



2023 Annual Conference

SEPTEMBER 10-12, 2023
BEND, OR

Bending the Rules





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General Information

CONFERENCE AND EVENT LOCATIONS

- The main conference will take place at Open Space Event Studios, 220 NE Lafayette Avenue, Bend.
- Sunday: Registration, walking tours, and pre-conference workshop at Deschutes Historical Museum, 129 NW Idaho Avenue, Bend.
- Sunday evening: Meet up and no-host dinner at Worthy Brewing, 495 NE Bellevue Drive, Bend.
- Monday evening: Reception with hosted bar and no-host cafe food at the High Desert Museum, 59800 US-97, 7 miles south of downtown Bend. We recommend carpooling.
- Tuesday afternoon: Post-conference no-host lunch at Midtown Yacht Club food cart pod, 1661 NE 4th St.

PARKING

Open Space has limited on-site and street parking. We recommend walking from the hotel (3 blocks) or carpooling with other attendees.

SILENT AUCTION

Your generous donations to the annual silent auction provide funding for the OMA conference scholarship program. The auction will open at 8:00 AM on Monday at Open Space, and closes at 9:45 AM on Tuesday. Payments including cash, check, and credit card will be accepted at the close of the auction. Plan to bid high and often!

THANKS TO OUR SILENT AUCTION DONORS

Adventure! Children's Museum ♦ Alice Parman ♦ Blick Art Materials
Columbia River Maritime Museum ♦ Coos History Museum
Eugene Science Center ♦ Gaylord Archival ♦ Independence Hotel
McMenamins ♦ Natascha Adams ♦ Oregon Shakespeare Festival
Pendleton Round Up ♦ Portland Japanese Garden ♦ Portland Spirit
Portland Winterhawks ♦ Wicked History Greeting Cards ♦ Wildlife Safari

OMA MEMBERSHIP

OMA Members make OMA what it is. Benefits include a reduced rate at the annual conference and webinars, inclusion in the museum, business or member database featured on our website, learning and networking opportunities, and the satisfaction of knowing that you are contributing to empowering Oregon's museums to thrive.

Sunday, September 10

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP: BENDING THE RULES FOR GREATER ACCOMMODATION

2:00 - 4:00 PM

Deschutes Historical Museum, 129 NW Idaho Ave, Bend

Pre-registration required. Museums and museum professionals cannot plan the way it has been done previously. To accommodate all patrons requires bending the rules that have long been followed. Join us for active, collaborative learning focused on a creative new approach and justifications for why planning and facilitation must start and finish with accessibility and inclusion. Takeaways include information and tips about where to pull research, budget possibilities, and how to justify your pitch, especially when it comes to funding.

PRESENTER: **Katy Menne**, Founder of Learner Centered Strategies, Education Director at Columbia River Maritime Museum



WALKING TOUR OF DOWNTOWN BEND

3:00 - 4:00 PM

Deschutes Historical Museum

Pre-registration required. Both tours led by docents from the Deschutes Historical Museum. Pick up in front of the museum.

- **“Early Days of Bend”** The tour highlights the stories of six historic “Bend-ites”: a rancher, school teacher, newspaper editor, conservationist, executive, and small businessman and his daughter.
- **“Reflections of History: An Architectural Tour”** Stroll through the Drake Park Neighborhood Historic District and take a step back in time when walking was the thing to do and neighborhoods were all about proximity.

Sunday, September 10

REGISTRATION

3:00 - 6:00 PM

Deschutes Historical Museum

MEET UP AND NO-HOST DINNER

5:00 - 8:00 PM

Worthy Brewing, 495 NE Bellevue Drive, Bend

Monday, September 11

MORNING WALK

7:00 – 8:00 AM

Meet in front of Commons Cafe, downtown Bend.

REGISTRATION, BREAKFAST, NETWORKING, SILENT AUCTION

8:00 – 9:00 AM

Open Space Event Studios

Enjoy coffee, tea, and breakfast while exploring the Silent Auction and meeting with colleagues. Registration open all day.

