Annual Conference

WASHINGTON MUSEUM ASSSOCIATION

JUNE 12-14, 2024 | VANCOUVER, WA

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WaMA AMPLIFY

2024 CONFERENCE AT A GLANCE

WEDNESDAY

VOLUNTEERISM:

9:00am Registrars to the Rescue

TOURS:

10:00 Vancouver's Officers Row

WORKSHOPS:

11:00am Budgets and Brews

11:00am Shaping your Narratives: The Magic of the Seven Sentence Story

1:30pm Visual Thinking Strategies: From Art to Science

1:30pm Facing Resistance to Change

EVENTS:

5:00pm Opening Reception at Clark County Historical Museum

7:00pm History on Tap: Timeless Elegance - A Half-Century of Glamour

9:00pm Boos and Brews Tour of Downtown Vancouver

THURSDAY

MORNING EVENTS:

8:30am Breakfast buffet

9:30am General Session and Keynote

Noon Advocacy Lunch

SESSIONS:

1:45pm Public History Days: Gathering the History of Northern State Hospital

1:45pm From Collections Donor to Financial Supporter

1:45pm Amplifying the Next Generation: Providing a Platform for EMP

1:45pm Partnering in Preservation: Commissions, Museums, and Property Owners Working Together

3:15pm Quiet Objects, Loud Stories: How the Preservation of the FV Shenandoah is Amplifying Stories of Fish Wars and Rock Stars

3:15pm Identifying Bainbridge Island: Crowdsourcing Fun and Facts

3:15pm Exhibit Hacks: Quality Museum Displays on the Cheap

3:15pm Emergency Planning 101: Pocket Response Plans

EVENING EVENTS:

5:00pm Emerging Museum Professionals Social Hour/Mixer

6:00pm Annual Banquet

FRIDAY

MORNING EVENTS:

7:30am Heritage Breakfast hosted by Washington State Historical Society

SESSIONS:

9:00am Our Ancestors Voices: Restoring Nimiipuutímtki to the Wetxuuwíitin Collection

9:00am Museums and Main Streets

9:00am Making the Most of America 250

9:00am Lock, Stock, and Barrel: Firearms as Interpretive Objects

10:30am Unboxing Object-based Learning: Elementary Teachers Utilizing Museum Kit Programs

10:30am Unlocking the Power of Donor/Member Information: Database Management Essentials

10:30am Tribal Museum Representatives Tell Their Story

10:30am How to Start a Museum in 6 Easy Steps (Kidding - It's not easy!)

AFTERNOON EVENTS & TOURS:

Noon Annual Meeting Lunch, Awards, & Scholarships

2:30pm Downtown Vancouver Walking Tour

2:30pm The Historic Trust Providence Academy Tour

3:00pm Portland Art Museum Rothko Pavilion Construction Tour

7:00pm Lelooska Foundation Performance

WASHINGTON MUSEUM ASSOCIATION

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The Washington Museum Association was established to represent and serve museums of all types and sizes throughout Washington State.

OUR MISSION

- Encourage and facilitate the use and development of the highest professional standards.
- Further the role of museums as community partners in education.
- Act as a clearing house and communication network for information of special interest to museums.
- Constitute a statewide voice for a diverse constituency and display leadership in supporting cultural diversity and the open expression of ideas.
- Serve as a statewide advocate for museums and actively promote the collection, preservation, exhibition, and interpretation of historic, scientific, artistic and cultural material, sites, practices, and ideas.

WaMA is operated through the efforts of an all-volunteer Board of museum professionals and supporters from across Washington. Board meetings are hosted each quarter by different museums throughout the state.

Information:

contact@washingtonmuseumassociation.org

Washington Museum Association
c/o CCHS
1511 Main St, Vancouver, WA 98660

www.washingtonmuseumassociation.org

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B I M A BAINBRIDGE ISLAND MUSEUM OF ART

Relicura
Historical Research & Collections Management

Wednesday, June 12

VOLUNTEERISM:

REGISTRARS TO THE RESCUE

9:00am - 4:00pm

Each year, sponsored by Art Works Fine Art Services, registrars and collections care specialists join together for a day of volunteerism at museums local to where the WaMA Annual Conference is being held. This all-day event entails professional registrars and collections managers volunteering for the day at sites in the Vancouver area to help catch up on projects that would benefit from having help from trained professionals, such as inventory, condition reporting, and rehousing objects.

This is a Pre-Conference Event and you must be able to volunteer all day (9am – 4pm). To sign up as a volunteer please contact Rebecca Engelhardt (rengelhardt@museumofglass.org)

SITES:

Two Rivers Heritage Museum (1 Durgan St, Washougal, WA 98671)
Two Rivers Heritage Museum is operated by the Camas-Washougal Historical Society.
The purpose of the Museum is to collect, research, and preserve the history that tells the story of the development of the Camas/Washougal area.

Lelooska Foundation (165 Merwin Village Rd, Ariel, WA 98603)
The Lelooska Foundation since its creation in 1977 has sponsored a variety of educational programs aimed at preserving the rich cultural heritage of the Native Peoples of North America. Students, parents, teachers, and the general public have been able to learn through living history programs, workshops, classes, and museum tours offered throughout the year.

