

OMA News

January webinar: Overcoming the barriers to museum fundraising success

Thursday, January 19, 2023, 10 - 11:15 am PST

Join fundraising master trainer, Chad Barger, CFRE, for a presentation focused on actionable solutions to common fundraising problems. Chad will reveal the most common barriers to effective fundraising at the museums that he has worked with and provide tips for overcoming them. Attendees will also be given free access to document samples and templates which will help to fast track the implementation of these solutions. Ample time will be reserved for questions so that attendees can also pick Chad's brain for solutions to their "not so common" fundraising challenges

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

[Register now](#)

Membership survey results

Thank you to the 71 of you who answered our membership survey. It was a great response rate!

Respondents listed diverse roles : director, assistant/deputy director (39%); programs, community outreach (30%); curator (28%); and communications/marketing (27%). And we were reminded that we did not offer a response choice for our non-museum members: businesses, consultants, state organizations, nonprofits, board members and others who do not work in a museum.

When asked why they are members, a majority responded for the professional development opportunities (69%); a sense of belonging to the museum community (69%); and to support OMA and member museums (59%).

Goals prioritizing

1. Community engagement (49%)
2. Capital projects (34%)
3. Operating support (31%), DEAI (30%), digitization (28%), and program development (28%)

Like to see OMA's help

- Help with connecting volunteers and interns with museums
- Offering ways to support collaboration
- Sharing grant opportunities
- Data on post-COVID-19 changes to how people access our institutions
- Highlighting examples of successful exhibitions, collaborations, etc (and cost breakdown for planning)

What OMA does well and where can we improve

- Communication and networking are good
- Good variety of content and professional development
- Conference is a fan favorite
- More regional workshops

Thanks again for all the great feedback!

Listening session for outside museum members and non-members

Monday, January 9, 2023, 4-5 pm PST



In response to your feedback on the survey and conversations at the WMA Annual Meeting, we are inviting people who work in and support the museum community to a virtual listening session. This is for businesses, consultants, state organizations, non-profits and all other OMA members and non-members who do not work in a museum directly.

We will be listening to see how OMA can better support your needs, and hear suggestions about events and programs you'd like to see. This session is free to attend, but you must register to receive login details.

Hosted by Amanda Coven, Membership Chair.

[Register now](#)

Museum News

Guide to interpreting transgender stories in museums

The American Alliance of Museums has recognized that reflecting the diversity of our cultural heritage is a critical part of museum work. Part of that diversity includes transgender and gender-nonconforming people, who represent a growing number of museum visitors, employees, and stakeholders. These constituents deserve dignified and respectful representation of their lives and communities in museums and cultural institutions. Yet museum professionals may have difficulty confidently representing them in museum exhibitions and programs due to the rapid evolution of language, the marginalization of transgender identities throughout history, and the politicization of transgender identity in the twenty-first century.

This guide is designed to recognize and address these challenges. It is intended to support museums, libraries, archives, and other cultural heritage institutions in recognizing queer and transgender possibilities within their collections, advocating for these possibilities within their institutions, and forming meaningful relationships with their local queer and transgender communities.

[Read and download "Interpreting Transgender Stories in Museums and Cultural Heritage Institutions."](#)

Creating accessible toilets in museums



World Toilet Day (November 19) may have passed, but there's always time to celebrate good practice and raise awareness about the lack of access to adequate sanitation facilities worldwide.

The UK disabled access charity Euan's Guide has created a series of resources that museums and galleries can use to ensure their toilet facilities are safe and welcoming for disabled visitors. They have put together a checklist that venues can use to ensure their accessible toilets are clearly signposted, uncluttered and safe for disabled visitors.

- **Where's The Loo?** Make sure people know you have an accessible toilet through your website and social media and with clear signage.
- **Cut The Clutter** Accessible toilets should have plenty of space – keep it clear so disabled people can move around easily and without stress.
- **Test And Tell** Does the alarm in your disabled toilet work? If someone does raise the alarm, do your staff know what to do?

[See the guide.](#)

Free admission to museums does not result in more diverse audiences

[Know your Own Bone](#) recently updated their research on demographics for visiting free vs paid museums in the US. Compared to museums with a paid admission basis, free museums generally do not have higher onsite satisfaction, more willing endorsers, nor are they perceived as more welcoming. Some findings:

- Free admission museums did not generally welcome lower income, younger, or more racially diverse visitors when compared to paid admission organizations.
- Beyond demographics, people have greater intentions to visit paid admission museums.
- Cultural organizations are generally believed to be worthy of their price points.
- People find free museums to be less satisfying.
- Many free organizations get the same people to come back more often.

