



CONCORD MUSEUM

SUMMER 2022 Newsletter

Published quarterly for Members and Friends of the Museum



Behind the Scenes—

Alive with Birds: William Brewster in Concord

When William Brewster traveled from the Harvard University campus in Cambridge to do his field work in Concord, he remarked in his journal that he could spend a half hour or more watching for birds and other wildlife from his canoe.

Today, visitors to the Concord Museum's new temporary exhibit, *Alive with Birds: William Brewster in Concord*, are mesmerized by similar beauty captured in two forms of artistry.

First, the new exhibit includes 20 works of art from the collection of the Museum of American Bird Art which is owned and operated by Mass Audubon, our partner in this exciting new exhibit.

Second, at the heart of the visitor experience is a four-screen media presentation that invites visitors to take a journey to Brewster's Woods Wildlife Sanctuary through the eyes of William Brewster himself. His journal entries and photography from his time in Concord speak to a sense of discovery and wonderment at the hidden details of the natural world.

Continued on page 3

“The sunset hour was calm, mild, very beautiful and peaceful. I passed it on the river in my canoe. I spent a half hour or more watching and listening.”

—William Brewster,
September 21, 1910



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From Tom Putnam, Edward W. Kane Executive Director

I was struck recently at the lovely reception we held this spring to celebrate Carol Haines's four decades of service to the Museum by the words of one of my predecessors, Dennis Fiori. He noted that years ago during his tenure there was a hope that the Museum's galleries could present a deeper and more nuanced interpretation of Concord's history. And he credited Carol, David Wood, and others for the recent redesign of our permanent galleries for having accomplished that feat.

A few days later former Governor and current Trustee, Bill Huyett, addressed the Board of Governors as the Museum launched a new strategic planning initiative. Bill had been central to the creation of the last plan, under another of my predecessors, Peggy Burke. As Bill reported to the Board, the Museum has met and often surpassed expectations in all of the key priorities set out over ten years ago.

It has been a great honor and privilege for me to have been part of that effort. We all, collectively, have much to be proud of in these dazzling accomplishments.

The future is bright with possibilities. A new plan is in the works! A search is underway for the next director. And, as outlined in this newsletter, new staff are being hired who will, undoubtedly, lead us in new directions towards ever more spectacular achievements.



Dennis Fiori and Carol Haines

5th Graders Create Exhibition on the American Revolution

This winter Jenny Gratz, Director of School Programs, worked with the Lexington Public Schools on their 5th grade Revolutionary Exhibition Project. The 5th graders learn about the American Revolution and then create an exhibit for their 3rd grade partners. Jenny created videos to introduce students to what museums do, the elements of an exhibition, how to think about different audiences for an exhibition, and how to include and illuminate stories that have not always been told. Jenny was the guest of honor at the "exhibit opening" for the Bowman School in March and was so impressed by the students' thoughtful and creative exhibits for their 3rd grade audience.



Private Events

Book your outdoor events with the Concord Museum! Our courtyard is included with your rental of the Churchill and Janet Franklin Lyceum for summer events. It's the perfect space for family gatherings, receptions, or small weddings. Members receive discounts on rentals.*

Contact Darcy Foster, the Manager of Visitor Services, at 978-369-9763 ext. 243 or dfoster@concordmuseum.org.

**Membership discount applies at the Contributor and above levels.*

Continued from page 1

One of the unique historical resources available to our curatorial team were 2,000 extraordinary black and white photos taken by William Brewster and members of his team, including his field assistant Robert Gilbert.

The media presentation, designed by *Richard Lewis Media Group*, was to marry these archival still images with dramatic full color video often shot from the very same vantage points throughout Brewster's Woods.

Overseeing this effort for *Richard Lewis Media Group*, was Erin Finicane, a talented videographer who has over ten years experience filming wildlife in their natural habitats.

"We also wanted to create that connection between the audience exploring Brewster's Woods today and William Brewster exploring it over a hundred years ago," said Finicane, "and how that feeling of discovery and awe is still very much possible—precisely because it is protected by Mass Audubon and has been mainly unchanged by human hands."

