become a card-carrying member of your local heritage organizations …today!

The Washington Museum Association is expanding its statewide representation by welcoming three new talented museum professionals to the Board of Directors—Liz Stewart, Ph.D., Museum Director of the Renton History Museum; Bill Rietveldt, Curator of Exhibits and Programs at the Wenatchee Valley Museum & Cultural Center; and Freya Liggett, Museum Manager at the Moses Lake Museum & Art Center. I would also like to extend a special thank-you to our outgoing Board Members, Brenda Abney and Maya Farrar. On behalf of everyone at WaMA, we greatly appreciate your years of dedication to aiding our mission to promote increased professionalism in and communication among all museums within Washington State.

Highlighting the focus of this issue of WaMA Messenger, it’s time to mark your calendar for the first of WaMA’s 2015 events, Arts & Heritage Day, March 3-4, at the Washington State Capitol in Olympia. The pre-event activities will include a workshop on Tuesday, March 3 followed by a reception, both hosted at the Coach House. The Heritage Caucus begins bright and early Wednesday, March 4. Join fellow museum professionals as we meet with our local State Representatives to discuss the Washington museum community’s most pressing issues in 2015. Read more on this critical statewide event on pages 3-5 in this newsletter.

On a more personal note, as the newly appointed President of the Washington Museum Association, I want to take a moment to encourage you to reach out to your neighbors in the museum world. I have always valued community, and in such, I am a strong advocate of museums as valuable community assets. If you work at an art museum, reach out to your community counterpart in a history museum. If you work at a small historic house, reach out to an ethnic heritage group. A casual social call can set the foundation for future collaboration. These seemingly casual relationships are the first steps to richer storytelling, exhibit inspiration, complementary programs, and the holy grail of shared resources. Seek common ground and you will find that “a rising tide lifts all boats.” That adage describes why I chose to join the Washington Museum Association. So take that extra step to become a member of your allied institutions, either individually or organizationally. This not only shares the wealth, but shows how you and your museum are engaged in Washington’s vibrant museum community.

I look forward to seeing you all at the 2015 Arts & Heritage Day in Olympia!

Yours in Museums,
Joseph Govednik
Are you a first-timer to Washington’s Arts & Heritage Day?
I was last year, and I want to share some of my experiences and tips for successfully engaging with your local State Representatives. Arts & Heritage Day is not just a great way to discuss issues relevant to museums; it is an opportunity to collaborate with colleagues. First I recommend attending both days, including the workshops and reception on March 3 prior to the Heritage Caucus on March 4. The workshop will be a valuable resource on grant writing strategies (and it’s free!). Later that evening, the reception at the Coach House is an opportunity to network and reflect. It was at the reception last year that Hillary Ryan from the Museum of Glass took me, and my director, under her wing. Ryan made appointments with all of the Representatives from our museum district and kindly took us along with her on a trek through the Capitol corridors.

Here are some tips I learned during my first Arts & Heritage Day which I would like to share:

• **Make an appointment.** This is the best way to grab 10 minutes of your Representative’s time. If you drop in, you will unlikely be able to meet with them.

• **Be VERY kind to the staff.** The legislative aids and staff are the gatekeepers. You may only be able to meet with the legislative staff, and if so, do your best to impress them. They will pass your message along.

• **Bring a gift.** Something small, a treat from your gift shop, or even a t-shirt with your museum’s logo – bring something tangible to remind your Representative of your visit. Also leave a brochure. You will be surprised by how small their offices are, so don’t bring anything too big!

• **Be respectful of their time.** Keep your meeting within the time-frame. Stick to the key points of legislation (you will be handed talking points during the Caucus early in the morning).

• **Get online and plan ahead.** Review parking on the Capitol Campus. The Heritage Caucus meets in the Cherberg Building at 7 A.M. Arrive on time. Around 8 A.M. there is a break when you can enjoy refreshments and organize.

• **Take a stroll.** Be sure to walk through the campus and see the rotunda. We are fortunate to have such an architecturally significant Capitol building, so enjoy it!

• **Don’t forget to drop a short note.** Thank your Representative, or their assistant, for their time!

