



## April 2020 newsletter

### News

#### Preserving African American History

Of the more than ninety-five thousand entries on the National Register of Historic Places—the list of sites deemed worthy of preservation by the federal government—only two percent focus on the experiences of black Americans. An article in *The New Yorker* offers an in-depth look at the challenges and importance of preserving black history sites.

[Read the article.](#)

*Oregon specific:* The National register is administered locally by the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office. Oregon Heritage offers [guidance on the process of nominating a site for the National Register.](#)

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#### Reframing disability

Museums have enormous, largely untapped potential to reframe the ways in which people view disability. Museums can shape the ways in which we see the world and communicate our values—influencing and informing the kinds of conversations society has about difference.

Read "[An ethical approach to interpreting disability and difference](#)" from the Research Centre for Museums and Galleries.

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## Become a Blue Star Museum

Registration is open for the Blue Star Museums program, in which cultural institutions offer free admission to active duty military personnel and their families between Armed Forces Day (May 16, 2020) and Labor Day (September 7, 2020).

[Find out more.](#)

## COVID-19 News

### OMA update

Like many of our members, the OMA board has embraced this time of change to grow and invest in new opportunities that support Oregon's cultural non-profits and museum community.

At the national level, we have been attending virtual meetings with partners such as the [American Alliance of Museums](#), [Western Museums Association](#), [Institute for Museum and Library Services](#), and [Coalition of State Museum Associations](#). We have sent our own letter and signed numerous others addressed to our elected officials asking for their support in allocating additional stimulus funding for our nation's museums. On the state level, we have continued to work with our partners [Oregon Heritage](#), [Cultural Advocacy Coalition](#), [Oregon Humanities](#), [Oregon Arts Commission](#), and the [Oregon Cultural Trust](#) to ensure we have the most accurate and up to date news and information to share with our members.

As we continue to keep you engaged through our monthly newsletter, website, on-line member-forum, and social media, we are also looking for new ways to connect and lend our support.

- [Please answer this short survey](#) as we work to better understand the needs our OMA community.

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## Business resources for COVID-19, including CARES Act, PPP loans, and unemployment

The [Nonprofit Association of Oregon](#) has been following COVID-19 news and

advocating on a federal and state level. Their resources page features in-depth analysis and updates on business resources, among many other related topics.

[Read more.](#)

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## New funds for Oregon from the Cultural Trust

The [Oregon Cultural Trust](#) has decided to deploy up to \$10 million of its \$29 million permanent fund for an Emergency Cultural Relief Fund to address the devastating impact the COVID-19 health crisis is having on Oregon's cultural community. This needs to be approved by the Oregon Legislature. Top lawmakers in both parties say they anticipate the Legislature's Emergency Board will meet next week to allocate tens of millions of dollars in emergency funds.

[Find out more.](#)

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*Photo from OHS archive*

## Send a letter to OHS

*From the Oregon Historical Society:* In this period of chaos and turbulence, as we all deal with the reality of the COVID-19 pandemic, we want to make sure to take a moment and make a record for the future. as we are experiencing

something right now that practically no one on earth has experienced before.

So we're asking you: what stories of Oregonians from the past or present are giving you courage? How are you spending your days in this strange new "normal?" What have you learned about yourself, your friends, your family, that is giving you strength amidst chaos?

Share your personal reflection by submitting a letter through an online form or by mailing a handwritten note to the OHS Research Library (1200 SW Park Avenue, Portland, OR 97205).

[Find out more.](#)

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## Reporting and tracking COVID-19-related hate crimes

It is important to combat and document any coronavirus-related discrimination. If you or a member of your community experience or witness a hate crime, please report it. Several groups in Oregon are tracking hate crimes and working with communities to make changes.

- [Oregon Department of Justice](#) hate and bias crimes. 1-888-924-BIAS (2427)
- [Portland United Against Hate](#)
- Asian Americans Advancing Justice, [Stand Against Hatred](#)

## Training

### AASLH webinar: How to Build Your Own Successful Traveling Trunk Program

May 19, 2020

Part of the role of museum educators is to connect historic resources with teachers so that they can better engage the curriculum. One of the best ways to do that is by producing a traveling trunk program. While the world has gone digital over the last decade, there remains value, even opportunity, in the tactile learning experience. This webinar will discuss step by step, how to create a traveling trunk program from the ground up.

[Learn more and register.](#)

## Jobs

### Part-time Visitor Services and Operations Associate - Portland Chinatown Museum

The Visitor Services and Operations Associate will support the Museum's daily operations and visitor experience. This position will be a critical public-facing member of the Museum's small staff, and will be supported by other staff, Board Members, Advisors, and volunteers making up the Museum team.

[Find out more.](#)

[Find more jobs on the OMA website!](#)

## Grants

### Oregon Heritage grants

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

[Historic Cemeteries Grant](#) is for historic cemetery projects. **Deadline is April 30, 2020.**

[Oregon Museum Grant](#) is for collections, tourism and interpretation. **Deadline is April 30, 2020.**

[Preserving Oregon Grant](#) is for archaeology and preservation of National Register listed properties. **Deadline is May 14, 2020.**

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