"Being welcoming doesn't happen by offering a straightforward one-off program or offering free admission (though it may not hurt, depending on the organization). Being welcoming involves weaving values of diversity, equity, and inclusion into the entire fabric of the experience and organizational culture – and celebrating thoughtful, targeted access programs that actually work.

"Although it may be uncomfortable to hear, free admission is still not a panacea for welcoming new audiences."

[Read the research report.](#)

Oregon News

New report: Oregon's heritage organizations and tradition events have an impact on state economy

The Oregon Heritage Commission released the "[Economic Impacts and Value of Oregon's Heritage Organizations and Events](#)" report that speaks to the impact that heritage organizations and Heritage Tradition events have on Oregon's economy. Key takeaways of the report include:

- **Heritage organizations support economic activity throughout Oregon.** Heritage organizations supported \$196.3 million in total economic activity through labor income and business support through purchases of local goods and services and employee spending.
- **Heritage activities support tourism.** Heritage organizations and Heritage Tradition Events drew 3 million visitors during the year. All nine regions drew at least 50,000 visitors (to organizations and events), and six drew more than 175,000 each.
- **Heritage tourism is an important contributor for local economic development.** Heritage tourism supported a total of 1,325 jobs and \$55 million in labor income resulting in \$147 million in total economic activity in Oregon.
- **Heritage activities are valuable community assets.** Heritage organizations and events have social and cultural capital that make them invaluable to their communities.

[Read the report.](#)

Pacific Northwest site for digital resources

[Northwest Digital Heritage](#) now provides a local site to the Digital Public Library of America search portal with more than 500,000 resources digitized by 150+ institutions in Oregon, Washington, and Idaho. Discover electronic documents, photos, maps, oral histories, and more, and narrow search results across a variety of categories, including copyright status. The site also highlights specific topics in Northwest history and culture, from tribal fishing rights to the Vanport flood.

[Search the site.](#)

Connect with other nonprofit leaders in your area

The Nonprofit Association of Oregon (NAO) sponsors [regional networks](#) in Bend, Corvallis, Medford, Portland or Springfield. They are designed for nonprofit leaders, staff, board members, and volunteers, and are open to any nonprofit leader who wants to learn more about best practices while advancing their skills in nonprofit management, financial accountability, equity and inclusion.

- Bend: [Nonprofit Network of Central Oregon \(NNCO\)](#)
- Corvallis: [Mid-Valley Nonprofit Network \(MVNN\)](#)
- Portland Metro: NAO's Portland Metro series will be held virtually via Zoom until Spring 2023. Anyone from across the state may now virtually participate in sessions from any of our three networks below:
 - [Equity and Inclusions Leaders Network \(EILN\)](#)
 - [Nonprofit Fiscal Managers Network \(NFMA\)](#)
 - [Nonprofit Leaders Network \(NLN\)](#)
- Medford: [Rogue Valley Nonprofit Network \(RVNN\)](#)
- Springfield: [Lane County Nonprofit Network \(LCNN\)](#)

Jobs

Reed College

- [Digital Archives Specialist](#)
-

Benton County Historical Society

- [Curator of Education](#)
-

ScienceWorks Hands-On Museum

- [Museum Director](#)
-

Japanese American Museum of Oregon

- [Executive Director](#)
-

Portland Art Museum

- [Associate Registrar for Collections](#)
-

Eugene Science Center

- [Education Director](#)
- [Planetarium Manager](#)

Grants

Oregon State Capitol History Gateway

Funding to help cultural and heritage museums produce an exhibit for display at the Oregon State Capitol. **Deadline Jan 31, 2023.**

National Endowment for the Arts - American Tapestry

- [Cultural and Community Resilience Program](#)- to mitigate the impact of climate change and the COVID-19 pandemic (**Deadline Jan 12, 2023**)
- [Climate Smart Humanities Organizations](#) - to develop strategic climate action plans (**Deadline Jan 17, 2023**)
- [Dangers & Opportunities of Technology: Perspectives from the Humanities](#) - research that examines the relationship between technology and society (**Deadline Feb 2, 2023**)

National Park Service

[Save America's Treasures](#) (SAT) grant program for restoration projects and collections. **Deadline December 20, 2022.**

National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)

- [Public Humanities Projects](#)
- [Preservation Assistance Grants for Smaller Institutions](#)
- [Sustaining Cultural Heritage Collections](#)

Deadline January 11, 2023.

Join OMA

Donate

Renew

Copyright © 2021 Oregon Museums Association, All rights reserved.

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

[Unsubscribe](#)