TOUR:

VANCOUVER'S OFFICERS ROW (REGISTRATION REQUIRED: HEIDENTHAL@WASHINGTONMUSEUMASSOCIATION.ORG)

10:00am - 11:30am | **Starting Location - 1301 E. Evergreen, on the porch of the Marshall House**

Presenters: The Historic Trust

For over a century, these late 19th and early 20th century homes on Officers Row along the north side of Evergreen Boulevard in the Historic Reserve served as residential housing for many soldiers, officers, and families stationed at Vancouver Barracks. Of particular note are Grant, Marshall, and Howard houses. Take a walk with us and learn about the buildings and the people who lived and worked in them.

Public Parking is located across the street to the south of the Marshall House, 1301 E. Evergreen. ADA parking is available north of the building. Bicycle parking is available on the porch.

WORKSHOP:

BUDGETS AND BREWS (REGISTRATION REQUIRED: HEIDENTHAL@WASHINGTONMUSEUMASSOCIATION.ORG)

11:00am - 1:00pm | **Loowit Brewing Company (507 Columbia St, Vancouver, WA 98660)**

Presenters: Stephanie Lile, Harbor History Museum

Knowing where the money comes from to successfully operate a museum and/or manage a capital campaign is key to long- and short-term sustainability. This session will amplify the secrets of museum funding, from dedicated baseline funding to earned income and launching a capital campaign. Using real-life success and failure scenarios, participants will sleuth out funding sources, map a campaign, and learn advocacy strategies.

This is a nuts and bolts session designed for museum staff, board members, and volunteers. Discussion and content will be tailored to the interests and needs of the participants as much as possible.

WORKSHOP:

SHAPING YOUR NARRATIVES: THE MAGIC OF THE SEVEN SENTENCE STORY

(REGISTRATION REQUIRED: HEIDENTHAL@WASHINGTONMUSEUMASSOCIATION.ORG)

11:00am - 1:00pm | **Historic Slocum House (605 Esther St, Vancouver, WA 98660)**

Presenters: Amber Cortes, Washington State Historical Society

In a time of content saturation, how can historical organizations amplify their stories? The "Seven Sentence Story Structure" exercise is a magical tool that can help you shape collection materials, projects, interviews, and fundraising ideas into compelling, relatable stories that get attention from your constituents, your funders, and the general public. Learn how to apply this simple and free tool, used by storytellers, radio producers, and journalists everywhere, to craft narrative arcs that are memorable, relatable, and poignant. Bring your org's story ideas to this participatory workshop, as we will do an example exercise with this tool during the workshop.

WORKSHOP:

VISUAL THINKING STRATEGIES: FROM ART TO SCIENCE (REGISTRATION REQUIRED: HEIDENTHAL@WASHINGTONMUSEUMASSOCIATION.ORG)

1:30-3:30pm | **Historic Covington House (4201 Main St, Vancouver, WA 98663)**

Presenters: Makenzie Stewart, University of Washington/Woodland Park Zoo

This workshop offers an opportunity to understand and practice Visual Thinking Strategies (VTS) and how it is more traditionally used in art museums and introduces how and when this approach can be applied in scientific settings, namely with living collections and biofacts. The session begins with an introduction to VTS in an art historical context (developed by Abigail Housen and Philip Yenawine), which leads to a practice session with a handful of artworks. We then introduce VTS in Science, a developing adaptation of Housen and Yenawine's VTS currently only practiced in a handful of nature/conservation organizations across the country, followed by a small and large group practice session where we will apply the strategy using real biofacts.

Wednesday, June 12

WORKSHOP:

FACING RESISTANCE TO CHANGE (REGISTRATION REQUIRED: HEIDENTHAL@WASHINGTONMUSEUMASSOCIATION.ORG)

1:30-2:30pm | **Clark County Historical Museum (1511 Main Street, Vancouver, WA)**

Presenters: Aletheia Wittman, Washington State Historical Society

Using words like inclusion can shut down conversations. Introducing new ethical standards in collecting practices can bring up defensiveness. This session will be a chance to talk through scenarios where your work developing inclusive practices has stalled-out due to resistance. Participants and facilitator will create a supportive space for the exchange of practical ideas that could bridge divides when not everyone agrees on the way forward.

SOCIAL EVENT:

WELCOME RECEPTION

5:00pm - 6:45pm | **Clark County Historical Museum (1511 Main Street, Vancouver, WA)**

Host: Clark County Historical Museum

The Clark County Historical Society and Museum is committed to responsible collections stewardship, innovative collaboration, and inspiring exhibitions and programs that engage the community in an exploration of Clark County's past, present, and future. You'll be able to explore Clark County's story through exhibits highlighting the local beer culture, an examination of the local ports, rivers, and roads, and a showcase of hometown historians and CCHM impressive collection.

