

35th Conference on New York State History

Program

**All programs and events are at Marist College unless otherwise noted*

Thursday, June 12

Pre-Conference Workshop #1

9:00am **“Imperiled Promise: Public History and Shared Authority at New York’s NPS Sites”**

**LOCATION: Henry A. Wallace Visitor Center, FDR Presidential Library and Museum, Hyde Park, NY*

Welcome and Opening Remarks: Sarah Olson, Superintendent, Roosevelt-Vanderbilt-Van Buren National Historic Sites

Chair: Patricia West McKay, Martin Van Buren National Historic Site

Panel:

Christine Arato, Chief Historian, NPS Northeast Region

Renee Barnes, National Parks of NY Harbor

Vivien Rose, Women’s Rights National Historical Park

Justin Monetti, Martin Van Buren National Historic Site

Comment: Marla Miller, Department of History, University of Massachusetts—Amherst, and co-author, “Imperiled Promise: The State of History in the National Park Service”

Conference attendees are encouraged to attend this public program, which addresses issues raised in the Organization of American Historians report that critically examines the ways in which the National Park Service presents history to the public. Panelists will focus particular attention on the issue of “shared authority” at New York’s NPS sites. For those who cannot attend in person, a live webcast will be available at:

<http://www.totalwebcasting.com/view/?func=VOFF&id=twclient&date=2014-06-12&seq=1>

Shuttles will be available to take conference attendees from Marist College to and from the Wallace Center. Lunch will be available for purchase at Wallace Center café from 11:00 to noon.

At 1:00 following the Ken Burns film screening (see below) a guided tour of the new FDR Presidential Library exhibit will be led by Curator Herman Eberhardt. Participants will then be returned via the “Roosevelt Ride” to Marist at 1:45 for the 2:00 pm afternoon sessions.

This program is free and open to the public. It is sponsored by the Home of FDR National Historic Site, the FDR Presidential Library & Museum, and the Center for Applied Historical Research.

12:00-1:00 **A Conversation with Ken Burns**

**LOCATION: Henry A. Wallace Visitor Center, FDR Presidential Library and Museum, Hyde Park, NY*

Conference attendees are encouraged to join us as filmmaker Ken Burns talks about his new seven-part documentary, “The Roosevelts: An Intimate History.” The film weaves together the stories of Theodore, Franklin, and Eleanor Roosevelt in a single narrative, and is scheduled for release on PBS in the fall of 2014.

This presentation is free and open to the public. It is sponsored by the FDR Presidential Library & Museum and the Home of FDR National Historic Site

Pre-Conference Workshop #2

9:00am **“Learning Together – Creating Successful Collaborations”** *(separate registration required)*

***LOCATION:** Marist College, Poughkeepsie

Presenters:

Catherine Gilbert, Director, Museum Association of New York
Dana Krueger, Associate Director—Programs, Museum Association of New York
Ashley Hopkins-Benton, Research and Collections Technician, New York State Museum
Jennifer Patton, Assistant Director of Education, The Hudson River Museum

Participants will gain an understanding of successful partnerships and collaborations, and will leave with an understanding of three best practices for successful collaborations. This interactive workshop will feature a discussion of practical tools and checklists, how to plan and manage an effective collaboration, and examples of successful collaborations – the good, the bad, and the lessons learned. Presentations will include handouts and first-hand stories about creating successful collaborations at historic/cultural venues.

This workshop is sponsored by the Museum Association of New York.

1:00pm **Conference Registration opens at Marist College**

2:00-3:30 **Sessions** *(choose 1)*

101 **Hudson River Valley Tourism Roundtable**

Introduction and Welcome: Bradford Kendall, Dutchess County Clerk

Chair: Vinny Tamagna, Hudson River Navigator

Panel:

Mark Castiglione, Hudson River National Heritage Area and Path Through History

William Tatum III, Dutchess County Historian

Mary Kay Vrba, Dutchess County Tourism

This session—a welcome and introduction to the region—offers an overview of federal, state, and county initiatives that have encouraged preservation and interpretation of historical resources and bolstered the regional economy.

