processes of truth-seeking and transformation.

Speakers: Erika Arthur, Program and Development Assistant, and Meadow Dibble, Executive Director, Atlantic Black Box, ME

11:45 am – 12:15 pm
DEMONSTRATION STATION

Confronting Climate Change Requires All Hands on Deck. What Can Your Museum Do?

Exhibit Hall

Is climate change a subject that belongs in your museum? Do you want to learn more about what others are doing or how to handle the topic? Let's review some examples and share ideas.

Speaker: Rachel Lorentzen, Recent Graduate Student, Harvard University Extension School, Museum Studies, MA

1:00 – 1:30 pm
BOOK SIGNING

Bookstore/Registration Area

Kristin Gallas, Principal, MUSE Consulting, will be signing her book *Interpreting Slavery with Children and Teens at Museums and Historic Sites*.

1:35 – 5:00 pm
OFF-SITE SESSION

Ticket holders meet in the hotel lobby at 1:35 pm. Bus will leave at 1:45 pm.

Interpreting Sports: Changing the Game

Speakers: Kathryn Leann Harris, CEO, and Doug Stark, Museum Consultant, Interpreting Sports, MA; Megan Reynolds, Student, University of Massachusetts, Boston, MA

Lipsey Architecture Center | Buffalo, NY

Eugene O'Neill Theater Center | Waterford, CT

Osage Nation Museum | Tulsa, OK

Mission Trails Regional Park | San Diego, CA

House of the Seven Gables | Salem, MA

Pilgrim Hall | Plymouth, MA

Long Island National Wildlife Refuge Complex | Suffolk County, NY

The Settlement at Salem 1630 | Salem, MA

ObjectIDEA

Museum Planning | Visitor Engagement Strategies

PROFESSIONAL AFFINITY GATHERINGS (PAG) LUNCH SESSIONS

12:30 – 1:45 pm

PAG sessions are open to all, except the Director's Discussion, limited to museum directors only. If you ordered a box lunch, please collect it from the Exhibit Hall from 12:30 - 1:00 pm. Sessions begin at 12:45 pm.

America250

Lewis Hall

What are your organization's plans for America250? Join this lunch to connect with colleagues from across the region: share ideas about your programming and hear how others are marking the Semiquincentennial!

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Education PAG

Rose Island II

Connect with your fellow educators for a casual lunch. Discuss strategies for engaging museum audiences, share ideas, offer advice, and connect with a network of peers who can continue to provide inspiration, support, and resources long after this year's conference ends.

Facilitator: Amanda Goodheart Parks, PhD, Director of Education, New England Air Museum, CT (NEMA Board)

Industrial History Organizations PAG

Narragansett

For this year's Industrial History PAG lunch, we are thrilled to be joined by Steven Lubar, semi-retired professor in the departments of History and American studies at Brown University. He will share his extensive knowledge about museums and the history of technology as he addresses the subject of Industrial History. All are invited to enjoy this relaxed and informal gathering!

Facilitators: Eric Peterson, Executive Director, Waterworks Museum, MA; Steven D. Lubar, Professor of American Studies, Brown University, RI

Membership, Development, Public Relations & Marketing PAG

Newport

Join fellow membership, development, PR, and marketing professionals over lunch to share ideas, ask questions, and meet colleagues. All are welcome, from directors to searching students interested in learning more about the MDPRM fields.

PAG Chairs: Genevieve Burgett, Director of Membership, Historic New England, MA; Joe April, Director of Development, Strawbery Banke Museum, NH; Kathleen Porter, Director of Member Engagement, The Trustees, MA

The Museum Directors' Discussion PAG

Rose Island I

This is an opportunity for CEO/Directors to discuss concerns and challenges in an open forum setting. Our facilitator will keep the conversation moving while we share ideas and solutions. Whether you are a seasoned or a first-time director, this discussion will be for CEOs of any size museum. Participation is limited to CEO/Directors only.

Facilitator: Raney Bench, Executive Director, Mount Desert Island Historical Society, MA (NEMA Board)

Registrars & Collection Care Specialists (RACCS) PAG

Watch Hill

Made any mistakes lately? I know I have! This year, we're channeling our AAM colleague Sean Kelley's fantastic conference session, Mistakes Were Made. Come eat lunch with old and new RACCS colleagues as we share some recent faux pas, what we learned in the process, and laugh a little bit at ourselves. This will be a playful, game-show-like session that allows us all to recognize the humor in human error while also taking away some helpful professional growth. For the purpose of spirited, professional safety this session will not be recorded, nor will any divulgences leave the sanctity of the lunch table. We'll conclude the hour celebrating some of our successes too!

PAG Chair: Emily Pearce, Ben Lee Damsky Assistant Curator of Numismatics, Yale University Art Gallery, CT (NEMA Board)

Hosted by

CROZIER

Open Lunch Discussion

Ballroom C

Pick up your lunch and join a few companions for conversation in our open networking lunch zone.

Are you interested in getting involved as a Professional Affinity Gathering chair? Contact Jenn at jennifer.wilson@nemanet.org for more details.

Quick Glance

Wednesday

8:00 am – 5:00 pm
Registration Open

8:00 am – 5:30 pm
Exhibit Hall Open

8:00 – 8:30 am
NEMA Conference Preview, *Point Judith*

8:00 – 9:00 am
Wake-Up Coffee & Morning Treats in the Exhibit Hall

9:00 – 9:30 am
Demo Station: Argus: Enhance Outreach & Engagement

9:00 – 10:30 am
Concurrent Sessions
- Engage with Strategy, *Rose Island I*
- Exhibit Under Repair: Designing for Durability, *Ballroom D*
- Implementing NAGPRA, *Rose Island II*
- New Strategies for LGBTQIA+ Interpretation, *Ballroom C*
- Startup Museums, *Hamilton*
- Story Time! How (and Why), *Watch Hill*
- The Climate Emergency & Sustainability Task Force, *Newport*

9:45 – 10:15 am
Demo Station: Is Your Museum Prepared for Climate Change?

10:45 am – 12:15 pm
Keynote Session, *Lewis Hall*

10:00 am – 5:00 pm
Bookstore Open

12:15 – 1:30 pm
PAG Lunch Sessions
- College and University Museums PAG, *Ballroom D*
- Directors and Trustees Lunch, *Hamilton*
- Exhibits PAG, *Rose Island II*
- Library and Archives PAG, *Watch Hill*
- Historic Site Management PAG, *Rose Island I*
- Open Lunch Discussion, *Newport*

1:30 – 4:15 pm
Off-Site Session: Behind the Scenes Tour of Fort Adams

1:30 – 2:00 pm
Session Break

2:00 – 2:30 pm
Book Signing

2:00 – 2:30 pm
Demo Station: Integrating Controls Simplicity

2:00 – 3:00 pm
Gallery of Ideas: Poster Sessions, *Registration Area*

2:00 – 3:00 pm
Peer Support Lounge: Museum People with Disabilities, *Point Judith*

2:00 – 3:00 pm
Concurrent Sessions
- 2024 Exhibit Project Slide Show and Tell, *Rose Island II*
- Artist Talk and Q&A: The Haus Of Glitter, *Ballroom D*
- Breaking Boundaries, *Ballroom C*
- Creating Mutually Beneficial Internships, *Newport*
- Getting on the Map, *Narragansett*
- Making the Most of the Semiquin, *Hamilton*
- Moving Beyond the Rainbow, *Watch Hill*
- The Risks and Rewards of Reinvention, *Rose Island I*

2:00 – 3:30 pm
Off-Site Session: Point Neighborhood Walking Tour

2:05 – 4:15 pm
Off-Site Session: A Name, A Voice, A Life

2:30 – 3:00 pm
Book Signing

3:00 – 3:30 pm
Snack Break in the Exhibit Hall

3:30 – 4:00 pm
Demo Station: Intro to Google Analytics

3:30 – 4:00 pm
Book Signing

3:30 – 4:30 PM
Career Conversation, *Narragansett*

3:30 – 4:30 pm
Concurrent Sessions
- A Tale of Two Museums, *Ballroom D*
- Afro-Latin Dance: The Haus of Glitter, *Lewis Hall*
- Art & History Unite, *Hamilton*
- Building (Art) Bridges, *Ballroom C*
- Events, Appeals, Membership, Campaigns, *Rose Island I*
- Guiding Visitors, *Rose Island II*
- Museums for All, *Watch Hill*
- Promoting Positive Outcomes, *Newport*

4:00 – 4:30 pm
Book Signing

4:30 – 5:30 pm
Exhibit Hall Opening Reception

Evening Gatherings

Thursday

7:30 – 8:30 am
IMP PAG Breakfast, *Harborview Room*

8:00 am – 4:00 pm
Exhibit Hall and Bookstore Open

8:00 am – 5:00 pm
Registration Open

8:00 – 9:00 am
Wake-Up Coffee & Morning Treats in the Exhibit Hall

8:10 am – Noon
Off-Site Session: Writers in Residence

8:35 am – Noon
Off-Site Session: VTS with a Social Justice Lens

9:00 – 9:30 am
Demo Station: Designing Bilingual Exhibits

9:00 – 10:30 am
Concurrent Sessions
- Cede the Space, *Narragansett; Ticket Required*
- Climate Change is Now, *Watch Hill*
- Decolonizing the Colonial Trifecta, *Lewis Hall*
- Developing & Marketing K-12 School Programs, *Newport*
- Let's Talk Business!, *Hamilton*
- Maps are Not Neutral, *Ballroom C*
- Collections Care & the Museum Environment, *Ballroom D*
- Shaping a More Equitable Future, *Rose Island I*
- Yes, Again, *Rose Island II*

9:45 – 10:15 am
Demo Station: Sailing Through Time

10:30 – 11:00 am
Coffee Break in the Exhibit Hall

11:00 - 11:30 am
Demo Station: Papercraft Geography

11:00 am – 12:30 pm
Concurrent Sessions
- A More Perfect Paradigm, *Rose Island II*
- All In for the Semiquin, *Lewis Hall*
- Building Model Cities, *Newport*
- Finding the Right NEH Grant, *Narragansett*
- Inclusive Language, *Ballroom D*
- Interpreting Christmas, *Watch Hill*
- Making Magic, *Hamilton*
- Teaching Hard Histories, *Ballroom C*
- WHERE2024, *Rose Island I*

11:45 am – 12:15 pm
Demo Station: Confronting Climate Change

12:30 – 1:45 pm
PAG Lunch Sessions
- America250, *Lewis Hall*
- Education PAG, *Rose Island II*
- Industrial History Organizations PAG, *Narragansett*
- Membership, Development, PR & Marketing PAG, *Newport*
- The Museum Directors' Discussion PAG, *Rose Island I*
- RACCS PAG, *Watch Hill*
- Open Lunch Discussion, *Ballroom C*

1:00 – 1:30 pm
Book Signing

1:35 – 5:00 pm
Off-Site Session: Interpreting Sports: Changing the Game

1:45 – 2:00 pm
Session Break

2:00 – 2:30 pm
Demo Station: Tea & Real Talk about the Election

2:00 – 3:00 pm
Concurrent Sessions
- Career Support: Resume Review
- CEOs & Development Unite, *Newport*
- Civics Education and Your Museum, *Watch Hill*
- Collaborative Vision, *Ballroom C*
- Community BLOOMS, *Rose Island I*
- How to Get Federal "Earmark", *Ballroom D*
- Think You're Not an Advocate?, *Narragansett*
- Training & Supporting Interpreters, *Rose Island II*
- Who Lives, Who Dies, Who Tells Our Story?, *Lewis Hall*
- Who Needs Museums?, *Hamilton*

3:00 – 3:45 pm
Exhibit Hall Closing Reception & Raffle Prize Drawing

2:50 – 7:00 pm
Off-Site Session: An Afternoon on Providence's College Hill

3:45 – 5:15 pm
Gallery of Ideas: Poster Sessions, *Registration Area*

*Demo Stations will take place in the Exhibit Hall and Book Signings are in the Registration Area.