I hope you find these tips helpful. I look forward to attending this year’s Arts & Heritage Day and hope you can make it too. If you have any questions about the events or details please see our website [www.washingtonmuseumassociation.org](http://www.washingtonmuseumassociation.org).
March Workshop from Washington State Historical Society

**Heritage Workshop Spotlight on Grants**

**Tuesday, March 3, 2015**

**State Capital Museum Coach House**

10:00 A.M.–12:00 P.M.

*Grant Administrator Presentations*

1:00 P.M.–3:00 P.M.

*Small Group Discussions*

Heritage Capital Projects Fund Grant Coordinator Janet Rogerson, Humanities Washington Program Director Ellen Terry and staff from Building for the Arts present a workshop on successful grant applications and crafting a strong, grant funded project. Group presentations will be followed by small discussion groups to answer individual questions. Break for lunch from 12:00–1:00 P.M. Register Early, space is limited to 40 people. **RSVP by February 23.** For more information or to make a reservation, please contact Susan Rohrer at (360) 586-0166 or susan.rohrer@wshs.wa.gov.

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**2015 Heritage Caucus**

The Heritage Caucus meets regularly while the Washington State Legislature is in session to discuss heritage, arts, and other cultural and recreational issues. Organized in 1990, the Caucus is a bipartisan gathering of state legislators and other elected officials; staff from state heritage, arts, and cultural agencies, and nonprofit organizations; and citizens interested in supporting Washington’s cultural, heritage and the arts. The Heritage Caucus is co-chaired by Sen. Jim Honeyford (R-15th) and Rep. Kevin Van De Wege (D-24th), and co-staffed by the Washington State Historical Society and the Washington State Arts Commission.

**The Heritage Caucus is currently accepting proposals for presentations during the 2015 legislative session.**

As a reminder, presentations need to be 10 minutes or less, and must fit into one of the following prioritized categories:

- Groups/Consortiums working together on legislation
- Immediate policy issues; pending legislation; current initiatives
- Relevant or upcoming policy issues; proposed future legislation or initiatives
- Overviews of agency and heritage organization activity (current exhibits, programs, etc.)

Please keep in mind that the budget will continue to be the focus of the Legislature this session, and we will be reserving significant time for discussions related to the budget and implementation policies.

**Provide the following information in your proposal:**

1. Presentation title.
2. Names, titles and organizational affiliation of presenters.
3. Detailed outline of your presentation, including its priority category from the list above.
4. Technological needs (DVD player, computer, internet access, projector and screen are available.
5. If needed please provide preferred dates (we can’t guarantee you’ll get your selection but we will try our best to accommodate requests).

...and send it via email to:

Mark Vessey mvessey@wshs.wa.gov
Arts & Heritage Day

Schedule at a Glance

Tuesday, March 3, 2015
at the State Capital Museum

10:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M.
Heritage Workshop/Grant Administrator Presentations, Coach House

1:00-3:00 P.M.
Heritage Workshop/Small Group Discussions, Coach House

5:00-7:00 P.M.
Arts & Heritage Evening Reception with Legislators, Coach House

Wednesday, March 4, 2015
on the State Capitol Campus

7:00-8:00 A.M.
Heritage Caucus, Cherberg Building, A/B/C Room

8:00-3:00 P.M.
Check-In Table, Cherberg Building, A/B/C Room

8:30 A.M. & 9:30 A.M.
Orientation, Information review for meetings with legislators, Cherberg Building, A/B/C Room

11:45 A.M.-1:00 P.M.
Luncheon & Program, Cherberg Building, A/B/C Room.

All Day
Meetings with Legislators, as scheduled

EVENT SPONSORED BY:

WASHINGTON MUSEUM ASSOCIATION
When considering the treasures of Washington’s museums, it is usually collections that first come to mind. However, Washington’s museums encompass so much more than physical objects. Much of their true value is reflected in the essential activities that add to their worth. With contributions of dedicated staff, boards, volunteers and patrons, Washington museums produce prized presentations, publications, and programming relating rich stories of diverse communities in unique ways.

With these many facets in mind, the Washington Museum Association invites you to share your perspectives on the Treasures of Washington Museums by proposing a session and attending the WaMA Annual Conference, June 24-26, 2015, at the Maryhill Museum of Art in Goldendale. (See “Call for Proposals” insert in this newsletter.)

