

# MUSEUM MESSENGER

Volume 18 / Number 2 • Winter 2008

## Join us for **Museum Day 2008** (5th annual!)

**AN EXCITING DAY AND EVENING IN OLYMPIA ON FEBRUARY 20, 2008**

The Washington Museum Association is committed to promoting and supporting all museums in our state. Large institutions based in urban areas and regional centers, or smaller museum homes in the farming corners of Washington, all will have an opportunity to join the membership of WMA in Olympia for one day of events focusing on the museums of Washington. The day begins with a special presentation at the early morning meeting of the Heritage Caucus and the Governor's Museum Day Proclamation, two afternoon presentations by staff from the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, and a WMA sponsored early evening reception for elected officials and members fill out the schedule of events.

If you cannot attend, consider sending board member, an experienced volunteer or local official to represent your museum at Museum Day

### MUSEUM DAY AGENDA

#### Heritage Caucus, 7 to 8 A.M.

Museum Day will be highlighted at the early morning Heritage Caucus. The caucus meets in the John Cherberg Building, Conference Room A-B on the ground or entry floor. Erin Black, WMA board member and Director of the Kittitas County Historical Museum will present an illustrated talk about the economic and cultural importance of museums in Washington State, their impact on education and community life, and the critical support museum-friendly legislation plays in the life of our museums.

#### Legislative Lobbying, 9 to 11 A.M.

##### Informal reception, Office of the Secretary of State Board Room

You are encouraged to make appointments for meetings with your elected officials during this time. Remind your legislator that their decisions have a direct impact on you and your museum as constituents. Meetings are short and you need to get your message across quickly. Talk to them about the importance of legislation like House Bill 1386 with monies directed to local heritage organizations.

During this time you are invited to gather informally for some coffee and conversation with your fellow WMA members in the Board Room of the Office of the Secretary of State, located on the first floor of the Legislative Building. The Board Room, just off the entry lobby of the Secretary of State's office suite, will display the latest designs and plans for the Heritage Center. The lobby will be featuring a rare collection of presidential letters and documents including handwritten letter by Presidents George Washington and Abraham Lincoln.

*(Museum Day Agenda continued on page 2)*

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## Editor's Note:

The **WMA Museum Messenger** is published quarterly by the Washington Museum Association, a 501(c)(3) federally recognized non-profit organization consisting of institutions, businesses, and individuals whose mission it is to promote increased professionalism in and communication amongst all museums within Washington State. All articles within this issue may be reproduced and circulated to staff with appropriate credit given to the Washington Museum Association and the contributing author.

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## Publishing Dates:

April 30, August 30, & December 30.  
Materials must be in the hands of the editor a minimum of **6 weeks prior to these dates** to be considered for inclusion.

## MUSEUM DAY AGENDA *(continued from cover)*

### Special Presentations by the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, 1 to 3 P.M. State Capital Museum, 211 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue SW (seven blocks south of the Capitol Campus in the historic Lord Mansion)

Mr. Greg Griffith, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer will speak about the historic preservation movement in the US. He will talk about the National Register of Historic Places and other programs that are administered by Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation. He will talk about the role historic preservation and historic places play in communities and the museum community's pivotal role in local preservation efforts. He will provide an update on the work by DAHP to revise the state historic preservation plan. (1 to 2 P.M. with questions)

Russell Holter, Preservation Design Reviewer will present an overview of the State of Washington's Executive Order 05-05; the preservation and protection of archeological and cultural resources, including how this order impacts your Heritage Capital Grants. He will discuss how to implement a 05-05 review and what is required to meet the new standards. (2 to 3 P.M.)

### Celebrate Bill Cutoff with the WMA A Special Reception, 4:30 to 6:30 P.M.

Breaking from the recent tradition of an early morning breakfast, WMA invites all members, legislators and elected officials to an evening reception at the historic Lord Mansion, home of the State Capital Museum and Outreach Center, on Wednesday, February 20 from 4:30 to 6:30 P.M. The gracious setting provides a backdrop for an informal gathering and a chance to talk with officials from around the state. This is a valuable opportunity. Co-sponsored by the South Sound Heritage Association, a consortium of over 20 museums from the region, guests will be treated to informational displays and materials from museums across the state. Your legislators have received special invitations to this event, please contact them and encourage them to join you and celebrate our Washington museums.

In the history rich Pacific Northwest, every community can benefit from having its history and culture preserved and offered for education and cultural enrichment. Every citizen of Washington State benefits from efforts to preserve important buildings and present the history and culture of our state. WMA knows that it's crucial to remind our State legislators of this each year. We hope you will join us at the Heritage Caucus, for an afternoon of interesting presentations and for the early evening reception at the State Capital Museum.

**Mark your calendars and plan on being in Olympia with us on February 20th. No one can tell your story or share your needs at your Museum like YOU can! Bring your stories and your voice.**

For directions and parking please visit:

<http://www.leg.wa.gov/WorkingwithLeg/parking.htm>

Information about the Legislature:

<http://www.leg.wa.gov/legislature>

Please bring materials for display at the reception or consider sending them in advance to the Museum Day Coordinator Susan Rohrer.

Attendance RSVP appreciated.

Susan Rohrer • [srohrer@wshs.wa.gov](mailto:srohrer@wshs.wa.gov) • 360/586-0166  
State Capital Museum & Outreach Center, 211 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue SW, Olympia, WA 98501

*Opinions expressed in the articles within this publication are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the WMA. Unsolicited articles, photographs, and graphics are always welcome. WMA reserves the right to edit material submitted.*

## Help for Washington Museums: HB1386 Amendment Dollars Within Your Reach

By Susan Tissot, Executive Director Clark County Historical Society and Museum

It is no secret; all museums can use additional financial support. In 2005 Senator Craig Pridemore, D-49<sup>th</sup> District, penned an amendment to HB 1386 that created a new source of funding for museums and historic preservation organizations in Washington state. This new source of funding is attached to the document recording fees associated with the annual real estate transactions in our state. One dollar of the \$5 surcharge for the preservation of historical documents from each transaction recorded in each county is designated for historic projects. In other words, this money is earmarked for historic projects! The funds are to be deposited in the county general funds to be used at the discretion of the county commissioners to promote historical preservation, historical programs or may be used for document preservation in their county. The fund became effective July 24, 2005. The funds are separate from the O&M budgets in each county. The County Commissioners in each County therefore have the authority to determine how the money is allocated in their County. Because the legislation was worded broadly, many counties have not yet to create a formal program to allocate this new source of funding to their local heritage agencies.

