



## April 2021 newsletter

### Advocacy

#### **OMA advocacy alert and call to action**

The [Cultural Advocacy Coalition](#) (CAC) is asking Governor Brown to recategorize museums to operate under the guidelines of retail businesses as opposed to our current restrictions as indoor entertainment venues during the remainder of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Under the guidelines for retail businesses, occupancy is determined by percentage of square footage rather than head count. **We believe this change to be critical to the success and survival of Oregon museums.**

[Read the letter here.](#)

**To support this effort, please sign on to the CAC's letter by emailing [sue@oregonculture.org](mailto:sue@oregonculture.org) by noon on Monday April 12.** In your email, state “On behalf of [organization name], I support the reclassification of Oregon museums to operate under retail sector guidelines for COVID-19.”

## OMA events



### **OMA-WaMA Joint Virtual Conference 2021: A Changed Landscape, A Changed Museum**

**September 13-15, 2021**

Oregon Museums Association (OMA) and [Washington Museum Association \(WaMA\)](#) are excited to join forces to host our 2021 Conference: *A Changed Landscape, A Changed Museum*. The two-day virtual conference will be accompanied by in-person events occurring across both states (as public health regulations allow).

This past year changed us all, as we grappled with COVID-19, systemic racism, political strife, and climate change. We progress into 2021 with the news of vaccinations and re-openings, and with a new sense of hope. As we emerge into a changed landscape, we can use our re-opening momentum to become changed museums.

Join WaMA and OMA to re-emerge, re-invent, and re-imagine a stronger museum future.

Details coming soon!

- Call for proposals opens in late April
  - Registration opens in July
    - OMA and WaMA members: \$35 early bird, \$45 regular
    - Non-members: \$40 early bird, \$50 regular
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## **Thinking about the unthinkable--April webinar on liquidating assets and closing museums**

**Will the last person leaving please turn off the lights? How to properly disband a museum and liquidate its assets**

**Wednesday, April 28, 2021, 12-1:30 pm**

The COVID-19 pandemic has forced some museums to permanently close, presenting their staffs and boards with unexpected legal and ethical questions about what would become of their assets. This program will use examples from shuttered museums to address how to go about dissolving a collection and liquidating its assets. Resources from museum workers and state agencies will help institutions take steps now to prepare for an unexpected closure in the future.

### **Presenters:**

- [Joseph Govednik](#), Museum Director, Cowlitz County Historical Museum
- [R. Lewis Ferguson](#), former Director, World of Speed Museum (now closed)
- [Jenn Clemo](#), Director of Nonprofit Leadership & Resources, Nonprofit Association of Oregon

Registration is open!

- OMA members: \$15
- Non-members: \$25

[Register now](#)

**Sponsored by Art Work Fine Art Services**



## OMA May meet up: Tours at the ZMA (Zoom Museum of Art)

Monday, May 17, 2021, 12-1 pm

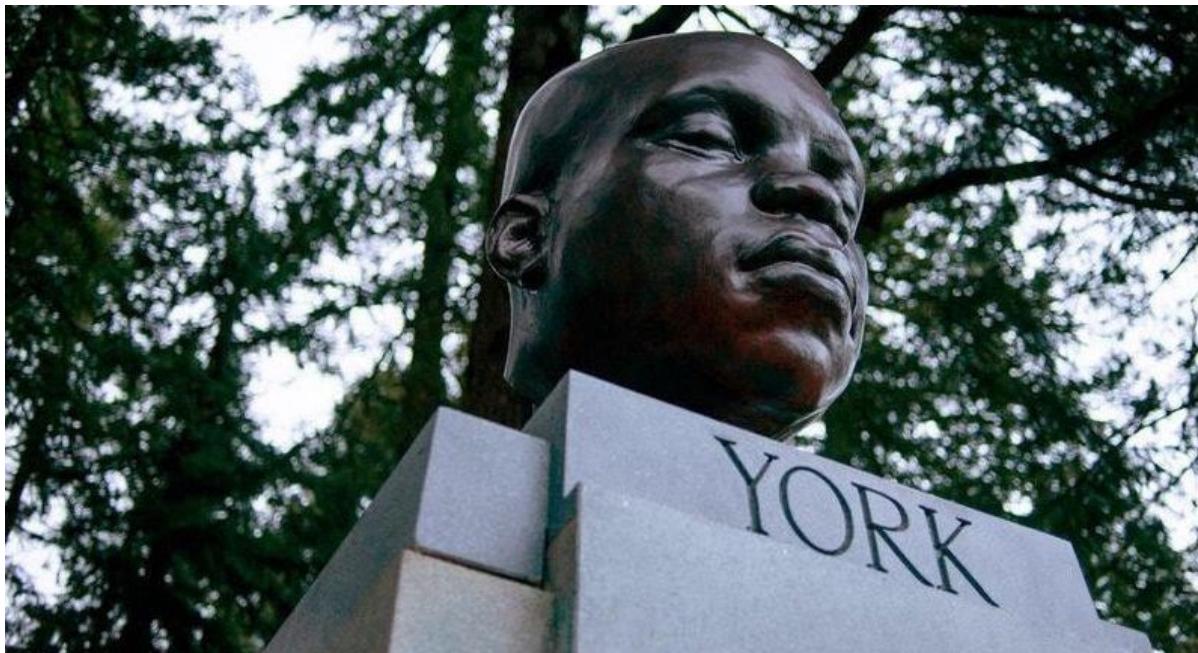
Are you feeling museum deprived? Join your colleagues in an art "tour" of each other's homes! Participants can informally select one or two works of art in their home to show to the group, and share its name, its maker, and why it is meaningful to you. Viewers are not obligated to share, but anyone who wants to share is welcome to!