Originally built as a hilltop mansion by Pacific Northwest entrepreneur Sam Hill, Maryhill was transformed into an art museum in 1926 at the urging of Hill’s friend and pioneer of modern dance Loie Fuller. Accessed by way of
2015 WaMA Annual Conference:  
*Treasures of Washington Museums ...What Are Yours?*

(Washington’s first asphalt road, the serpentine Maryhill Loops, the museum is situated above the stunningly scenic and storied Columbia River Gorge. Showcasing a world-class collection ranging from early 20th century European art works to an extensive American Indian collection, the museum is steward of over 5,300 acres of wild spaces, ranch lands, a sculpture park, incomparable vistas and overlooks. Maryhill Museum of Art stands as testament to the powerful personalities who transformed what *Time Magazine* dubbed “the world’s most isolated art museum” into an attraction of worldwide renown.

Maryhill is neighbor to American Indian cultural centers, history museums, galleries and historical societies, highlighting an array of human experience in the region; museums dedicated to autos, airplanes, trains, carousels, and art; and observatories and parks with diverse cultural and natural history offerings. Come experience the nature, culture, history, and the *wineries* of this incredible corner of Washington State.

Join WaMA at Maryhill this summer, to celebrate the museum’s 75th anniversary and the new Mary and Bruce Stevenson Wing. Take in the views, enjoy the camaraderie, and share your “treasures” at the 2015 Washington Museum Association Conference.

Keynote Speaker  
Harriet Baskas

Harriet Baskas is the author of a half-dozen books, including *Hidden Treasures: What Museums Can’t and Won’t Show You* (Globe Pequot Press, 2014), and the producer of a 26-part series on the same subject for National Public Radio. During 2013 and 2014, as a member of the Humanities Washington Speaker Bureau team, she presented a program about hidden treasures in Washington State Museums in cities throughout the state.

Baskas is an award winning writer and radio producer and the former manager of community radio stations in Oregon and Washington—KBOO, KMUN and KBCS. She currently contributes to USA Today, NBC News Travel, TODAY.com, CNBC Road Warrior and other national outlets as well to her own blog, StuckatTheAirport.com, writing most often about airports, air travel, business travel, general travel and, whenever possible, museums.)
In a scenario likely familiar to many museum professionals, Jefferson County Historical Society’s collections were once “permanently stored” in several locations—from the basement of Peninsula College, across Fort Worden, to the crawl spaces of Port Townsend’s City Hall. Anticipating a smooth relocation, a large part of the JCHS’s collections were packed in somewhat of a hurry, with very limited funds, for what was hoped would be very temporary storage at Fort Worden while the old City Hall underwent massive structural reinforcement and renovation. Two years and $1.6 million later, JCHS built a new collection building to finally house its artifacts and archives under one roof.

“Since moving collections into the building, I have begun the long term process of unpacking, photographing, and moving objects into permanent storage,” explained JCHS Collection Manager/Exhibition Designer Becky Shurmann. Shurmann focused on rehousing the most vulnerable collections first. One such sensitive collection included twenty-eight 130 year-old taxidermy birds donated by one of Port Townsend’s first families.

Inspired by programs such as Reinforcement Crew and White Glove Gang of the Mid-Atlantic Museum Association, Registrars to the Rescue completed its third annual project sponsored by the Washington Museum Association and Art Works Fine Art Services of Seattle/Portland. On June 18, 2014, museum registrars from around the state donated their time to rehouse the JCHS’s...
Dear Fellow WaMA Members,

We have had inquiries regarding the passage of I-594 and what impact this has on museums. This law went into effect on December 4, 2014 and affects the sale, gifting, and loaning of firearms. Although the law goes into effect December 4, the date of enforcement may be sometime next year, as laws passed by initiative need to go through the legislature to be codified as an RCW prior to enforcement. Since the only date we have at present is December 4, 2014, we recommend using this date to error on the side of caution. After reviewing the law and consulting with other legal and museum professionals, the Washington Museum Association recommends that all Washington museums should comply with this law. Because this law affects existing loan agreements and the process by which museums handle firearms loans and gifts, we recommend the following:

- Museums are not exempt from this law.
- Notify any lenders of firearms that their property may be subject to I-594*, and that the conditions of the loan may have changed.
- If your museum has a current firearm loan subject to I-594, and the loan period ends on or after December 4, 2014, then the loan must be returned to the original owner via a federally licensed firearms dealer (FFL).
- This law is not retroactive, so museums currently possessing loaned firearms need not take any action to maintain legal possession of affected firearms.
- If your museum takes an incoming loan or gift of a firearm subject to I-594, then it must be transferred through an FFL.
- Museum to museum transfer of firearms subject to I-594 should be transferred via FFL on or after December 4, 2014.
- Museums that borrow or possess firearms should review their loan agreement documentation as this law would impose additional obligations to loans involving firearms. Furthermore, this documentation should designate a staff person as the transferor/transferee of such objects affected by I-594.