This session is sponsored by the Hudson River Valley Institute.

102 **The Social Bases of Support for and Opposition to Women’s Suffrage**

Chair: Judith Wellman, Historical New York Research Associates

Presentations/Panel:

Anne M. Derosie, Women’s Rights National Historical Park

Susan Goodier, Hamilton College

Grey Ostreud, Needham Heights, MA

Karen Pastorello, Tompkins Cortland Community College

Panelists in this session will explore the issues of women’s suffrage by illuminating the intersections between gender and class from the early 19th through the early 20th centuries. Discussion will draw upon recent research on anti-slavery activists, rural women, working class women, and the “antis.”

103 September 11 and the Battle for American Memory

Chair: TBD

Presentations:

Chip Colwell-Chanthaphonh, Denver Museum of Nature and Science

"Erased from the Memory of Time: The Struggle Over the 9/11 Human Remains"

Scott Gabriel Knowles, Drexel University

"Learning from Disaster? September 11 Memory in Words and Stone"

Christina Simko, University of Virginia

"The Ground Zero Trope in American Memory Politics"

Comment: Philip Nobel, author of *16 Acres: Architecture and the Outrageous Struggle for the Future of Ground Zero*

Survivor and family groups, historians and scholars, and ordinary Americans have been contesting the historical memory of 9/11 since 2001. This panel will address the issue over time and from a variety of perspectives, from the earliest days after the disaster, to the construction of the memorial in 2011, to our future memories of this particular past.

This session is sponsored by the New York Council for the Humanities.

3:30-4:00 Break

4:00-5:30 Sessions (choose 1)

201 Fact and Fiction: Writing Historical Narratives

Chair: Michael McGandy, Cornell University Press

Panel:

Jessica DuLong, author of *My River Chronicles: Rediscovering the Work That Built America*

Tom Lewis, Skidmore College, author of *Hudson: A History*

Christine Wade, author of the historical novel, *Seven Locks*

Authors and editors will discuss the skills needed and challenges faced in the production of strong narrative history, memoir, and historical fiction. Panelists will discuss the art of crafting stories, working with gaps in the historical record, and managing the virtues and vices of psychological speculation when developing characters.

This session is sponsored by the Hudson River Valley Institute.

202 The Use of Modern Media in Heritage Tourism

Chair: Gerald R. Smith, President of the Association of Public Historians of New York State

Presentations/Panel:

Brian Frey, Television Broadcast Operations Director, WSKG (PBS)

Julie Casper Roth, Producer, WMHT (PBS)

Daniel Swinton, Director of Production and Content, Mountain Lake PBS

This panel examines the intersection of public television, public history, and heritage tourism through a discussion of upcoming broadcasts on the Path Through History Program in the Southern Tier, Capital Region, and Mountain Lake area. Panelists will discuss the process of designing and shooting programming along with new developments in the public history field.

This session is sponsored by the Association of Public Historians of New York State.

203 From Archives to Airwaves—A Multimedia Celebration of a Champlain Valley Archival Collection

Chair: Jill Breit, Traditional Arts in Upstate New York

Presentations:

Margaret Gibbs, Adirondack History Center Museum/Essex County Historical Association

Dave Ruch, independent musician and performer

Comment: John S. Patterson, Penn State University (emeritus)

Panelists will discuss "Songs to Keep," a far-reaching 2013 collaboration among historical, cultural, educational, and media organizations to publish and celebrate the work of Champlain Valley historian and song collector Marjorie Lansing Porter (1891-1973). Come hear about the workings of the project. And enjoy live performances, too.

