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May 2020 newsletter



The new normal: OMA board of directors meet for strategic planning via videoconference. Pictured from top left: Terrill Thompson, facilitator; Nicole Yasuhara; Lynn Federle-Orr; Eleanor Sandys; Sarah Baylinson; Randall Melton; Pamela DeCarlo, admin; Tim Hecox, Katie Williams. Not pictured: Dan Ruby, Kyle Weismann-Yee.

OMA news

OMA advocacy

The OMA board of directors sent letters to state and federal elected officials urging funding for Oregon museums as part of CARES and other COVID-19-related legislative funding requests.

- [Read the letter.](#)
- [See fact sheet on Oregon museums as economic engines](#)

Recruiting new board members

OMA is currently recruiting two new board members. We welcome applications by members representing rural areas (Eastern Oregon) and culturally-specific institutions.

[Find out more.](#)

Send us your COVID-19 photos

We're looking for photographs from Oregon museums, businesses and consultants that illustrate the changes we've seen due to the pandemic. Email high quality photographs to connect@oregonmuseums.org.

Get COVID-19 updates through the OMA forum

We are posting pandemic-related updates on the [OMA member forum](#). Stay up-to-date, let others know what you are doing, ask questions, and offer support through the forum.

[Join the forum now.](#)

COVID-19, equity, and human rights

Equity during crisis

American Alliance of Museum's Director of Inclusion Andrew Plumley urges the field to stay focused on equity and inclusion as we make tough decisions and chart a new path for the future.

"How are we as individuals and as a collective centering equity and inclusion during this time of crisis? I know many museums deeply committed to diversity, equity, accessibility, and inclusion that are questioning whether they have the capacity to do this work while at the same time determining their financial solvency."

[Read the blog post.](#)

Civil rights during COVID-19

FEMA has published a bulletin "Ensuring Civil Rights During the COVID-19 Response," outlining best practices to assist partners in anticipating and attending to civil rights concerns during the COVID-19 response and recovery.

[Read the guidance.](#)

Infographic of the economic impact of COVID-19 on Oregon culture

The [Cultural Advocacy Coalition](#) has published an infographic showing how COVID-19 shutdowns have had major impacts on Oregon's cultural sector.

Arts and culture sector organizations and individuals across the state participated in COVID-19 impact surveys organized by Americans for the Arts, The Miller Foundation, Oregon Community Foundation, and the Regional Arts & Culture Council. This infographic displays the results and can be used to advocate for public and private relief efforts locally and statewide.

[See the results.](#)

News

May is Historic Preservation Month

Many organizations had plans in place for Historic Preservation Month and now have to rethink some of the events. Oregon Heritage has ideas on what to do during social distancing.

[Read the flyer with suggestions for Historic Preservation Month activities.](#)

Considerations for reopening museums

Some museums in Europe have reopened, and museums in the US are considering and planning for reopening. Following are resources for museum reopening:

- American Alliance of Museums: [How to get ready to open the doors and Considerations for museum reopenings](#)
 - Main Street America: [Reopening safely](#)
 - [Oregon state guidance for reopening](#)
 - Staatliche Museen in Berlin, Germany opens May 12: [Opening guidelines](#)
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Film series on how museums respond to current social issues

"On Display" is a new series from ALL ARTS that highlights how museum professionals, cultural workers and artists are pushing boundaries to respond to current social issues and the critical ways museums help shape, define and preserve today for the future. Host and series producer Stephanie Johnson-Cunningham is the co-founder and creative director of Museum Hue.

The first two installments discuss mass incarceration and immigration. [Find out more.](#)

Free collections management app

CatalogIt is offering at-home museum workers a free personal account for one year to catalog and capture their collections and share them on the web through the CatalogIt hub. [Find out more.](#)

Jobs

There are no current job postings. If you'd like to post a job, please email us at connect@oregonmuseums.org. Or go directly to the [OMA website](#) and post a job there.

NOTE: OMA is committed to promoting diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility in the museum community. For this reason, all posted jobs must include salary.

Grants

Oregon Heritage grants

[Diamonds in the Rough Grant](#) is for facade restoration. **Deadline is May 14, 2020.**

[Preserving Oregon Grant](#) is for archaeology and preservation of National Register listed properties.

Deadline is May 14, 2020.

National Endowment for the Humanities

[Humanities Collections And Reference Resource Grants](#) are for planning, assessments, digitization, rehousing, and conservation treatment leading to enhanced access **Deadline is July 15, 2020.**

Support OMA

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Mailing address: P.O. Box 8604, Portland, OR 97207 **Email:** connect@oregonmuseums.org

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