



## July 2021 newsletter

### OMA-WaMA Joint Virtual Conference 2021

**Keynote speakers announced for the OMA-WaMA Joint Virtual Conference 2021**



Jackie Peterson



Aletheia Wittman

Keynote speakers [Jackie Peterson](#) and [Aletheia Wittman](#) will lead an interactive discussion. Last year, a collective of museum workers came together to address specific challenges facing museums and cultural organizations in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic and calls for social justice following the murder of George Floyd. The group, made up of representatives from seven unique museum equity-centered projects, pooled their strengths and resources together in a collective effort to build a field-wide dialogue, which culminated in a virtual event titled "Collective Liberation."

Jackie and Aletheia are Pacific Northwest-based cultural heritage workers who joined this nationwide coalition to push the conversation in the field to focus on collective liberation. Conference attendees are encouraged to join the conversation to discuss how coalition organizing can help us manifest the change we wish to see in the field.

This interactive keynote presentation will take place on Tuesday morning, September 14, 2021.

- [Jackie Peterson](#) (she/her) is an independent museum consultant with a focus on exhibit development, curation, and writing for history museums, historic sites, and other cultural institutions. With over a decade of exhibits experience, she has worked nationally with museums, communities, and stakeholders to uncover and illuminate meaningful stories and create authentic, truthful, and enlightening exhibitions.
- [Aletheia Wittman](#) (she/her) is an independent consultant helping cultural heritage organizations navigate inclusive transformation and use lessons from their institutional genealogies to take action. She co founded [The Inluseum](#) in 2012 and currently acts as co-director.

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## Early bird registration for the conference is open

Early bird registration is open **through July 31, 2021.**

- OMA members: \$35
- Non members: \$40

[Register now](#)

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## Sponsor the conference

[Sponsoring OMA-WaMA](#) will show your support of museums, as well as showcase the variety and excellence of the museum community in Oregon and Washington. Sponsor benefits depend on the level and include logo on conference materials and OMA and WaMA websites, ad in program, video spotlight, free registration, and OMA/WaMA business membership.

- Level 1 Rainer: \$2500
- Level 2 Hood: \$1000
- Level 3 Jefferson: \$500
- Level 4 St Helens: \$250

[See the sponsorship flyer.](#)

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## Apply for a scholarship

OMA is offering a limited number of scholarships for no-cost registration to the OMA-WaMA Joint Virtual Conference 2021. To apply, [fill out the brief online application form](#) **by July 31, 2021.**

## OMA Events

### OMA July Meet Up on reopening

**Friday, July 23, 12 - 1 pm PST**

Join OMA and your colleagues across the state for an informal meet up this July. We can update each other on how we are doing and how reopening is (or isn't) working.

Hosted by Katie Williams, OMA board secretary, and Katie Henry, Oregon Heritage.

This meet up is free to attend, but you must register to receive log in details.

[Register now](#)

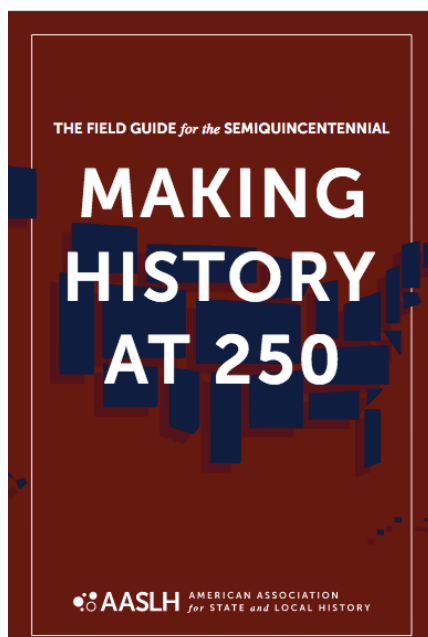
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### Seeking members for OMA Board of Directors

Would you like to contribute to a vibrant, connected museum community in Oregon? We invite current OMA members to apply for membership on the board of directors. Board members help run OMA programs and serve on at least one committee, with a time commitment of 3-6 hours a month.