In 2007 Clark County created an annual matching grant program with their portion of the money. The Historical Promotion Grants program completed its first round awarding

\$142,445 in matching grant funds to six recipients for 2007 projects. The funded projects included a capital request, a property purchase, funds for a commemorative museum exhibit and gallery lighting upgrades, purchase of clothing for a historic costume interpretive program, an interpretive brochure, and a historic preservation project. Because the program requires matching funds, the 2007 program leveraged \$256,160 in matching funds for a project total of \$398,605. The Clark County program has become a model for the other 38 counties in Washington State. A copy of Clark County's HPG program applications can be found on the Clark County website located at [http://www.clark.wa.gov/bocc/current\\_issues/issues.html](http://www.clark.wa.gov/bocc/current_issues/issues.html). Clark County is currently in the process of reviewing the 2008 proposals. Fifteen proposals requesting over \$520,000 were received; approximately \$200,000 will be awarded with the funds available in January. For additional program information contact Clark County Policy Assistant, Kelly Sills at 360/397-2232 or by e-mail at [kelly.sills@clark.wa.gov](mailto:kelly.sills@clark.wa.gov).

In 2007 the Clark County Histori-

cal Museum received \$46,000 from Clark County's HPG program. The funding provided support for new gallery lighting, exhibit curatorial fees, collection management expenses and a summer curriculum workshop. The educational materials from the summer workshop were produced by educators to help educators address the 2008 Classroom Based Assessments for History & Civics mandated by the Washington State Legislature. Visit the museum's website located at [www.cchmuseum.org](http://www.cchmuseum.org) clicking on teacher resources (front page, left hand side) and scroll down to find the program. For more information contact Susan Tissot, Executive Director, Clark County Historical Society & Museum at 360/993-5679 or by e-mail at [tissots@pacifier.com](mailto:tissots@pacifier.com).

If you are curious about the HB1386 Amendment dollars in your County contact your County Commissioners, County Administrator and/or County Auditor to inquire about the funds. This is an opportunity for all of us to get involved and help shape this new program.



Thanks to a \$46,000 grant from the Clark County HPG program, the Clark County Historical Museum was able to do \$21,000 of gallery and case lighting upgrades.

### Museum Messenger NEWSLETTER AD RATES:

**Half Page** (4 1/2" x 7 1/2") \$250

**One-Sixth Page** (2 1/4" x 4 1/2") \$80

**Classifieds:** Members: 10¢/word  
Non-members: 25¢/word

**One-Third Page** (4 3/4" x 4 1/2")  
OR (2 1/4" x 9 1/4") \$125

**One-Twelfth Page** (2 1/4" x 2 1/2") \$55

**Multiple Insertion Discounts:**  
10% for 4 editions, prepaid in full

**Ad Preparation:** please call Andy Granitto at (509) 248-0747 for production requirements before sending your materials.

### WMA wants your opinion on HB1386!

We would like to hear your concerns, comments, and questions.

Please contact Janda Volkmer at:  
[JandaVolkmer@msn.com](mailto:JandaVolkmer@msn.com)  
or 253-682-3480



# RECOGNIZING THE VERY BEST IN WASHINGTON

WMA Awards for Excellence Nomination & Conference Scholarship Forms included in this Issue

by Mike Siebol, Chair, WMA Awards and Scholarship Committee

I hope that one of your New Year's Resolutions is to give recognition to those in our state's museum and heritage community. If not, please take this moment to add it to your list.

My wish for 2008 is that it will be nearly impossible to select the individuals, museums, and other institutions with awards and scholarships because of the great number of qualified applications that we will receive. You can help my wish come true by nominating those that you believe are outstanding in the museum and heritage field in Washington State and letting others know that nomination forms are available. You can make copies of the forms included in this issue of the *Museum Messenger*, find them on the WMA website, or ask me to send you some forms — just email me at [collect@yaki-mavalleymuseum.org](mailto:collect@yaki-mavalleymuseum.org).

## AWARDS

The Washington Museum Association recognizes the outstanding achievements of museums, heritage organizations, and individuals by presenting up to eight Awards of Excellence each year. Awards are given in the categories of *Exhibit*, *Project*, *Individual*, and *Publications*. Nominees are classified by the size of their annual budgets—under \$200,000 or over that amount.

To be eligible for an award, the nominee must have exhibited the ability to set standards of leadership through outstanding service, established precedent, fulfilled mission and purpose, showed marked improvement, and provided an extended level of service to the community served. The Award of Excellence categories include *Exhibits*, which can be new, temporary, traveling, or permanent; *Projects*, which can include education, collections management, public programming, a web site, etc.; *Individuals*, people who have provided significant contributions to an institution or to

the museum profession; or *Publications*, including posters, newsletters, catalogs, exhibit invitations, books, films, videos, etc. The current award year runs from January through December 2007.

The WMA Board of Trustees will also honor a worthy individual, institution, exhibit, project, or publication with the distinguished *WMA Board Award of Excellence*.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

Have you heard of the amazing Washington Museum Association Conference, but could never go because either you or your museum just could not come up with the funds to participate? There are three scholarships designed to help deserving people get to the conference.

Recipients of the scholarships will receive a \$200 stipend, which can be used to defray travel and lodging costs; gratis conference registration (sorry, it doesn't include the pre-conference workshop); and complimentary meals and events directly associated with the conference registration. In addition, the recipients will receive a one-year free membership in the Washington Museum Association.

The first scholarship, the *Ellen Ferguson Student Scholarship*, is intended to help a college or university student attend the WMA conference. To be eligible for this scholarship, an applicant must be a college or university student currently pursuing training in the museum or heritage fields, or have a sincere interest in those fields. The museum field can include history, art, ethnology, zoos, science, etc. Individuals applying for this scholarship must explain their current status as a student; discuss their interest in the museum or heritage field, their reasons for attending the conference, and their need for a scholarship.