WELCOME, CONFERENCE UPDATES

9:00 – 9:15 AM

PERFORMANCE

9:15 – 9:30 AM

Elizabeth Woody

Poet and visual artist Elizabeth Woody will perform a reading of her poetry. Woody was named Oregon Poet Laureate in 2016, the first Native American appointed to the position. Her roots are in the Deschutes and the Columbia River basins, and her heritage of ecological and tribal values inspires her to write poetry and prose about the relationships between place and culture. Woody is the Executive Director of the Museum at Warm Springs.

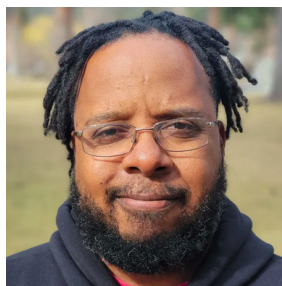


Monday, September 11

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

9:30 – 10:15 AM

Kenny Adams



Kenny Adams is the Executive Director at The Father's Group, a Black-led non-profit organization in Bend, OR. Programs include the Ujima Youth Program, an initiative aimed at providing zero-barrier access to STEM, history, and recreational activities taught through an Afro-Centric lens; and the Bridge Program aimed to support individuals in the parole and probation system, assisting them in transitioning to a better future.

Kenny spearheaded "A Night out With The Father's Group," a film series that facilitated open discussions on challenging topics, offering honest and clear answers to the community. His contributions extended to the design, creative direction, and assisting with logistical management of the Juneteenth Central Oregon Celebration, highlighting his commitment to Black cultural awareness and commemoration of the ending of Slavery.

Beyond his community endeavors, Kenny found another voice as a documentarian. His impactful documentary, "Blend: On Being Black in Bend" featured insightful interviews with ten Black Central Oregonians, shedding light on their lived experiences in the area and fostering dialogue and understanding that there is still much work to be done.

BREAK

10:15 – 10:30 AM

Monday, September 11

CONVERSATIONS WITH FUNDERS

10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Join this roundtable of state, local, and private funders to learn about and discuss funding opportunities in Oregon. Participants will learn about different grants and programs in Oregon, and how to access these funding opportunities for cultural organizations.

PRESENTERS

Aili Schreiner
Oregon Cultural Trust

Liora Sponko
Oregon Arts Commission

Dawn Smallman
Oregon Humanities

Katie Henry
Oregon Heritage

HOSTED ON-SITE LUNCH

12:00 – 12:45 PM

Concurrent Sessions 12:45 – 2:00 PM

SESSION 1A – HIGHWAYS THROUGH TIME

Studio 3

No, really...a highway is being built right through the middle of a historic Deschutes County homestead. ODOT's "Bend-North Corridor" project to realign and improve an over-congested portion of Highway 97 through Bend required finding a new home for the historic Nels Anderson house. In addition to having the home relocated, part of ODOT's "mitigation plan" is partnering with the Deschutes County Museum to develop an exhibit featuring the story of Nels and Lillian Anderson and several other homesteading families in the area. For the historical society, presenting that story enables a conversation about the success and failures of early 20th century homesteading and irrigation in Deschutes County as a once thriving dairy lies forgotten under a highway.

PRESENTERS **Rebekah Averette and Kelly Cannon-Miller**
Deschutes County Museum

Larissa Rudnicki
Oregon Department of Transportation

Monday, September 11

SESSION 1B – CATALYZE YOUR COMMUNITY THROUGH ARTS AND CULTURE

Studio 1

A Creative & Cultural District is a mixed-use area in a community where there is a high concentration of arts and cultural facilities and events. The district reflects the community's unique cultural heritage, showcases the region's arts and culture, increases social engagement, and positions the community as a cultural tourism destination. In this interactive session, participants will explore the impact of arts and culture on local economies throughout Oregon and what communities are currently doing to build arts and culture into the core of their identities. You'll learn how to create an inspiring vision for your community and how to build an inclusive coalition to champion this work locally.