6:00-7:30 **Dinner** *(separate registration required)*

7:30pm **Keynote Address**

Libby O'Connell, Chief Historian and Senior VP, the History Channel and A&E Networks

"New York State's Table: Reaching New Audiences in History through Food and Drink"

Friday, June 13

8:30-10:00 Sessions *(choose 1)*

301 Landscape, History, and the Hudson River in the Nineteenth Century

Chair: David Schuyler, Franklin & Marshall College

Panel:

Kerry Dean Carso, SUNY New Paltz

Harvey Flad, Vassar College (emeritus)

Evelyn Trebilcock, Olana State Historic Site

Panelists in this session will discuss the artists, such as Frederic Church and Thomas Cole, and old-world authors such as Sir Walter Scott, that helped to influence the Hudson River School aesthetic, which in turn helped to create a national identity in “the new world.”

This session is sponsored by the Hudson River Valley Institute.

302 Latino Communities and Educational Institutions in the South Bronx

Presentations:

William Casari, Hostos Community College

“Hostos Community College: Its History and Impact on the Surrounding South Bronx Community since 1968”

Yaser Robles, SUNY Oneonta

“The South Bronx in the Early '90s: The Story of South Bronx High School and the High Flying Phoenix”

Immaculada Lara-Bonilla, Hostos Community College

“Latino/a Studies and Higher Education Curriculum”

303 New Horizons in Heritage Tourism: Reports from the Field

Chair: Johanna Porr, Orange County Historian

Presentations:

Nicole Scholet, the Alexander Hamilton Awareness Society

“All Places Hamilton: Connecting New York’s Historic Sites through Programming”

Fred Schrock, Heritage Tourism Consultant

“Case Studies in Historic Tourism and Collaboration”

Sarah L. Tichonuk, Lake Champlain Maritime Museum

“Shipwrecks, History, and Tourism: the New York State Underwater Blueway Trail”

Panelists will provide insights based on their field experience in recruiting, training, and retaining volunteers; networking historic sites for multi-day themed events, and exploring new opportunities and markets for heritage tourism.

10-10:30 Break

10:30-12 Sessions (choose 1)

401 Freedom's Gardener: James F. Brown, Horticulture, and the Hudson Valley in Antebellum America

Chair: Michael Groth, Wells College

Panel:

Myra Young Armstead, Bard College

Elaine Hayes, Mount Gulian Historic Site

Edythe Ann Quinn, Hartwick College

Born a slave in Maryland, James F. Brown became a master horticulturalist in antebellum New York. Panelists will review Myra Young Armstead's groundbreaking study of Brown and the preservation of his work and memory today.

This session is sponsored by the Hudson River Valley Institute.

402 Rumors of Our Demise Are Premature: Native American Persistence in the Hudson Valley

Chair and Comment: James Folts, New York State Archives

Presentations/Panel:

Herberto Dixon (Tutelo-Saponi), SUNY New Paltz (emeritus)

"The Association of Native Americans (ANA) of the Hudson Valley, 1972-2014"

Laurence M. Hauptman, SUNY New Paltz (emeritus)

"Beyond the Cultural Paradigm: Needs and Opportunities for Research and Writing about Native Americans in the New York Metropolitan Area"

Roger Joslyn, New York State Historical Records Advisory Board

"Genealogy and Non-federally Recognized Tribes"

Despite many popular misconceptions, Native American presence in the Hudson Valley continues to this very day. Panelists in this session will address numerous misconceptions about Native American identity and shed light on the largely unknown partnerships that exist among historians, anthropologists, genealogists, and Native American communities and associations.

403 Mormonism and the Empire State

Chair: Alex Baugh, Brigham Young University

Presentations/Panel:

Gerrit Dirkmaat, Joseph Smith Papers Project;

Michael Hubbard MacKay, Brigham Young University

Brent Rogers, Joseph Smith Papers Project

Mormonism's roots run deep within the economic, religious, and cultural history of New York, and its foundation was formed within the "burned over district" during the Second Great Awakening. This panel will analyze Mormonism's New York beginnings and Joseph Smith's interaction with New York scholarly, print, and economic culture in the 1830s.