The *Gus Norwood Volunteer Scholarship* is designed for a volunteer

working in a museum or a museum related field or organization. To be eligible for this scholarship an applicant must be a volunteer in any position at a museum of any size and type (or at a museum related organization), must explain their volunteer position within the institution, and explain their reasons for wanting to attend the conference, as well as their reasons for needing and desiring a scholarship.

The third scholarship, the *WMA Working Professional Scholarship*, is tailored for a professional working in a museum who otherwise would not be able to attend the conference due to financial constraints. To be eligible, an applicant must be a museum professional on any level, working in a museum of any size or type. The applicant must explain their current status as a working professional, their reasons for wanting to attend the conference, the museum's reasons for the applicant to attend the conference, and the applicant's reasons for needing and desiring a scholarship.

It would also be very helpful to the selection committee if letters of reference and recommendation to accompany each scholarship application. Also, one need not be a WMA member to apply for and receive scholarship funding.

So don't delay; send in your scholarship application or award nomination today! To be accepted, they must be postmarked no later than April 5, 2008. The mailing address and additional information are included on each form.

The recipients of the 2008 WMA Conference Scholarships and the WMA Awards of Excellence will be honored during the conference at a special awards and scholarship ceremony. We hope to see you in Vancouver in June!

## 2007 WMA Award Recipients

The 2007 Award of Exhibit Excellence was presented to:

**The Skagit County Historical Museum** for the exhibit, *Fibers of Life II: Native Treasures from the Forest to the Flats*. The exceptional exhibit is exemplary in collaboration and aiding the fostering of museum-tribal relations and represents an elevated level of achievement to which all museums in Washington State should aspire.

**The Wenatchee Valley Museum & Cultural Center** for the exhibit, *River of Memory: The Everlasting Columbia*. The exhibit is unique in its humanities content, artistry, and interpretation, which together, serve to return the Columbia River to the visual memory of the public. This exceptional exhibit represents an elevated level of achievement to which all museums in Washington State should aspire.

The 2007 Award of Project Excellence was presented to:

**The Alderwood Manor Heritage Association** for the rescuing, relocation, restoration, and preservation of the 1917 Alderwood Manor Demonstration Farm Superintendent's Cottage. The project demonstrates the accomplishment of a small committed volunteer group in preserving a unique aspect of Snohomish County and Washington State history. It also serves as a significant model of achievement, through a grassroots effort, for all community-based heritage organizations throughout the State of Washington.

**The Mukilteo Historical Society** for the commemoration of "100 Years of Light," *Mukilteo's Celebration of the Centennial of the Mukilteo Lighthouse*. Through many multi-faceted events, the Mukilteo Historical Society kept the historic lighthouse continually in the minds and interests of the local community and a far reaching

audience. This omnipresent project demonstrates the remarkable accomplishments of a small committed local heritage organization and serves as a significant model of achievement, through a grassroots effort, for all community-based heritage organizations throughout the State of Washington.

The 2007 Award of Individual Excellence was presented to:

**Robert Kelly** for his exceptional accomplishments at the Skykomish Historical Society. As a volunteer, his dedication and remarkable abilities have led, among many things, to the opening of the museum and the management and cataloging of the collection. He has helped the society and museum become an active, vibrant, growing entity and has made a major difference in heritage preservation in northeast King County, in turn enriching Washington State. Robert's unrelenting and successful work serves as an inspiration to local heritage organizations and volunteers throughout Washington State.

**Marianne Forssblad** for her exceptional leadership as the Executive Director of the Nordic Heritage Museum. Not only was she instrumental in the creation of the museum in 1980, but for 27 years she provided extraordinary professionalism, creative leadership, expertise, passion, vision, and unrelenting work as the driving force responsible for the phenomenal professional growth of the museum. With her retirement, she also leaves an extraordinary legacy of service and a rich contribution to the Nordic heritage and immigrant experience of the Pacific Northwest. For this, she serves as an inspiration to all museum professionals throughout the State of Washington.

The 2007 Award of Publication Excellence was presented to:

**The Bainbridge Island Historical Society** for *Port Blakely: The Commu-*

*nity Captain Renton Built*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, sponsored by the Bainbridge Island Historical Society. The book is a valuable source of cultural history, documenting and preserving the unique heritage of a lumber town. Not only is it a significant contribution to the understanding of a local community, but it enhances the rich history of Washington State, and demonstrates the ability of a small local heritage organization to generate an exceptional publication. In so doing, the recipient has set an elevated standard for all heritage organizations throughout Washington State.

The 2007 WMA Board Award of Excellence was presented to:

**Charles Payton** for his exceptional expertise, vision, and support that he has generously given to heritage and cultural organizations in King County and Washington State. As a community heritage leader for 30 years and the manager of King County's heritage program from 1983 until his retirement in 2006, Charles has always been an educator and strong advocate for museums and museum professionals. His tenacity, buoyant humor, and dedication to public service have earned the gratitude and respect of his colleagues throughout our State. It is a privilege to honor Charles as part of the legacy he has worked so hard to create.

**Ellen Ferguson:** Locally, regionally and nationally, Ellen has shared her strong belief in the role that museums can play in building community. Throughout her career, Ellen has championed professional training and development and extolled the benefits of being an active participant in the museum profession. Ellen continues to be an inspiration to the museum community and her example reminds us that museums matter and can change people's lives.

**Nomination, Application, and Session Proposal forms in this newsletter!**

# Federal Formula Grants for Museums. *We need your help!*

Pamela Kruse-Buckingham, WMA Treasurer & FFGC Liaison

The Washington Museum Association is a proud member of The Federal Formula Grant Coalition—an alliance of more than 45 local, state, regional, and national museum associations. Our mission is to encourage the U.S. Congress to include federal formula grants for museums when it reauthorizes the Institute for Museum and Library Services Act (IMLS) in 2009. A federal formula grant model for museums would:

- Provide significant financial support for all types of museums.
- Bring federal tax dollars home to the states, where each state's unique challenges, needs, and opportunities can be addressed.
- Require every state to name an agency responsible for monitoring and assisting museums at the state level.
- Leverage matching state and, possibly, local funds for museums;
- Enable governments to gather data on museums and their progress over time.
- Ensure museums are healthy and stable institutions that benefit the nation's citizens.