3:45 – 5:15 pm
Concurrent Sessions
- Celebrating with Collections, *Narragansett*
- Creating a History Scavenger Hunt, *Watch Hill*
- Determining the Carbon Footprint, *Ballroom D*
- Interpreting (Early) Black History, *Rose Island II*
- Making the "Old" New, *Ballroom C*
- Real-World Accessibility Stories, *Rose Island I*
- Small Team, Big Problems, *Hamilton*
- The Museum Union Organizing Wave, *Lewis Hall*

5:15 – 6:00 pm
Newcomers Reception, *Newport*

Evening Events

Friday

8:30 am – Noon
Registration and Bookstore Open

8:30 – 9:00 am
Wake-Up Coffee and Morning Treats

8:35 – 10:30 am
Off-Site Session: Tour of Naval War College Museum

8:35 – 11:00 am
Off-Site Session: Putting "Fun" in Fundraising

9:00 – 10:00 am
Concurrent Sessions
- Career Support: Resume Review
- Designing Museum-Quality Student Exhibits, *Newport*
- From Narrative to Action, *Watch Hill*
- Natural History Museums, *Rose Island I*
- Rhode Island Sports History, *Ballroom C*
- Risk Preparedness in an Ever-Changing World, *Hamilton*
- Telling American Stories Through Digital Media, *Ballroom D*
- The Systemic Bias & Racism in Preservation, *Rose Island II*

10:00 – 10:15 am
Session Break

10:15 – 11:15 am
Concurrent Sessions
- ArtsCrew: The Future of Arts Work, *Rose Island I*
- Building the Leadership Team, *Ballroom C*
- Changing Interpretative Methods, *Rose Island II*
- Forward Together, *Narragansett*
- Le Caring Museum, *Ballroom D*
- Making Accessibility Accessible, *Newport*
- Museums Our Way, *Watch Hill*
- Reducing Carbon Emissions, *Hamilton*

11:15 – 11:30 am
Session Break

11:30 am – 12:30 pm
NEMA Reads, *Narragansett*

11:30 am – 12:30 pm
Concurrent Sessions
- Art of the Podcast, *Newport*
- Brewing Community Connections, *Hamilton*
- Community Curation at a City Museum, *Rose Island I*
- Diversifying Dress Display, *Rose Island II*
- How Do You Do It, *Ballroom D*
- Keeping Up with Our Changing World, *Watch Hill*
- Selling Charity, *Ballroom C*

12:30 – 1:30 pm
Closing Lunch and Annual Meeting, *Lewis Hall*

1:45 – 2:00 pm
SESSION BREAK

2:00 – 2:30 pm
DEMONSTRATION STATION

Tea & Real Talk about the Election, Democracy, and Museums
Exhibit Hall

Rainey Tisdale, one of the organizers of the Museums & the 2024 Election webinars NEMA hosted this fall, will hold space for conference participants to debrief on this week's election. Join this informal, nonpartisan conversation over tea to share how you're feeling, process the week's events together, and explore how museums can show up for democracy around the election results and beyond. Tea generously provided by Oliver Pluff & Co.

Speaker: Rainey Tisdale, Consultant, ME

2:00 – 3:00 pm
CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Career Support: Resume Review
You excel at your job, but does your resume reflect all your hard work? Sign-up at the walk-in registration desk to get a fresh pair of eyes and some collegial advice on your most recent resume!



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CEOs & Development Unite: Powering Museum Success through Synergy
Newport

Join us as a Director of Development and a President/CEO delve into the intricacies of collaborative fundraising. Learn to navigate shared priorities, time management, and motivation to propel your museum forward. Gain insights into effective communication and harnessing skills and contacts for mutual success. Explore the dynamic relationship between leadership and development for the greater benefit of your institution.

Speakers: Joe April, Director of Development, and Lawrence Yerdon, President & CEO (Retired), Strawbery Banke Museum, NH

Civics Education and Your Museum (And Why It Matters!)
Watch Hill

Democracy is on the ropes: what is your museum going to do about it? Hear from four institutions in pursuit of "more perfect" civics education. Learn how to build closer museum-school partnerships, how to develop innovative new civics programs, and how to support young people's civic engagement as we approach America250. You'll be introduced to new resources, learn about potential pitfalls, and emerge with a plan to support civics in your community.

Speakers: Jenny Heikkila Díaz, Professional Learning Coordinator, Connecticut Council for the Social Studies; Barbara Jarnagin, Associate Director for School and Family Programs, Mystic Seaport Museum, CT; Elizabeth Leahey, Director of STEAM Education, Discovery Museum, MA; Sally Whipple, Executive Director, Connecticut Democracy Center; Peter Moran, Civics Education for Connecticut Students Project Director, Connecticut Museum of Culture and History

Collaborative Vision: Improving Services Across Shared Stakeholders
Ballroom C

Discover how the RI Department of State, encompassing the State Library, State Archives, and RI250, enhances accessibility and engagement with Rhode Island's rich history. Through collaborative efforts, learn how small changes can revolutionize visitor experiences and community outreach, fostering a deeper connection to the state's heritage. Join us to explore practical strategies for improving services and engaging diverse stakeholders in museum settings.

Speakers: Lauren Fogarty, Program Coordinator (RI250 Commission), and Ashley Selima, Director of State Archives & Public Records Administration, RI Department of State

Community BLOOMS: Art, Community, and Environmental Stewardship
Rose Island I

Since 2023, the New Bedford Whaling Museum has worked with interdisciplinary artist Katy Rodden Walker on a project and exhibition titled Community BLOOMS, a community focused art and science project that raises awareness about plastic pollution in our

oceans, waterways, and food chains, and the natural phenomena of jellyfish blooms. Culminating in a six-month immersive art installation opening November 22, 2024, this participatory project invites visitors to create, consider, and collaborate around ideas of environmental change and activism.

Speakers: Ymelda Rivera Laxton, Assistant Curator of Contemporary Art & Community Projects, New Bedford Whaling Museum, MA; Mary Lou Nicholson, Organizer, Be the Solution to Pollution, MA; Katy Rodden Walker, Interdisciplinary Artist and Educator, MA

How to Get Federal "Earmark" or CDS Funding for Your Museum

Ballroom D

Earmarks are back! These specially-designated federal funds can sometimes provide larger amounts of money for your organization than other federal grant programs or underwrite the capital funding for "shovel-ready" projects. Earmarks are not hard to request, but you must work with your state's congressional members and their staff. Covering most New England states, this session will outline the process of requesting federal money plus share tips for success.

Speakers: Rele Abiade, Founder and CEO, One Rhode Consulting, RI; Erica Anhalt, Senior Legislative Assistant, Office of Senator Jeanne Shaheen of NH, DC; Claire Calabretta Director of Grants, Advancement Department, Mystic Seaport Museum, CT; Marilyn Hoffman, Principal, Museum Search & Reference, NH

Think You're Not an Advocate? Actually Yes, You Are!

Narragansett

Advocacy is one of our best tools to help build a "more perfect" museum world. However, it can be intimidating to request a better work/life balance, encourage funders to change their support, or speak with government officials about the importance of museums. Learn about core tenets that guide different types of advocacy, from speaking up for yourself at work to contacting your legislators for funding. You'll leave feeling like a more confident advocate for yourself, your institution, and the museum field!

Speakers: Charles Clark, Executive Director, Castle Preservation Society, NH (NEMA Board); Jessica Crowley, Burnout Prevention Coach, Amalgamation Coaching, NH; Rebecca Morin, Head Librarian, Worcester Art Museum, MA; Emily Pearce, Ben Lee Damsky Assistant Curator of Numismatics, Yale University Art Gallery, CT (NEMA Board)

Training & Supporting Interpreters

Rose Island II

The training and retention of paid historical interpreters can be a difficult needle to thread for museums working on a constrained budget and seasonal logistics. Interpreters are key messengers communicating their institution's mission to the public and it is our obligation to support them. Successful interpreters must master skills ranging from time management, engaging delivery, customer service, and sensitive handling of historically silenced narratives. We will discuss our organizations' approach to structured training in context, content, and museum practices as well as share strategies for updating interpretation.

Speakers: Suzanne Hall, Museum Experience Manager, and David Moffat, Visitor Services Specialist-Research, The House of the Seven Gables; Emily Levine, Supervisory Park Ranger (Interpretation), Longfellow House-Washington's Headquarters National Historic Site, National Park Service, MA; Shanna Sartori, Newbury Site Manager, Historic New England, MA

Who Lives, Who Dies, Who Tells Our Story?

Lewis Hall

Museum curators seeking to be inclusive of underrepresented stories of marginalized peoples need to do three things—identify the people who own the story, give them the tools to tell the story, and get out of the way—a process that assures relevance and authenticity. Too often museum curation takes a story when it should be given to them. If you want the voice to ring true, consider who is speaking.

Speakers: Akeia de Barros Gomes, Vice President of Maritime Studies, Mystic Seaport Museum, CT; Frank Mitchell, Cultural Organizer in Visual Arts and Public Humanities, CT; Steven Peters (Mashpee Wampanoag), Creative Director, SmokeSygnals, MA

Who Needs Museums?

Hamilton

Do museums have a responsibility to engage people who may not be part of our primary constituencies? (The answer is yes!) Considering the many inequities in our society, how can museums partner with underserved people in our communities and address these issues? Hear how three different museums are learning through conversations, collaboration and adaptation, some ways of applying our professional resources to support incarcerated parents, immigrants, and young adults from low-income backgrounds.

