



CONCORD
MUSEUM

NEWSLETTER Spring 2017

Published quarterly
for Members and
Friends of the Museum

A Gateway to Concord's History

concordmuseum.org



THE CONCORD MUSEUM IS ON THE MOVE!

It has been an especially busy winter at the Concord Museum. In addition to opening two new exhibitions, we spent much of January and February preparing for construction of the Museum's new Education Center.

Here are a few recent highlights:

- In January, 10,000 museum artifacts stored in the Cummings Davis Building were successfully moved to an offsite collections storage facility.
- In February, staff packed up the Davis Building and relocated to the Museum-owned house at 73 Cambridge Turnpike and to Wright Tavern in Concord Center.
- The final school programs were held in the Davis Building on March 2nd. We resumed school programs uninterrupted on March 3rd, utilizing space in Wright Tavern and the former Museum Shop.
- On February 24th, over 100 people said *Barn Voyage* to the Davis Building and celebrated the ceremonial groundbreaking of the new Education Center and the public launch of *Revolution: The Campaign for the Concord Museum*.
- We opened two new exhibits—*Walden: Four Views | Abelardo Morell* and *The Anatomy of a Desk: Writing with Thoreau and Emerson*—to kick off our year-long celebration of the bicentennial of Henry David Thoreau's birth.
- *Walden, A Game*—a video game designed by The Game Innovation Lab at the University of Southern California and simulating Thoreau's experiment living at Walden Pond—is now at the Museum.
- The Concord Museum received a record-breaking level of publicity, including features in the Associated Press, the *Boston Globe*, WBUR radio, WGBH-TV, and more!

As I write this, construction is about to begin on the new Education Center. After more than five years of planning, we could not be more excited to see this transformational expansion and renovation project become a reality. We are deeply grateful to everyone—our Governors and Trustees, donors, partners, and staff—who has helped make this project come to fruition, and we encourage you to join our efforts. We also hope you will stop by to see our progress, check out our new exhibitions, and join us for upcoming programs (see the calendar on pages 4-5.) The Concord Museum is indeed on the move!

Peggy Burke, Executive Director

Above: Over 100 people celebrate the ceremonial groundbreaking of the Concord Museum's new Education Center. Photo by Bonnie Baker Photography.

MOVING 10,000 MUSEUM ARTIFACTS



Left: Collections specialists Sarah Bernatas and Alison Rosenberg carefully wrap one of the more delicate items: a doll's carriage. Right: Registrar Ryan Nichols and Curator David Wood negotiate the packing and moving of one of the larger artifacts: an apothecary sign, c. 1950.

In preparation for construction of the new Education Center, over 10,000 Concord Museum artifacts were carefully photographed, packed, and moved from the Davis Building to a nearby facility. The Museum cares for over 50,000 artifacts, all of them linked to the history of Concord and some made by craftspeople who lived and worked in town. Documenting and digitizing these artifacts for the move allowed our Collections, Curatorial, and Education staff to better understand each item, ranging from large utilitarian tools to delicate ceramic pieces. Museums typically house a great number of materials—many more than what can be displayed. For this reason, regular inventories are important for planning future exhibitions and to increase the accessibility of the entire collection. We look forward to sharing our discoveries with you in our expanded spaces!

NEW CLOCK ACQUISITION

Thanks to a generous group of donors, the Museum has acquired a rare shelf clock made in Concord around 1803. The clockmaking brothers Daniel and Nathaniel Munroe were in partnership with their cabinetmaking brother William on Concord's Milldam between 1802 and 1804. The firm made eight-day clocks (what we would call a grandfather or tallcase clock) and timepieces like this one, which is signed "D. Munroe & Co." on the dial. This beautifully proportioned clock in outstanding original condition is an example of what has come to be called a Massachusetts shelf clock, a form developed particularly by the Willard family of clockmakers in Boston and Roxbury.

Shelf Clock; D. Munroe and Company; Concord, 1802-1804; Mahogany and mahogany veneers; painted iron, brass, steel. Gift of an anonymous donor; Ed Kane and Marty Wallace; Neil and Anna Rasmussen; Matt and Judy Fichtenbaum; George and Lisa Foote; Michele and Alan Bembenek; Cummings Davis Society.



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WALDEN: FOUR VIEWS | ABELARDO MORELL

Walden: Woods and Pond, 2016, Abelardo Morell.



“It is a surprising and memorable, as well as valuable experience, to be lost in the woods any time...”

Henry D. Thoreau

“*Walden: Four Views* suits its subject,” wrote critic Mark Feeney in the *Boston Globe*, “managing to be both small and immense.” While the exhibition consists of only four photographs, Feeney noted that “the immensity comes not just in the size of those photographs—they start at 4 feet by 5 feet—but also in how they ponder, as Thoreau’s book does, nature, solitude, and the passage of the seasons.”