**We must start now** and let our elected representatives in the United States House and United States Senate know it is essential for them to play a leadership role and establish federal formula grants for museums. The sooner we can gain commitments from members of Congress, the stronger our chances will be of securing more federal funding for museums in America!

Members of Congress and others will want to know how much money we are seeking for America's museums. The answer is "parity with libraries." In terms of 2007 dollars, IMLS's library program was appropriated \$210.5 million, while the museum side was appropriated at \$36.5 million. Of the \$210.5 million for libraries, \$163 million was for federal formula grants. Although the Coalition has not committed to a dollar that will be requested in the legislation, it's important to understand the goal of parity.

## *How can you help?*

### Talk To Your Members Of Congress!

Your Senators and Representative will most likely be in your home state or district during "district work periods." At this point in the year, the Winter Congressional calendar is constantly changing. However, "District Work Period" dates are scheduled as follows:

**March 17-28**

Spring District Work Period

**May 27-30**

Memorial Day District Work Period

**June 30 to July 3**

Independence Day Work Period

**August 11 to September 5**

Summer District Work Period

This is a perfect opportunity for you to meet with them, by appointment or at a community event. Perhaps you will attend a town meeting or a function where one or more of your Congressional delegation is in attendance. If so, mention how important it is for Congress to establish federal formula grants for museums when they reauthorize the Institute for Museum and Library Services Act (IMLS) in 2009. Call their local offices at least two weeks in advance and make an appointment to visit, or make an appointment for just a longer phone conversation. (To help you prepare for your conversations, a one-page Case for Support and a sample letter is available. Contact your FFGC liaison Pamela Kruse-Buckingham at [oaklndaviatmuseum@att.net](mailto:oaklndaviatmuseum@att.net) to request it!) Be sure to provide this information ahead of your meeting so they are familiar with the request. Ask your Congressman how s/he feels about this issue. Please report back to the Coalition's lobbying firm, Washington Strategies, so we can track responses from members of Congress! Remember that advocacy is not just about federal formula grants, it's about making your members of Congress aware of your museum's contributions to the community. This is

the perfect opportunity to do both!

### Write To Your Members Of Congress

Write your Congressman about this important issue. A draft letter is attached for your use, along with a one-page Case for Support. Feel free to personalize the letter -- perhaps you have a special relationship with your Congressman and can tailor the letter accordingly! Print the letter on your own stationery and FAX the letter into the Congressman's Washington office (mail to Congressional offices takes over 3 weeks to reach your Congressman due to the irradiation process it goes through upon arriving at the U.S. Capitol). Keep a copy of your letter and share it with Washington Strategies! Report back to Washington Strategies when you get a response from your Congressman!

### How To Find Your Members Of Congress

Just use your zip code to look up the proper address and fax number for your Senators and U.S. Representative. For the names and contact information of your Senators go to [www.senate.gov](http://www.senate.gov). For the names and contact information of your Representative, go to [www.house.gov](http://www.house.gov).

**This is just the beginning, but your help is needed and appreciated!** Please help Washington Strategies by sharing copies of your letters to Congress and any responses you receive. Fax copies of your letters/responses/conversation reports to Washington Strategies, LLC at the contact information below:

Washington Strategies, LLC  
2111 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 600  
Arlington, Virginia 22201  
Phone: 703/351-5030  
Fax: 703/312-7139

Email: [mikel@washingtonstrategies.com](mailto:mikel@washingtonstrategies.com)  
<http://www.washingtonstrategies.com>

*Good luck, and thank you for the role you are playing in helping America's museums!*



## NEWS &amp; ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE MUSEUM WORLD

## Washington State Heritage Center: Fundraising Study Begins

In 2012, the Washington State Heritage Center will become the permanent home of the Washington State Archives, the Washington State Library, and the State Capital Museum. The Heritage Center will be a unique experience in education, events, research services, and interactive exhibits, reaching beyond traditional borders to tell the untold stories of our great state.

With its location on the State Capitol Campus, the center will feature both permanent and traveling exhibits. Several of these first-class exhibits will be available for display at museum partner locations across the state. In addition, there are plans for web programs designed to bring exciting stories of Washington history to youth across the State. The Heritage Center will host exhibits from heritage and museum organizations throughout the state.

The Heritage Center will inspire visitors to explore their own heritage through the resources available on-site. The center will serve to renew interest in museums, heritage and history. Visitors will enjoy convenient access to Washington State travel information. Maps and brochures, featuring museums and historic sites across the state, will be readily accessible, encouraging statewide museum visitation.

Planning for this new state-of-the-art facility is proceeding rapidly. A funding plan was approved by the State Legislature in May of 2007. This plan provides support for the building, State Library and State Archives. A feasibility study is underway to determine the campaigns fundraising goal. Fund raising will be necessary to complete public aspects of the Heritage Center which including a museum, K-12 learning center, special event venue, public reading room, meeting spaces and other amenities. A 20-week study will determine private funding availability in Washington State.

## HISTORY DAY

Get involved with students who love history through Washington History Day. This innovative education program teaches students in grades 6-12 the principles of historical research, writing and presentation through inquiry-based learning. Students select a historical topic, conduct extensive research, and produce a culminating project: an exhibit, website, performance, documentary or paper. They can compete in local History Day competitions for a chance to go to the state and national competitions, too.

Local museums can get involved in several ways.

- First, open your facility and collections to History Day students doing research. Many choose local topics and are looking for help in locating primary source material. You will love working with them!
- Second, help evaluate student projects at the regional or state competitions. Sign up online at <http://www.washingtonhistory.org/wshm/education/history-day/index.htm>, then click "Judges Needed!" on the left side. You can select which contests you are interested in.
- Finally, consider hosting a History Day showcase at your museum. Ask your regional coordinator to connect you with local students, and host an open house for them to display and discuss their work.