Speakers: Phoebe Magee, Manager of Young Adult Programs, New Bedford Whaling Museum, MA; Brindha Muniappan, Senior Director of the Museum Experience, Discovery Museum, MA (NEMA Board); Cathy Saunders, Interim Director, Lippitt House Museum, RI



3:00 – 3:45 pm

EXHIBIT HALL CLOSING RECEPTION AND RAFFLE PRIZE DRAWING



All are invited for one last chance to network with exhibitors, enjoy food, and win raffle prizes. Bring along your signed raffle card for a chance to win fabulous prizes including a golden ticket to NEMA 2025!

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2:50 – 7:00 pm

OFF-SITE SESSION

Ticket holders meet in the hotel lobby at 2:50 pm. Bus will leave at 3:00 pm. RISD is approximately an hour drive away from Newport.

An Afternoon on Providence's College Hill

Speakers: Ingrid Neuman, Senior Conservator, RISD Museum; Nicole Wholean, MS, University Curator, Brown Arts Institute, Brown University, RI

3:45 – 5:15 pm

GALLERY OF IDEAS: POSTER SESSIONS

Registration Area

Get a glimpse of the work being done in the field by emerging colleagues.

- Austin Saini: From passion to action: Teen listening sessions are a driver for community climate engagement
- Béatrice Duchastel de Montrouge: Je Me Souviens: An Evolving Public Memory on the Montréal Massacre, as Shown Through the Place du 6-Décembre-1989
- Calder Sell: Flower Power: A Guide to Anthotype Collection and Care
- Kathryn Cole: Heritage Museums & Gardens Contribution to Tourism on Cape Cod
- Lillian Young: Trauma-Informed Museum Practice: A Holistic Approach
- Nathalia Whitecar: From Gaps to Standards: Enhancing Time-Based Media Stewardship

Hosted by Barrett M. Keating Conservators



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3:45 – 5:15 pm
CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Celebrating with Collections: Utilizing Collections in Your Community's Anniversary Celebration

Narragansett

Upcoming anniversaries at the local, state, or national level, such as the upcoming U.S. Semiquincentennial, can mean an uptick in research requests, press inquiries, and visitor engagement with materials in your collections. This session will offer a comprehensive overview of how to harness the benefits of these celebratory moments while keeping preservation risks in check. The session will end with a facilitated brainstorm and discussion designed to jumpstart your anniversary planning process.

Speaker: Jesse Keel, Associate Preservation Specialist, Northeast Document Conservation Center, MA

Creating a History Scavenger Hunt

Watch Hill

In the summer of 2023, the New Hampshire Historical Society organized a statewide scavenger hunt that got Granite Staters outside to explore the state and its history. Dubbed the 603 History Hunt, it garnered attention from major media outlets in the region and introduced hundreds of people to the organization and its work. Discover tricks and tips to save money and time in developing a program that will inspire your entire community.

Speakers: Mary Adams, Museum Educator, and Elizabeth Dubrulle, Director of Education and Public Programs, New Hampshire Historical Society

Determining the Carbon Footprint of Exhibit Materials: Using Online Tools in a Hands-on Workshop

Ballroom D

We will introduce you to free online tools that will help you determine the embodied carbon of specific materials. The embodied carbon means the amount of carbon that was released into the atmosphere as a result of the extraction, manufacturing and transportation of a given product. We can also estimate the carbon that will be released into the atmosphere from the maintenance and disposal of building products. This metric will help even small museums determine which products are better for our planet's climate health.

Speakers: Douglas Flandro, Exhibit Designer and Sustainable Design Leader, and Wei Gao, Architect, CambridgeSeven, MA

Interpreting (Early) Black History at Historic Sites in 2024: From Discovery to Sustainability

Rose Island II

Four years ago the country watched the protests that began after the death of George Floyd. Many museums and historic sites took the events of 2020 as a call to bring the stories of enslavement and freedom into the narrative of their institutions. Where does that work stand today? How can we sustain this energy and continue to move forward? This roundtable will offer participants the opportunity to discuss a variety of aspects of this work, including getting your Board on board, looking for records, partnering with your community, and the challenges of bringing this interpretation to the public.

Speakers: Brittany Cook, Development and Communication Coordinator, and Staci Hanscom, Director of Education & Public Programming, Victoria Mansion, ME; Meghan Gelardi Holmes, Curator, Gibson House Museum, MA; Dr. Toni Lester, Scholar and Creative Artist, NY and MA; Erika Slocumb, Director of Interpretation and Visitor Experience, Harriet Beecher Stowe Center, CT; Karen Sánchez Eppler, President, Board of Directors, Porter-Phelps-Huntington Foundation, MA

Making the "Old" New: Curatorial Strategies for Legacy Galleries

Ballroom C

Did you inherit permanent galleries that aren't how you would curate them, miss important content, or obscure important perspectives and diverse narratives? Does the task to update seem overwhelming? What are small and large interventions to revise tone, update terminology, and change overall messaging? How can you achieve a big impact on a budget? How can you strategize larger reinstallations and maintain continuity—particularly for stakeholders attached to "how it was"—while making necessary changes?

Speakers: Reed Gochberg, Associate Curator and Director of Exhibitions, Concord Museum, MA; Christina Michelon, Associate Curator, and Astrid Tvetenstrand, Polly Thayer Starr Fellow in American Art, The Boston Athenaeum, MA; Ramey Mize, Associate Curator of American Art, Portland Museum of Art, ME; Naomi Slipp, Douglas and Cynthia Crocker Endowed Chair for the Chief Curator and Director of Museum Learning, New Bedford Whaling Museum, MA

Real-World Accessibility Stories: Practical Steps towards Removing Barriers for Visitors with Disabilities for Small and Medium-sized Museums - Part 2

Rose Island I

True accessibility means going beyond ADA specifications to meet the diverse needs of all museum visitors, particularly those with disabilities and their families. Where to start? Your building is old, the grounds are uneven, and the budget is small. Hear from institutions that made meaningful improvements in accessibility by carefully focusing projects, partnering with the true experts—visitors with disabilities, and recognizing that accessibility is a process, not an endpoint. They'll share resources, pitfalls, lessons learned, and of course, triumphs. This is a follow-up to last year's session featuring new stories, tricks, and tips.

Speakers: Terra Fletcher, The Artistic One, Panoptic Design/Build, LLC, MA; Shana Hawrylchak, Executive Director, SEE Science Center, Inc., NH; Emily Robertson, Owner and Founder, Studio Robertson, MA; Christine Scales, Director of Education & Interpretation, Billings Farm & Museum, VT

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Small Team, Big Problems: Human Resources at the Small Museum

Hamilton

Small museums mean smaller staff size, but workplace issues can be huge. Human resources and the sole staff support-person usually falls to directors who need support themselves. "People problems" can stall projects, throw order into disarray, divide colleagues and hurt both staff members and the museum's operations. Three small museum directors from Maine will share learning experiences, tools, and ideas to manage an engaging environment in which staff can thrive and help you not lose sleep (or cry).

Speakers: Raney Bench, Executive Director, Mount Desert Island Historical Society, ME (NEMA Board); Julia Gray, Executive Director, Wilson Museum, ME; Cynthia Walker, Executive Director, Brick Store Museum, ME (NEMA Board)

The Museum Union Organizing Wave: How Did We Get Here and Where Are We Going?

Lewis Hall

During the pandemic and its immediate aftermath, unions launched an unprecedented effort to organize large sectors of the museum workforce throughout the Northeast and beyond. Many museums are now midway through their first contracts and should be preparing for the next round of negotiations while others examine whether there are lessons to be learned from this dramatic turn toward union representation. This program will explore strategic considerations for workers, labor and management with a focus on identifying real-world strategies that you can execute at your museum to foster a work environment aligned with the institutional vision and worker engagement.

Speakers: Michael Bertoncini, Principal, Jackson Lewis P.C., MA; Maggie Scott, Senior Director of Government & Legal Affairs, and Eve Mayberger, Assistant Conservator, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA; Maida Rosenstein, Director of Organizing, UAW, Local 2110, NY

5:15 – 6:00 pm
NEWCOMERS RECEPTION

Newport

Ticket is required. Cash Bar. Conference newcomers get one drink ticket (in registration envelope).

Hosted by Tufts University, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Museum Studies

Thursday Evening Events



NEMA NIGHT AT THE RISD MUSEUM

Ticket holders meet in the hotel lobby at 4:50 pm. Bus will leave at 5:00 pm. RISD is approximately an hour drive away from Newport.

Hosted by U.S. ART

DIRECTORS AND TRUSTEES RECEPTION



Ticket holders meet in the hotel lobby at 5:35 pm. Bus will leave at 5:45 pm.



NEWPORT NIGHTS: AN EVENING AT THE REDWOOD

Ticket holders meet in the hotel lobby at 6:05 pm. Bus will leave at 6:15 pm.

Hosted by maquette fine art services

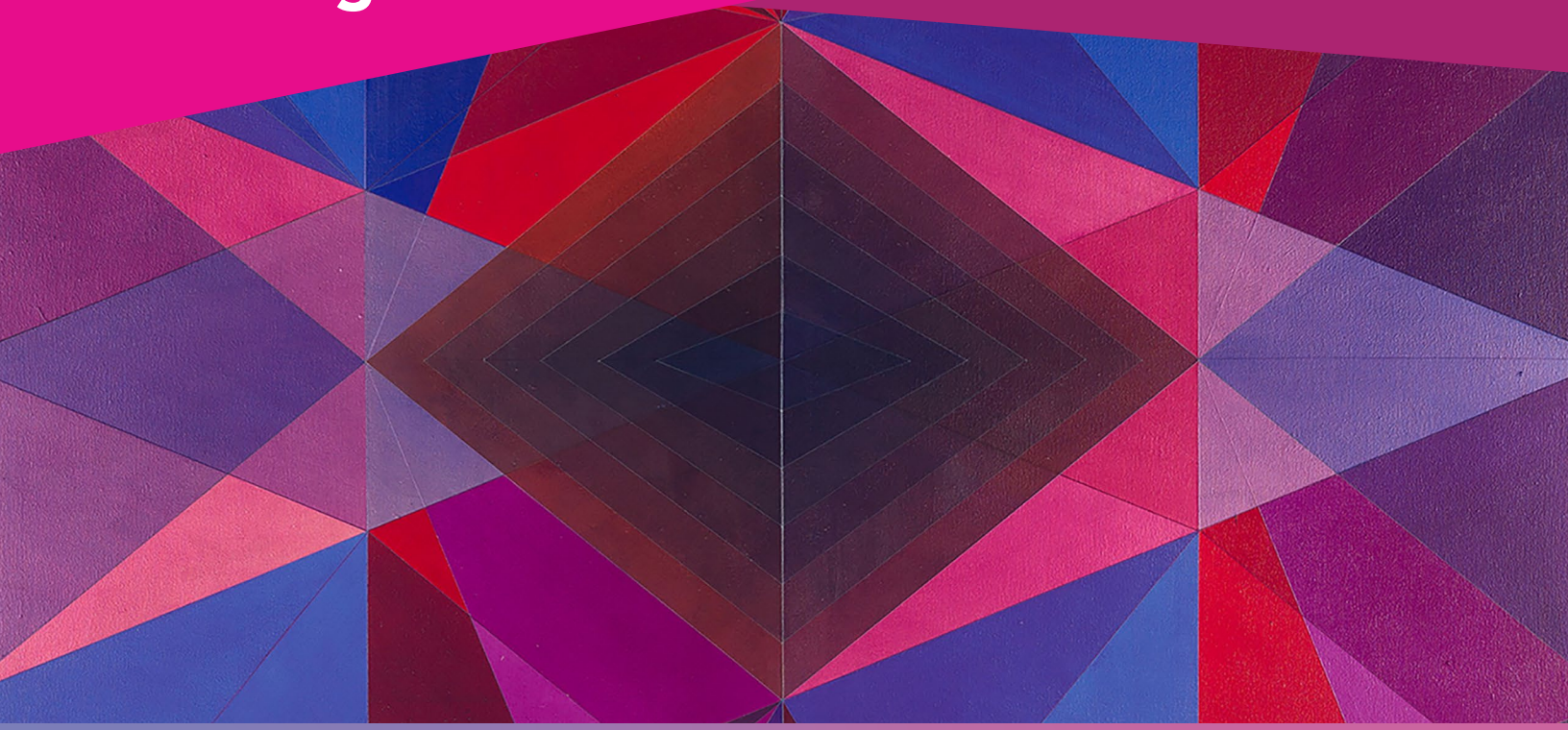
MEET-UPS

Make sure to check the app for the most up-to-date offerings and locations.

