

## This Month in NYS Museums: August 2022

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Wed, Aug 31, 2022 at 1:35 PM

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# This Month in NYS Museums

Welcome to our August edition of "This Month in NYS Museums"!

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## MANY News

### Removing Financial Barriers for Museum Visitors: Museums for All



*Ithaca's Sciencenter was one of the first to join Museums for All in 2014.  
 Photo courtesy of the Sciencenter.*

Founded in 2014, *Museums for All* is a nationwide, cooperative initiative between the Association of Children's Museums (ACM) and the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) aimed to remove financial barriers for museum visitors, encourage families of all backgrounds to visit museums regularly, and build lifelong museum habits. *Museums for All* encourages community partnerships, peer to peer learning, and serves as an entry point for museums to address equity. Today there are over 960 participating museums across the country, and the US Virgin Islands with a total of 4.5 million people visiting museums through this program since it began.

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## MANY Board Spotlight: Joshua Ruff



**Joshua Ruff** is the Deputy Director and Director of Collections & Interpretation at the Long Island Museum of American Art, History & Carriages, in Stony Brook. He is a graduate of Syracuse University with a dual major in Broadcast Journalism and in History, and Stony Brook University with a MA in History. Ruff has worked at the Long Island Museum for 25 years including as Curator of its History and Carriage Collections and has curated more than 60 exhibitions.

Recently named the next co-Executive Director of the Long Island Museum and elected to the MANY board this past April, we spoke with Ruff to learn more about this museum experience and what his new position will look like.

[Continue reading](#)

## Building Capacity, Part 1



For the past two years, we've worked with 178 museum professionals at 96 museums across New York State to build new technical and program development skills.

In part 1 of our 3-part video series, we meet just a few participants and learn what building capacity means for themselves and for their museums.

This "Building Capacity, Creating Sustainability, Growing Accessibility" was made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services [CAGML-246991-OMLS-20].

[Watch video](#)

## Letter from Erika: MANY Supports Museums that Support Democracy



*April 10, 2018 Naturalization Ceremony at the New-York Historical Society.  
Photograph by Howard Heyman. Courtesy of the New-York Historical Society.*

Dear Members, Friends, and Supporters,

As summer comes to a close and we begin to gear up for a busy fall, I am excited to report on “[Museums Support Democracy](#),” our webinar series produced in partnership with Museum Hue and funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities and Humanities New York. The seven programs featured fifteen museum professionals from around the nation discussing Citizenship, Environmental Justice, Ethical Collecting and Deaccessioning, Expanding Interpretive Lenses, Healing Historical Legacies, Museums and Civil Rights, and Protest Through Visual and Performance Art. 869 people from 48 states, Puerto Rico, the District of Columbia, the US Virgin Islands, as well as Barbados, Canada, China, Hungary, Mexico, Spain, Sweden, and the United Kingdom participated in the webinars.

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## A Good Time to Host a Polling Site



DANIEL O'DONNELL  
Member of Assembly  
69<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

THE ASSEMBLY  
STATE OF NEW YORK  
ALBANY

CHAIR  
Committee on Tourism  
Parks, Arts and Sports  
Development  
COMMITTEES  
Codes  
Education  
Environmental Conservation

*By Assembly Member Danny O'Donnell, Chair of the NYS Assembly Committee on Tourism, Parks, Arts, and Sports Development*

Across New York, museums serve as anchors as well as reflections of your communities. Your missions to connect individuals to culture, history, and information is deeply needed and commendable.

In keeping with the pivotal role museums play in civil society, right now you have an opportunity to become a part of history by contributing to New York State's efforts to expand voter access. Today, I am asking you to reach out to your local board of elections and offer to host a poll site during future elections. Not only will this support your communities' civic engagement, but it will also improve your museums' engagement with community members.

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## Job Board

MANY is committed to salary transparency.