PRESENTER **Liora Sponko**
Oregon Arts Commission

BREAK

2:00 – 2:15 PM

Concurrent Sessions 2:15 – 3:30 PM

SESSION 2A WELCOMING DIVERSE PRESENTERS

Studio 3

Diversifying public programs is as complex as the diverse communities we seek to reach. From remote outreach and onsite welcome to the administrative process, institutions and cultural experts face communications challenges and differing values that can make or break the experience. Culture keepers of various backgrounds will share their experiences delivering public programs, followed by a Q&A.

PRESENTERS **Emily Hartlerode-West**
Oregon Folklife Network
Brigitte McConville
Warm Springs
Antonio Huerta
Comunidad y Herencia Cultural

Monday, September 11

SESSION 2B FINDING AIDS FIRST: ORGANIZING COLLECTIONS AS A FIRST STEP TOWARDS INCREASING ACCESS

Studio 1

Collection level finding aids can be a useful tool for museums. A finding aid broadly describes a collection and helps to physically organize materials, is useful in planning exhibits and grant proposals, and can serve as the first step in larger projects. Most importantly, a finding aid can be an easy and quick way to make content publicly available. The presenters will describe the value of collection finding aids, demonstrate how they are put together, and explore Oregon Heritage resources that can help with project planning and implementation. During this participatory session attendees will develop a template finding aid for their museum.

PRESENTERS **Maureen Battistella**
Southern Oregon University
Dorothy Cotton
Phoenix Historical Society and Museum
Eva Guggemos
Pacific University
Cam Amabile
Oregon Heritage

Concurrent Sessions 3:45 – 5:00 PM

SESSION 3A CONFRONTING A PROBLEMATIC LEGACY: RE-IMAGINING THE BUSH HOUSE MUSEUM

Studio 3

As caretakers of the Bush House Museum (BHM), the Salem Art Association (SAA) has the responsibility to look closely at the historical record and, when evidence of oppression or racism comes to light, to openly acknowledge wrongdoings. Matthew Boulay and Tammy Jo Wilson have initiated an effort to clearly and unequivocally condemn Asahel Bush's racist words and actions. Yet, simply condemning past racism is not enough. SAA believes in the power of art to not only educate and entertain, but also to interrogate, stimulate, and challenge. The SAA/BHM team is re-imagining exhibitions and programming by placing contemporary art in a historical setting. Boulay and Wilson will share some of the history surrounding Asahel Bush and describe current efforts to expand the curatorial vision of this extraordinary house museum.

PRESENTERS **Matthew Boulay and Tammy Jo Wilson**
Salem Art Association and Bush House Museum



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Monday, September 11

SESSION 3B PRIORITIZING NEW AUDIENCES: UTILIZING COLLECTIONS IN SENIOR ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS

Studio 1

This presentation and interactive session will address the Columbia River Maritime Museum's journey with its Senior Enrichment Programs as the museum works to reach audiences that cannot physically visit our facility. We'll share how we utilize artifacts from the museum's collection that aren't normally on display, and describe our experience sharing memories—and making memories—with this previously underserved audience. The audience will participate by sharing resources and brainstorming ideas and ways to connect with their own communities.

PRESENTERS Julia Triezenberg and Meg Glazier-Anderson
Columbia River Maritime Museum

Monday evening reception 5:30 – 7:30 PM

A NIGHT(CAP) AT THE MUSEUM

High Desert Museum
59800 US 97, Bend

Get ready to 'top' off the conference with a 'cap'tivating twist! Join us for a night of whimsy and wonder at the High Desert Museum, located seven miles south of downtown Bend.

Wear your silliest or most stylish hat and explore the exhibits after hours. Enjoy hosted wine, beer and drinks. Eat at the Rimrock Café with daily specials inspired by their exhibits. Carpooling recommended. Don't miss this unforgettable experience!