SOCIAL EVENT:

HISTORY ON TAP: TIMELESS ELEGANCE - A HALF-CENTURY OF GLAMOUR

7:00pm - 8:30pm | **Kiggins Theatre (1011 Main Street, Vancouver, WA)**

Host: Vancouver's Downtown Association, Kiggins Theatre, and Clark County Historical Museum

The presentation will be led by the renowned Epiphany Dale Monsoon Valentine, a pillar of the Imperial Sovereign Court of the Raintree Empire (ISCRE) community, along with fellow ISCRE member, Tony Fallicies Mercury Dupont. The evening will feature a captivating exploration of drag performance, its rich history, and its role in social movements. The program will also highlight the ISCRE's dedication to fundraising and community outreach, showcasing their 50-year legacy of making a positive impact in Clark County.

SOCIAL EVENT:

BOOS AND BREWS TOUR OF DOWNTOWN VANCOUVER

9:00pm - 10:00pm | **Starts at the Kiggins Theatre (1011 Main Street, Vancouver, WA)**

Host: Clark County Historical Museum

Enjoy a stroll through downtown Vancouver and learn more about its haunted history and enjoy a few of the local brews. Tour includes one free drink.

CCHMuseum at 60

Celebrating 60 years of gathering, saving, and sharing Clark County's story.

Open Tuesday-Saturday
11:00 am to 4:00 pm

1511 Main Street, Vancouver, WA 98660

cchmuseum.org

Thursday, June 13

8:30am - 9:30am | **DISCOVERY BALLROOM C/B**

BREAKFAST BUFFET

9:30am - 11:30am | **DISCOVERY BALLROOM**

GENERAL SESSION & KEYNOTE

Blessing: Tanna Engdahl, Cowlitz Indian Tribe Elder and Spiritual Leader

Keynote: Michael Greer, ArtsFund

"How Arts, Culture, and Heritage Can Amplify Community"

Join your museum peers as we kick off this year's conference. Michael Greer, President & CEO at ArtsFund, joins us for a Keynote presentation exploring how Arts, Culture, and Heritage can amplify community. Michael will share recent data gathered by ArtsFund that can help us as museum professionals understand how we as individuals and organizations fit into the sector — through museum community amplification, by amplifying through collaboration, and by making space and amplifying the voices of the communities we serve.

Michael Greer is the President and CEO of ArtsFund. Having worked as a professional artist and an executive in the nonprofit and for-profit space, he brings a wealth of experience to the role that spans the United States, India, and Mainland China. With degrees in economics, education, and business, Michael brings a diverse skill set to the role and a unique perspective on the challenges and opportunities of the sector. In addition, he is a dedicated community partner and serves on a number of boards including the Downtown Seattle Association, Inspire WA, Puget Sound Regional Council's Economic Development District, Seattle Regional Chamber of Commerce, and United Way of King County.

As a relationship builder, a thought leader, and strategic planner, Michael is dedicated to supporting the mission of ArtsFund to support the arts through leadership, advocacy, and grantmaking in order to build a healthy, equitable, and creative Washington.

Michael is also a dedicated husband and father and enjoys calling the Pacific Northwest his home.

12:00pm - 1:30pm | **DISCOVERY BALLROOM**

ADVOCACY LUNCH

Join us for lunch, and hear about Washington Museum Association's advocacy efforts in the 2024-2025 legislative session, including an update on WaMA's Museums Connect Initiative and much more.

1:45pm - 3:00pm | **DISCOVERY BALLROOM D**

PUBLIC HISTORY DAYS: GATHERING THE HISTORY OF NORTHERN STATE HOSPITAL

Presenters:

Jo Wolfe, Director, Skagit County Historical Museum

Ann Skupniewitz-Maroney, Office Manager, Skagit County Historical Museum

Mari Densmore, Archivist, Skagit County Historical Museum

Ann Muia, Volunteer Curator, Sedro-Woolley Museum

Northern State Hospital (NSH), located near Sedro-Woolley, WA, cared for people with mental issues from its beginning in 1909 until it was abruptly closed in 1973. Since closing, the beautiful red roofed buildings have fallen into disrepair. Stories of people who worked there and those who received care were beginning to fade. Other stories started to take over – stories of ghosts and mistreatment of patients, stories of files and records being left when the hospital closed. People seeking to find out information about family members were not able to get answers.

This presentation will outline how the Skagit County Historical Museum, Sedro-Woolley Museum and the Port of Skagit partnered to create Public History Days at Northern State Hospital.

1:45pm - 3:00pm | **DISCOVERY BALLROOM B**

FROM COLLECTIONS DONOR TO FINANCIAL SUPPORTER

Presenters:

Camille Perezselsky, Director of Philanthropy, Washington State Historical Society

Margaret Wetherbee, Head of Collections, Washington State Historical Society

Caring for collections is expensive. From purchasing archival supplies (and paying for shipping!) to maintaining HVAC systems, the cost of collections care adds up and can consume significant funds, especially impacting museums with fewer resources. In this session, the Washington State Historical Society's Director of Philanthropy and Head of Collections will team up to offer tips for converting collections donations into financial support for your museum. This session will offer specific strategies for communicating with donors about the costs of collections care, making the "ask," and stewarding relationships. There will be ample time for questions, conversation, and sharing.

ARTSFUND

ArtsFund celebrates the power of museums to spark learning, creativity, and belonging; uplifting the quality of life for Washingtonians.

