

GAMG 2016

Georgia Association of Museums and Galleries Newsletter

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President's Message

Creating an Accessible Space

We recently reopened our permanent collection at the Georgia Museum of Art with some significant changes. Works of art are grouped to help viewers make comparisons, we created more intimate viewing areas, and large labels add context and clarity to the works around them. Terms are defined on labels and written gallery guides will give visitors more access to

themes and information in the collection. These materials will also be available in Spanish. Accessibility is a critical part of these galleries, and this concept was on our minds as we planned this reinstallation.

Not only do we want our museums to be used by as many visitors as possible, but we also want everyone to feel comfortable and included in our spaces by anticipating their needs as best we can. This idea is supported through universal design, “the design of products and environments to be used by all people, to the greatest extent possible, without the need for adaptation or specialized design” (Center for Universal Design, North Carolina State University).

For example, when paths in the galleries are wide and open instead of cluttered with objects, it helps audiences in wheelchairs, those with strollers, large groups of students, and visitors with service animals walk through the rooms more easily. It also allows security guards to better see and protect people and objects. In another example, tactile components can help not only visitors with visual disabilities engage with works of art, but assist all visitors in better understanding aspects such as texture and forms. Creating spaces that are flexible and intuitive and information that can be easily read and understood are important goals for all museums to be as inclusive as possible.

I anticipate more of these discussions as we prepare for the GAMG annual meeting in Augusta, January 18-20. The sessions our vice president, Jose Santamaria, has lined up and the events and trips that Michelle Schulte and her host committee have organized in Augusta will make this a memorable conference. I look forward to seeing you there.

All the best,

Carissa DiCindio, PhD

Curator of Education, Georgia Museum of Art

President, Georgia Association of Museums and Galleries

Administrative Director's Report



Augusta, site of the 2017 GAMG Conference, is known as Georgia's Garden City, and is nestled on the banks of the Savannah River. It features a blend of city fun, arts and culture, shopping and fine cuisine, but is also a historic city with a multitude of museums and cultural offerings. GAMG Program Chair Jose Santamaria and Michelle Schulte and her Augusta local arrangements committee have put together an outstanding schedule of conference activities. The conference will start on Wednesday, January 18, with an offering of tours and workshops. Attendees can choose from a visit to nearby Edgefield, SC, to learn about its historic pottery tradition, which includes Dave the Potter, a walking tour of Augusta's "Hill" community, or a trip to nearby Thomson, Georgia, to visit Hickory Hill, Tom Watson's Birthplace, as well as McDuffie Arts Council, the Rock House, and White Hill Herbs. In addition, morning and afternoon workshops will take place on Wednesday, followed by the traditional Progressive Dinner. Stops include the Byrd Gallery at Augusta University, Lucy Craft Laney Museum of Black History, Augusta Museum of History, partnering with Historic Augusta, and the Imperial Theater.

Sessions on Wednesday and Thursday will cover numerous topics, including Volunteer Recruitment and Retention, Museum Leadership, Low Cost Publishing Ideas, Understanding the New Federal Overtime Regulations, Attracting Diverse Audiences, and much more. Visit our website, www.gamg.org to view the entire program. Supporting the conference theme of "Opening Doors: Inclusion and Diversity in the 21st Century Museum," Dr. Valerie Babb, Director of the Institute of African American Studies at the University of Georgia, will present the Keynote Speech.

Mark your calendar today for January 18-20, 2017 and plan to join your colleagues in Augusta for an educational and informative conference. The Historic Partridge Inn will serve as the Host Hotel and sessions will be held primarily on the Augusta University campus. The Partridge Inn is offering a special conference rate of \$119 plus tax and reservations can be made by calling 706-737-8888 and providing the Group Code SMERF.

At the Crossroads: The Election of 1860

Featuring artifacts loaned from the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History

September 13-November 8, 2016 at Georgia's Old Governor's Mansion, Georgia College & State University, Campus Box 092, Milledgeville, GA 31061.

NEWS YOU CAN USE

A new tool <http://mcs.smu.edu/dashboard/> from the National Center for Arts Research <http://mcs.smu.edu/artsresearch/> (NCAR) facilitates the comparison of financial and operating performance data among cultural organizations. The Dashboard draws data from DataArts <http://culturaldata.org/> and benchmarks performance among arts organizations of similar types and sizes.

When studying performance data, there are a lot of components that need to be considered, and it can be difficult to know exactly where to look and what factors to consider. The format of a Dashboard that NCAR has used to present this data breaks down the data into nine general areas and this way arts managers can get a quick snapshot impression of how they compare against their peers.