Tuesday, September 12

MORNING WALK

7:00 – 8:00 AM

Meet at Pilot Butte, parking lot on NE Linnea Dr.

REGISTRATION, BREAKFAST, SILENT AUCTION, POSTER VIEWING

7:30 – 8:30 AM

Open Space Event Studios

OMA NEWS AND UPDATES

8:30 – 9:30 AM

Annual members meeting, all conference attendees welcome. Learn what OMA has been up to and hear updates about membership, finances and more. Network with OMA members. Find out how to get involved.

BREAK, POSTER VIEWING, SILENT AUCTION ENDS AT 9:45

9:30 – 10:00 AM

Pay for and pick up winning bids

Poster Session 7:30 – 11:30 AM

POSTER: THE SCHOLASTIC ART & WRITING AWARDS

The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards is a national program that started over 90 years ago. It offers fabulous opportunities to students who are serious about pursuing art and writing, and is open to students throughout Oregon. Museums hold a unique position in being able to reach students and support opportunities for them. Come learn about the awards program and opportunities to host it in regions throughout the state.

PRESENTER: : Jessica Hougen, Benton County Historical Society

POSTER: ENGAGING STUDENTS AT LINFIELD ANTHROPOLOGY MUSEUM

The Linfield Anthropology Museum in McMinnville bends the rules as a unique, student-led institution—the only museum of its kind in Oregon. This poster presentation will discuss the benefits of opening up small museum collections for research with an emphasis on undergraduate opportunities. Research conducted by a current student on rare artifacts from Cameroon will be discussed as an example of how discoveries are being made by having the museum operate in the uncommon way that it does.

PRESENTER: : Ian Thomson, Student, Linfield University

Tuesday, September 12

Concurrent Sessions 10:00 – 11:15 AM

SESSION 4A COLLECTIONS MANAGEMENT FOR ROGUES: SOMETIMES THE WRONG WAY IS THE ONLY WAY

Studio 3

Collections care is a highly specialized field requiring education and a generous budget to do correctly. So where does that leave smaller museums with a large backlog and no professional staff? The presenters are collections workers who have fudged the rules, cut corners, and still gotten the job done. We begin with the premise that half- or quarter-measures are better than no measures at all. At the end, we will troubleshoot attendees' collections conundrums.

PRESENTERS **Silvie Andrews**
Gresham Historical Society

Kathleen Sligar
Oregon Military Museum

Helen Fedchak
Oregon Historical Society

SESSION 4B CLASSROOM VISITS: BRINGING YOUR MUSEUM INTO THE CLASSROOM

Studio 1

Classroom visits can increase accessibility to content and expand museums' engagement with students. This workshop will provide museum professionals with guidance for how to bring your museum's content into classrooms. Topics that will be discussed include the following: school district and teacher outreach; communication with classroom teachers; curriculum development; and staff training and recruitment. Attendees will be given materials to review and discuss, case studies of different classrooms to determine how to effectively develop programming, and an opportunity to ask questions.

PRESENTER **Andrew Duden**
Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education

BREAK, POSTER VIEWING

11:15 – 11:30 AM

Pay for and pick up Silent Auction items.

Tuesday, September 12

Concurrent Sessions 11:30 AM – 12:45 PM

SESSION 5A IN OVER OUR HEADS: BUILDING INTERACTIVES ON A BUDGET FOR SMALL MUSEUMS

Studio 3

Creating exhibits is hard. Creating them from scratch on a limited budget is even harder. Learn from three different perspectives how to create exhibits on a budget. The Albany Regional Museum redesigned their entire exhibition space, from concept designs to interactives and more. As they talk through their DIY trials and errors, learn how you can build interactives like talking picture frames, turning text panels, and sliding magnifiers. Gritt will demonstrate in a step-by-step process how to effectively and sustainably create budget-friendly rotating “from the vault” exhibits utilizing frontline staff and volunteers. The Independence Heritage Museum moved locations and reopened in April 2022. Within six months, the museum’s 5,000 sq. ft. exhibit space was conceptualized, designed, and built on a \$15,000 budget with only two staff members and a handful of volunteers. Experience exhibit interactives, receive a hands-on lesson on how to build a free-standing wall and other exhibit props, and learn how to best incorporate nontraditional staff in creating exhibits.