For more information, contact the Washington History Day office at 360-586-0165 or [Ldanner@wshs.wa.gov](mailto:Ldanner@wshs.wa.gov).

## New Online Graduate Program – M.A. in Museum Studies at Johns Hopkins University

Johns Hopkins University has announced that it will offer a Master of Arts in Museum Studies, which will be an almost fully online program. The graduate program will feature expertise of highly regarded professors and museum professionals from around the world, innovative virtual field trips, and global resources from a wide array of museums. An international student body will provide diverse perspectives and experiences in a dynamic online learning environment. For more information, visit <http://advanced.jhu.edu/academic/museum/>.

Bruce Eldredge, CEO of the Northwest Museum of Arts & Culture (MAC), has announced his resignation to become Executive Director and CEO of the Buffalo Bill Historical Center in Cody, Wyoming. In his letter of resignation to the Museum's Board, Eldredge said "I have enjoyed working with the Board, staff, volunteers and the greater Eastern Washington/North Idaho community. Leaving the MAC is one of the hardest decisions I have ever made during my career. The Buffalo Bill Historical Center is the largest museum in the United States dedicated to the American West. It has long been one of my dreams to be its CEO. Now my dream has come true." Eldredge has served the MAC for the past six years. He is credited by the Museum's Board of Trustees with moving the institution to a new level of service and community involvement. Sue Bradley, President of the Museum's Board of Trustees, said "We will certainly miss Bruce's leadership and passion for the Museum and its mission."

The Board of Trustees is committed to finding a highly qualified replacement for Bruce. We have already formed a search committee to hire the most experienced candidate for the position." Bradley further commented "we have a process in place and a dedicated team of Trustees, staff and volunteers who is capable of continuing to move the Museum forward. The Museum has built a strong regional and national reputation and we look forward to continuing to build on the strong momentum and record breaking attendance that we have enjoyed over the past several years."

## NEWS FROM THE MUSEUM WORLD

### Executive Director of Whatcom Museum Selected

Patricia M. Leach has been a leader in the field of nonprofit museum administration for 25 years, leading a variety of art and historic site museums across the U.S. In California, she directed six museums, including the San José Museum of Quilts & Textiles, the Redding Museum of Art & History, and the National Steinbeck Center in Salinas, which opened a major new \$10 million museum facility under her tenure.

Patricia grew up in Redwood City outside San Francisco, California, and holds academic degrees from the University of California at Davis and Notre Dame de Namur University in Belmont, California. Leach serves on boards and committees for many local community and national museum organizations. She also has a background in architectural history and historic preservation.

Since 2001, Leach has been the CEO and President of The Hermitage, Home of President Andrew Jackson, located in Nashville, Tennessee. Containing 1,120 acres and a campus of 38 buildings, this National Historic Landmark property opened as a presidential museum in 1889. Today, The Hermitage is one of the nation's largest and oldest historic site museums, ranking #13 in overall attendance.

Under the direction of Leach, The Hermitage became Nashville's first Smithsonian Institution Affiliate Museum, a member of the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail, and has partnered with community organizations on many projects. In recent years, the nonprofit organization has also received national recognition and numerous awards for its exhibitions, publications, educational programs, and preservation projects.

At The Hermitage, Leach has led a team of national scholars, professionals, and staff in creating a new Master Interpretive Plan with funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities. This master plan is expanding the interpretation to include major historical themes and issues from the Jacksonian Era, including controversial

topics such as African-American slavery and Jackson's handling of American Indians.

More importantly, Leach has also led a team of professional staff, museum planners, and architects in envisioning the proposed Andrew Jackson Presidential Library & Museum, featuring an enlarged 50,000sf museum facility with interactive exhibition galleries, educational classrooms, archaeological laboratory, research library, and community meeting space. Go to [www.thehermitage.com](http://www.thehermitage.com) for more information.

**WMA**

Washington Museum Association  
has a new mailing address:

P.O. Box 10633, Yakima, WA 98909

• • •

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Black Heritage Society of  
Washington State • Betsy Bauman  
Museology Graduate Program (UW)  
The Heritage Network • Pat Doran  
Donna Lipsky • Kathleen Ihnken  
KidsQuest Children's Museum  
Wa. National Guard State Hist. Soc.  
Lisa Euster • Margaret M. Smith  
Lawrence E. Scott • Mary Bowlby  
John P. Norton, Sr. • City of Lynnwood  
Tamara Georgick • Kristy Gledhill  
Alice Donnelly • Julie Anna Schubert  
Upper Valley Musm. at Leavenworth  
Museum of Communications  
Northern Pacific Railway Museum  
League of Snohomish County  
Heritage Organizations • TINCAN

### SEATTLE, TACOMA & THE PUGET SOUND REGION

**Bellevue Art Museum** is proud to present *The Premonition*, Paul Marioni, which will be on exhibit until March 23, 2008. A light box piece created by Northwest artist Paul Marioni in 1981, and previously shown only once, upon its completion. It offers a glimpse, both humorous and ominous, of a possible future. The exhibition features several other works created between 1981, when *The Premonition* was made, and 2007. Among these are *Bagman Blues*, 1987; *Hiroshima*, 1988; *Whistling Vase*, 2000; *Looking Back*, 2001; and *The Kiss*, 2006. Each piece was selected as a token representing the multifaceted and experimental creativity Marioni's work has achieved over a span of three decades. For more information visit [www.bellevuearts.org](http://www.bellevuearts.org).



**Burke Museum** of Natural History & Culture is proud to present *Peoples of the Plateau: The Indian Photographs of Lee Moorhouse, 1898-1915*, which will run from January 26th through June 8th. In *Peoples of the Plateau*, historic photos by Lee Moorhouse document a visual record of Native life in the interior Northwest as it transitioned from frontier life to the modern era. This photography exhibit was organized by the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum. For more information visit [www.washington.edu/burkemuseum/](http://www.washington.edu/burkemuseum/).