About ArtsFund

ArtsFund supports the arts through leadership, advocacy, and grantmaking in order to build a healthy, equitable, and creative Washington. To learn more, visit **artsfund.org**.

1:45pm - 3:00pm | **DISCOVERY BALLROOM E**

AMPLIFYING THE NEXT GENERATION: PROVIDING A PLATFORM FOR EMP

Moderator: Hope Amason, Director, Museum of Culture and Environment, Central Washington University

Panelists: Dyana Gracia, Lauren Otto, Tiernan Van Suetendael, and Naomi Whiting

How can museum professionals provide experience and encouragement to the next generation? What are the benefits of working with emerging museum professionals? In this panel, we will address these questions by focusing on four museum projects completed by emerging museum professionals at the CWU Museum of Culture & Environment (MCE). Dyana Gracia (MS in CERM) did provenance research on four collections of beaded bags from the Yakama Nation, interviewing skilled Yakama beadwork artists in order to help the MCE better understand the cultural context of beadwork as it pertains to interpretation and collections care. Lauren Otto (Anthropology BA) interned at a local community-based food pantry, APOYO, then curated an exhibit that educated other CWU students about the pantry's history and its role in the community. Tiernan VanSuetendael (MS in CERM) curated an exhibit on the LGBTQ+ history of Kittitas County, working in conjunction with LGBTQ+ focus groups and students in an undergraduate exhibit design class. Naomi Whiting (MA in History) curated an exhibit on fashion and power, as explored through the history of Russian women at the turn-of-the-century. Working with emerging museum professionals is a mutually beneficial experience—they gain critical skills, while more-established museum professionals gain new ideas and perceptions.

1:45pm - 3:00pm | **BIRCH (2ND FLOOR)**

PARTNERING IN PRESERVATION: COMMISSIONS, MUSEUMS, AND PROPERTY OWNERS WORKING TOGETHER

Moderator: Sean Denniston, Principal, Heritage Green Consulting

Panelists:

Julie Bohn, Clark County Historic Preservation Commissioner

Katie Bush, Clark County Historical Museum Public Historian

Joe Squires, Owner of the Historic Donegan Building

Museums, preservationists, historic preservation commissions, and owners of historic buildings are facing a complicated and evolving landscape surrounding the preservation of historic spaces and keeping the stories of these places alive. As a result, it has become increasingly evident that there is a need for collaborative and supportive efforts regarding the historic register nomination process.

This session will showcase successful strategies developed in partnership between the Clark County Historical Museum, local preservationists, the Clark County Historical Preservation Commission, and local property owners, which enhance and promote efforts to place historical buildings on the Clark County Heritage Register. In this panel discussion, panelists will highlight the ongoing relationships they've forged, emphasizing the vital nature of these ongoing collaborations in maintaining and promoting our shared history. These practices can serve as the foundation for the next generation of preservationists and provide a new avenue for museum advocacy and work beyond the walls of their institutions.

3:15pm - 4:30pm | **BIRCH (2ND FLOOR)**

QUIET OBJECTS, LOUD STORIES: HOW THE PRESERVATION OF THE FV SHENANDOAH IS AMPLIFYING STORIES OF FISH WARS & ROCK STARS

Presenters:

Stephanie Lile, Executive Director, Harbor History Museum

Riley Hall, Preservation Specialist, Harbor History Museum

So many objects sit quietly on museum shelves, although their stories reverberate throughout time and across place. The 1925 fishing boat Shenandoah, on view at the Harbor History Museum, is one such object. As a co-presentation by HHM Preservation Specialist/Shipwright Riley Hall and curator/historian Stephanie Lile, this session will explore how the restoration process has revealed little-known episodes in the object's life. This social history is complemented by physical findings and the practical aspects of the restoration process as explained by Hall. Finding an object's story or stories is so often essential to securing and justifying funding for preservation projects. Lile and Hall share how they did it, in the hopes their work will inspire others to tackle seemingly "impossible" preservation projects.

3:15pm - 4:30pm | **DISCOVERY BALLROOM E**

IDENTIFYING BAINBRIDGE ISLAND: CROWDSOURCING FUN AND FACTS

Presenters:

Lindsay Ogles, Director of Exhibits and Engagement, Bainbridge History Museum

Madelon Morrow, Collections Coordinator, Bainbridge History Museum

The Identify Bainbridge Island (BI) project grew out of a desire to engage our community, rebuild trust and interest in our museum post-Covid, and identify hundreds of images being made available to the public for the first time. From initial digitization to making inroads with disengaged community groups, the Identify BI project has resulted in an ever-expanding collection of identified images, stories gathered, generations of longtime locals re-engaged and is a system that museums throughout the region can enact amongst their own communities.

From stories of our experience to step-by-step guidelines for starting a project like this in other museums, our team will share our successes, lessons, and next steps in crowdsourcing fun and facts.