* Examples not subject to this law include firearms made prior to January 1, 1899, black powder arms regardless of manufacture date, and permanently deactivated arms.

It is our recommendation that museums should comply with all laws to the best of their ability, and inform lenders of objects to any possible changes to original loan agreement. This information should not be considered legal advice, just an opinion from the WaMA. If you have any questions about this matter we urge you to discuss with your museum’s legal counsel.

Yours in Museums,
Joseph Govednik, President, Washington Museum Association

Victorian ornithological collection. R2R volunteers spent one full day unpacking, condition reporting, mounting (where necessary), and rehousing the sensitive specimens. “R2R’s work allowed us to cross another collection off the ‘to-do’ list... It was rewarding to work with other museum professionals and exchange ideas and information about the work we do,” said Shurmann. Since the project, several of the specimens have been installed for public display.

Many thanks to the R2R volunteers who assisted with the Jefferson County Historical Society project: Anna Berg, Maryhill Museum of Art; Loran Berg, Maryhill Museum of Art; Chris Cadenhead, MOHAI/Pacific Science Center; Scotty Enderle, Art Work Fine Art Services; Rebecca Engelhardt, Museum of Glass; Joseph Govednik, Foss Waterway Seaport; Lissa Kramer, Issaquah History Museums; Angela Neller, Wanapum Heritage Center; and Laura Reutter, Jefferson County Historical Society.

Photo at left:

R2R Team 2014 (left to right):
Angela Neller
(Wanapum Heritage Center)
Loren Berg and Anna Berg
(Maryhill Museum of Art)
Chris Cadenhead
(MOHAI/Pacific Science Center)
Lissa Kramer
(Issaquah History Museums)
Scotty Enderle
(Art Work Fine Art Services)
Becky Schurmann, host
(Jefferson County Historical Society)
To WaMA Members, Trustees, and Supporters:

With the upcoming WA legislative session we have an opportunity for a new state law that will provide long term support for museums and other nonprofit cultural attractions. But we need your help to make it happen!

How? The bipartisan bills we are introducing this session will allow local voters to approve a small tax increase that will be dedicated to funding local cultural attractions in their own communities. St. Louis and Denver have been doing this successfully for decades. If local voters can get the right to tax themselves to support their local cultural institutions, this would be funded from a 0.1% increase the local sales tax or, they can collect the same amount through property taxes. The attached “How the Cultural Access Law Will Work” describes the details more fully. You can find out more on the CAWA website: www.culturalaccesswa.org.

Why is it important for our museums and our communities? Across the state, the 0.1% sales tax would generate approximately $117,139,000 in support of cultural nonprofits. A portion of these funds will be shared with nonprofit cultural venues in each county and can be used to build educational programming and improve access for disadvantaged audiences. Take a look at the table on the right to see how much would be collected in your county. Museums take note: if your annual revenues are under $1.25M OR if you are a museum of any size outside King County, you can also use these funds for capital projects in addition to supporting the operating costs of additional outreach.

We all know museums serve a critical role for our schools, providing programs that align with national and state learning standards. We do what schools cannot do alone: we provide peak experiences for students that focus on self-expression, history, and enjoyment — enriching lives in the process and creating more fully engaged generations for the future. Plus, this law will help museums bring students to their location or, in many cases, take programs to the schools.

What can you do to help? Please call, write, or email your elected legislators and show your support! If you happen to know other representatives, please reach out to them too. We will only be successful if our elected officials hear from us. Share this opportunity with friends and supporters in your community and ask for their help, let our legislators know that this financial support will make a significant difference.

You can find the contact information for your museum’s address and your personal address at: http://app.leg.wa.gov/DistrictFinder/. They need to hear from you soon — the legislative session is already underway, so please ACT NOW.