William Brewster's poetic eye and vivid language, together with Erin Finicane's immersive photography, serve as a bridge between the past and the present and speak to the enduring quality of discovery then and now. The Concord Museum is pleased to partner with Mass Audubon, not only for this special exhibition, but through related programming, forums, and events that provide opportunities and inspiration for new generations of environmentalists.



Above left to right: *Richard Lewis Media Group* staff: Sara Smith, Stephanie Stewart, Erin Finicane, and Sean Eunson. At left: Erin Finicane.

Photo by Laura B. Kozlowski

Museum Shop

The Museum Shop is proud to have local vendors represented in our merchandise. This month we are featuring artisan Becky Audette.

Becky Audette of Rebecca Stuart Designs is a "maker" at heart. When Becky is not working as a Museum gallery interpreter, she is busy tailoring custom 18th century clothing, knitting stockings, mitts, and hats, and creating laser-cutting jewelry. Becky is also a Revolutionary War reenactor with the Acton Minutemen and produces the unit's hand-dipped beeswax, tallow candles, and soap. Don't miss many of Becky's hand-crafted products in the Museum's shop.



Members receive a 10% discount on Concord Museum merchandise.

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Concord Museum Public Programs and Forums—Summer 2022

Public programming is in-person this summer, unless otherwise noted.
Register for programs at concordmuseum.org or by calling 978-369-9763.

JUNE

Decorative Arts Workshop: Bookbinding

Wednesday, June 1 | 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. | Members \$10; Non-members \$20.
Includes materials fee.

Participants will have an up-close look at some of the Museum's old and rare books in the Lisa H. Foote History Learning Center. Study the history and anatomy of some of these rarely seen treasures from the Museum's collection then bind your own journal using the same techniques that Thoreau used to bind his journals.

Thoreau's books, B106a, B160b, Th10_2, Th10_5, Th10_6, Th10_7, Th74; Concord Museum collection.



Black Panther: Outdoor Film Screening

Thursday, June 9 | 8:30 – 10:00 p.m. | Free

Kick-off the summer with an outdoor film screening of *Black Panther*, Marvel's 2018 release starring the late Chadwick Boseman as T'Challa a.k.a. the Black Panther. This action-packed, Black-led superhero film is a must-see up on the big screen and under the stars before the fall 2022 release of *Black Panther: Wakanda Forever*. Bring a blanket, lawn chairs, snacks, and your best superhero costume!



Mindfulness in Art

Thursday, June 16 | 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. | Members Free; Non-members \$15

A two-part mindfulness program in partnership with Be Well Be Here starts with a guided mindfulness session in the special exhibition *Alive with Birds: William Brewster in Concord*. Be Well Be Here Founder and Executive Director, Lara Wilson, will lead a guided conversations in the special exhibit. Participants will come away with the tools to reduce stress, anxiety, depression, and anger through the natural and artistic resources readily available in Concord.

Participants are welcome to attend either Mindfulness in Art or Mindfulness in Nature (see page 5) or both programs. In partnership with Be Well Be Here and Mass Audubon.



Lara Wilson

Antislavery Walking Tour

Saturday, June 18 | 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. | Members Free; Non-members \$15.
Includes Same-day admission to the Concord Museum

Coinciding with the celebration of Juneteenth, join us for a walking tour introducing participants to the Concord women and men who played a crucial role in the abolitionist movement in the years leading up to the Civil War.

In partnership with The Robbins House.

Jack Garrison, Sr., Carte-de-visite, Concord Museum Pi1103.2, Gift of Mrs. Olive Brooks Banks.



Sketching Workshop with Live Songbirds

Wednesday, June 22 | 5:30 – 6:45 p.m. | Members \$10; Non-members \$20.
Includes materials fee.

Just as William Brewster put down his gun to study living birds, in this workshop, students will trade-in photographs for living songbirds to inspire their art. After touring the exhibit *Alive with Birds* with teaching artist and Conservation Biologist, Becky Harris, students will try their hand at capturing the essence of birds as they sketch live songbirds from Mass Audubon Drumlin Farm's collection of wildlife ambassadors.