3:15pm - 4:30pm | **DISCOVERY BALLROOM D**

EXHIBIT HACKS: QUALITY MUSEUM DISPLAYS ON THE CHEAP

Presenter: John Larson, Director, Polson Museum

The days of throwing artifacts in a case and calling it a day are over! Explore creative and inexpensive ways to develop high-quality, visually impressive exhibits. In the past three years, the Polson Museum has re-invented nearly all of its exhibits and has found ways to do this all in-house and without breaking the bank. This session will explore ideas for lighting, mount making, photo framing, label creation and more with a focus on the practical tools and techniques used to elevate your museum's exhibits to a new level.

Thursday, June 13

3:15pm - 4:30pm | **DISCOVERY BALLROOM B**

EMERGENCY PLANNING 101: POCKET RESPONSE PLANS

Presenter: Allison Campbell, Heritage Outreach Manager, Washington State Historical Society

Does the thought of a burst pipe in your collections storage space keep you up at night? Worry less with a Pocket Response Plan (PReP)! This session will introduce attendees to PReP, a simple document designed to guide communications and actions in the immediate aftermath of an emergency that impacts collections. PReP is a great first step toward preparing your organization to manage an emergency affecting artifacts and archives. No prior knowledge about emergency planning is required! Attendees will leave with a template and step-by-step instructions for completing the PReP. There will be snacks, door prizes, and a generous spirit of collegiality.

SOCIAL EVENT:

EMERGING MUSEUM PROFESSIONALS SOCIAL HOUR/MIXER

5:00pm - 6:00pm | **ASH (2ND FLOOR)**

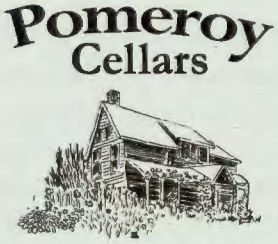
Networking, trivia, and all-around good time.

SOCIAL EVENT:

ANNUAL BANQUET

6:00pm - 8:00pm | **DISCOVERY BALLROOM B**

Celebrate our Washington museum community at our annual banquet.



Congratulations to WaMA's 2024

CONFERENCE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS:

MORGANNE POCKELS | *Robert Gruhn Professional Scholarship*

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Save the date!

WINE & CHEESE MIXER AT FORT NISQUALLY

HOSTED BY:
Washington Museum Association & Washington State Historical Society

Come celebrate the end of summer with your fellow museum people!
WaMA and WSHS invite you to enjoy a sip on the patio at Fort Nisqually on

Saturday, September 28, 6-8pm. FREE.

Light refreshments, wine, and non-alcoholic drinks will be served.
Thank you to Pomeroy Cellars for their in-kind support.

Meet your fellow WaMA members, relax on the veranda, and wander the kitchen garden at sunset. Located in Point Defiance Park in Tacoma, Fort Nisqually Living History Museum portrays life on the Puget Sound in 1855. The whole property is reserved for attendees.

Friday, June 14

7:30am - 9:00am | **DISCOVERY BALLROOM C/B**

HERITAGE BREAKFAST BUFFET

Host: Washington State Historical Society

Networking, breakfast, and all-around good time.

9:00am -10:15am | **DISCOVERY BALLROOM B**

OUR ANCESTORS VOICES: RESTORING NIMIIPUUTÍMTKI TO THE WETXUUWÍITIN COLLECTION

Presenters:

Harry H. Slickpoo Jr., Nez Perce Tribe

Beth Erdey, Nez Perce National Historic Park

The panel will share their collaborative experience in developing Nimiipuutímtki (Nez Perce Language) interpretive exhibit content and collections documentation for the Nez Perce Tribe's Wetxuuwíitin Collection. The Wetxuuwíitin Collection is one of the oldest known collections of Columbia Plateau material culture, with a history that represents the complicated past of museum collecting, and the 21st century efforts to rectify these wrongs. This collection was previously exhibited at the Nez Perce National Historical Park Visitor Center and remains available virtually through a cooperatively-developed online exhibit, National Park Service, Nez Perce National Historical Park, WETXUUWÍITIN COLLECTION (nps.gov). Panel members will share a brief history of the Wetxuuwíitin Collection, discuss collaboration in stewarding and interpreting of the collection, and how the addition of Nimiipuutímtki (both written and audio) to catalog records and exhibit content serves as a connection between past and present generations.

9:00am -10:15am | **BIRCH (2ND FLOOR)**

MUSEUMS AND MAIN STREETS

Moderator: Bradley Richardson, Executive Director, Clark County Historical Museum

Panelists:

Carrie Schulstad, Executive Director, Downtown Camas Association

Marykay Lamoureaux, Executive Director, Ridgefield Main Street

Michael Walker, Executive Director, Vancouver Downtown Association

Sharing the stories of your cities and towns present incredible value for local Main Street programs in Washington State. Knowledge of a community's past helps Main Street programs connect with long-term businesses, partners, and residents on familiar ground. Through programs, events, and interpretive panels, museums can connect a Main Street program with the community's cultural and economic history and act as boosters, drive customers to local business, and assist in supporting and/or establishing a tourist destination.

In turn, Main Streets bring important audiences, stakeholders, perspectives, and stories to the relationship. Together, Museums and Main Streets can tell authentic, personal, and enduring stories. Additionally, museums can help Main Streets navigate preservation efforts, economic benefits, and the historic register process. In this session, you will learn about the possibilities and partnership of museums and main streets working close together and the cultural, economic, and tourism benefits.

