

GAMG 2012

Georgia Association of Museums and Galleries Newsletter

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President's Message

Catherine M. Lewis, Ph.D.



Dear Colleagues,

As Fall arrives and school begins again, we start a new year with energy and enthusiasm. The GAMG board is working hard on the 2013 program for Athens in January, and it's shaping up to be a really engaging conference. Members will see workshops and sessions on marketing, social media, conservation, education and other important areas of interest.

One theme that is emerging in the fields of public history and museum studies is globalization. More museums are engaging in international partnerships than ever before, led by the American Association of Museums program Museums Connect (formerly the Museums and Community Collaborations Abroad program).

My institution, the Museum of History and Holocaust Education at Kennesaw State University, just completed a second Museums Connect grant with the Ben M'sik Community Museum in Casablanca, Morocco, and I would urge our fellow GAMG members to consider applying for this program. Large and small institutions have received these grants, and they are open to all varieties of museums.

According to AAM's website: Museums Connect fosters year-long museum-facilitated international exchanges in which members of the museums' communities play an active role in executing the project's activities and achieving its goals.

The program's primary goals are twofold:

- Communities in the U.S. and abroad develop a broader knowledge about and understanding of one another's cultures.
- Museums and related arts and cultural organizations create replicable models for international collaborations that reach beyond their physical walls to directly engage members of their communities.

Awards are offered on an annual basis in amounts between \$50,000 and \$100,000 and require a 50% cost-share match. Funding is provided through a partnership with the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

This program has produced some really interesting work and has linked American museums with institutions in Afghanistan, Japan, and South Africa. These partnerships often result in extended outreach into museum communities and have a profound impact on the participating institutions. As our world continues to grow smaller and our connections broaden, museums should be leading the way in promoting understanding and education.

I look forward to seeing everyone in January and urge you to consider an international partnership as you engage in your strategic planning.

Warm regards,

Catherine M. Lewis, Ph.D.
Executive Director, Museums, Archives & Rare Books
Director, Museum of History and Holocaust Education
Kennesaw State University



Michele Rodgers

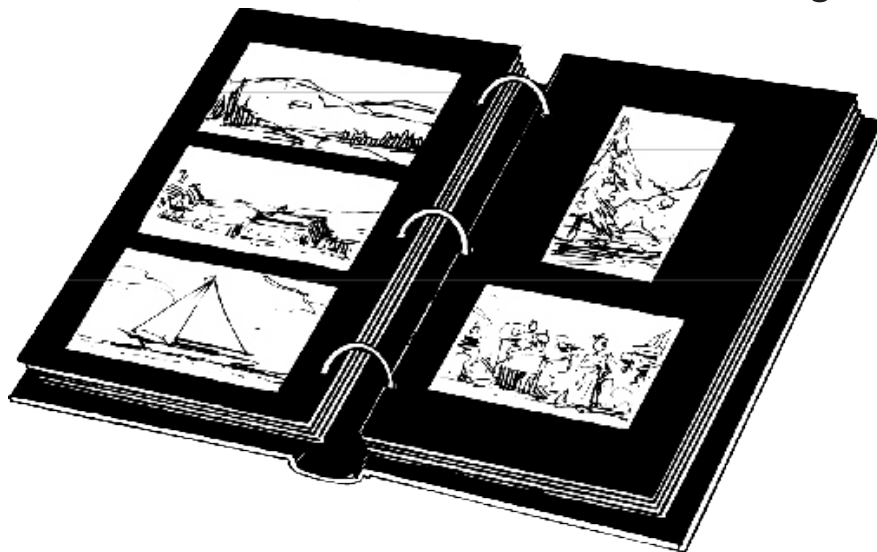
One of the joys of working in a museum or gallery is the creativity involved in accomplishing the institution's mission. With the recent budget cuts, museum and gallery staff members have been forced to become even more creative with resources, while still providing exceptional experiences for visitors. As a result, many staff members may be on the verge of "creativity burn out."

Renew your creative spark by attending the January 2013 GAMG annual meeting in Athens, where presentations and workshops will address "Creative Spaces: Meaningful Experiences in Museums." The energizing atmosphere of the hip, yet historic, college town of Athens will certainly help promote "out of the box" thinking, and the wealth of ideas and encouragement offered by colleagues at the conference will help expand your creativity. So complete your registration form, pack your bags and head to Athens in January!

NEWS YOU CAN USE!

"Focusing on Photographs: Identification & Preservation Workshop"

October 23 & 24, 2012 in Atlanta, Georgia



The Conservation Center for Art & Historic Artifacts is hosting this two-day program that will focus on the fundamentals of identifying and caring for photographic collections. More information and online registration can be found at www.ccaha.org/education/program-calendar.

National Preservation Institute professional seminars in Historic Preservation & Cultural Resource Management schedule through May 2013 has recently been published, with several workshops offered in Atlanta. Visit www.npi.org to view calendar of events.

The 2013 Conservation Assessment Program (CAP) application will become available on Heritage Preservation's website at www.heritagepreservation.org on Monday, October 1, 2012. CAP is a federally-funded program that provides professional conservation assessments for small to mid-sized museums of all types. The program also funds historic buildings assessments for institutions with buildings that are 50 years or older. For more information contact the CAP staff at cap@heritagepreservation.org or 202-233-0800.

CONFERENCE 2013



This January we invite you to join GAMG in Athens, where you can loosen your collar, let your hair down, and let your mind soak up the creative energy that a hip, yet classic southern city can offer. From exceptional art to amazing architecture, from funky shops to rich history, from tasty meals to engaging educational opportunities, the Local Arrangements and Program Committees have planned an outstanding conference!