404 Creating Culinary Connections

Chair: Jennifer Lemak, New York State Museum

Presentations:

Robin Campbell, Excelsior College

On the role that food played in establishing social identity for army wives and their families
Valerie Balint, Associate Curator, The Olana Partnership at Olana State Historic Site
and
Amanda Massie, Assistant Curator, NYS Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation
On new ways to interweave historical research, cooking technique, and demonstration to
create innovative programming and advance scholarship.

12-1:30 Lunch and Luncheon Presentation
Myra MacPherson, Hachette Books, New York

“The Scarlet Sisters: Sex, Suffrage, and Scandal in New York’s Gilded Age”

1:30-3:00 Sessions (choose 1)

501 The Worlds of the Seventeenth-Century Hudson Valley

Chair: Dennis Maika, New Netherland Institute

Panel:

Leslie Choquette, Assumption College
Jaap Jacobs, University of St. Andrews
Paul Otto, George Fox University
L.H. Roper, SUNY New Paltz

Panelists currently engaged in the publication of a book on the seventeenth-century Hudson Valley will consider the region from American Indian, Dutch, English, and French perspectives.
This session is sponsored by the Hudson River Valley Institute.

502 New York Cities and Suburbs: A Look Forward

Roundtable led by Kenneth T. Jackson, Columbia University

Professor Jackson will lead a panel discussion focusing of the past, present, and future of urban and suburban history in New York State.
This session is sponsored by the New York Academy of History.

503 The Internet as Venue for Presenting Research and Collections to an Expanding Audience

Chair: Amanda Massie, Assistant Curator, NYS Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation

Presentations:

Ivy K. Marvel, Brooklyn Public Library
“Brooklyn Newsstand: Historic Local Newspapers Online”
Thomas McCarthy, New York Correction History Society
“Virtual Tour of the Oldest Known NYC Hart Island Potter’s Field Burial Register”
Ethan Sribnick, Institute for Children, Poverty, and Homelessness
“A Digital History of New York City Poverty”

This panel will explore the ways to present research and collections online and what impact it has had on their audiences and respective institutions.

3:00-3:30 Break

3:30-5:00 Sessions (choose 1)

601 The Hudson River Valley in the Era of the American Revolution

Chair: James M. Johnson, Hudson Valley National Heritage Area

Presentations/Panel:

Elizabeth Covart, independent historian

“Memory, Community, Loyalty: Albany, New York during the American Revolution, 1763-1776”

This presentation will examine how most Albanians viewed the Revolution as an event where community safety trumped the need to protest imperial governance.

Thomas S. Wermuth, Marist College

“A Skimmington at Elizabeth Clarke's: Community Order, Popular Violence, and Justice in the Eighteenth Century Hudson Valley Countryside”

Both the British and the Patriots sought control of the Hudson River throughout the American Revolution, but besides their battles, what was going on here? Panelists in this session will explore the social and economic dynamics that played out in the region before and during the war as well as the civilian experience of the conflict.

This session is sponsored by the Hudson River Valley Institute.

602 Communities & Conflicts: Politics in the Civil War Years

Chair: Laura Free, Hobart and William Smith Colleges

Presentations:

Andrew Roblee, Seward House Museum

“Revolutionary View of the Civil War”

Alan Singer, Hofstra University
and

Joseph Palaia, Hofstra University

“The Copperhead Press, Racism, and the Presidential Election of 1864”

Harvey Strum, Sage College of Albany

“Judge Daly of New York and American Aid to Ireland during the Civil War”

603 NEH Workshops for Teachers in New York State History: Shakers, Adirondack Great Camps, Hudson Valley Industrialization

Chair: Robert Naeher, Emma Willard School

Panel:

John Bell, Emma Willard School

Josh Hatala, Emma Willard School

Drew Levy, Emma Willard School

Panelists will present materials from three NEH workshops on New York State history (Shakers, Adirondack Great Camps, and Hudson Valley industrialization) and discuss how these and other materials can be used to create Project-Based Learning exercises, teach Common Core standards, and support the American Public University System’s thematic content for history.