In partnership with the Umbrella Arts Center and Mass Audubon.

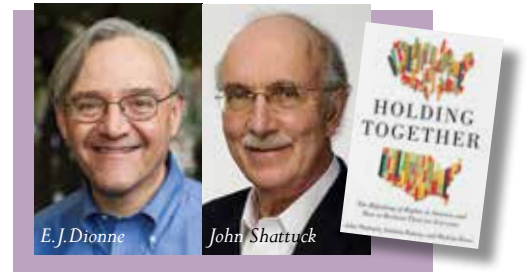


Becky Harris

Concord Museum Public Programs and Forums—Summer 2022

The Future of Our Democracy: The Rights and Responsibilities of Citizenship Thursday, June 23 | 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. | Free | Virtual

What values hold our nation together, and what does it mean to be a “good citizen”? How should Americans’ rights and responsibilities evolve in the 21st century? Join Washington Post columnist E. J. Dionne, co-author of *100% Democracy: The Case for Universal Voting*, and John Shattuck, co-author of *Holding Together: The Hijacking of Rights in America and How to Reclaim Them for Everyone* in this spirited discussion.



Mindfulness in Nature

Friday, June 24 | 8:00 – 9:30 a.m. | Members Free; Non-members \$15

In partnership with Be Well Be Here, join us for a walk and activity at Brewster’s Woods Wildlife Sanctuary, Mass Audubon in Concord. Be Well Be Here Founder and Executive Director, Lara Wilson, will lead participants on a woodland walk based on the principles of Forest Bathing, or shinrin yoku, and a journaling activity. Come away with the tools to reduce stress, anxiety, depression, and anger through the natural and artistic resources readily available in Concord.

Participants are welcome to attend either *Mindfulness in Art* (see page 4) or *Mindfulness in Nature* or both programs. In partnership with Be Well Be Here and Mass Audubon. Image: Copyright Charley Harper Art Studio, Used with permission.



Old and Rare Books Forum and Appraisals with Ken Gloss

Wednesday, June 29 | 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. | Members Free; Non-members \$10.
Free Livestream.

Ken Gloss, proprietor of the internationally known Brattle Book Shop in Boston and frequent guest appraiser on PBS’ *Antiques Roadshow*, will discuss the value of old and rare books, share some of his favorite finds, and describe the joys of the “hunt” for rare books. Following the forum, Ken will give free verbal appraisals of attendees’ books or will do so at his shop in Boston.



JULY

Independence Celebration Family Program

Saturday, July 2 and Sunday, July 3 | Free with Museum Admission

Enjoy colonial crafts and games to celebrate the United States’ independence!



A Walk in Thoreau’s Concord

Saturday, July 16 | 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. | Members Free; Non-members \$15.
Includes Same-day admission to the Concord Museum

Henry David Thoreau is known for the two years he spent living at Walden Pond. Did you know that he also lived in other homes in Concord throughout his life? Take a tour of the domestic side of Thoreau’s wholly human life visiting the homes where he lived and hearing the stories told of him by family and friends.



The Birds: Outdoor Film Screening

Thursday, July 21 | 8:30 – 10:00 p.m. | Free

Hitchcock’s terrifying and memorable masterpiece *The Birds* exemplifies how birds have made their way into all aspects of the human experience, including art and culture. While the special exhibition *Alive with Birds* celebrates the species and conservation of their habitat, our avian subjects are cast in a more treacherous light in the 1963 classic film *The Birds*. Bring a blanket, lawn chairs, and snacks.



Grave Detectives Walking Tour

Saturday, July 23 | 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. | Members Free; Non-members \$15.
Includes Same-day admission to the Concord Museum

Tour the first burial ground in Concord dating to c. 1636 to learn about past Concordians with a Museum educator. Explore the classic iconography of New England headstones that feature winged skulls or “death’s head”, urns, willows, and others.