BIPOC Museum People PAG Meet-up

Meet-up with BIPOC colleagues and NEMA Board Member, Doneeca Thurston-Chavez, to swap stories and advice in our Career Support Areas. This time and space is dedicated to building relationships and creating networks within the NEMA community.

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Jeffrey Gibson (b. 1972), *Migration*, 2016, acrylic and graphite on canvas, 70 x 57 1/8 in. Art Bridges. Image courtesy of the Artist and Roberts & Tilton, Los Angeles, CA. Photography by Peter Mauney.

Friday, November 8

8:30 am – Noon
REGISTRATION OPEN
Hosted by COLLECTOR SYSTEMS

8:30 am – Noon
BOOKSTORE OPEN
Hosted by Church Mutual INSURANCE

8:30 – 9:00 am
WAKE-UP COFFEE AND MORNING TREATS

8:35 – 10:30 am
OFF-SITE SESSION

Tour of Naval War College Museum
Ticket holders meet in the hotel lobby at 8:35 am. Bus will leave at 8:45 am.

Speaker: Maria Vazquez, Collections Manager, Naval War College Museum, RI

8:35 – 11:00 am
OFF-SITE SESSION
Ticket holders meet in the hotel lobby at 8:35 am. Bus will leave at 8:45 am.

Putting "Fun" in Fundraising: Holistic Development Strategies to Engage Your Community
Speaker: Emeline McKeown, Director of Advancement, Newport Art Museum, RI

9:00 – 10:00 am
CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Career Support: Resume Review
You excel at your job, but does your resume reflect all your hard work? Sign-up at the walk-in registration desk to get a fresh pair of eyes and some collegial advice on your most recent resume!

Designing Museum-Quality Student Exhibitions
Newport

How do we build the next generation of museum-goers? By exhibiting them. Since 2021, the Cape Ann Museum's annual Cape Ann Student Exhibitions have displayed artwork from over 1,600 local students. These unique exhibitions celebrate student artwork alongside works from the museum's collection in professional gallery settings, creating a visual, tangible connection between young artists and professional artists. In this session, walk through the processes of project design, teacher engagement, student classes, and exhibition installation.

Speakers: Miranda Aisling, Interdisciplinary Artist & Community Organizer, MA; Cathy Kelley, Education Manager, Cape Ann Museum, MA

From Narrative to Action: Using History as a Springboard to Engagement and Advocacy
Watch Hill

Learn how one organization flipped its historical narrative to begin focusing on underrepresented stories—and how that change has inspired greater connections with its audience. While The House of the Seven Gables has worked with immigrant communities since 1910, the histories it told almost exclusively focused on Salem's upper class. Recently, staff and leadership have strived to bring its community work and its storytelling into alignment. Find out how your organization can do the same.

Speakers: Kate Criscitiello, Trustee, Elizabeth McKeiguie, Board President, Zoe Quinn, Director of Visitor Services and Public Programs, and Dakota Russell, Executive Director, The House of the Seven Gables, MA

Natural History Museums: Keeping Dead Things Alive Forever
Rose Island I

Natural history museums are popular tourists' attractions around the world. However, most people are unaware that the specimens they are viewing are just a small sample of the museum's holdings, and how much value these collections provide to the scientific community. In this panel, we will discuss how museum collections and their uses have evolved over time, and address some of the setbacks and constraints museum communities face and what we can do moving forward.

Speakers: Eva Biedron, Invertebrate/Vertebrate Paleontology Curatorial Assistant, Alana Rivera, Invertebrate Zoology Curatorial Assistant, and Meaghan Sorce, Senior Curatorial Technician, Harvard University, Museum of Comparative Zoology, MA

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Rhode Island Sports History: Diversifying Collections and Storytelling

Ballroom C

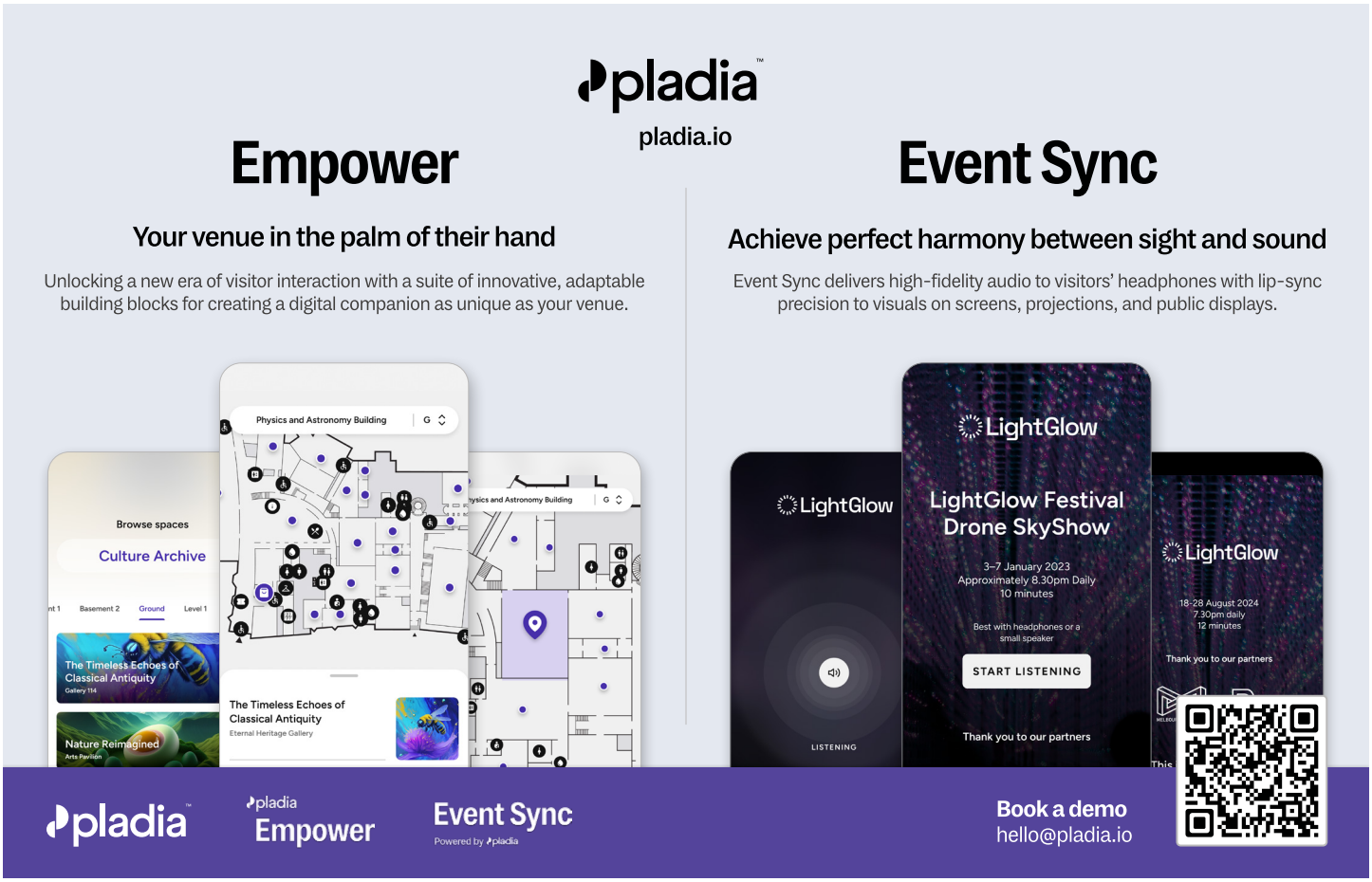
A concerted effort to broaden the collecting efforts of existing repositories has resulted in a more inclusive narrative of Rhode Island's sporting heritage including African American, Indigenous People, and LGBTQIA+ communities. Reshaping traditional views of sports history offers an essential conduit for confronting complexities and shaping a holistic and balanced understanding of cultural value structures, identity politics, inclusion, and authentic community belonging. We aim to share processes, findings, and critical factors in this and related endeavors.

Speakers: Nicole Markham, Curator of Collections, International Tennis Hall of Fame, RI; Lorén Spears (Narragansett), Executive Director, Tomaquag Museum, RI; Ellison "Tarzan" Brown Family Members including Michael Monroe, Sr., Theodore Brown, and Anna Brown-Jackson

Risk Preparedness in an Ever-Changing World: Five Key Strategies for Protecting Your Collection

Hamilton

In today's dynamic environment, safeguarding your valuable collection requires more than just standard



precautions. Join us for an insightful session where we delve into the essential elements of risk management tailored to the modern landscape.

Speakers: Andrew Bassier, Senior Account Executive, Fine Art & Special Risk, HUB International, MI; Stacey Button, Underwriter/Affinity Marketing Manager, Patrick Drummond, President, and Alison Sweeney, Vice President, Fine Art Expert, Distinguished, Fine Art & Collectibles, NY; Emily Pearce, Ben Lee Damsky Assistant Curator of Numismatics, Yale University Art Gallery, CT (NEMA Board)

Telling American Stories Through Digital Media

Ballroom D

Once upon a time... goes the story, but now is your chance to learn from three Massachusetts Historical Society staff members as they provide a case study on storytelling and public engagement designed to reach diverse audiences, generate participation with history, and encourage critical thinking. This panel will offer strategies with demonstrated success and inspire you to tell your institution's stories and measure their impact through data using tools already in hand.