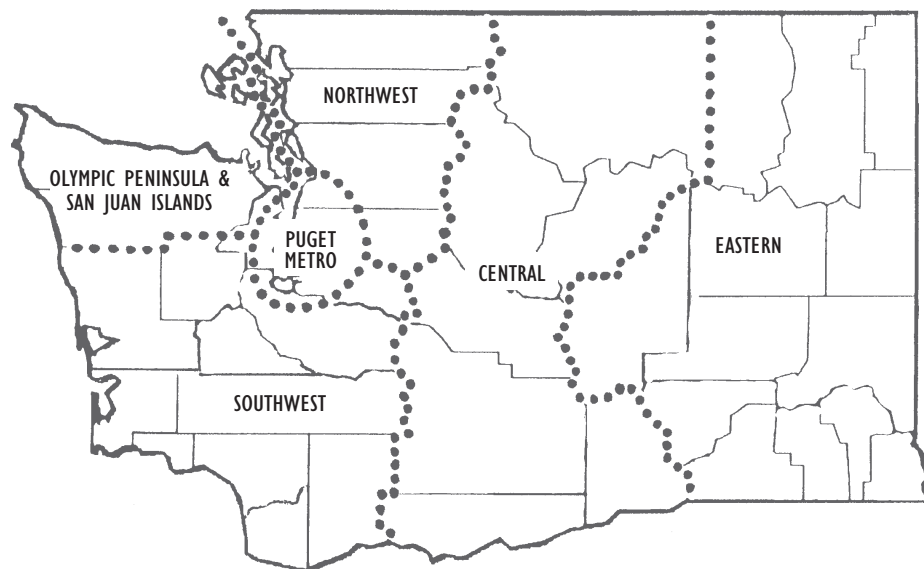
**Edmonds Historical Society** has named Sherry Dorey as the new Director of Operations for the Edmonds-South Snohomish County Historical Society and Museum. Ms. Dorey has over 25 years experience in marketing, public relations and fundraising, primarily with non-profit arts and educational organizations. Ms. Dorey has been a columnist for several magazines and publishes events calendars for King, Snohomish and Skagit Counties. She serves on several non-profit boards and owns Esoterica Candles, a small company that makes and markets natural soy wax candles at arts fairs and on the internet. For more information visit [www.historicedmunds.org](http://www.historicedmunds.org).



**Frye Art Museum** is proud to present *Somewhere Better Than This Place, Nowhere Better Than This*



# REGIONAL NEWS



*Place*, which will run through February 24th. On view in the Education Wing Gallery is a selection of photographic works made by middle school students in the South Park PhotoVoice program. This program, designed and taught by local artists, was created to teach youth within the South Park community photographic and writing techniques as a means of empowerment and expression. Turning to their neighborhood for subject matter, the students created artwork reflecting the community they live in. Personal and insightful, the photographs challenge the viewer to be mindful of preconceived notions and stereotypes they may have of South Park and its residents. For more information visit [www.fryemuseum.org](http://www.fryemuseum.org).

**Issaquah History Museum** has launched an effort to make resources easier to access, due to an increase in request volume. The effort consists of two elements. The first is the reorganization of the research center at the Gilman Town Hall, funded by a generous grant from 4Culture. The Museums hired Tracy Buck, a recent graduate of the UW Museology Program, to undertake the reorganization. Now research center users can locate materials by using the database and can easily find the materials on an assigned shelf. For more information call 425-392-3500.

**Kirkland Arts Center** would like to announce *Clay II?* an international juried ceramics exhibition. The pieces will be on display from February 15 through March

29, 2008. For more information visit [www.kirklandartscenter.org/clayapp.htm](http://www.kirklandartscenter.org/clayapp.htm).



**Museum of Flight** has signed a reciprocal membership and collaboration agreement with the Civil Aviation Museum of China in Beijing. The Memorandum of Understanding provides for the communication of events in both museums and for recognition of reciprocal membership. The agreement was signed in a formal ceremony in the historical Red Barn at the Museum of Flight, where Mr. William E. Boeing, Sr., started building his airplanes in 1916. The agreement was signed by Dr. Bonnie J. Dunbar, PhD, President of the Museum of Flight, and Mr. Mao Shunping, President and General Secretary of the Chinese Civil Aviation Museum. Also present to support the collaboration were Robert K. Laird and Starr M. Tavenner from The Boeing Company. For more information visit [www.museumof-flight.org](http://www.museumof-flight.org).

**MUSEUM OF GLASS** **Museum of Glass** presents *Lino Tagliapietra in Retrospect: A Modern Renaissance in Italian Glass*, the first exhibition to look at Tagliapietra's art and forty years of his career. Opening February 23, 2008, the exhibition is curated by Susanne K. Frantz, former curator of twentieth-century glass at The Corning Museum of Glass. In conjunction with the exhibition, Tagliapietra will work in the Museum's Hot Shop for two 5-day Visiting Artist residences on February 13-17 and February 24-March 2, 2008.

Tagliapietra will also give a presentation and book signing on Sunday, February 24. For more information visit [www.museumofglass.org](http://www.museumofglass.org).

**Museum of History and Industry** will be hosting a traveling exhibit titled *Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War*. This exhibit is from the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia that shows how Lincoln's momentous struggle to save the Union transformed the nation and its Constitution. This exhibit opened on January 18, 2008 and will be accompanied by the exhibit *Blue vs. Gray: The Civil War in the Pacific NW*. For more information visit [www.seattlehistory.org](http://www.seattlehistory.org).

**Naval Museum** in Bremerton has moved to a new location and changed its name. On August 24, Congressman Norm Dicks cut a ceremonial ribbon before a crowd of 150 people to open the new Puget Sound Navy Museum. The museum occupies the 1896 administration building from Puget Sound Naval Shipyard. Moved to its present location next to the Washington State ferry terminal in the heart of Bremerton, the building underwent a nine-month renovation to prepare it for public use as a museum. The initial exhibits focus on the workers and heritage of Puget Sound Naval Shipyard and the aircraft carrier USS John C. Stennis, homeported in Bremerton. For more information call 360-396-4148



**Nordic Heritage Museum** is pleased to announce the appointment of Eric Nelson as their new Executive Director. Nelson joined the museum on January 2nd from the Napa Valley Museum in Yountville, California where he has served as the Executive Director since 1999. Nelson brings a strong professional background to the Nordic Heritage Museum having also served as Curator of Exhibits and Collections at the Sonoma County Museum for eleven years. He is also a graduate of the prestigious Getty Museum Leadership Institute. For more information visit [www.nordicmuseum.org](http://www.nordicmuseum.org).