9:00am -10:15am | **DISCOVERY BALLROOM E**

MAKING THE MOST OF AMERICA 250

Presenters:

Jay Baersten, Director of Heritage Outreach, Washington State Historical Society

In 2026, the United States will commemorate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Join the Washington State Historical Society for a conversation about ways history organizations can leverage resources to maximize America 250th programming and impact. Presenters will offer an overview of the American Association for State and Local History's (AASLH) America 250 Handbook, released in May '24, and invite participants to share their plans and generate new ideas through small group discussions. Attendees will come away from this session with specific ideas and strategies for planning engaging and relevant America 250 programs and build confidence that their organization can fully participate in the commemoration regardless of capacity and resources.

9:00am -10:15am | **DISCOVERY BALLROOM D**

LOCK, STOCK, AND BARREL: FIREARMS AS INTERPRETIVE OBJECTS

Presenters:

Joseph Govednik, Director, Cowlitz County Historical Museum

John Larson, Director, Polson Museum

This session will follow up with current law and regulations regarding museums and firearms acquisitions, in particular, the complexities that were imposed on loaned firearms for special exhibits upon the museum and lender. Every curator, exhibit planner, director, or other museum professional that works with exhibit topics that may incorporate firearms will benefit from this session. Suggestions for inter-agency loan procedures and special programming as alternates to private collector loans will be discussed, as well as examples of firearm types covered by the law. Examples of why firearms are important to museum storytelling in areas of history, technology, and industry will be shared. John Larson from the Polson Museum and Joseph Govednik from the Cowlitz County Historical Museum will share some interesting stories connected to firearms in their collections and how they complement the storytelling of regional, state, and national history.

Join the WaMA Board!

The Washington Museum Association is seeking nominations for upcoming board openings. Serving on the board is an opportunity to support the work of museums statewide.

Meet our current board members and access the application on our website.
Scan the QR code or visit washingtonmuseumassociation.org/governance/

10:30am -11:45am | **BIRCH (2ND FLOOR)**

UNBOXING OBJECT-BASED LEARNING: ELEMENTARY TEACHERS UTILIZING MUSEUM KIT PROGRAMS

Presenter: Lindsey Snyder, University of British Columbia

Explore how teachers can use objects in their classroom to extend the museum-to-school learning experience. We'll begin with a deep dive into object-based learning. Many of us in the informal learning sector talk about the "power of objects" to educate - but just what is that power, and what exactly are students learning? We'll discuss how both museum educators and classroom teachers can use object-based learning effectively. Real life classroom examples will guide an interactive conversation with the audience. Participants will be encouraged to shape and improve their own practices for teaching and learning with artifacts, specimens, and objects. This session is applicable to both museum educators or classroom teachers. Particularly helpful for museums with "museum kit" lending programs, those interested in starting or expanding off-site school partnership programs, or building professional development for teachers. Also applicable to museum educators seeking to engage with more object-based learning during on-site museum programming.

10:30am -11:45am | **DISCOVERY BALLROOM D**

UNLOCKING THE POWER OF DONOR/MEMBER INFORMATION: DATABASE MANAGEMENT ESSENTIALS

Presenter: Maija Noll, Database and Membership Specialist, Washington State Historical Society

No matter where you are in your data journey, this session will provide practical tips to manage your member and donor data and key ways to leverage data to advance your fundraising and engagement efforts! We will explore data management principles and tools, data governance strategies, data metrics, and impact reporting.

10:30am -11:45am | **DISCOVERY BALLROOM B**

TRIBAL MUSEUM REPRESENTATIVES TELL THEIR STORY

Moderator: Mytyl Hernandez, Tulalip Tribes, Hibulb Cultural Center

Panelists:

Charlene Krise, Squaxin Island Tribe
Ruth Whitener, Squaxin Island Tribe
Lisa Jackson, Suquamish Tribe
Janine Ledford, Makah Tribe

Tribal Museums/Research Centers are dedicated to telling their history from time immemorial. These are incredible facilities and programs that truly serve to expose visitors to tribal history, culture, and arts. They are an integral part of the effort to strengthen the bond between tribal and non-tribal people, organizations, and state and federal government agencies while also serving the needs of their communities. This panel, comprised of staff from the Suquamish Museum, Squaxin Island Museum, Makah Museum, and the Hibulb Cultural Center, will share how they are amplifying their important work in the communities they serve.