Hosted by board member Zachary Stocks.

This event is free, but you must register to receive log-in details.

[Register now](#)

## Museum news



*Photo: Mick Hangland-Skill, Portland Parks & Recreation*

### Honoring York, the only Black member of the Lewis and Clark Corps of Discovery

In Portland, Oregon, a new cast bronze monument installed anonymously in Mt. Tabor Park memorializes York. An inscription below the bust identifies York as "the first African American to cross North America and reach the Pacific coast." It adds "though York was an enslaved laborer, he performed all the

duties of a full member of the expedition. He was a skilled hunter, negotiated trade with Native American communities and tended to the sick. Upon his return east with the Corps of Discovery, York asked for his freedom. Clark refused his request."

[Find out more.](#)

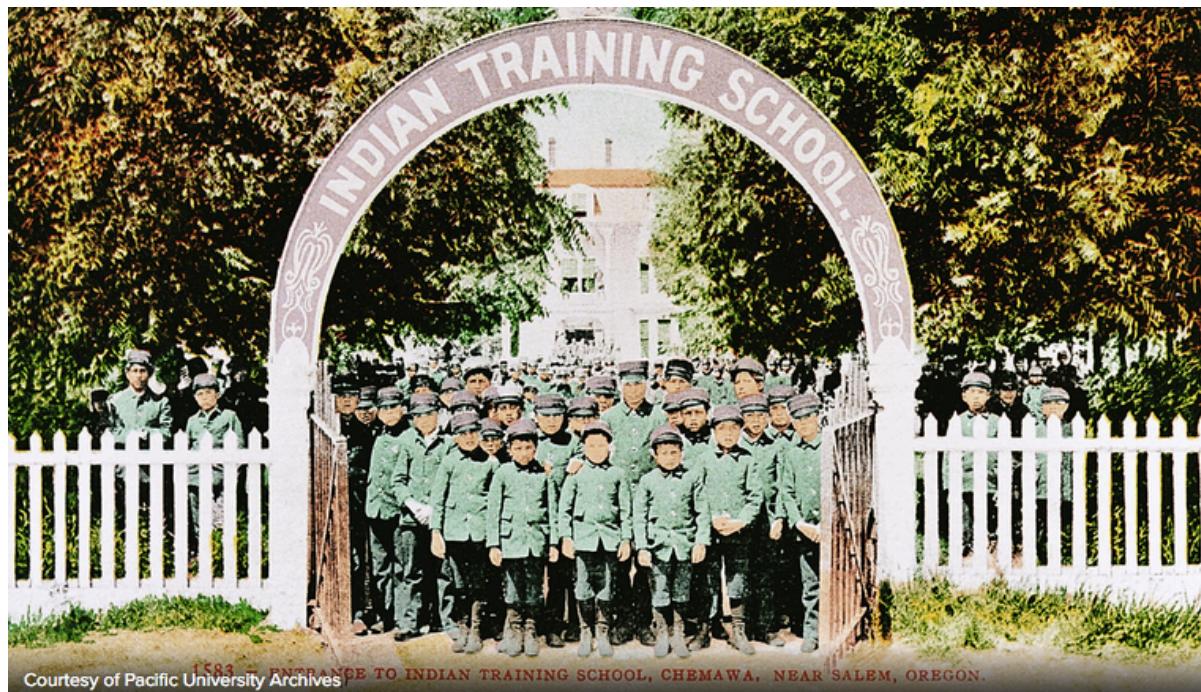
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## AASLH report on museum transitions and closures

"One of the many lessons that history teaches us is that change is constant, and that beginnings and endings are frequent. This includes changes, and even endings, for museums, historic houses, and historical societies, too. You may be despairing about the financial struggle that your museum is facing, or have done some careful thinking about your organization's mission and your community's needs, and realized that you need to consider a transition or a closure. This new resource introduces the process of closing (or merging, etc.) a history museum."

"[What's Next? A Guide to Museum Transitions and Closures](#)," was researched and written by members of the American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) Standards and Ethics Committee, Field Services Alliance, and Small Museums Affinity Community. The report discusses the practical, legal, and ethical issues that come with a major museum change such as a closure, merger, or transition.