**TACOMA ART MUSEUM** **Tacoma Art Museum** is proud to announce their new exhibit, *Renoir as Printmaker: The Complete Works, 1878-1912* which will run from January 18th through June 29th.

*Renoir as Printmaker* features sixty etchings and lithographs by the French artist Pierre-Auguste Renoir. Although known primarily for his impressionist paintings, Renoir became interested in printmaking during the last two decades of his life and produced numerous etchings and lithographs, many based on his paintings. Drawn from a private collection, this body of work constitutes the artist's entire body of Renoir's graphic works. The exhibition will be supplemented with a small selection of his paintings, including *Têtes de deux jeunes filles* [also known as *The Two Sisters*] from Tacoma Art Museum's permanent collection. For more information visit [www.tacomaart-museum.org](http://www.tacomaart-museum.org).



**Washington State Historical Museum** is proud to announce the exhibit *Art*

*of the Stamp*, which began on December 8th and will run through March 2, 2008. This exhibit features 100 small works of original art, which were used to create postage stamps. From Elvis to dinosaurs, this exhibit explores stamp design and development from original pencil sketches to final artwork. The original art for "Elvis Presley," the most popular stamp of all time with record sales of 50 million, will be featured along with four preliminary concept portraits. Also featured are two rarely displayed, original Norman Rockwell pieces commissioned by the United States Postal Service. Organized for travel and circulated by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service. For more information visit [www.wshs.org](http://www.wshs.org).

**White River Valley Museum** will present the exhibit *Passenger Trains of Puget Sound, 1900 to 1970*, which will open on February 6th and run through April 27th. Learn about the era of passenger trains as the sole means of transportation between Puget Sound towns and cities before and during the rise of the automobile. An advertisement in the May 13, 1918 *Tacoma Daily News* proclaimed, "Four Trains Each Way to Portland. Three Daily to Aberdeen-Hoquiam. High-back Seat Coaches, Observation Cars, Dining Cars on Day Trains. Coaches and Standard and Tourist Sleeping Cars on Night Trains. Electric Lights on All Trains." Admission is \$2 for adults, \$1 for children and seniors. For more information visit [www.wrvmuseum.org](http://www.wrvmuseum.org).

## OLYMPIC PENNINSULA & SAN JUAN ISLANDS

**Clallam County Historical Society** wrapped up its largest fund-raiser of the year in September, filling the Lincoln School with valuable treasures and providing a one-stop shopping trip for the community while raising a record amount of money. On January 20, a Town and Gown Fashion Show was held at the North Olympic Skills Center, featuring vintage clothing from the 1940s through the 1970s, with models provided by the Historical Society volunteers and members of the Community Players. Costumes of the period were displayed in separate exhibits and refreshments were served. *Strong People, The Faces of Clallam County* continues at the Museum at the Carnegie, and we are anticipating a major photo exhibit from Rayonier Industries, opening in our lower gallery the week of March 23rd titled *A Walk in the Woods; Eighty Years of Rayonier*. A reception for the community will be held on opening day. For more information please visit our web site at [www.clallamhistorical-society.com](http://www.clallamhistorical-society.com), email us at [artifact@olypen.com](mailto:artifact@olypen.com), or call us at (360) 452-2662.

**Sequim Museum & Arts Center** is currently exhibiting *Inspired by Robert Brown Art Show*, which will run from January 7th through February 28th. This exhibit will showcase original paintings, drawings and reproductions by artists and students who attended Mr. Brown's classes. Many works will also be available for purchase. For more information visit [www.sequimmuseum.org/](http://www.sequimmuseum.org/).

**Port Angeles Fine Arts Center** opened a new show titled *Good Girls*, a solo exhibition by Marilyn Lysohir, which will run through March 9th. The "good girls" of the title take the form of 163 ceramic portrait busts that the Moscow, Idaho-based sculptor has created commemorating her female classmates from her 1968 high school graduating class. 1968 was a watershed year of political and social tumult, but none of that seems to have touched these girls, forever fixed in the postures of tradition. A sense of mortality seems implicit in these memorial busts, which recall a tradition usually reserved for fallen statesmen in galleries ranging from the ancient Roman Senate to the marble halls of Capitol Hill. The clay medium, itself, is a mainstay of archeology and with its dust-to-dust cycling is a metaphor for uncovered bone. For more information visit [www.pafac.org](http://www.pafac.org).

## SOUTHWEST

**Lewis County Historical Museum** is currently exhibiting *From Corsets to Lures*, which will show through March 2008. They are featuring items that were found in the attic. There will be a variety of items on display for your enjoyment such as corsets, fishing lures, china, furs, and children's toys. For more information visit [www.lewiscountymuseum.org](http://www.lewiscountymuseum.org).

**Washington State Capitol Museum** is proud to announce *Giants in the Mountains: The Search for Sasquatch*, which opened in October 2007 and will run through September 2008. This exhibit explores the Sasquatch mystery and focuses on the Pacific Northwest environment, which has created a rich setting for the traditional beliefs that have grown up around these beings. Scientific explanations, hoaxes, and popular cultural interpretations about Bigfoot are tackled in this exhibit. Tribal artifacts and artwork as well as physical evidence collected in the field by anthropologist Dr. Grover Krantz will be on display. Organized by the Washington State Historical Society. For more information visit [www.wshs.org](http://www.wshs.org).

## NORTHWEST

**Western Gallery** is currently exhibiting *Leaded: The Materiality and Metamorphosis of Graphite*, which will run through March 8th. This show features 35-40 artworks by approximately 15 contemporary artists who utilize the physical nature and characteristics of graphite and pencils as content in their two and three dimensional work. The exhibition was organized by N. Elizabeth Schlatter, Deputy Director and Curator of Exhibitions at the University of Richmond Museums, Virginia, and organized for tour by International Arts and Artists, Washington, D.C. For more information visit [www.westerngallery.wvu.edu/](http://www.westerngallery.wvu.edu/).