604 The Best Laid Plans: Unintended Consequences of Urban Planning and Urban Renewal

Chair: Ivan Steen, University at Albany (emeritus)

Presentations:

Michael Boston, SUNY Brockport

“The Impact of Urban Renewal on the Black Community of Niagara Falls”

Inna Guzenfeld, New York City College of Technology

“Sunnyside Gardens: Preserving a Pioneering Community”

Stacy Sewell, St. Thomas Aquinas College

“Relocation and Resolution in Rockland County”

This panel presents the urban planning and redevelopment experiences of three distinctly different communities. Using oral history as his primary research method, Michael Boston tells the story of the impact of redevelopment on Niagara Falls’ African American community, 1962-75. Inna Guzenfeld explores the legacy of change in the model garden community Sunnyside Gardens, Queens, since its development in the 1920s. Stacy Sewell presents an unlikely narrative in which civic leaders in Nyack successfully managed the relocation of the village’s African American community only to find the former “slums” subject to gentrification, making the entire community a magnet for cultural and ethnic diversity.

5:00-7:00 Dinner on own

7:00pm Cunneen-Hackett Lecture

Harold Holzer

“Lincoln, Politics, and the Press: The 1864 Election in New York”

To be followed by a reception and book signing.

This presentation and reception are provided by the Hudson River Valley Institute at Marist College.

Saturday, June 14

9:00-10:30 Sessions (choose 1)

701 Teaching the Hudson River Valley: Educators' Roundtable

Chair: Jason Schaaf, Marist College

Panel:

Shaun Boyce, Arlington High School

Susan Stessin-Cohn, Elting Memorial Library

Deborah Duke, Teaching the Hudson Valley

Panelists in this session will discuss their experiences in place-based education, local history, developing and implementing lesson plans, using new media, and in meeting state and federal requirements.

This session is sponsored by the Hudson River Valley Institute.

702 Before the Common Core: Education and Activism in New York City History

Chair: James Fraser, New York University

Presentations:

Paula C. Austin, Graduate Center, CUNY

“‘The Lion Is a Noble Creature’: African American Parents and Student Activism at the New York African Free School, 1799-1834”

Amaka Okechukwu, New York University

“‘The Schools Should Serve the People’: Student Liberation Action Movement (SLAM!) and New York City, 1995-2006”

Lauren Santangelo, Graduate Center, CUNY

“‘You Trust Us with Children; Trust Us with the Vote’: Teachers and the New York Suffrage Movement”

Panelists will highlight the relationship between social and political activism and education in New York City history: African American educational reform and radical anti-slavery activism in the early 19th century; City University of New York student activism and affirmative action retrenchment in the 1990s and beyond; and New York City teachers and the women’s suffrage movement.

703 Lives of Institutionalized People: Willard and Willowbrook

Chair: TBD

Presentations:

Darryl Hill, College of Staten Island

“Gender, Sexuality, and Race of Mental Disability in Willowbrook State School”

Karen Miller, M.D., Cambridge, MA

and

Jon Crispin, Jon Crispin Photography

“Willard Suitcases—Windows into Life in a Mental Hospital”

Comment: TBD

10:30-11 Break

11-12:30 Sessions (choose 1)

801 The Roosevelts, Franklin and Eleanor, in the Hudson River Valley

Chair: David Woolner, Roosevelt Institute

Presentations:

Robert Clark, FDR Presidential Library & Museum

Cynthia L. Krom, Franklin and Marshall College

“Eleanor Roosevelt and the Cultivation of Creative Employment: Val-Kill and Beyond”

F. Kennon Moody, SUNY Dutchess

Panelists will present Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt in the context of their hometown and illustrate how their experiences here affected the President’s national policies.