Speakers: Megan McNally, Manager of Individual Giving, Heather Rockwood, Communications Manager, and Heather Wilson, Assistant Director for K-12 Learning, Massachusetts Historical Society

The Systemic Bias & Racism in Preservation

Rose Island II

What does your budget say about your priorities and how does it perpetuate structural racism? What can we do to help re-envision sites in a way that produces a less biased narrative? Do designated "Historic Districts" result in cultural segregation? How can preservation be more inclusive? Investigate these questions and more at tables with colleagues during this think tank with Frankie Vagnone, co-author of *Anarchists Guide to Historic House Museums.* Engage in a discussion with colleagues to consider how museum people and preservationists can do better. Curiosity and critical thinking is required for this think tank.

Speaker: Frankie Vagnone, Founder & President, Twisted Preservation Cultural Consulting, NY

10:00 – 10:15 am
SESSION BREAK

10:15 – 11:15 am
CONCURRENT SESSIONS

ArtsCrew: The Future of Arts Work

Rose Island I

ArtsCrew is a new program developed to address a post-pandemic art staffing problem. By training the next generation of arts professionals, the Brown University Arts Institute aims to create an arts workforce across disciplines that contribute to growing creative economies. This panel will discuss the design and implementation of Brown's unique ArtsCrew program. Participants will learn how flexible employment practices and cross-disciplinary arts opportunities create an impact on work experiences to support artistic projects and local communities.

Speakers: Jamil Jorge, PhD, BAI ArtsCrew Manager, Avery Willis-Hoffman, DPhil, Artistic Director, and Nicole Wholean, MS, University Curator, Brown Arts Institute, Brown University, RI

Building the Leadership Team to Take You Where You Want to Go

Ballroom C

In this session, we will share the strategies and tactics that have helped Old Sturbridge Village and its managed organizations attract effective volunteer and paid leaders whose efforts have brought the organization to new levels of performance and impact. We will look at the qualities and characteristics of effective leadership and tactics for getting the most out of our board members and staff leaders.

Speakers: Angela Cheng-Cimini, Chief People Officer, Harvard Business Publishing, MA; Jim Donahue, President and CEO, and Chris Tieri, Chief Advancement Officer, Old Sturbridge Village, MA

Changing Interpretative Methods and Talking about Enslavement at Historic House Museums

Rose Island II

In this panel discussion, museum professionals, former and current, will discuss what they did or are doing to introduce changes in the way their historic house museums are interpreting histories of enslavement. They will address challenges—especially with boards—successes, and lessons learned at various levels in their organizations, and methods for making the process of change as streamlined as possible. Hear specific examples of what worked, what didn't work, and consider ways of making change at your own historic site.

Speakers: Maddie Beihl, Camp Coordinator, Strawbery Banke Museum, NH; Kristin Gallas, Principal, MUSE Consulting, MA; Erica McAvoy, Adjunct History Instructor, Middlesex Community College, MA and Rivier University, NH; Lauren McCormack, Executive Director, Marblehead Museum, MA

Forward Together: Harnessing Generational Diversity for Museum Success

Narragansett

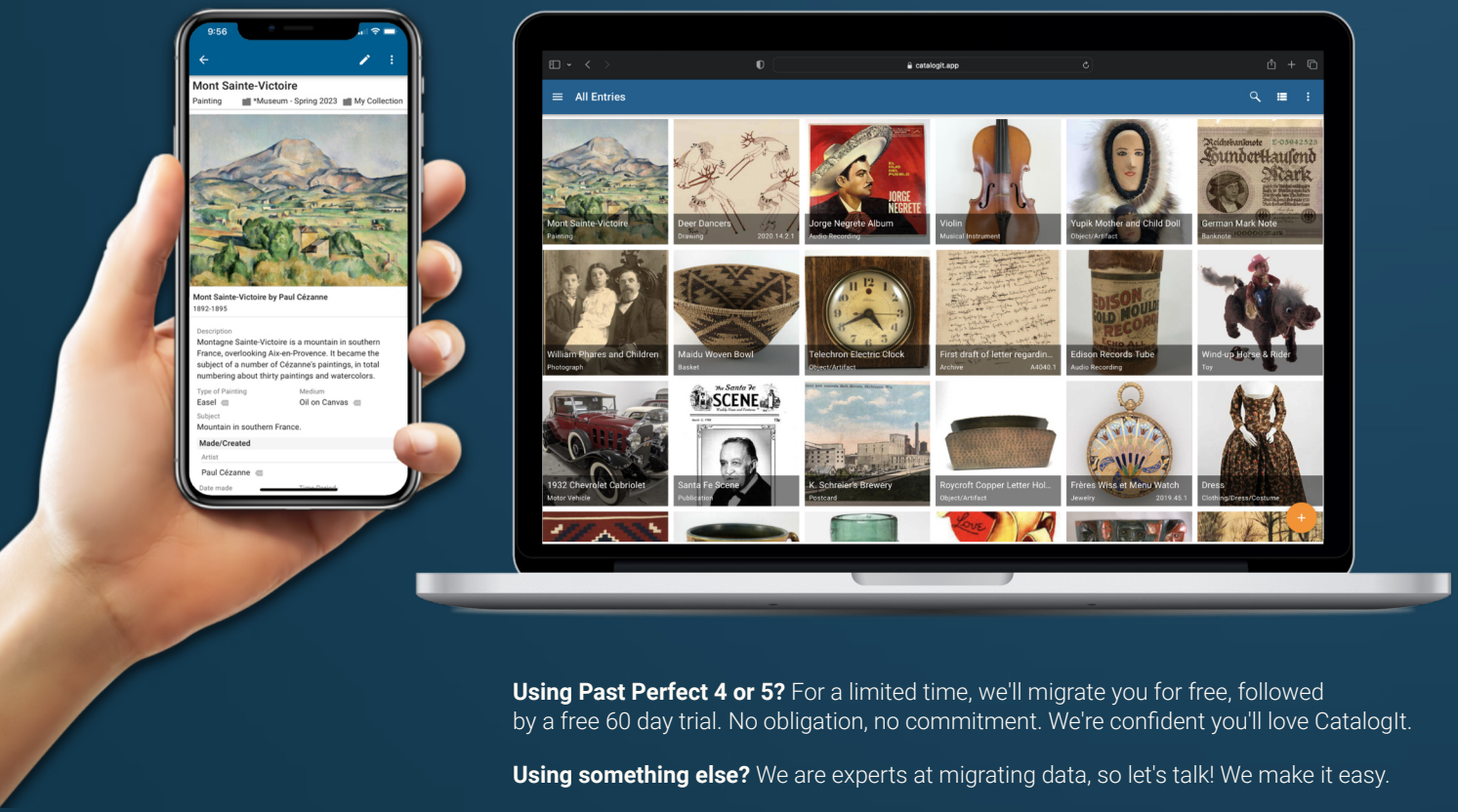
Explore the pivotal role of generational diversity in shaping the future of museums. As Gen Z is set to comprise 30% of the workforce by 2030, it's crucial to understand their unique perspectives. Join us to discover how intergenerational collaboration drives innovation, enhances tech proficiency, improves staff wellbeing, and fosters creative problem-solving. Gain insights from the Peabody Essex Museum's Department of Learning & Community

(continued on page 33)

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(continued from page 31)

Engagement on leveraging generational diversity for dynamic growth and innovation.

Speakers: Lillian Gendreau, Public Programs Coordinator, and Danielle Olsen, Director of Programming, Peabody Essex Museum, MA

Le Caring Museum: What We Mean When Speaking of Art, Health, Museums and Wellbeing

Ballroom D

This presentation, led by an art historian, museum scholar, and healthcare professional, proposes a framework to encompass the ever-increasing myriad of activities that surround encounters of individuals and communities with art, health, museums and wellness. The goal of such a framework is for museum professionals to gain greater clarity and literacy regarding their current engagement in the areas of art, health and wellness, and to increase confidence for planning future programs, funding, and partnerships.

Speaker: Leslie Barry, Art Historian, US and CAN

Making Accessibility Accessible: Fundraising, Engaging Stakeholders, and Just Getting Started

Newport

One in five people will experience disability within their lifetime, either temporarily or permanently. How can we, as museum professionals, make our institutions both welcoming and accessible to people with disabilities? This panel presentation will explore how to make progress towards starting your accessibility journey, including suggestions on how to garner support and identify funding for your efforts. The session will include case studies from several different institutions.

Speakers: Katherine Fecteau, Curator of Exhibitions, Old Sturbridge Village, MA; Shana Hawrylchak, Executive Director, SEE Science Center, NH; Katerina Mazzacane, Youth and Family Programs Manager, Connecticut Museum of Culture and History

Museums Our Way: An Indigenous Perspective

Watch Hill

Tomaquag Museum is actively decolonizing museum spaces through Indigenous-led preservation of cultural belongings and traditional practices. In our session, a panel comprised of three essential departments of the museum; education, collections & archives, and the Indigenous Empowerment Center will share the innovative ways we uplift and empower Indigenous voices. Join this session to discover ways you can decolonize museum practices through collaboration and partnership with Indigenous communities.

Speakers: Chrystal Mars Baker (Narragansett), Education Manager, Anthony Belz, Collections & Archive Manager, Samantha Cullen-Fry (Narragansett), Indigenous Empowerment Manager, and Silvermoon LaRose (Narragansett) Assistant Director, Tomaquag Museum, RI

Reducing Carbon Emissions in a Complex Museum Environment

Hamilton

This session will cover the strategy and steps taken campus-wide at Heritage Museums & Gardens, across existing buildings and proposed new buildings, as well as landscape. It will also address the public education element the site has successfully implemented through consistent key messaging across museum events. Together, we will explore the results of Heritage's efforts to date—which include a successful and earlier than anticipated 50% reduction in carbon with a goal of 80% reduction by 2050, discuss lessons learned, and brainstorm how the steps taken at Heritage can scale and translate to your institution.

Speakers: Judith Holt, Board Member, Sustainability Expert, and Anne Scott-Putney, President & CEO, Heritage Museums & Gardens, MA; Kate Scurlock, Sr. Associate, GWWO Architects, MD

11:15 – 11:30 am
SESSION BREAK

11:30 am – 12:30 pm
NEMA READS



Narragansett

Tomaquag Museum's Indigenous Author Book Club and NEMA team up to read *Warrior Girl Unearthed* by Angeline Boulley. Come to NEMA ready to talk with colleagues and the Tomaquag Museum.

Facilitator: Silvermoon LaRose (Narragansett), Assistant Director, Tomaquag Museum, RI

11:30 am – 12:30 pm
CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Art of the Podcast: Expanding Your Museum's Mission to Reach New Audiences

Newport

Podcasting is a growing medium, and an ideal space to reach an interested audience. Using the International Tennis Hall of Fame's TennisWorthy Podcast as an example, learn how to find discussion topics, use existing simple technology tools and share your museum's mission and expertise worldwide by launching a podcast.