The opportunity to exhibit the work of accomplished photographer Abelardo Morell is a special one. Morell created the deeply personal works specifically for the Concord Museum, delivering a new interpretation of the landscape that inspired Henry Thoreau’s *Walden*. Morell, with an educator’s gift for sharing complex ideas in accessible ways, will also share his inspiration and techniques in a number of programs (see pages 4-5) that will appeal to professional artists, students, Thoreau devotees, and all those with an interest in how we connect with the landscape around us. The exhibition is on view in the Museum’s Wallace Kane Gallery through August 20th.

The Concord Museum is grateful to Presenting Sponsor Skinner, Inc.; Corporate Sponsors Carleton-Willard Village and Carleton-Willard At Home and Middlesex Bank; and to Color Services, LLC for their special support.

CAMPAIGN HONORARY CHAIR DORIS KEARNS GOODWIN



Photo by Eric Levin.

The Concord Museum welcomes Doris Kearns Goodwin as Honorary Chair of the public phase of *Revolution: The Campaign for the Concord Museum*. Goodwin, a world-renowned presidential historian, Pulitzer Prize-winning author, and Concord resident, is known as “America’s historian-in-chief.”

At the Center of REVOLUTION

THE CAMPAIGN FOR THE CONCORD MUSEUM

“We are thrilled that Doris Kearns Goodwin is serving as Honorary Chair of the Campaign for the Concord Museum,” said Executive Director Peggy Burke. “Doris is a strong advocate for the value of history and history education. Her leadership signals the importance of what we are trying to achieve for the Museum.”

The Campaign for the Concord Museum has raised \$10.9 million towards the \$13 million goal. \$10 million of the Campaign funds will support the new Education Center and Museum renovations. The remaining \$3 million will be added to the Museum’s endowment to support enhanced programs.

Ann Marie Connolly
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John Flint
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Nancy Traversy
Henry Vaillant

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Margaret W. Ziering

CALENDAR

Spring 2017

For reservations or more information, visit

concordmuseum.org

or call 978.369.9763, ext. 216



PATRIOTS' DAY CELEBRATIONS

Visit the Museum's website for a full schedule of activities—the fun begins Saturday, April 15.

All activities included with Museum admission, Members free.

Silversmith Demonstration

Saturday, April 15 • 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Drop by to see craftsman Steve Smithers making pieces inspired by 18th-century designs.

Living History with Captain Brown's Company

Saturday, April 15 • 12:00-5:00 p.m.

Captain David Brown's company—a group of Concord Minute Men who fought at the North Bridge in 1775—assembles on the lawn of the Museum from 12:00-3:00 p.m. Visit with the Company, watch musket demonstrations, cartridge rolling, cooking, and other preparations for battle. Then join the company at the historic Wright Tavern in Concord Center from 3:00-5:00 p.m.

Patriots' Day

Monday, April 17 • 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Join us for gallery talks, activities, and crafts. Head to Wright Tavern from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. for more fun and games!

Vacation Week Activities

Tuesday, April 18 - Saturday, April 22

Visit concordmuseum.org for a full schedule of family friendly fun.

The Concord Museum's Patriots' Day activities are made possible in part with the generous support of the Massachusetts Society of the Cincinnati.

HILL BURYING GROUND WALKING TOUR

Monday, April 17 • Take a walk from Wright Tavern to the Hill Burying Ground to learn about the events of April 19, 1775, and how the colonists and the British experienced the first battle of the American Revolution. 1:00-2:00 p.m. Free and open to the public.

EARTH DAY ART AND ENVIRONMENT FESTIVAL

Saturday, April 22 • Celebrate Earth Day at The Umbrella (40 Stow Street, Concord). The Concord Museum will showcase and celebrate Henry David Thoreau's love of nature and interest in the environment through crafts and activities. 12:00-2:00 p.m. Learn more about the Musketaquid Arts and Environment Earth Day Celebration at: theumbrellaarts.org/arts-environment/musketaquid-earth-day-2017.

WALDEN: FOUR VIEWS GALLERY TALK

Thursday, April 27 • Join Curator David Wood for a closer look into *Walden: Four Views* | *Abelardo Morell*. Learn more about the exhibition and how Morell was inspired by the life and work of Henry David Thoreau. 2:00-2:30 p.m. Included with Museum admission, Members free.

HIDDEN TREASURES: WALK ON THE EMERSON-THOREAU AMBLE

Saturday, May 6 • Follow the footsteps of Emerson and Thoreau on a guided walk from Emerson's house to Fairyland Pond in the Walden Woods. Meet at the Concord Museum. 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Free and open to the public. Reserve a space online or by phone. Cosponsored by the Walden Pond State Reservation and Freedom's Way: Hidden Treasures. Walk will occur rain or shine!

FLOWER ARRANGING DEMONSTRATION

Saturday, May 13 • Enjoy a flower arranging demonstration by local floral designer Marta Taylor. Learn how she makes her breathtaking bouquets and arrangements seen frequently at Museum exhibition openings and events. 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Check the website or call 978-369-9763, ext. 216 for pricing and reservation information.

SUN PRINTS: WALDEN: FOUR VIEWS

Sunday, May 21 • Bring the whole family to *Walden: Four Views* to see photographs by Abelardo Morell. Listen to a gallery talk by a Museum guide, then make your own sun print on the Museum lawn! 1:00-2:00 p.m. \$5 Concord Museum Members, \$10 Non-members.