Local Funds, Local Decisions, Local Access!

Cultural Access Washington is a 501(c)(3) whose sole mission is to pass legislation in support of nonprofits that are dedicated to interpreting the arts, history, science, and nature in Washington State.
2015
SAVE THE DATE

FEBRUARY 22-23
Museum Advocacy Day, Washington DC

MARCH 3-4
Arts & Heritage Day, Olympia, WA

APRIL 26-29
AAM Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA

JUNE 24-26
WaMA Annual Conference, Goldendale, WA

SEPTEMBER 16-20
AASLH Annual Meeting, Louisville KY

SEPTEMBER 22-24
IAM (Idaho Association of Museums), Moscow ID

OCTOBER 11-13
OMA (Oregon Museums Association), Pendleton OR

SEPTEMBER 16-20
Western Museum Association Annual Meeting, San Jose CA

NEW MEMBERS
Claire Aldenhuyzen • Sarah Aldrich • Amanda Allen
Dorothy Cotton Banks • Amanda Benson • Amy Bozorth
Gregory Brandell • Briana Brenner • Josh Buckner • Megan Buff
Katie Burke • Mary Christensen • Marianna Clair • Sena Dawes
Linda De Jesus • Casey Demory • Victoria Dennis
Neill Thomas Dillon • Kitsap County Historical Society & Museum
Esvelt Gallery • Adam Eisenberg • DuPont History Museum
Michael Friedline • Rebecca Fronczak • William Goodwin
Foss Waterway Seaport • Laura C Hall • Nina Hallett
Rebecca Harmsen • Sean Harrison • Jamie Hascall
Tamara Hayes • Jeanmarie Hayes • Calie Holden
Christina Januszewski • Devon Kelley • Robert E Kelly
Peter Kleinpass • Account Name • NRG! Exhibits, LLC
Kacey Lewis • Xiqian Li • Gracie Loesser • Justine Lopez
Molly Mandeltort • Paul Martinez • Kelly Matson
Brendan McCauley • Andrea Mercado • Nives Metrovic
Jenny Meyer • Julian Miller • Marsha Moratti
Othello Community Museum • Ill-Lynn Nunemaker
Mary Petrich-Guy • Chris Prescott • Michelle Reichelt
Hannah Ridenour • Maria Robinson • Kate Rosendale
Michael Rzemien • Regan Samul • Catherine Scharon
Rebecca J Schurman • Andrew Simeone • STQRY
Sidney Museum and Arts Association • Paul Talpos
Cheryl A Palyu • Erin Quinn Valcho • Iolene Webb
Judy Wheeler • Sierra Young

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

- Network of people dedicated to museum advocacy, professional standards, clear communication, education, and diversity.
- Reduced registration fee for WaMA annual meeting conference, voting privileges for Board election and WMA direction.
- Museum Messenger newsletter, including articles, reports, photos, calendars, and job listings.
- e-Messenger internet news on important legislative issues, updates, job listings, and other current museum topics.
- WaMA website with a directory of Washington museums, resources, and regional news.

Additional benefits for Institutional Members:
- Expanded website listing.
- Two conference registrations at WaMA rate.

Additional benefits for Business Members:
- An exhibit table at the annual conference.
- Recognition in the WaMA Museum Messenger newsletter.

Join Today!
(Fill out form at right)

WaMA Membership Application

Please select one of the following membership choices in the Washington Museum Association:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Membership</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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<tr>
<td>Individual</td>
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<td>Institutional (non-profit)</td>
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<td>Student</td>
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Name: __________________________________________ (Mr/Ms/Miss/Mrs or Organization Name)
Title: ___________________________________________
Address: _______________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________
City __________________ State _______ Zip ______
Phone __________________ FAX ___________
email _______________________________________

For Organizational members, please name Representative to act as voting agent and who will receive the WaMA mailings:

_________ (Mr/Ms/Miss/Mrs)
_________ (Title) _____________________________

Payment:
$ __________________ Membership dues
$ __________________ Additional tax deductible contribution
$ __________________ TOTAL (Check payable to WaMA)

By selecting a higher category of membership or giving a contribution in addition to your membership, you promote the Association’s goals. Thank you for your support!

Please mail your information and check to:
WaMA Membership Coordinator
P. O. Box 10633, Yakima, WA 98909