Speakers: Julianna Barbieri, Senior Vice President, Content & Partnerships, and Megan Erbes, Director of Communications, International Tennis Hall of Fame, RI; Bill Tavares, Communications Manager, Newport Preservation Society, RI

(continued on page 34)

(continued from page 33)

Brewing Community Connections: Small Museums, Local Businesses, and History Pints

Hamilton

This session explores how partnerships between small museums and local businesses, exemplified by The Barnes Museum's "History Pints" program, can foster community engagement with a shared past. Learn practical strategies for collaboration and promoting local history. Ideal for museum professionals, small business owners, and community organizers seeking innovative approaches to community outreach and engagement.

Speaker: Christina Volpe, Curator & Site Administrator, The Barnes Museum, CT

Community Curation at a City Museum

Rose Island I

The Somerville Museum in Massachusetts recently presented two powerful community curated exhibitions. Panelists from the museum and the community will discuss their experiences: How did each project come to be? What partnerships were created between the museum and community groups? Who curated the projects, and how did they come to lead the efforts? The session will end with an opportunity for audience members to share their best lessons from working on community curated exhibits and programs. Join us for an engaging panel and discussion!

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Speakers: Ivan Abarca-Torres, Co-Curator, and Marta Fuertes, Co-Curator, MuseoInmigrante: Stories of Resilience from Somerville's Padres Latinos, Padres Latinos de Somerville, MA; Charan Devereaux, Board Member, Somerville Museum, MA; Phil Reavis, Jr., Engineer and Project Partner, Above and Beyond: The Remarkable Life of Somerville Olympian Phil Reavis; Adda Santos, History Teacher, Somerville High School, MA

Diversifying Dress Display

Rose Island II

The exhibition of historic dress is a delicate balance between best museum practices and meaningful engagement through visual, technical and personal storytelling. Our familiarity with the role of clothing in our own lives enables us to find meaning across time in ways unique to fabric and fashion collections. This power to engage both our imagination and our senses relies on a connection between the observer and the display—a connection best made through inclusive representation.

Speaker: Camille Breeze, Director & Chief Conservator, and Rebecca Helgeson, Textile Conservator, Museum Textile Services, MA

How Do You Do It: Peer Support and Collaboration for Small Museum Exhibit Teams

Ballroom D

Are you the only exhibits person on staff at your institution? Are there just a couple of you handling all exhibit planning, tasks, and execution? In this session, we will have a pair of museum exhibit persons discuss the different ways we accomplish everything from exhibit planning to installation with limited staff. Then, it's your turn—uplift your small museum exhibit collaborations, exchange ideas, and share helpful tips to implement tomorrow!

Speakers: Samantha Notick, Collections and Exhibits Manager, Cape Cod Maritime Museum, MA; Amber Wingerson, Curator of Exhibits and Collections, Sullivan Museum and History Center, Norwich University, VT

Keeping Up with Our Changing World: Working with Volunteers When the Museum Changes Around Them

Watch Hill

Volunteer guides and docents are the backbone of many museum education programs. Over the years, volunteer corps develop traditions, routines, and favorite stories. What happens when the museum changes around them, during construction projects, mission updates, and a modernizing world? Hear from two educators at multidisciplinary museums in different stages of helping volunteers meet the current needs of the museum. Then join a roundtable discussion with time for sharing ideas and crowdsourcing solutions.

Speakers: Kathleen Holko, Manager of School & Tour Services, The Bruce Museum, CT; Victoria Hughes, Associate Director of Museum Learning, New Bedford Whaling Museum, MA

Selling Charity: The Ethics of Building Naming Gifts

Ballroom C

This presentation reviews new research by museum and nonprofit arts expert examining the ubiquitous practice of naming rights for cultural sector buildings. It establishes and challenges the full tax-deductibility of such gifts, addresses their symbolic social power, and considers them through the lens of moral philosophy and normative ethics. It concludes by offering a new methodology for capital fundraising that is inclusive, democratic, equitable, and socially just—in keeping with the original, ideal vision for the U.S.

Speaker: Anne Bergeron, Principal, Anne Bergeron & Co. Consulting, RI

12:30 – 1:30 pm

CLOSING LUNCHEON AND ANNUAL MEETING

Lewis Hall

Close out your 2024 conference by celebrating the winners of this year's NEMA Excellence Awards sponsored by Arts Administration Program at Boston University and commemorate the career of Kay Simpson, recipient of NEMA's 2024 Lifetime Achievement Award. Hear about NEMA's latest initiatives, then help elect the next NEMA board and officers during a brief annual meeting before heading home from a great conference.

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



NEMA is pleased to honor Kay Simpson, former Education PAG Chair and NEMA Board Member, and President & CEO of the Springfield Museums with the 2024 Lifetime Achievement Award.

Kay is an experienced and entrepreneurial President & CEO with a demonstrated history of working in museums and a background in leading high profile curatorial and education projects that garner national attention. Kay provides strategic direction for one of New England's premier cultural institutions comprising five historic museum buildings, the outdoor Dr. Seuss National Memorial Sculpture Garden and the childhood home of Theodor Seuss Geisel, (AKA Dr. Seuss). Under her leadership, the Museums opened the Amazing World of Dr. Seuss Museum in 2017 which resulted in a dramatic increase in attendance and coverage from regional, national, and international media outlets. Kay helped establish a cultural district in downtown Springfield and was instrumental in an inclusive public arts initiative that activated a public park that had been closed for decades. She passionately believes that museums are not only vibrant community centers for all, but also attract tourists and entrepreneurs, which in turn help communities foster new business growth for everyone's benefit.

NEMA Conference Sponsors

GOLD

Art Bridges Foundation
Booth #128
Hanna Leatherman
hanna.leatherman@artbridgesfoundation.org
artbridgesfoundation.org
Art Bridges Foundation is dedicated to expanding access to American art nationwide. Art Bridges partners with a growing network of over 240 museums to provide financial and strategic support for traveling exhibitions, collection loans, and programs designed to educate, inspire, and deepen engagement with local communities.

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Executive search and recruiting for museums. Our careers offer an insider's leg up as we place top talent and deliver superior service for outstanding tenure records. MS&R is devoted to the success of American museums. Recent clients: MFA Houston, Royal Ontario Museum, Canterbury Shaker Village, Peabody Essex Museum, Gore Place.

SILVER

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Booth #303
Todd Harris
todd@42designfab.com
42designfab.com
42 Design Fab Studio is a full service design/build studio that provides exhibits, themed environments, and custom creations to a diverse client base. Our team of skilled designers and craftsmen work collaboratively with each other and our clients in order to develop the best solutions to any design challenge.

Arts Administration Program at Boston University
Douglas Denatale
dpd@bu.edu; bu.edu/artsadmin
The Boston University Arts Administration Program cultivates effective arts managers who embrace the challenge of re-thinking and re-shaping the role that the arts play in contemporary society. Our master's degree and graduate certificates emphasize creative problem solving, leadership, globalism, and effective use of current technologies.

CatalogIt
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Dan Rael
dan@catalogit.app; Catalogit.app
CatalogIt is a comprehensive, secure, and modern platform for cataloging and managing your collections and publishing to the web to share your objects' stories. As a cloud-based CMS, CatalogIt reduces costs and empowers staff/volunteers to collaborate simultaneously- securely viewing and editing your records anywhere, anytime from mobile or desktop.

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lroggero@churchmutual.com
churchmutual.com
Church Mutual Insurance Company, S.I. shares your commitment to serve and inspire others by offering coverage and insurance solutions to help you protect your people and property, as well as the purpose you serve in educating the public on items and ideas of artistic, cultural or scientific significance.

Collector Systems
Booth #310
Eric Kahan
ekahan@collectorsystems.com
collectorsystems.com
Collector Systems is a cloud-based collections management system designed to provide users with a seamless experience in cataloging and reporting while prioritizing security. CS handles art, archives, history, archaeology, ethnology, biology, geology, and paleontology. The CS mobile app is available on iOS and Android with condition reporting and barcode/QR scanning. Our API, WordPress Theme, or Plugin makes it easy to share your collections online.

Crozier Fine Arts: Art Moving, Art Shipping, and Art Storage
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Rachel Doorly Kittleman, Alexandra Brown
rachelkittleman@crozierfinearts.com, alexandrabrown@crozierfinearts.com
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Crozier is the global leader in fine art storage and logistics. With a strategic network that encompasses over 1.3 million square feet of dedicated storage space across North America and Europe, Crozier is singularly equipped to handle, transport, and protect specialized collections all around the world.

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collins@maquettefas.com
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Since our inception in 2012, our business philosophy has been based on excellent service and exceptional people. Maquette provides a full range of art logistic services for institutions large and small. Our four locations in NYC, New Haven, Boston, and Washington, DC offer transport, handling, rigging, installation, crating, and storage.

Northeast Document Conservation Center
Booth #121
Tahe Zalal
info@nedcc.org; nedcc.org
Founded in 1973, the Northeast Document Conservation Center is a nonprofit specializing in conservation treatment, digital imaging, and audio preservation services, as well as preservation training, assessments and consultations, and disaster advice on collections.

Pladia
Booth #12
LindsayGreene
lindsey.greene@artprocessors.net
pladia.io
Offering easy-to-use software solutions, Pladia empowers visitor attractions to create, guide, manage, and improve on-site visitor experiences. By leveraging powerful tools like accessibility features, real-time analytics, configurable content, and interactive maps, Pladia delivers personalized and engaging journeys that captivate diverse visitors. Developed by Art Processors, Pladia is the culmination of over a decade of expertise in crafting award-winning visitor experiences.

Tufts University Museum Studies Program
Angela Foss
angela.foss@tufts.edu
museumstudies.tufts.edu
Tufts University's Museum Studies Program prepares newcomers to the field and enhances the skills of current museum professionals. Learn about audience engagement, collections management, exhibition development, evaluation, digital media, fundraising, and more. Summer courses are open to all. Help shape the future of museums.

U.S. Art Company Inc.
Booth #116
Ronald Bates
rbates@usart.com; usart.com
U.S. Art Company is one of the premier fine art handling companies in the country specializing in museum quality transportation, crating, installation, storage, international customs services, and exhibition coordination. U.S. Art offers the most extensive US shuttle network. With all of our services, safety and security are top priorities.

BRONZE

Ask the Conservators: Barrett M. Keating Conservators
Booth #107
Barrett Keating
bmkconservators@comcast.net
bmkconservators.com
Barrett M. Keating Conservators is a full service conservation studio on Cape Cod specializing in the conservation and restoration of antique furniture and wooden artifacts since 1986. For the past 38 years, Barrett M. Keating Conservators has been providing the highest level of conservation treatments to museums, institutions, and historical societies, as well as the highest quality restoration services to individuals for their precious antiques and family heirlooms.