28TH ANNUAL GARDEN TOUR

Friday and Saturday, June 2 and 3 • This tour of Concord-area gardens is self-guided and self-paced, beginning each day at 9:00 a.m. and continuing until 4:00 p.m. Tickets are good for either or both days, but each garden may only be visited once. Organized by the Guild of Volunteers. \$30 Members, \$35 Non-members; online or at the front desk of the Museum before May 28. Tickets purchased on or after May 28 or at the door, \$35 Members, \$40 Non-Members. No refunds; no photography.

FATHER'S DAY BEER TALK AND TASTING

Sunday, June 18 • Bring Dad to the Concord Museum for an exploration of the history of beer with material culture historian George Schwartz. Then take the short walk to Wright Tavern in Concord Center for a beer tasting hosted by Rapsallion Brewery of Acton. Perfect for any history-buff dad! 3:00-5:00 p.m. Reservations required; included with Museum admission, **Members free**.

JUNE-TEENTH GALLERY TALK

Monday, June 19 • June 19, 1865, known as Juneteenth, is the date slavery officially ended in the United States. Though slavery ended in Massachusetts in 1783, its legacies are still felt today. Join us on this Juneteenth to learn about slavery, emancipation, and the Civil War's effects on Concord. 2:00-2:30 p.m. Included with Museum admission, **Members free**.

WALDEN: FOUR VIEWS GALLERY TALK BY ABELARDO MORELL

Thursday, June 22 • At this special event, Abelardo Morell will provide a gallery talk for a limited audience, followed by a reception in the Museum's Brooke Hall. 6:00-8:00 p.m. Members \$40; Non-members \$55. Space is extremely limited; reserve online or by phone.

CAMERA OBSCURA WORKSHOP WITH ABELARDO MORELL

Saturday, June 24 • For fifteen years, Morell has traveled the world, creating fantastic photographs of interior spaces flooded with vibrant exterior scenes, using this technique. Through his imaginative eyes, we bear witness to the marriage of inner and outer worlds. In this workshop, Morell will demonstrate his camera obscura technique to the audience. 2:00-3:30 p.m. Members \$10/\$5 child; Non-members \$15/\$7 child; ticket price includes Museum admission, including *Walden: Four Views* | *Abelardo Morell*. Space is limited; reserve online or by phone.

OUTDOOR MOVIE: LITTLE WOMEN

Thursday, June 29 • Join the Concord Museum and Orchard House for a celebration of Louisa May Alcott and the 1994 film adaptation of her famous novel *Little Women*. Bring the whole family for an outdoor movie under the stars on the Museum lawn. Movie begins at 8:15 p.m. **Free**. Bring a blanket or lawn chair for seating.



names & faces



Toasting Barn Voyage!

1. Peggy Burke, Executive Director; Churchill Franklin, Board President and Campaign Chair; Ralph Earle, Board Vice President and Building Committee Chair; Governor Anna Rasmussen and Neil Rasmussen; and Honorary Board Members Martha Wallace and Edward Kane pose for the groundbreaking of the new Concord Museum Education Center.
2. Longtime member Mrs. Frances Benjamin, whose husband John was instrumental in starting the Museum's school programs.
3. Ali Rosenberg, Board President Churchill Franklin, Dominique Marcial, and Meghan Batstone sample waffles in the photo booth.

Photos by Bonnie Baker Photography



4. Tricia Gilrein, Collections Manager, stands with a sculpture of the Minuteman (based on the sculpture by Daniel Chester French), which was just one of the 10,000 Museum artifacts moved to storage.



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6

Le Bal Masqué at the Lyman Estate

5. Janet Franklin, Churchill Franklin, David Waters, and Lindsey Franklin.
 6. Ann Sharpe; Kelly Benkert, Guild of Volunteers Co-President; Allison Aley; and Aura Bruce, Guild of Volunteers Co-President.



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7. Laura Johnson (center), Associate Curator at Historic New England, with Stephanie Blunt (left) and Amy Livens (right), Guild of Volunteers co-chairs of the 2017 Mary M. Lesneski Memorial Lecture and Tea.
 8. Special hugs from furry friends at the Teddy Bear Tea.
 9. WGBH-TV Cameraman Howard Powell (right) takes a cold break with photographer Abe Morell (left) during *Open Studio's* film shoot at Walden Pond.
 10. Kate Chartener, Lindsey Gund, Lynn Creamer, and Lizzie Lewis gather at the Museum for an evening with Saltbox Kitchen.



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SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS

Walden: Four Views

February 10-August 20, 2017

The Anatomy of a Desk

February 10-August 20, 2017

HOURS

Mon.-Sat. 9-5; Sun. 12-5

ADMISSION

\$10 adult, \$8 senior/student,
\$5 youth, child under 6 free &
Museum Members free.

CONTACT

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www.concordmuseum.org

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Photo by Carol Ann Boughrum



The 28th Annual
Concord Museum
Garden Tour

Friday and Saturday,
June 2 and 3

Organized by the
Guild of Volunteers