MANY News

The Strong's Neighborhood of Play

The past April, the Strong National Museum of Play broke ground on the second phase of a $75 million, 90,000 square foot expansion that will be the centerpiece of the new Neighborhood of Play in downtown Rochester. Included in the expansion are new exhibitions dedicated to digital gaming and Rochester's history and technology changed play in the modern world, a state-of-the-art welcome atrium and members-only entry area, and a new Hasbro Maker's Space/Play Lab for interactive workshops, classes, and activities. The expansion is expected to increase annual attendance from 600,000 to nearly 1 million visitors.

Continue reading

51 NYS Museum Awarded in Round XI REDC Funding

Governor Kathy Hochul announced that an additional $789 million has been awarded to support 998 projects across multiple New York State from state agency programs that participated in Round XI of the Regional Economic Development Council initiative. This year, 2020 million in resources from state programs was made available to support community revitalization and business growth consistent with the REDC strategic plans.

51 New York State Museums were awarded a total of $20,073,685.

Continue reading

MANY Board Spotlight:
Diane Shewchuk, Curator at the Albany Institute of History & Art and MANY Board Secretary 2022-2025

A native of New York's Capital Region, Diane Shewchuk has over 30 years of experience working in museums and historic houses throughout New York State. She has held the positions of Curator at Clermont State Historic Site, Historic Site Manager at John Jay Homestead State Historic Site, and Curator at the Columbia County Historical Society in Kinderhook. Today she is the Curator at the Albany Institute of History & Art.

She has curated numerous exhibitions including Spotlight: Albany and Art Suffrage, 400+Museum of Historical Albany, and The Suffrage Gallery and Their 1915s.

Shewchuk has an MA in Museum Studies: Decorative Arts from the Fashion Institute of Technology, New York City. Throughout her career, she has worked on the treatment of museum collections with conservators at the New York State Bureau of Historic Sites as well as those in private practice. Shewchuk was elected to the Museum Association of New York Board of Directors in April 2019. We spoke with her to learn more about her path to museums, what she gets excited about in her role, and what motivates her.

Continue reading

Letter from Erika: Light in the Darkest Days

Dear Members, Friends, and Supporters,

I wake early this time of year to see the glorious colors of winter sunrises. All of us have worked so hard over the past few years, it may be hard to remember that we are just a few days away from the solstice when we can welcome the increasing light. Last week I was in Corning, NY for meetings about our 2022 annual conference. I woke up in our conference hotel and for a moment didn't quite remember where I was - the beds in bigger after a lot of travel. I crossed the room, threw the drapes to watch the sun rise, and was surprised by a bald eagle flying up the Chemung River.

We have been challenged this week to keep up with all the announcements of funds granted to New York museums for 2022. Many a good news from so many of our funders that renewed my hope for 2022 being a brighter year.

Continue reading

Westchester Children's Museum Partners With NASA

Earlier this year, the Westchester Children's Museum was among 500 museums from across the country selected by NASA to celebrate the launch of the James Webb Space Telescope. NASA helped raise the community's awareness of the mission and the launch, and the Westchester Children's Museum used this distinction to forge partnerships, develop programs, and offer exhibitions, and feature programs that focus on space exploration. The culminating celebration event for the Museum's James Webb Telescope Launch initiative was held on November 13.

Continue reading

Job Board

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 or call 518-273-3400.

Annual Conference

2022 Annual Conference
Envisioning Our Museums for the Seventh Generation
April 9 - 12, 2022 | Corning, NY

"Look and listen for the welfare of the whole people and have always in view not only the present but also the coming generations, even those whose faces are yet beneath the surface of the ground - the unborn of the future Nation."

— Excerpted from Law 28 of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy

The Seventh Generation is a core value among the indigenous nations of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy of the Mohawk, Oneida, Onondaga, Cayuga, Seneca, and Tuscarora peoples. The principle, rooted in the preservation of Indigenous culture, underscores the importance of the human continuum. It advocates for informed, long-term decision-making that recognizes and considers the impact on being for the next seven generations.

Consider this concept in Corning, NY on the wooded lands of the Seneca where you will meet and connect with colleagues in beautiful, unique museum spaces including The Rockwell Museum and Corning Museum of Glass. Join us as we share best practices, network over meals, and engage in special sessions, and more that a share sessions that will advance your professional practice and develop leadership skills.

Submit a Conference Session Proposal

All session proposals are due by 5 PM on Wednesday, January 5, 2022.

Have a question? Email conference@nysmuseums.org or call 518-273-3400.

2022 Awards of Merit

MANY's Awards of Merit recognize outstanding and innovative programs, staff, and volunteers who have involved New York State museums with new and remarkable projects. Any organization or individual can nominate an organization, individual, or project completed in the state of New York. Nomination of oneself or one's organization is permissible and encouraged.

Award of Merit winners can register for the conference at a discounted rate and can invite up to two guests to attend the Award of Merit presentation.

Learn more and submit an award of merit nomination

All nominations are due by 5 PM on Wednesday, January 5, 2022.

Have a question? Email conference@nysmuseums.org or call 518-273-3400.

2022 Conference Scholarships

MANY is pleased to announce two scholarship opportunities for museum professionals to attend "Envisioning Our Museums for the Seventh Generation" 2022 Annual Conference.

Scholarship for BIPOC Museum Administrators

Awarded to a Black, Indigenous, or Person of Color working in museum administration who has played a leadership role in advancing the capacity and sustainability of their museum.

Cassett Annual Conference Scholarship

Awarded to a museum professional who has demonstrated creative leadership and has affected significant, positive change in the ways in which their museum engages its audiences.

Learn more and apply for a conference scholarship

All applications are due by 5 PM on Wednesday, January 5, 2022.

Have a question? Email conference@nysmuseums.org or call 518-273-3400.

Health & Safety

Your health and safety are important to us. During the 2022 Annual Conference in Corning, NY, we will implement health and safety protocols appropriate to public health circumstances as we approach the time of the conference. At this time, we plan for these protocols to include the following:

- Providing proof of vaccination through a CDC-issued card or Excelsior Pass
- Face masks must be worn for the duration of the Annual Conference except when eating or drinking
- Sanitation stations will be made available throughout conference spaces

2022 Annual Conference attendees are expected to adhere to all stated safety protocols, which are subject to change and may be adjusted for compliance with the latest guidance from the CDC. We are committed to updating you every step of the way should these protocols change.

Museums in the News

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

Here in your museum growing institutional resources, including celebrating new staff and board members and securing funding for projects, how is your museum working with their community and visitors, and how can our exhibitions and collections in new ways.

The deadline to submit for the January "This Month in NYS Museums" newsletter is January 17. Email news@nysmuseums.org.

Share Your News