10:30am -11:45am | **DISCOVERY BALLROOM E**

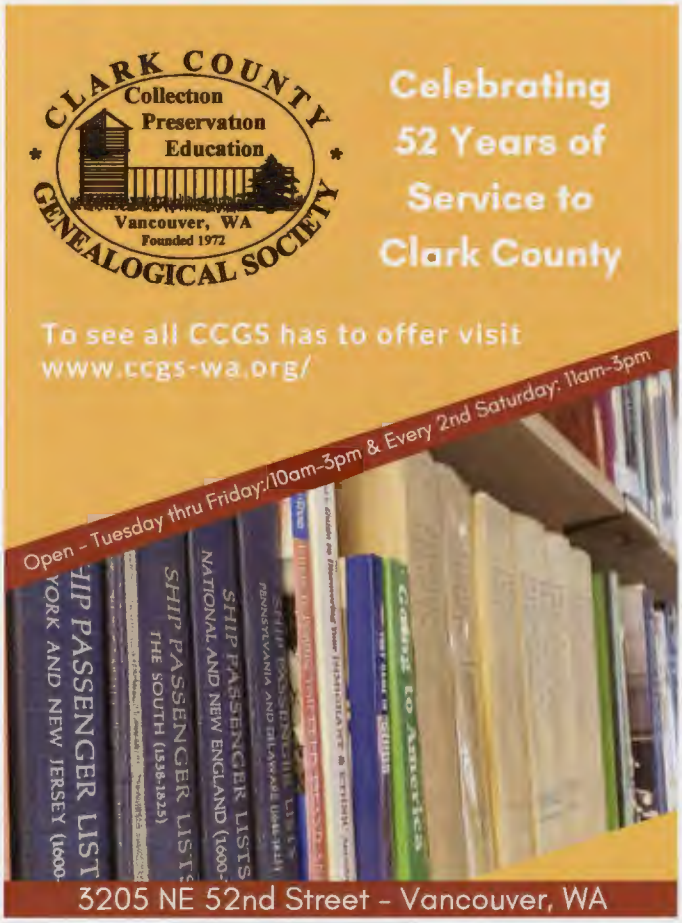
HOW TO START A MUSEUM IN 6 EASY STEPS (KIDDING - IT'S NOT EASY!)

Presenters:

Jeanne Bennett, Executive Director, Columbia Play Project

Kate Sacamano, Owner and President, Giving Solutions, LLC

Communities with museums imagine that they've always been there, providing cultural and economic benefits in perpetuity and without much thought from the community they serve. However, for a community, such as Clark County, WA, that lacks a robust museum culture, beginning something new is an intense and time-consuming effort. In 2019, a group of concerned citizens decided their children and families needed a children's museum and the sooner the better. They laid the groundwork -- gathered information and convened meetings -- until the end of the year when they decided it was time to act. In early 2020, with high hopes and spirited enthusiasm, they began building the organizational infrastructure necessary to establish a children's museum. Of course, the COVID-19 pandemic quickly halted their progress. What happens next is a testament to the fortitude and dedication of a small group of grandparents, parents, business people, and community activists. This presentation will tell that story and inspire the listeners to amplify their own commitments to the betterment of their communities.



Friday, June 14

SOCIAL EVENT:

ANNUAL MEETING LUNCH, AWARDS, & SCHOLARSHIPS

12:00pm - 2:00pm | **DISCOVERY BALLROOM B**

TOUR:

DOWNTOWN VANCOUVER WALKING TOUR

(REGISTRATION REQUIRED: HEIDENTHAL@WASHINGTONMUSEUMASSOCIATION.ORG)

2:30pm - 4:00pm | **Meet in the Hilton Lobby**

Presenter: Clark County Historical Museum

Tour is approximately a mile long, making frequent stops along the way to view buildings, tell stories, and answer questions – offering a mix of memories, research, and architectural details. Comfortable shoes and water are recommended. There are no restroom stops on the tours.

TOUR:

THE HISTORIC TRUST PROVIDENCE ACADEMY TOUR

(REGISTRATION REQUIRED: HEIDENTHAL@WASHINGTONMUSEUMASSOCIATION.ORG)

2:30pm - 4:00pm | **Meet at 400 E. Evergreen Blvd., inside the front entrance**

Presenter: The Historic Trust

Providence Academy was built by Mother Joseph of the Sacred Heart in 1873 and served as a school, orphanage, and governance offices for the Sisters of Providence. Mother Joseph, along with four other Montreal nuns, traveled to Vancouver to serve the social and religious needs of locals. Providence Academy has four stories and is constructed in brick in a neo-Georgian style. It operated as a school until 1966.

Carpooling is encouraged for anyone driving. Visitor parking may be available in the southeast corner of the property. Limited on-street metered parking is available. ADA parking is available in the southeast lot. There is a bike rack in the southwest lot.

TOUR:

PORTLAND ART MUSEUM ROTHKO PAVILION CONSTRUCTION TOUR

(REGISTRATION REQUIRED: HEIDENTHAL@WASHINGTONMUSEUMASSOCIATION.ORG)

3:00pm - 4:30pm | **Meet at 1219 SW Park Ave, Portland**

Presenters:

Hennebery Eddy Architects, Inc.

Portland Art Museum

The Portland Art Museum (PAM) is in the midst of a major expansion, including the new Mark Rothko Pavilion – a contemporary 4-story structure which will link the two historic buildings on the PAM Campus. Hennebery Eddy Architects invites conference attendees to a free behind-the-scenes tour of the ongoing construction, and hear from PAM curatorial staff about lessons learned in preparing for a construction project and the challenges of remaining open to the public throughout the process.