This session is sponsored by the Hudson River Valley Institute.

802 Cultural Education in the Classroom: Making NY's Cultural Resources Available to Students

Chair: Kathryn Weller, New York State Museum

Presentations/Panel:

Rich Strum, Fort Ticonderoga

“Creating a Variety of Opportunities for Professional Development for Teachers”

Jeffrey Urbin, Franklin D. Roosevelt Museum & Library

“The Roosevelt Presidential Library: A Primary Source Treasure Trove in the Hudson Valley”

Julie Daniels, New York State Archives

“Encouraging the Historian in All of Us: Using Historical Records to Develop Life-Long Skills”

Cultural Educators from three different history-based institutions will highlight innovative resources they offer to help teachers augment classroom programming, engage their students, and create collaborative partnerships between cultural institutions and the classroom.

803 Breaking the Box: Museums and Non-Traditional Partnerships

Chair: Garet Livermore, Great Camp Sagamore

Presentations:

Dennis Connors, Onondaga Historical Association

“Staging History: Theatrical Themes as Insights to Local History”

Elsye Goldberg, Washington’s Headquarters State Park

“Drink for a Good cause: Working with the Brewery Next Door”

Kelli Huggins, Chemung County Historical Society

“Cats in Common: A Partnership between a Historical Society and a Humane Society”

Changing economic fortunes and declining visitation have forced many museums to reimagine themselves: how they serve the public and reach potential patrons. This panel will explore the more unusual partnerships some history institutions have forged with non-museum partners and examine how all parties have benefitted as a result.

12:30-1:30 Lunch

1:30pm Wendell Tripp Lecture

Douglas Brinkley, Rice University

“Franklin D. Roosevelt and the Hudson Valley”

*This presentation is sponsored by the New York Humanities Council, the New York State Historical Association, and the Hudson River Valley Institute. **This program is free and open to the public.***

Speaker Biographies



Libby O'Connell

Since 2005, Libby O'Connell has served as Chief Historian and Senior Vice President of Corporate Outreach for A&E Television Networks. As such, she serves as historical adviser for The History Channel's programming department, and she develops and produces educational and community-based initiatives for A&E and oversees onsite video production with such organizations as the Smithsonian and the National Park Service. Previously, Dr. O'Connell taught history at Long Island University and was president of Long Island's Raynham Hall Museum.



Harold Holzer

Harold Holzer is one of the country's leading authorities on Abraham Lincoln and the political culture of the Civil War Era. A prolific writer and speaker and a frequent guest on television, Holzer is the chairman of The Lincoln Bicentennial Foundation, the former co-chair of the U.S. Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission, and a recipient of the National Humanities Medal. He has authored, co-authored, and edited forty-six books, the most recent of which is *The Civil War in 50 Objects*, written for the New York Historical Society.



Douglas Brinkley

Deemed "America's new past master" by the *Chicago Tribune*, Douglas Brinkley has written more than thirty-five books and countless articles on a wide range of topics in American political, environmental, and military history. Topics include Walter Cronkite, Hurricane Katrina, and Theodore Roosevelt's environmental crusades. Dr. Brinkley has served as official historian for CBS News since 2005 and has appeared on many other media outlets over the course of his career. He is currently Professor of History at Rice University. He taught previously at Tulane University, the University of New Orleans, and Hofstra University.



Ken Burns

Celebrated filmmaker Ken Burns has produced some of the greatest film documentaries ever made. Burns was once described in the *Baltimore Sun* as "not only the greatest documentarian of the day, but also the most influential filmmaker period." His current projects include *The Roosevelts: An Intimate History*, a seven-episode series scheduled for broadcast in the fall of 2014, as well as films on the Gettysburg Address, Jackie Robinson, the Vietnam War, and the history of country music.