[Find out more and download the report.](#)



*Photo: Students posing at Chemawa Indian Training School, near Salem, OR. Pacific University Archives*

## **Exhibit on Indian American boarding schools**

Beginning in the 1870s, the US government attempted to educate and assimilate American Indians into “civilized” society by placing children—of all ages, from thousands of homes and hundreds of diverse tribes—in distant, residential boarding schools. Native Americans responded to the often tragic boarding school experience in complex and nuanced ways. Stories of student resistance, accommodation, creative resolve, devoted participation, escape, and faith in one’s self and heritage speak individually across eras.

*Away from Home: Native American Boarding School Stories*, explores off-reservation boarding schools in its kaleidoscope of voices. It's on display at the [Clatsop County Heritage Museum](#) from April 6 - May 25, and this is the last stop for this traveling exhibit in the Pacific Northwest until 2024.

[Find out more.](#)

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## **Building a photo collection of World War II military deaths**

The first free and publicly available database of American military losses in World War II is collecting a photo for each of the 407,000 Americans who died during the war. [The WW II Photo Project](#) plans to verify existing state lists are accurate, locate additional names, and catalog all photos. If your organization maintains a list for your community or has photos, consider sending them to the site.

[Find out more.](#)

## **Trainings/Events**

### **Museum Learning Hub opens**

Western Museums Association (WMA) and five regional partners recently launched the Digital Empowerment Project and [Museum Learning Hub](#) website. They are creating ten free, live training modules that will be presented April 2021-January 2022 at the Museum Learning Hub.

Each module consists of an introductory session presented by museum professionals, followed by three weekly technical training workshops (tailored to varying levels of experience from beginner to advanced) taught by subject-matter experts. WMA is thrilled to be able to help small museum professionals boost their digital media skills and so much more through the Museum Learning Hub!

The first module on Digital Accessibility and Inclusion started April 8, and it's not too late to join.

[Find out more.](#)

## AASLH's Basics of Archives course

**May 24-June 27, 2021**

The Basics of Archives 5-week, self-paced online course is designed to give organizations and individuals who are responsible for the care of historical records an introduction to the core aspects of managing and protecting historical records collections, using appropriate principles and best practices.

[Find out more and register.](#)

## Collaboration is Key! Virtual Oregon Heritage Summit

**April 29-30, 2021**

The [2021 Heritage Summit](#) offers two days focused on successes and challenges of collaborations and some practical steps to take when embarking on your own collaborations and partnerships.

### **Summit Highlights:**

- Pre-Summit event – [Latinx/Hispanic Heritage Preservation in Oregon: Building a Network](#)
- Collaboration Success Session moderated by Brian Wagner and includes Southern Oregon University's Oregon Chinese Diaspora Project, Albany Downtown Association's Drive-Up Downtown, Cottage Grove's Disaster Resilience Plan for Heritage Resources project, Baker City's Cultural Passport, and High Desert Museum's cultural responsive collections management project
- Workshop on how to plan, initiate, and manage successful collaborations and partnerships

[Find out more and register.](#)

# Jobs

## Vice President of Development - Native Arts & Cultures Foundation (NACF)

The NACF seeks a Vice President of Development responsible for driving contributed revenue efforts.

[Find out more.](#)

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## Assistant Director/Collections Manager- Tillamook County Pioneer Museum

Tillamook County Pioneer Museum seeks an Assistant Director/ Collections Manager to be responsible for management and daily operations of the museum's collections. **Application deadline is April 16, 2021.**

[Find out more.](#)

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## Education Manager - Willamette Heritage Center

The Education Manager is responsible for the development and management of the Willamette Heritage Center's (WHC) educational vision and goals as they relate to exhibits, program planning, outreach efforts, events, and the organizational strategic plan. **Deadline is April 16, 2021.**

[Find out more.](#)

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## Associate Curator of Education - High Desert Museum

The Associate Curator of Education is responsible for the design, implementation and assessment of a variety of in person and virtual social studies-focused educational programs for PreK-16 students and educators.

[Find out more.](#)

# Grants

## Challenge America grants

[Challenge America](#) offers support primarily to small organizations for projects in all artistic disciplines that extend the reach of the arts to populations that are underserved. Challenge America features an abbreviated application, a robust structure of technical assistance, and grants for a set amount of \$10,000. **Deadline is April 22, 2021.**

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## Tribal Heritage Grants

The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 authorizes [Tribal Heritage grants](#) to Federally recognized Indian tribes for cultural and historic preservation projects. **Deadline is May 5, 2021.**

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## State Historic Preservation Office grants

[Preserving Oregon](#) grants fund preservation of historic properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places. **Letter of Intent deadline is April 14, 2021.**

[Diamonds in the Rough](#) grants help restore or reconstruct the facades of buildings that have been heavily altered over the years. **Deadline is May 14, 2021.**

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## Oregon Heritage Museum Grant

The [Oregon Museum Grant](#) supports Oregon public and nonprofit museums in projects for the collection and management of heritage collections, for heritage-related tourism, and heritage education and interpretations. **Deadline is May 5, 2021.**

\*\*Check out the [Oregon Heritage grants website](#) for assistance preparing grants, including free online workshops.

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