**As of June 1, 2022 all job postings require a salary range.**

**Educator and Visitor Services Assistant** –The Children's Museum at Saratoga

**Museum Educator** –Northport Historical Society

**Director of Finance and HR** –Planting Fields Foundation

**School Programs Manager** –Historic Huguenot Street

**Development Director** –Schenectady County Historical Society

**Communications Assistant** –The Olana Partnership

**Preparator** –911 Memorial & Museum

**Executive Director** –Bronx Children's Museum

**Development Director** –Grace Farms Foundation

**Interpreter of Native American History** –National Heritage Trust

**Development Manager** –Arts Center of the Capital Region

**Grants Manager** –South Street Seaport Museum

**Project Cataloger** –George Eastman Museum

**Director of Operations** –Niagara Falls Underground Railroad Heritage Center

[Explore more job opportunities](#)

**Hiring?** MANY Organizational and Industry Members post museum jobs for free. For other job posting opportunities, please contact the MANY office at [info@nysmuseums.org](mailto:info@nysmuseums.org) or call 518-273-3400

*When's the last time a consultant gave you something for free?*

**CLICK HERE for free museum exhibit design resources and articles.**



## Pomeroy Fund for NYS History



Support for NYS  
history-related organizations

We're partnering with the [William G. Pomeroy Foundation](#) for a fifth round of the Pomeroy Fund for NYS History, providing a total of \$100,000 for salary support/hourly wages to bring back or hire museum educators.

**This round of funding offers grants in amounts up to and including \$5,000 for salary support/hourly wages to bring back or hire museum educators** who will plan and deliver interpretative educational programs.

These may include:

- school programs,
- teen programs,
- early childhood programs,
- family days,
- festivals,
- programs for older adults,
- programs for new Americans



- or targeted, audience-specific programs identified in the grant application.

Funding should not be used as a substitute for existing (budgeted) staff salaries and hours, but can be used to increase staff hours for the aforementioned purposes.

Funds will be granted to museums for education staff who will offer in-person programming, but programs may include a virtual component.

Open to eligible 501c3 history-related organizations in New York State with budgets up to \$250,000. Town historians and municipally owned historical societies are ineligible. Applicants do not need to be members of MANY to apply.

**Apply by Friday, September 23!**

[Learn more and apply](#)



## Meet MANY Online

Meet MANY online this fall for our 6-part webinar series featuring select speakers from our 2022 annual conference. Programs are on Fridays at noon. All programs will be recorded and available to MANY members on the [Member Resources](#) page.

Virtual webinars are free; advance registration required.

### **NYC Arts Internship Collective: A Collaboration in Crisis and Beyond**

**Friday, October 7**

This webinar will explore the NYC Arts Internship Collective (NYC/AIC)—a group for NYC Arts & Culture internship program managers and coordinators—formed to address the challenges brought about by the outbreak of COVID-19. Participants will learn how NYC/AIC promotes ethical internships through community support and resource sharing.

[Click here to register](#)

[Learn more](#)

### **Digital Collections in Review: Rethinking Established Systems and Standards**

**Friday, October 21**

Staff from the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum will discuss the process of evaluating digital collections system capabilities and metadata standards to construct a more accessible virtual visitor experience through the employment of interconnected systems and a reparative local vocabulary.

[Click here to register](#)

[Learn more](#)

### **New Solutions for House Museums: Old and New Ideas for Financial Stability**

**Friday, November 4**

Learn how history organizations in South Dakota, Maryland, Massachusetts,

and New Jersey, highlighted in the second edition of *New Solutions for House Museums: Ensuring the Long-Term Preservation of America's Historic Houses*, have become financially sustainable in a conversation between author Donna Ann Harris and Ken Turino of Historic New England.

[Click here to register](#)

[Learn more](#)

### **Seventh Generation Model: Collaboration Between the Adirondack History Museum and OurStoryBridge, Connecting the Past and the Present**

**Friday, November 18**

Hear how a rural library developed an online audio local history project to share the past and present of their town, then collaborated with a local museum to bring the museum's exhibits to life through use of the stories collected. Learn how to bring their free model to your museum.

[Click here to register](#)

[Learn more](#)

### **Finding a New Audience: Adopting an Augmented Reality Experience to Reach New Users and Partner for Growth**

**Friday, December 2**

Content creators and creatives will provide an overview on incorporating the 360xr Augmented Reality platform to enhance tours for their visitors and share some examples of the experience from concept to implementation. Additionally, testimonials from regional museums will be featured.

[Click here to register](#)

[Learn more](#)

### **Measuring the Social Impact of Museums**

**Friday, December 16**

How can audience data help us plan for the future? Social impact, or the effect of an activity on the social fabric and well-being of a community, provides a fresh lens. Come learn about a new national research project and discuss how to make these measurements useful to all museums.

[Click here to register](#)

[Learn more](#)

#### **Accessibility**

MANY is committed to making our virtual programs as accessible as possible. All virtual programs will have closed captioning. For ASL interpretation, please email [info@nysmuseums.org](mailto:info@nysmuseums.org) at least two weeks prior to the program.



