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May 2023 newsletter

OMA Events

OMA 2023 Annual Conference

September 10-12, 2023, Bend, OR



Now accepting session proposals

The Oregon Museums Association seeks proposals for sessions and activities for our [2023 Annual Conference](#) to be held in Bend this September! All session ideas will be considered and all are encouraged to apply.

[See details for proposal submission.](#)

Conference theme: *Bending the Rules*

The world has felt topsy-turvy for a while now, but in the museum field we are used to imagining beyond the expected. We embrace utilizing our resources, working with partners, and coming up with creative ways to overcome hurdles. Join OMA in Bend in September to explore ideas, programs and practices that bend the rules.

Deadline: Thursday, June 15, 2023

Questions or need technical assistance? Have an idea and want some feedback? Email connect@oregonmuseums.org. We are here to support you in writing a strong proposal and submitting it successfully.

Sponsor OMA at the conference

Our Annual Conference is an excellent opportunity for Oregon and Pacific Northwest museum professionals to increase their visibility. Sponsoring OMA programs will show your support of regional museums, as well as showcase the variety and excellence of the museum community in our state.

[See the sponsorship flyer.](#)

If you'd like to sponsor OMA at the 2023 conference, please contact us at connect@oregonmuseums.org

Don't miss Meet Up May

Come to our OMA-sponsored in-person meet ups in Corvallis, Independence and Eugene this month to enjoy the company of your museum peers.

The meet ups are free to attend, but **please register in advance**. Registration helps hosts plan for how many people will be there, and your confirmation email gives details such as address, parking, and special surprises.

- [Find out more and register](#)



Photo courtesy Jeremy Bitternmann/JBSA

Corvallis Museum Meet Up

Friday, May 12, 2023, 5 - 7 pm, Corvallis, OR

Meet your colleagues at the [Corvallis Museum](#). Hosted by Terri Thomas and Jessica Hougén, [Benton County Historical Society](#).

[Please register for details.](#)

Eugene Meet Up

Thursday, May 18, 2023, 5:30 - 7:30 pm, Eugene, OR

Meet your colleagues at Oakshire Public House in Eugene (207 Madison St).

Hosted by Peter Kukla, Director of Community Engagement, [Eugene Science Center](#), and OMA Board President.

[Please register for details and drink discounts!](#)

Heritage Museum Meet Up

Wednesday, May 24, 2023, 5 - 7 pm, Independence, OR

Meet your colleagues at [Heritage Museum](#) in Independence, OR. featuring live music and a local winery. Hosted by Natascha Adams, Heritage Museum Director and OMA board member.

Independence is a 15 minute drive from downtown Salem.

[Please register for details.](#)



Museum news

The Bias Inside Us Educator Toolkit available



The Bias Inside Us is a community engagement project from the Smithsonian Institution to raise awareness about the science and history of bias and what people can do to change their own biases and the biases in their communities. It includes a nationally traveling exhibition, an online exhibition, and now an educator's toolkit.

Based in scientific research on bias, the toolkit sparks conversations about the meaning and real-world impacts of implicit bias. The toolkit not only includes 10 beautifully designed posters, but also offers an educator guide that provides additional context around bias, starter questions, links to activities, and articles expanding on the research of bias.

[Get the toolkit.](#)

AASLH creates guide for history organizations and friends groups

History organizations can benefit immensely from partnering with external support entities, commonly referred to as “friends groups.” A friends group is an organized entity that exists to provide assistance to an organization through fundraising, volunteer, and/or advocacy support, relationship building, and other activities. Maintaining a successful partnership, however, requires clear and consistent communication and effort, without which the relationship can become ineffective.

The Standards and Ethics Committee of the American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) put together a guide to support better partnerships with friends groups, whether newly established or long-standing: "History Organizations and Friends Groups: A Practical Guide for Success."

[See the guide.](#)

Gen Z, civic engagement and the semiquincentennial

[Made By Us](#), a coalition using America's 250th to ignite and inform youth civic participation, proposes a new way for history and civics organizations to measure how they are engaging Gen Z. They recommend building more appealing on-ramps to participation and dialing up belonging and civic imagination.

Read the blog posts:

- [Part I: A wake-up call for those who want to reach the nation's future inheritors](#)
- [Part II: How We Can Build Coachella, Not Fyre Festival](#)

Can your collections further public health disease research?



Natural history collections in museums around the world offer a largely untapped resource for predicting future pandemics. Researchers have used museum specimens to study animal diseases. Scientists less often examine museum archives for diseases that affect humans.

Since approximately 70% of emerging human infectious diseases originate in wildlife, examining museum specimens will likely help identify where and when particular pathogens have existed. Ultimately, understanding more about which pathogens are emerging, and where, can help scientists anticipate potential outbreaks and maybe even head them off.

Here are a few articles:

- [Museums preserve clues that can help scientists predict and analyse future pandemics](#)
- [Leprosy-causing bacteria found in armadillo specimens highlight value of museum collections for tracking pathogens](#)
- [Specimen collections should have a much bigger role in infectious disease research and response](#)

Jobs

Association of Children's Museums

- [Training and Resource Development Specialist](#)
-

Puget Sound Maritime

- [Executive Director](#)
-

Yamhill County Historical Society

- [Executive Director](#)
-

Oregon Historical Society

- [Digital Collections Librarian](#)
- [Museum Educator](#)

Grants

National Park Service

[History of Equal Rights \(HER\)](#) grant program **Deadline July 11, 2023.**

National Endowment for the Arts

[Grants for arts.](#) **Deadline July 6, 2023.**

National Endowment for the Humanities

- [Cultural and Community Resilience.](#) **Deadline May 16, 2023.**
- [Digital Projects for the Public.](#) **Deadline June 14, 2023.**
- [Public Humanities Projects.](#) **Deadline August 9, 2023.**
- [Media Projects.](#) **Deadline August 9, 2023.**
- [Public Impact Projects at Smaller Organizations.](#) **Deadline June 28, 2023.**

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