PRESENTERS Amy Bozorth and Clara Scillian Kennedy

Albany Regional Museum

Jennifer Gritt

Historian/Independent Museum Professional

Natascha Adams

Independence Heritage Museum

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- Oregon Heritage Grants
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- Northwest Digital Heritage for digitization and collections access
- Tools for sharing the value of heritage

Save the date:

2024 Oregon Heritage Conference &
Heritage Excellence Awards, April 17-19, Forest Grove
(award applications open in the fall)

Tuesday, September 12

Concurrent Sessions 11:30 AM – 12:45 PM

SESSION 5B RELATIONSHIP BUILDING: COLLECTING CULTURAL MEMORY AT EugPRIDE! 2023

Studio 1

Lane County History Museum and Springfield History Museum discuss strategies for museums in striving to be actively relevant, responsive, and valuable community resources, with the goal of creating collections that better reflect and involve our communities. In this session they will share their efforts to collect photographs and stories of the LGBTQ+ community in Lane County, as part of a four-organization collaboration.

PRESENTERS **Allison Fischer-Olson and Jennifer Yeh**
Lane County History Museum
Madeline McGraw and Mindy Linder
Springfield History Museum

CLOSING
12:45 – 1:00 PM

NO-HOST LUNCH
1:00 – 2:30 PM
Midtown Yacht Club, Bend

Not ready for the conference to end? Have lunch with colleagues at this food cart pod in downtown Bend.



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Schedule At A Glance

All events at Open Space Studios in Bend unless otherwise noted.

Sunday, September 10

2:00 – 4:00 PM	Pre-conference workshop (Deschutes Historical Museum)
3:00 – 4:00 PM	Walking tour of downtown Bend (Deschutes Historical Museum)
3:00 – 6:00 PM	Registration (Deschutes Historical Museum)
5:00 – 8:00 PM	Meet up and no-host dinner (Worthy Brewing)

Monday, September 11

7:00 – 8:00 AM	Morning walk (Commons Cafe, downtown Bend)
8:00 – 9:00 AM	Registration, breakfast, Silent Auction (Open Space Studios)
9:00 – 9:15 AM	Welcome
9:15 – 9:30 AM	Performance - Elizabeth Woody
9:30 – 10:15 AM	Keynote address - Kenny Adams
10:15 – 10:30 AM	Break
10:30 – 12:00 PM	Conversations with Funders
12:00 – 12:45 PM	Hosted lunch
12:45 – 2:00 PM	Concurrent sessions 1A and 1B
2:00 – 2:15 PM	Break
2:15 – 3:30 PM	Concurrent sessions 2A and 2B
3:30 – 3:45 PM	Break
3:45 – 5:00 PM	Concurrent sessions 3A and 3B
5:30 – 7:30 PM	Reception: A Night(cap) at the Museum (High Desert Museum)

Tuesday, September 12

7:00 – 8:00 AM	Morning walk (Pilot Butte)
7:30 – 8:30 AM	Registration, breakfast, Silent Auction (Open Space Studios)
7:30 – 11:30 AM	Poster session
8:30 – 9:30 AM	OMA news and updates
9:30 – 10:00 AM	Break. Silent Auction closes at 9:45 AM
10:00 – 11:15 AM	Concurrent sessions 4A and 4B
11:15 – 11:30 AM	Break
11:30 AM – 12:45 PM	Concurrent sessions 5A and 5B
1:00 – 2:30 PM	No-host networking lunch (Midtown Yacht Club)