Wednesday, January 23, 2013, the conference will begin with a day of workshops held at the Georgia Museum of Art. That evening attendees will be treated to a progressive dinner which will incorporate visits to sites such as the State Botanical Garden of Georgia and the Taylor-Grady and Church-Waddel-Brumby House Museums.



The next morning starts with the popular “Museum Pot Luck” breakfast, where attendees will share brief synopses of “big ideas” that worked for them during the past year. Sessions throughout the next two days will focus on issues ranging from Museum Marketing Plans, Visual Literacy, Interpreting American Indian Culture, Motivating Volunteers, Working With Trustees, and more.

Thursday's keynote luncheon will feature an inspiring presentation by Bill Eiland, Director of the Georgia Museum of Art, while the evening finds the group gathered for dinner and the annual MUSE auction, where everything from lowly sock monkeys to lovely hand-made jewelry fetches amazing bids!



On the final day of the conference, more sessions, a meeting of the Georgia Museum Educators, and the Awards Banquet will fill out the schedule. We'll wrap up by 2 p.m., so you will have time to browse local bookstores, visit nearby historic sites, or take a closer look at some of the downtown galleries before you head for home.

Visit www.gamg.org for complete conference schedule and information about hotel arrangements. Be sure to make hotel reservations now, as rooms are already being booked!

REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE

I'm Mary Ann Anderson, president of the Hazlehurst-Jeff Davis Historical Museum Society, Inc. As some of you may be aware, our original history museum burned in a total loss in June of 2011. As a brand new member of the Georgia Association of Museums & Galleries, I look forward to working with and meeting you, but we also need your help.

We are in need of at least six identical or very similar display cases, either wooden or glass or a combination of both, to be placed along the edges of the gallery area; and then we could use three additional glass display cases for the center of the gallery area. If you have extra ones lying around and gathering dust that you would like to donate or at least give to us at a great price, our Historical Society would truly appreciate it. We can make arrangements to pick them up.

Since our gallery area is quite small, the cases would need to be no more than four feet wide. But we can take a look at whatever you have. If you would like to send photos to see if what you have will be a good fit for our museum, please do.

Our email address is HJDHistoricalSociety@gmail.com, and our website, although very basic, is www.HJDHistoricalSociety.com. If you have additional questions, you can reach me at (912) 551-9030. You can also read about the fire in the Summer 2012 edition of Georgia Backroads Magazine.

Thank you for your time and attention, and I truly look forward to hearing from you.

Special Thanks **to George Fell**

for supporting the GAMG 2012 Conference

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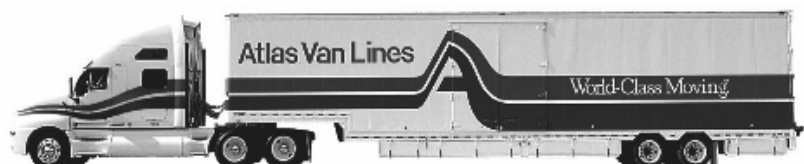
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MUSE REPORT

Each year at the GAMG Annual Meeting, we host an auction to raise funds for the Museum Services Exchange (MUSE) program. One of the most important projects supported by GAMG, MUSE provides meaningful assistance to member organizations by providing a visit by a museum consultant.

GAMG Board Member Jenny Goldemund recently completed a MUSE grant for the Tunnel Hill Foundation. Ty Snyder, Manager of the Foundation's Western & Atlantic Railroad Tunnel and Museum, applied for the grant to assess programs at the site. His goal was to develop a strategy for bringing in more school groups.



Goldemund suggested that the museum begin by targeting an existing successful event, “Battle of Tunnel Hill” re-enactment program and expand it. The report she provided addressed logistics, content, preparation, and marketing for the school portion of the event. This 10 page report gives Snyder and his staff concrete steps to follow to reach their goal.

Following the consultation, Snyder said, “our MUSE Grant consultant Jenny Goldemund visited our site several times to get an understanding of our strengths and weaknesses. Once she identified our greatest need Jenny interviewed staff and historical foundation



members and walked the site, like our students do on the day of the event. From this information Jenny provided a comprehensive recommendation for improvements to the Living History Day.” Snyder added, “We plan to implement many of these recommendations this year. It was great to have an outside opinion of what we have been doing and learn that we have done some things well and learn where we can improve our program.”



If your organization has been a GAMG member for at least a year, it is eligible to apply for a MUSE grant. Visit the GAMG website, www.gamg.org, for more details and a MUSE application.

GAMG



2012

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NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS SINCE JUNE 2012

Institutional

Andersonville National Historic Site
Atlanta Historical Society
Barrington Hall
Bartow History Museum
Booth Western Art Museum
Bowdon Historical Society
Bulloch Hall
Butts County Historical Society
Center For Puppetry Arts
Chieftains Museum
Church-Waddel-Brumby House
Collectible and Antique Chair Gallery
Decatur County Historical
and Genealogical Society
Hazlehurst-Jeff Davis Historic Museum Society
Historic Westville
Jeff Davis County
Museum of Arts & Sciences
Ocmulgee National Monument
Port Columbus

St. Mary's Submarine Museum
The Southern Museum of
Civil War & Locomotive History
Tifton Museum of Arts & History

Sponsor

Inox Design

Individual / Student

T. Patrick Brennan
Kha Thomas McDonald

GAMG

INFORMATION ON BECOMING A MEMBER

Georgia Association of Museums and Galleries is comprised of more than 200 members including individuals, businesses and art, history, natural history, and science museums.

We are open to all non-profit museums, galleries, history centers, science museums and museum associations dedicated to the development and implementation of professional museum practices.

If you are interested in becoming a member or are interested in the exceptional benefits GAMG has to offer, please visit:
www.gamg.org for more information.