The National Program Committee <http://annualmeeting.aam-us.org/proposals/national-program-committee> is accepting session proposals <http://annualmeeting.aam-us.org/proposals> for the 2017 AAM Annual Meeting & MuseumExpo <http://annualmeeting.aam-us.org/>, to be held in St. Louis on May 7-10. The Program Committee aims to populate 12 program tracks <http://annualmeeting.aam-us.org/proposals/tracks> with a wide range of topics, interactive session formats <http://annualmeeting.aam-us.org/schedule/session-formats>, and engaging presenters that represent diverse perspectives.

Registration is now open for the SEMC 2016 Annual Meeting, which will be held October 10 - 12 in Charlotte. Visit www.semcdirect.net to register. The keynote speaker will be Elizabeth Merritt, Director of the American Alliance of Museums' Center for the Future of Museums.

The Southeastern Museums Conference (SEMC) proudly announces the 17th annual Jekyll Island Management Institute (JIMI 2017). Scheduled for January 17 - 24, 2017, JIMI is specifically designed for administrators from new and emerging museums and for museum professionals with subject area expertise desiring knowledge of general museum administration and operations. The deadline for JIMI 2017 applications is October 28, 2016. You will find more information about JIMI 2017 program, scholarships, and application at www.SEMCdirect.net.

Time to Acknowledge Award Winning Volunteers, Exhibits, and More!

It's that time again when you have the opportunity to thank those individuals or groups who have helped advance your mission this year. The call for Georgia Association of Museums and Galleries Annual Awards nominations is open. Awards will be presented on Friday, January 20, 2017, at the GAMG Annual Meeting in Augusta.

Awards Include:

Patron – An individual /group who has worked closely with a museum (or museums) demonstrating leadership and providing assistance; is a major promoter of the museum(s) in his/her local area or statewide; in the past year has made a significant contribution and will continue to be a supporter in the future.

Museum Professional – Is an active museum or gallery employee working in the state of Georgia; is involved professionally on the local, state, and national level and has demonstrated leadership in the profession; has worked to promote the goals of GAMG; has been a member of GAMG for at least one year.

Business/Corporation - Has contributed significantly to the development of museums and galleries by providing funding or donations of materials and goods; has taken a leadership role in promoting museums and galleries in Georgia; has encouraged other businesses to participate.

Institution – Is a nonprofit museum or gallery and a member of GAMG; has been a leading institution in Georgia with a past records of accomplishment and acts as an important cultural resource in its community; has taken an active role in promoting communication and cooperation among Georgia museums and galleries; has provided an on-site or outreach program that extended the museum's mission while educating student and adult audiences.

Museum Volunteer – Has contributed time and effort in developing his/her museum's programs and exhibitions in an outstanding way; has enlisted the aid of other volunteers in supporting Georgia museums and galleries; has served as an advocate of Georgia museums and galleries.

Education – An on-site or outreach program that has extended the museum's mission while educating students and/or adult audiences; demonstrates scholarship and originality contributing to the cultural and education fabric of the nominee's community and the state; is an example of excellence in theory, planning and implementation.

Museum Exhibition – Art, historical or science exhibition of note that demonstrates scholarship and originality contributing to the cultural fabric of the state; is an example of excellence in theory, planning and implementation; has effectively reached and broadened the museum or gallery audience.

Category #1 – Exhibition over \$100,000; Category #2 – Exhibition under \$100,000

Special Projects – A special program of note that demonstrates scholarship and originality contributing to the cultural fabric of the state; an example of excellence in planning; has effectively reached and broadened the museum or gallery audience.

Category #1 – Project over \$100,000; Category #2 – Project under \$100,000

Advocacy Award – An individual or group that has successfully advocated at the state and federal level representing Georgia's museum community to provide heightened interest and voice, in a significant and meaningful way, while working to incorporate museum interest into state and federal policy.

Lifetime Achievement Award – An individual in any category who has consistently and selflessly worked to improve to improve the state of museums and galleries in their community during their lifetime; this person's collective accomplishments exemplify commitment, dedication and excellence; has had a far-reaching impact in their field.

Student Project Award - Recognizes contributions of student work to the field of museums and galleries. An individual or student group is eligible for this award. Projects might include, but are not limited to, an education or outreach program, a digital history project, an oral history project, or an exhibition.