Haffenreffer Museum of Anthropology
Ariel Bordeaux
ariel_bordeaux@brown.edu
hma.brown.edu
The Haffenreffer Museum of Anthropology is Brown University's teaching and research museum. We inspire creative and critical thinking about culture by fostering interdisciplinary understanding of the material world. We provide opportunities for faculty and students to work with collections and the public, teaching through objects and programs.

Harvard Extension School, Graduate Program in Museum Studies
Katherine Burton-Jones
kathy_jones@harvard.edu
extension.harvard.edu/degrees-certificates/museum-studies
Whether you're interested in collections management, exhibitions, education, or another aspect of museum work, the Museum Studies Graduate Program at Harvard Extension School can help you embark on a successful career in the industry. In courses that connect theory and practice, you investigate the challenges confronting museums today.

ICL Imaging
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University of Massachusetts Boston, Public History Program, History Department
Jane Becker
jane.becker@umb.edu
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UMass Boston offers two options for studying public history: History MA/ Public History Track, and the graduate Public History Certificate. Both prepare students for careers in history working with and for the public. We support endeavors to document, preserve, and interpret histories, and partner with regional historical and community organizations.

BLUE RIBBON
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Booth #127
Larissa A. Hansen
larissa@h2designstudio.org
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H2 Design is women-owned and operated. We take projects large or small, indoors or out, from start to finish. Our services include museum master planning, strategic and interpretive planning, exhibition & media design, audience research, project management, exhibit and media production services, as well as full exhibition build-out and installation services.

ObjectIDEA, LLC
Matt Kirchman
mkirchman@objectidea.com
ObjectIDEA.com
ObjectIDEA plans visitor experiences for cultural attractions by researching content, developing exhibitions, and serving as a visitor advocate. We work directly with museums, parks and interpretive centers, and collaborate with design and architecture agencies on facility programming, interpretive planning, and exhibition design.

University Products
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John Dunphy
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Arcadia Publishing
Booth #11
Katie Parry
katie.parry@historypress.net
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The Arcana Workshop, LLC
Booth #120
Mike Turner
mike@arcanaworkshop.com
arcanaworkshop.com
Arcana creates exhibits, models and sculptures to help our clients tell stories and engage the public. We're passionate about making immersive, interactive art that gives people a memorable experience. We thrive on collaboration and creative problem-solving. From concept design through final installation, Arcana is your complete creative partner.

Art Display Essentials, 10-31 Incorporated
Booth #312
William Stender
wstender@10-31.com
10-31.com artdisplay.com
Art Display Essentials, a 10-31 company, has created a suite of products and services that are useful for museums and fabrication companies. We provide solutions for every museum need and we are proud to present our quality Q-Cord Barrier lines, MuseumRails, MuseumSigns, display case selections, and more.

art2art Circulating Exhibitions
Booth #119
Lindsay Peyton
lindsay.art2art@gmail.com
art2art.org
For 20 years, art2art Circulating Exhibitions has offered enriching traveling shows that appeal to art enthusiasts and cultural institutions alike. Focused on photography, the company presents images by masters of the medium, as well as contemporary sensations. Learn more, schedule bookings or subscribe to our newsletter online.

Ask the Conservators | Barrett M. Keating Conservators
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Booth #107
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Ask the Conservators | Museum Textile Services
Booth #108
Camille Breeze
camille@museumtextiles.com
museumtextiles.com
Founded in 1999, Museum Textile Services is one of just a handful of independent conservation studios that specialize in preserving textiles that are under the care of private individuals, cultural heritage institutions, and government agencies.

Atlantic Black Box
Booth #106
Meadow Dibble
meadow@atlanticblackbox.com
atlanticblackbox.com
Thursday at the Non-Profit table you can connect with Atlantic Black Box, a nonprofit committed to grassroots historical recovery work. We empower communities throughout the place long referred to as New England to research and reckon with the region's complicity in slave trade and the global economy of enslavement while recentering the stories of its historically marginalized groups.

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Bernstein & Associates NAGPRA Consultants
Booth #101
Jan Bernstien
jan@nagpra.info; nagpra.info
Established in 2003, our founder has been facilitating repatriation since the 1980s. We envision the possibilities, effectively organize ideas into actions, and follow through to project completion with sensitivity and commitment.

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Church Mutual Insurance Company
Booth #122
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Collector Systems
Booth #310
(see Sponsor listing)

Collaboration for Ongoing Visitor Experience Studies (COVES)
Booth #3
Ryan Auster
rauster@mos.org
understandingvisitors.org
The Collaboration for Ongoing Visitor Experience Studies (COVES) is a research initiative designed to improve your understanding of visitors through data. With more than 100 museum members across the country, we are ready to welcome you to our Community of Practice!

Crozier Fine Arts: Art Moving, Art Shipping, and Art Storage
Booth #105
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Delta Designs Ltd
Booth #1
Peter Doucette
pdoucette@deltadesignsltd.com
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Distinguished Programs Insurance Brokerage LLC
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dmdg2
Booth #112
Hillary Schmidt
hillary@dmdg2.com; dmdg2.com
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Donnegan Systems
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Mike Melanson
mmelanson@donnegan.com
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Dorfman Museum Figures, Inc
Booth #114
Joe Bezold
joe@museumfigures.com
museumfigures.com
Dorfman Museum Figures features a broad line of artifact-appropriate, inert Ethafoam Conservation Forms for display and storage of historic uniforms, costumes, and clothing. Beyond our standard Forms, we also build unique customized bodies in both archival and non-archival materials. We also specialize in the creation of dynamic, life-sized Realistic Figures.

EXP Studios
Booth #109
Shaun McCauley, John Carney
shaun.mccauley@experiencedesignstudios.com
john.carney@experiencedesignstudios.com
www.experiencedesignstudios.com
EXP Studios is a nationally accomplished interpretive planning, design and production firm founded in Boston in 1980. EXP has garnered awards for its groundbreaking design from AAM, ASTC and AZA. EXP's mission is to produce experiences that build social capital having attracted over a billion exhibit visits.

Frameless Technologies, LLC
Booth #301
Michaela Riva Gaaserud
mgaaserud@framelesstechnologies.com
framelesstechnologies.com
Frameless Technologies creates interactive exhibits, museum apps, and virtual experiences that engage visitors through AR, VR, aerial maps, touchscreens, "no touch" technology and virtual tours. We also offer 3D artifact scanning/modeling for virtual interaction and archival purposes.

Gaylord Archival
Booth #308
Ashlyn Christman-McCarty
ashlyn.christman-mccarty@gaylord.com
gaylord.com
Explore Gaylord Archival for exhibit and preservation solutions. Visit our booth to experience the AXS Showcase System: a brilliantly simple, patent-pending design combining magnets and security screws. This scalable, conservation-grade acrylic showcase ships flat, assembles in minutes, and can be accessed by a single-person.

Gorman Richardson Lewis Architects
Booth #115
(see Sponsor listing)

GreenerU
Booth #113
Suzanne King
suzanne.k@greeneru.com
greeneru.com
GreenerU helps institutions navigate pathways to more energy-efficient infrastructure, operations, and programming. From climate action planning to engineering and construction in sensitive environments, we help reduce emissions while optimizing comfort, minimizing costs, and avoiding operational disruptions. Our expert team supports your goals from start to finish.

H2 Design Studio
Booth #127
(see Sponsor listing)

Haus of Glitter
Booth #106
Kevin Rodriguez
kevin@hausofglitter.org
hausofglitter.org
Wednesday at the Non-Profit table you can connect with The Haus of Glitter works through movement and choreography to shift the energetic center of the universe towards Queer Feminist BIPOC Liberation. In the work we share, we strive to embody ancestral liberation, healing and love in our creative process and pedagogy to reach into our homes and hearts.

Hollinger Metal Edge
Booth #123
Abby A. Shaw
abbyashaw@me.com
hollingermetaledge.com
Hollinger Metal Edge has been the leading supplier of archival materials for government and institutional museums, historical societies, archives, libraries, universities, galleries and private collections since 1945. With our experienced management and staff, we are dedicated to quality, customer service and competitive prices.

Lighting Services Inc
Booth #100
Joyce Cassidy
j.cassidy@maillsi.com
lightingservicesinc.com
Lighting Services Inc is the premier manufacturer of Track, Accent, and Display Lighting systems for Museum environments. Since 1958, we have designed, engineered and manufactured the highest quality lighting products complemented by intelligent personalized service. Our reputation and success is measured by the testimony of Museums who use our products and continue to be our customers.

Lucidea
Booth #306
(see Sponsor listing)

Maquette Fine Art Services
Booth #13
(see Sponsor listing)

Museum Environments
Booth #4
Mariano Desmarás
Museum Environments
mariano@museumenvironments.com
museumenvironments.com
Since 2014, Museum Environments (ME) has designed engaging and award-winning exhibits for museums worldwide. Our clients include the Smithsonian, the Museum of Chinese in America, and the EcoExploratorio Puerto Rico. We work closely with our clients to create experiences that clearly and powerfully express the museum's vision and mission.

Museum Search & Reference
Booth #110
(see Sponsor listing)

Myriad Consulting & Training
Booth #103
Frances Harrell
assistant@myriadconsultants.org
myriadconsultants.org
Myriad is a nonprofit consulting firm that specializes in collections preservation and organizational planning for cultural heritage organizations. From project planning to organizational strategy and facilitation, it's our mission to bring you practical plans and solutions to help you transform the way you share, manage and preserve your collections and the stories they represent.

Nationwide Security Corporation
Booth #311
Brian Gouin
BrianG@nationwidesecuritycorp.com
nationwidesecuritycorp.com
Nationwide Security Corporation is a security integration firm specializing in intrusion, access control, video, fire, and turnstile systems for cultural properties on a national basis. We are experts in securing openly displayed art, artifacts and documents, books and periodicals, and archives and storage.

Northeast Document Conservation Center
Booth #121
(see Sponsor listing)

Oliver Pluff & Company
Booth #125
Darren Hartford
darren@oliverpluff.com
oliverpluff.com
Oliver Pluff is an all-American company preserving the tradition of time-honored teas and early American coffee blends. The tradition of tea and coffee spans American history in its entirety. Our teas and coffees honor this history through flavors, ingredients, and more.

Pladia
Booth #12
(see Sponsor listing)

Pneuhaus
Booth #5
Levi Bedall
info@pneu.haus; pneu.haus
Art and design studio that specializes in playful transformations of public space. Our immersive sculptures and environments guide visitors into the universe of their senses and the joys of shared experience. We've worked with Providence Children's Museum, Pittsburgh Children's Museum, Perot Museum of Nature and Science, and others.