**Hadley Exhibits**  
exhibit design, fabrication & installation

## **Funding Opportunities**

### **Preservation League of NYS Technical Assistance Grants**

Technical Assistance Grants (TAG) are available to eligible NYS nonprofits and municipalities. This program provides support for consulting projects that preserve New York State's cultural and historic resources. The grants will support professional services of architects, engineers, and other design and preservation professionals. Grants of up to \$4,000, with a required 20% project cost match from each applicant, are available to nonprofit groups.

costs from each applicant, are available to nonprofit groups and municipalities that own or have a long-term lease on buildings that house historic sites, museums, arts facilities, and other important institutions that serve an arts or cultural purpose and are open to the public.

The League will host a webinar and a series of drop-in help sessions via Zoom for all interested applicants to learn more before submitting their applications.

**Pre-application deadline is Monday, October 17**

**Grant application deadline is Friday, October 21**

[Learn more](#)

#### **Humanities New York Action Grants**

Action Grants offer up to \$10,000 to implement humanities projects that encourage public audiences to reflect on their values, explore new ideas, and engage with others in their community.

**Application opens September 1**

**For projects starting January 1, 2023, deadline for applications is October 1, 2022**

[Learn more](#)

#### **IMLS Museum Funding Opportunities Open**

Now through November 15, museums and related organizations across the U.S. have six opportunities to apply for grants from the nation's primary source of federal funding for museum services. The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) is now accepting applications for six grant programs:

- [Museums for America](#)
- [Inspire! Grants for Small Museums](#)
- [Museums Empowered](#)
- [National Leadership Grants for Museums](#)
- [Museum Grants for African American History and Culture](#)
- [Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services](#)

At IMLS, we are looking to reach and support museums of all sizes and disciplines through our existing programs," said Laura Huerta Migus, Deputy Director of Museum Services. "These grant programs fund all types of projects that support museums' work in their communities, whether through direct service or by increasing their institutional capacity. We encourage all museums to consider applying and to contact IMLS staff if you have questions about which grant program best fits your needs."

**Deadline is November 15**

[Learn more](#)

#### **Collaborative Grant Opportunity with OurStoryBridge, Inc.**

[OurStoryBridge](#), Inc. is a 501(c)(3) charitable nonprofit (and MANY Industry Partner) that preserves and circulates local audio stories past and present through accessible online media; promotes, builds, and assists with the deployment of these resources in communities across geographic, cultural, socioeconomic, racial, and organizational strata; and helps to strengthen these communities through the sharing of their stories, including preserving the stories of older generations before they are lost and encouraging younger generations to become engaged community members. We provide a free, online tool kit and additional resources for libraries, museums, historical societies, or issue-orientation organizations to launch their own story projects.

Pending grant funding support, we plan to lead a new story project initiative for the collective Champlain-Adirondack Biosphere region. To this end, the [Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership](#) has a current grant opportunity that could support us and you in this effort and we are looking for collaborating partners! OurStoryBridge will facilitate the grant submission and implementation.

The working title for this story project is "C.A.B.N. Stories: Oral Histories from the Champlain-Adirondack Biosphere Network." To learn if your institution is part of the Champlain-Adirondack Biosphere Reserve, which is wider than you may think, [click here](#).

**If you want to participate in this story project opportunity, please respond to [createyourstoryproject@gmail.com](mailto:createyourstoryproject@gmail.com) by September 12, 2022.**



# Museums in the News

Njeri Jennings joins Tang Teaching Museum

Elizabeth Hillman appointed the next president and chief executive of the 9/11 Memorial & Museum

The Jackie Robinson Museum is About a Lot More Than Baseball

Corning Museum of Glass Introduces EnChroma Glasses for Color Deficient Guests

Frick Collection Honored for Employing People With Disabilities

George Eastman Museum Receives \$249,935 Grant to Create New Galleries

**What's happening at your museum? Submit your museum news as a newsletter article!**

How is your museum growing **institutional resources**, including welcoming new staff and board members and securing funding for projects, how is your museum **working with their community and visitors**; and how we use our **exhibitions and collections in new ways**.

The deadline to submit for the September "This Month in NYS Museums" newsletter is September 16. Email [meves@nysmuseums.org](mailto:meves@nysmuseums.org)

[Share Your News](#)



*This Month in NYS Museums is supported by [NYSOA](#) and [Humanities NY](#)*



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