- [Read the board member description.](#)
- [Fill out the volunteer application.](#)

## Museum news



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## Preparing for the US Semiquincentennial

The US will commemorate its 250th (Semiquincentennial) anniversary in 2026. The American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) created [Making History at 250: A Field Guide for the Semiquincentennial](#) to help the history community prepare for 2026.

The Semiquincentennial offers an opportunity for museums not only to transform *what* they share with their audiences, but to reinvent *how* they serve their local communities, repositioning themselves as a vital civic resource. Museums can serve as critically important forums, helping visitors and community members hone their ability to listen with empathy, discuss ideas with humility, engage in difficult conversations, and strengthen the other civic skills required to collectively solve societal challenges. Although many museums have invested time and resources in community engagement over the past decade, the Semiquincentennial presents a chance for more transformational change across our field.

AASLH has multiple resources for planning and guiding history organizations. [Find out more.](#)

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## Invite Congress to visit your museum

August 9-13, 2021, American Alliance of Museums (AAM)



[Inviting local, state, and federal elected officials and their staff members into your museum](#) is a powerful way to show them the unique work museums do – from world-class exhibitions to working with local students and community members on critical life skills. As the world adjusts to new realities and ways of doing business caused by COVID-19, federal, state, and local legislators are eager to connect with the constituents and communities they represent across all available platforms and venues.

Whether your museum is open or preparing to safely re-open, and as elected officials begin to resume in-person events and meetings with constituents, AAM encourages museums to take advantage of impactful in-person, virtual, or telephone opportunities to connect with legislators. With the 117th Congress underway, it is critical that museum advocates continue to make the case for federal, state and local support for museums to legislators.

[Find out more.](#)

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## Applications open for Oregon Heritage MentorCorps assistance

The [MentorCorps](#) is a trained group of volunteers with professional experience in collections care, emergency management, and non-profit management. Its members are ready to help your organization get the guidance, training, and tools it needs to get the job done.

Those requesting free mentor assistance will be matched with a mentor based on factors such as geography and skills and abilities. Mentors are assigned to organizations for a period of nine months and assistance may be in person, virtual, or by phone depending on distance and type of projects.

- If you have questions there will be a MentorCorps Q&A on July 15, 12pm-1pm. [Register here.](#)

[Find out more about MentorCorps and submit an application.](#)

## Jobs

### Historic Preservation Consultant - City of La Grande

The City of La Grande is seeking to hire an outside consultant to assist in improving and rewriting the City's Downtown Historic District Standards and to facilitate a strong public engagement process. **Deadline is July 23, 2021.**

[Find out more.](#)

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### Curators - High Desert Museum

The High Desert Museum is seeking a [Curator of Education and Engagement](#) and a [Curator of Natural History](#).

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### Portland Art Museum

The Portland Art Museum is seeking an [Assistant to the Director of Development](#) and a [Head of Engagement and Operations](#).

# Grants

## US Department of Agriculture (USDA)

The USDA's [Rural Placemaking Innovation Challenge](#) provides planning support, technical assistance and training to foster placemaking activities in rural communities. **Application deadline is July 26, 2021.**

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## National Endowment for the Arts (NEA)

[Our Town](#) is the NEA's creative placemaking grants program. These grants support projects that integrate arts, culture, and design activities into efforts that strengthen communities by advancing local economic, physical, and/or social outcomes. **Application deadline is August 5, 2021.**

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## Trust Management Services, LLC

[Trust Management Services, LLC](#) actively seeks grant applications for projects in Oregon that emphasize education, community service, arts and culture, youth activities and historical preservation. **Deadline for Southwestern Oregon and Portland Metro is August 15, 2021.**

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## The Kinsman Foundation

[Historic Preservation grants](#) are for the preservation, rehabilitation, restoration and reconstruction of historic buildings, structures and related sites. **Deadline is August 1, 2021.**

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## The Reser Family Foundation

[Arts Grants](#) engage youth through creative visual and performing arts programs and support broad-based community arts programs that increase access and enrich communities. **Deadline is August 1, 2021.**

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## Union Pacific Foundation

[Community Spaces grants](#) are open to museums. **Deadline is July 31, 2021.**

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