Community Service Award - Recognizes an individual who has tirelessly promoted a community's museum or gallery in ways that enhance its financial health, raise awareness of its benefits to the community, provide avenues for growth and expansion of its mission.

Guidelines:

Nominations that do not meet guidelines will not be considered.

*Name, address, telephone number and email address of the nominee

*Category of nomination

*Name, address, telephone number and email address of person/organization submitting the nomination

*A one-page narrative that clearly states the nominee's qualifications and why he/she should receive this recognition

*Any available press releases, printed literature, and photos in support of the nomination

Email submissions are preferred. Mailed submissions must include four copies.

Nominations must be received not later than Friday, November 4, 2016.

Submissions should be emailed to the GAMG Awards Committee c/o Michele Rodgers atgamg@gamg.org or by sending to GAMG, P.O. Box 2133, Marietta, GA 30061. For questions, call Michele Rodgers at 770-853-7539.

Note: Nominating individuals or organizations are responsible for making reservations and paying for any guests other than award winner attending the Awards Luncheon.

TITLE, PHOTOS?

Myrna Anderson-Fuller and Hank Kimmel have been named as co-chairs of ArtsGeorgia's new statewide Advisory Council. They are experienced leaders in the non-profit sector and knowledgeable about arts issues. The Council's members represent every region of the state, different types of arts organizations, and they are a cross section of the arts in our state. The Advisory Council's priorities will be to recommend new programs and projects, participate in arts advocacy activities, and advise ArtsGeorgia's board on creative ideas and new ways to provide funding, resources and support for the arts.

Information about members of the Advisory Council, a report of their July meeting and an announcement of their plans will be reported in a future issue of the ArtsGeorgia's upcoming eNewsletter.

SPACEFINDER GEORGIA OFFERS COMMUNITY DIRECTORIES

ArtsGeorgia, C4 Atlanta and Fractured Atlas who launched the program in January are now promoting the 2nd phase of SpaceFinder Georgia. Local arts councils and community arts centers can return the pre-addressed, pre-stamped post card in the letter they recently received to inquire about a community directory or they can email ArtsGeorgia for one of the post cards.

Local arts councils and communities in Georgia can create Community Directories on SpaceFinder. This new feature is a custom-branded SpaceFinder Georgia landing page for spaces relevant to specific communities. Community Directories are a collaborative and affordable way to build a diverse audience of renters, and help local arts spaces better market themselves within your community. Information and contact on SpaceFinder Georgia under Community Partnerships at artsgeorgia.us.

Fractured Atlas, C4 Atlanta and ArtsGeorgia developed the site so Georgia is one of only four states with a statewide version of SpaceFinder and to date there are over 300 listings on SpaceFinder Georgia. Fractured Atlas, C4 Atlanta & ArtsGeorgia developed and launched the 1st phase of the statewide resource in January.

2017 NCHE Conference: Histories Seen and Unseen

Atlanta, Georgia, March 30 - April 1, 2017

Submit a Session Proposal

Have you developed a unique strategy for teaching history that you would like to share with other educators?

Did you perform research that provides new insights into a historical topic?

Have you participated in a history institute and would like to share your knowledge with others?

The 2017 Call for Proposals is available at: <http://www.nche.net/conference/submitproposal>

Submission deadline is September 26, 2016. Questions?

Contact John Csepegi at john@nche.net or (240) 696-6612



Georgia Association of Museums & Galleries
c/o Michele Rodgers, Administrative Director
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NEW & RENEWING MEMBERS SINCE JUNE 2016

Institutional

Atlanta History Center
Augusta Museum of History
Blue Ridge Mountains Arts Association
Brenau University Gallery
Church-Waddel-Brumby House
Coastal Heritage Society
Collectible & Antique Chair Gallery
Colquitt County Arts Center
Columbus Museum
Dorchester Academy
Elberton Granite Association
Georgia Humanities Council
Georgia Retired Educators Museum
Grady County Historical Society

Hickory Hill
Historical Society of the
Georgia National Guard
Jimmy Carter Library
Lucy Craft Laney Museum
Monroe Cultural & Heritage Museum
Museum of Colquitt County History
Museum of History and Holocaust Education
Newnan Coweta Historical Society
Northeast Georgia History Center
Ocmulgee National Monument
Ships of the Sea Maritime Museum
TRR Cobb House
Welch Gallery/Georgia State University

Sponsor

ArtsGeorgia

Individual & Student

Glen Kyle
Elizabeth Morehouse
Sylvia Mansour Naguib

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.