PERFORMANCE:

LELOOSKA FOUNDATION (REGISTRATION REQUIRED: HEIDENTHAL@WASHINGTONMUSEUMASSOCIATION.ORG)

7:00pm | **165 Merwin Village Rd, Ariel, WA 98603**

Presenter: Lelooksa Foundation

The Lelooska Foundation invites conference attendees to a free performance starting at 7pm. Experience magnificent Northwest Coast masks as they come to life in the glimmering firelight of a Kwakwaka'wakw ceremonial house. The Lelooska Museum and grounds open at 5:30pm.

PLEASE SHARE YOUR CONFERENCE FEEDBACK!

HOW WAS THIS YEAR'S CONFERENCE? DID IT MEET YOUR EXPECTATIONS AND NEEDS?

ANNUAL SURVEY

PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE AND FILL OUT THE BRIEF SURVEYS SO WE CAN TAKE IT INTO ACCOUNT AS WE BEGIN PLANNING FOR NEXT YEAR'S GATHERING.

SESSIONS SURVEY

WHAT DOES YOUR ORGANIZATION NEED?

TAKE THIS SURVEY SO WE CAN BETTER HELP YOU!

Scan here!

Washington Museum Association (WaMA) and Washington State Historical Society (WSHS) want to better understand your needs so we can continue to advocate for and support the needs of the arts, heritage, and science community. The **2024 Needs Survey & Heritage Census** is a continuation of the 2023 Museums Connect Initiative (WaMA) and a follow-up to the 2020 Heritage Census (WSHS).

Work on it over multiple days online. Complete the survey offline and email it in. Or take it over the phone. One survey per organization, completed by the individual with the most complete knowledge of the organization.

JOIN WaMA!

Not a member?

The Washington Museum Association provides opportunities to network, enact legislative changes, and raise every museum's visibility to the highest possible audience. Plus, you'll save on conferences and get invitations to other social events.

Join us!

You are a vital link in a statewide network of museum employees, volunteers, supporting businesses, and patrons. Your membership supports the work of all museums in Washington State.

Individual memberships start at just $25. Organizational memberships start at $50.

washingtonmuseumassociation.org

humanities WASHINGTON | h w

How can we help?

Looking to bring a fascinating speaker to your community? Need funding for a project?

Humanities Washington offers programs and support to museums! As our state's affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities, we bring communities together over ideas. We serve every museum, from small rural towns to big cities.

Find out more at **humanities.org**

Speakers Bureau

Bring experts to your community for an engaging talk--free.

Grants

Fund your exhibit or educational programming related to history, culture, conversation, and more.

Prime Time Family Reading

Join the fight against pandemic learning loss by engaging the entire family. Full financial support available!

... and many more programs!

Questions? info@humanities.org

Environment & Culture Partners

Strengthening and broadening the cultural sector's environmental leadership.

Environment & Culture Partners works at the sector level to provide cultural organizations with the knowledge and skills needed to influence change, the partnerships needed to do the work, and the voice to advocate for culture in every climate conversation.

Learn more about our work and the free resources available to you now.

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4 CULTURE

4Culture appreciates WaMA for organizing the 2024 Conference and amplifying museums all over Washington . While our funding programs are available only to King County residents, our web resources are open to all:

HERITAGE FIELD RESOURCES:
https://www.4culture.org/heritage-field-resources/
OTHER LISTINGS:
https://www.4culture.org/grants-artist-calls/other-listings/

SAVE THE DATE!

ARTS, HERITAGE & SCIENCE ADVOCACY WEEK IN OLYMPIA

FEBRUARY 4 & 5, 2025

Join WaMA, the Washington State Historical Society, and Inspire Washington to celebrate Washington's arts, heritage, and science organizations.

Meet with our elected officials and government leaders to share how important our work is to the people of Washington.

WASHINGTON STATE
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HERITAGE OUTREACH

Partnering with the heritage sector to preserve and interpret Washington's history.

Visit our website to learn more about the ways we support museums and historical societies.

- Affiliate Programs
- Workshops
- Grants

www.washintonhistory.org/across-washington

WaMA Needs Your Photos!

If you've been to WaMA's website lately, you may have noticed it looks as if it might belong in a museum itself. We know and we've been working to create a sleeker, easier-to-use website in order to better serve our members and the Washington museum community!

We want to showcase our members! Please share with us photos of your building, your staff, your fantastic exhibits, or your amazing events. We'd love photos from the mundane to the extraordinary, highlighting the range of what it means to be a museum in Washington State.

Send photos, captions and credits to contact@washingtonmuseumassociation.org.

Whether you honor the fabric and history of our nation or shape the minds of future generations, HUB values your work and mission.

Our brokers understand the needs of museums and cultural organizations. Together, we can cultivate strategies to protect your organization, employees, board, income, and prepare you for tomorrow.

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Jerry E. Rice, Jr.
Commercial Insurance Advisor
Nonprofit Specialist

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Cell Phone: 443-756-9251
Email: jerry.rice@hubinternational.com

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Mark your calendars

2025 WaMA Conference

June 9-11 | Campbells' Resort, Chelan

MEMBERS GET EARLY ACCESS AND DISCOUNTS, JOIN TODAY!