SmallCorp
Booth #304
Michael Dunphy
Mike@smallcorp.com; smallcorp.com
A solar-powered manufacturer of archival exhibit cases, museum-quality picture frames, aluminum support panels, and conservation products. We believe in high-quality at a fair price, backed by exceptional support. Our work wouldn't be possible without an outstanding staff. We proudly contribute to our communities - local, educational, artistic, and environmental.

stabaArte
Booth #111
Nina Hildebrand
nina.hildebrand@stabaarte.com
stabaarte.com
stabaArte has been designing, manufacturing and installing bespoke art storage systems for museums for over 50 years. Our experienced team of engineers develops custom-tailored solutions to provide the optimal storage solution for each individual collection. Our product line includes art racks, shelving, compact shelving, cabinets, and temporary exhibition walls.

Robertson Coaching
Booth #124
Emily Robertson
emily@studiorobertson.net
emilyrobertson.net
Learn how to budget with Robertson Coaching and do more with the money you have today. Emily Robertson, YNAB certified budgeting coach and 20-year NEMA member, is based in Greater Boston and serves people and businesses throughout New England and beyond.

The Map Center
Booth #104
Andrew Middleton
andrew@mapcenter.com
mapcenter.com
The Map Center is a vintage record store but for maps- an eclectic and eye-popping collection from around the world but grounded in New England. We print, frame, publish, distribute and present maps from all over with an emphasis on the contemporary and our in-house cartographer Andrew also does speaking engagements on the science, history art and social responsibility of cartography.

Tour-Mate Systems Ltd.
Booth #305
Mirna El-Sayed
melsayed@tourmate.com
tourmate.com
Tour-Mate is one of North-America's leading providers of fully integrated Interpretive Solutions on multiple platforms (self-guided, Group guide, and Eco friendly stationary systems). Our high quality, easy to use hardware and software, as well as our approach to content creation ensures that each visitor has a significantly enhanced visitor experience.

Transformit
Booth #117
CindyThompson
cthompson@transformit.com
transformit.com
At Transformit, we design, engineer, fabricate, install and maintain architectural fabric structures: immersive environments, sculptural shapes, printed and projected graphics, lighting, as well as interactive, moving and sound absorbing elements. We're a close team with long experience, artist led, with many innovations, an adventurous, collaborative spirit, and many satisfied clients.

University Products
Booth #309
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U.S. Art Company Inc.
Booth #116
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Vista Group International Soundstik
Booth #118
Martha Yaney
martha@vistagroupinternational.com
vistagroupinternational.com
We bring exhibits to life. Our indoor and outdoor listening stations do more than add stories, music and sound effects. They improve visitor experience by up-grading video kiosks, seamlessly controlling interactives and helping visitors who are hard-of-hearing. Serving history, science and art museums including 10 presidential museums. WOSB, SAM Active.

Wanderground Lesbian Archive/ Library, *Sponsored by CatalogIt*
Booth #129
Mev Miller
info@wanderground.org
wanderground.org
Wanderground Lesbian Archive/ Library collects, preserves, exhibits, and brings to life a broad selection of Lesbian publications, media, artifacts, and personal memorabilia from the period 1950-2000. Though we do have many national and international items, we primarily gather and share the memorabilia and stories of New England Lesbians and Lesbian organizations.

Zetcom
Booth #10
Marcia Finkelstien
marcia.finkelstein@zetcom.com
zetcom.com/en
zetcom is a globally recognized leader in software solutions for museums and cultural institutions. With more than two decades of experience, they empower over 1200 museums and cultural institutions to preserve, manage, and share their invaluable collections with cutting-edge technology and deep industry expertise.

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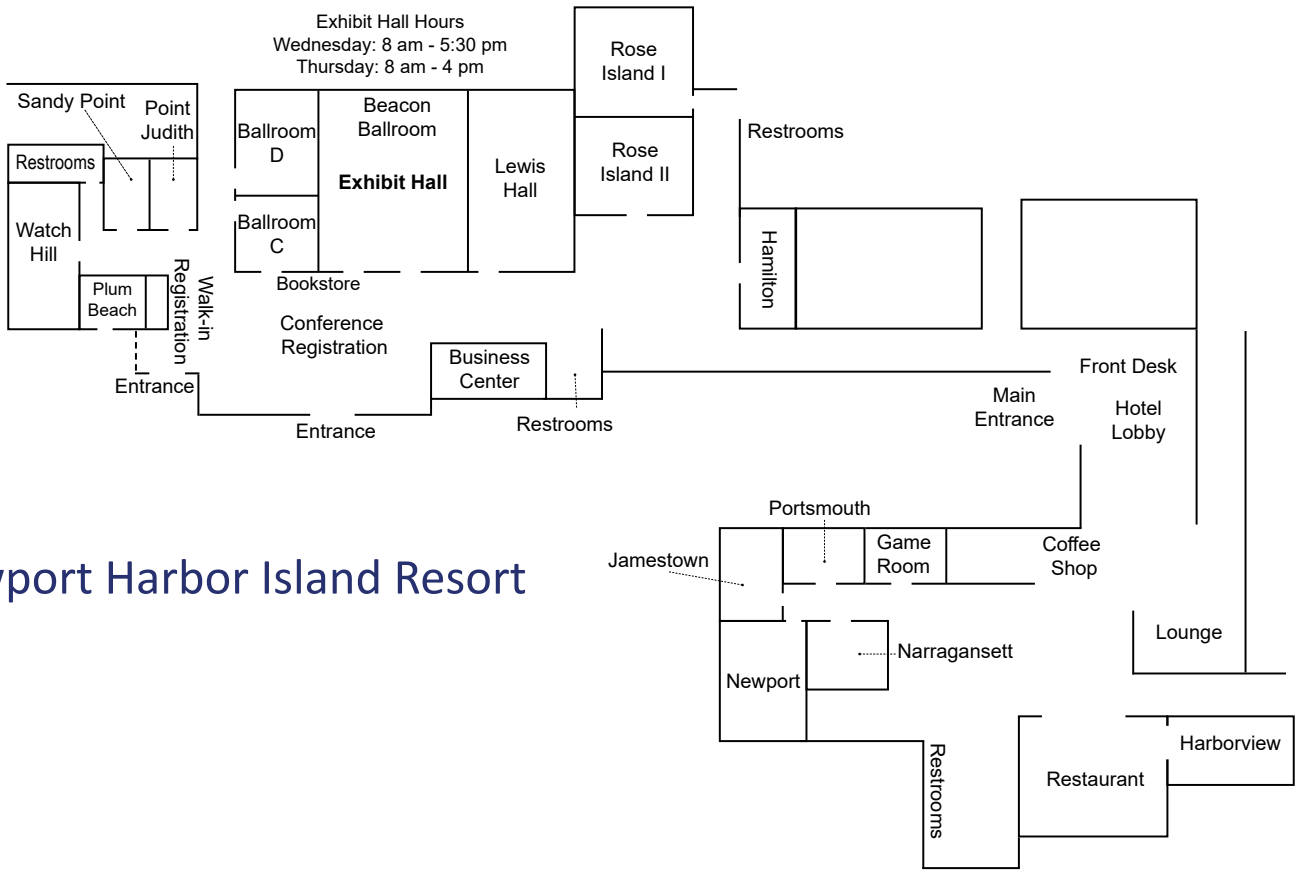
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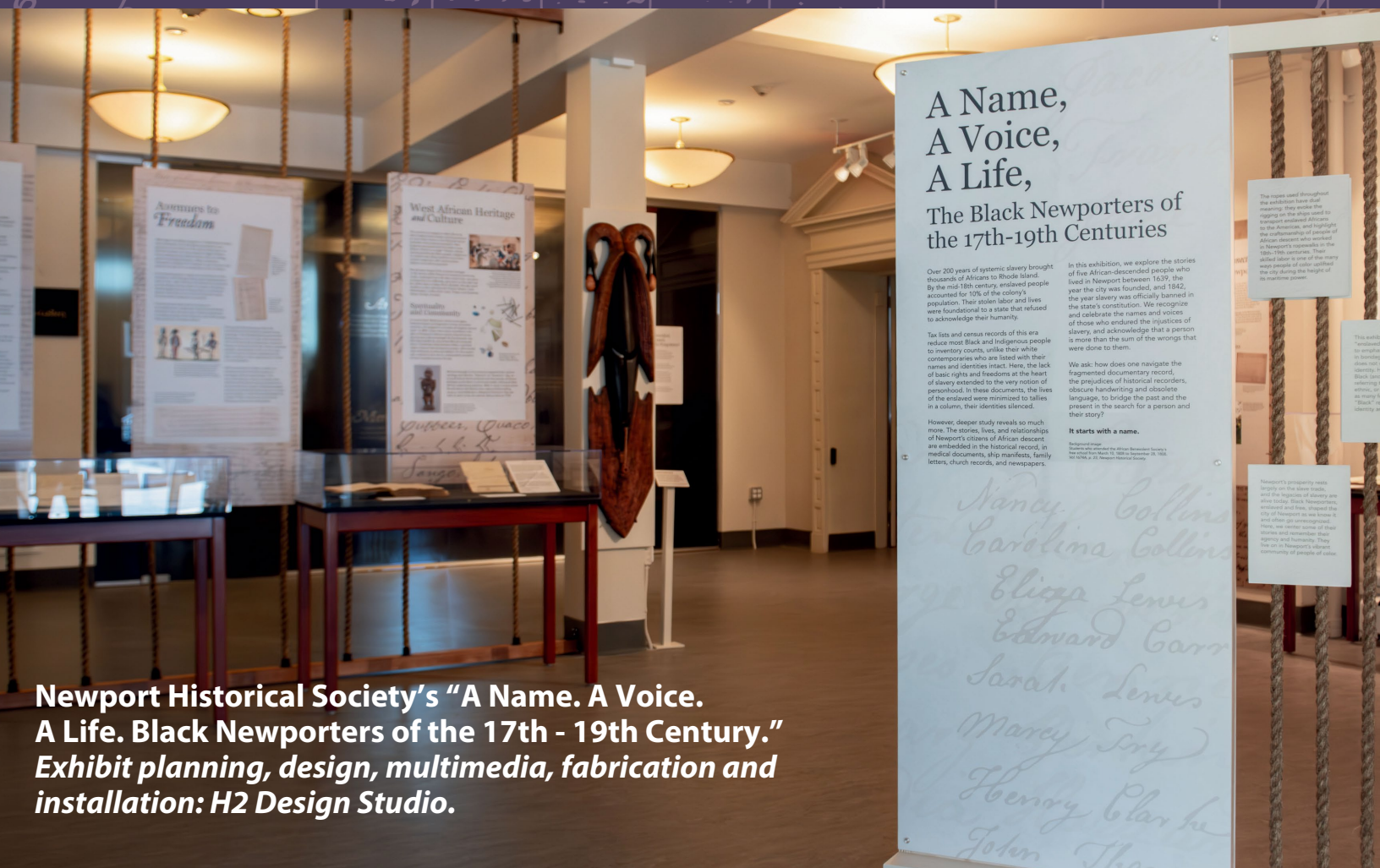
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