**Whatcom Museum of History & Art** presents the work of Bellingham artist Todd Horton, with *Love, Magic, Murder*, an exhibition of paintings centered on the mystery and power of nature and human interrelations with the kingdom of animals. Horton has also created a series of new work that unites the three themes of love, magic, and murder and further explores the interplay of animal life and its perception by humans. This exhibit will run through April 27, 2008. For more

information visit [www.whatcommuseum.org](http://www.whatcommuseum.org).

## CENTRAL

**Gallery One** will feature the exhibition *40 Portraits/40 Artists*, which will run through March 1st. The exhibit demonstrates an extensive and revealing look at contemporary portraiture in the Pacific Northwest. Images from spontaneous abstraction to precise realism will be on display. There will be paintings, drawings, photographs, and two and three dimensional mixed media pieces by artists from Seattle to Spokane, Ellensburg to Portland and Walla Walla to San Francisco. The center's Director/ Curator, Robert Tomlinson, thought that the first show celebrating our 40th year should be about people, how we see ourselves and how we see each other. The range of this show reflects the diversity of the region we live in. For more information visit [www.gallery-one.org](http://www.gallery-one.org).

**Kittitas County Historical Museum** is proud to announce the continuation of the 3rd Friday Lunch and Lecture Series. Speakers are invited to discuss a wide variety of historical topics relating to women's history, archaeology, Native American history, and more. For more information and a list of speakers and topics visit [www.kchm.org](http://www.kchm.org).

**Larson Gallery** is proud to announce an upcoming exhibit, *Ken Zontek: Veiled Yesterdays/Blurred Tomorrows* which will run from February 22 through March 19th. Amazing photos from a Yakima Valley Community College instructor's travels to Afghanistan will be featured. For more information visit [www.larson-gallery.org](http://www.larson-gallery.org).



**Maryhill Museum of Art** is proud to announce an upcoming exhibition, *Percy L. Manser: Grandeur and Light*, which will open on March 15th and run through July 6th. Percy Manser (1886–1973), an outstanding regionalist of his day, lived and worked in Hood River, Oregon between 1917 and his death in 1973. Born and educated in England, he moved to the Hood River Valley by way of Canada to become a fruit farmer. Inspired by the grandeur of the mountains and valleys of the region, he began to paint landscapes that quickly became widely popular with residents throughout the Columbia River Gorge. The year 2008 marks the 60th

anniversary of the first solo exhibition of his work at Maryhill and the museum is commemorating it with a retrospective of the artist's work that includes more than 40 paintings, photographs and documents. For more information visit [www.maryhillmuseum.org](http://www.maryhillmuseum.org).

**South Cle Elum Railyard National Historic District** will move into its next major phase of development with \$800,000 in funds from the Washington State Legislature. The funds were included in the state capital budget passed this year to fund projects in the 2007-09 biennium. The funding will allow design to preserve the electric substation and develop it into an interpretive center. Work to repair the building's exterior is expected to begin next spring. The appropriation also preserves the momentum of preserving the South Cle Elum Railyard, where Washington State Parks and Recreation, and the Cascade Rail Foundation (CRF) completed in 2006 a seven-year \$1 million rehabilitation of the 1909 railroad depot, where the CRF now operates the Depot Cafe. For more information visit [www.milwelectric.org](http://www.milwelectric.org).



**Yakima Valley Museum** is proud to announce an upcoming exhibition, *Cowboys on the Silver Screen*, which will open on February 8th and run through July 30th. Western movie posters and artifacts from the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City. This exhibit will also feature local stories connected with Hollywood westerns such as *The Hanging Tree*, Yakima Canutt and Nipo Strongheart. For more information visit [www.yakimavalleymuseum.org](http://www.yakimavalleymuseum.org).

## EASTERN

**Columbia River Exhibition of History, Science, and Technology** will be hosting *Night at the Museum* on February 8th. Based on the popular 2006 movie *Night at the Museum*, you will have the unique opportunity to be an honorary night guard at the museum as our exhibits come to life! On this special night interact with characters like Lewis and Clark, an old west cowboy, President Roosevelt and others! Refreshments served. This is a single evening event so don't miss out! First 100 guests will receive a souvenir badge. All ages are welcome. For more information visit [www.crehst.org](http://www.crehst.org).

**Fort Walla Walla Museum** makes history come alive every weekend! Performances are every Sunday, April through October plus Saturdays, June through August. This is a great opportunity to meet the people who built a heritage. For more information and a list of performances visit [www.fortwallawallamuseum.org](http://www.fortwallawallamuseum.org).



**Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture** will feature an upcoming exhibit *Tradition and Change: A Survey of Contemporary American Indian Art* which will run from January 26th through June 29th. Celebrate the extraordinary depth and diversity of Native art being made in the West today. The exhibition features works by American Indian artists such as Edgar Heap of Birds, Emmi Whitehorse, Kevin Red Star, Truman Lowe, George Flett, Preston Singletary, Marie Watt, James Lavadour, Jaune Quick-to-See Smith, Fritz Scholder, R.C. Gorman, T.C. Cannon, Harry Fonseca, and others. *Tradition and Change* offers viewers a chance to experience how the history and traditions in American Indian art contribute to a diverse, complex, and culturally rich American society. For more information visit [www.northwestmuseum.org](http://www.northwestmuseum.org).

*Put Your News in*

## MUSEUM MESSENGER REGIONAL NEWS

Send your news of staff changes, grants received, new projects, etc. to:

**Erin Black**  
[kchm@kchm.org](mailto:kchm@kchm.org)  
(509) 925-3778

- Please be sure to include your email address, webpage, and phone number with each article. **Include your logo if possible.**
- Send text in Word format.
- Deadlines are:  
**March 15th**  
**July 15th**  
**November 15th**
- Submissions must be less than 200 words (1200 characters).

*If you do not give us your news, we will choose what, if anything, to mention about your facility!*

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