Concord Museum Public Programs and Forums—Summer 2022

AUGUST

A Walk with Louisa and Ellen

Saturday, August 6 | 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. | Members Free; Non-members \$15. Includes Same-day admission to the Concord Museum

“To spend the day at their house was a rapturous event,” Ellen Emerson wrote to a friend in 1869, remembering her friends, the Alcott girls. Join us for a walking tour highlighting the objects and homes of remarkable women of Concord, including Louisa May Alcott and her dear friend Ellen Emerson.

Alive with Birds Family Program

Saturday, August 20 and Sunday, August, 21 | Free with Museum Admission

Drop by to learn about bird nests through a craft activity.

Early Bird Walking Tour of Brewster’s Woods

Saturday, August 27 | 8:00 – 9:30 a.m. | Members Free; Non-members \$15. Includes Same-day admission to the Concord Museum

Join a Mass Audubon guide in exploring birding hotspots at Mass Audubon’s Brewster’s Woods Wildlife Sanctuary in Concord. We’ll walk in the footsteps of William Brewster, sharing passages from his journals and searching for a variety of migrants on their annual passage through New England. Birders of all levels are welcome. Please wear comfortable walking shoes and bring binoculars.

In partnership with Mass Audubon.



Linocut Printmaking Workshop

Tuesday, August 30 | 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. | Members \$10; Non-members \$20 Includes materials fee.

Join us for a linocut workshop with Sherrie York whose reduction linocut *Trunk Show* [Downy Woodpecker] is in Mass Audubon’s collection and currently exhibited in the *Alive with Birds*. In the workshop, students will tour the special exhibit and examine how some of the most well-regarded American artists have depicted birds and their habitats. Sherrie will demonstrate techniques of linocut relief printing and guide the students to make their own prints inspired by the natural world.

In partnership with the Umbrella Arts Center and Mass Audubon.



Sherrie York

SEPTEMBER

Coopering Demonstration with Master Cooper Ron Raiselis

Saturday, September 3 | 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. | Free with Museum admission. Members visit free.

Join Master Cooper Ron Raiselis for a look into the 1700s coopering trade and explore why these highly skilled craftspeople were essential to the commerce and survival of a colony. Ron has served as the resident cooper at Strawberry Banke Museum in Portsmouth, N.H. since 1985, where he maintains a traditional cooperage shop.



Ron Raiselis

Women in the Civil War: A Conversation with Thavolia Glymph

September 7 | 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. | Free | Virtual

Join historian Thavolia Glymph in a discussion of her book, *The Women’s Fight: The Civil War’s Battles for Home, Freedom, and Nation*, a comprehensive new history of women’s roles and lives in the Civil War—North and South, white and black, enslaved—showing how women were fully engaged in the military fight, wartime struggles on the home front, and the political and moral battle to preserve the Union and end slavery.

Late September programs to be announced in the Fall newsletter.



Thavolia Glymph

Welcome New Museum Staff

Dr. Reed Gochberg, Associate Curator and Manager of Exhibitions

The Concord Museum is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Reed Gochberg as Concord Museum's new Associate Curator and Manager of Exhibitions.

Since 2017, Reed had been a Lecturer on History and Literature at Harvard University, where she taught and advised students in American Studies and served as Assistant Director of Studies since 2019. She also currently teaches in the Museum Studies program at the Harvard Extension School.

Reed received her Bachelor's degree from Harvard University and her Master's and PhD from Boston University. Reed is the author of *Useful Objects: Museums, Science, and Literature in Nineteenth-Century America* (Oxford University Press, 2021), as well as numerous essays and articles.



Please join us
for Concord Museum's 27th Annual Golf Tournament
June 20, 2022
Contact jcraig@concordmuseum.org for details

Camille Johnson, Thomas Dugan Intern in Public History

For the second year in a row, through a generous gift from Ralph Earle and Jane Mendillo, the Museum will welcome an intern for ten weeks this summer to work in partnership with The Robbins House. Camille Johnson is currently a first year graduate student pursuing a Master of Arts in Museum Studies at the Cooperstown Graduate Program which is part of the State University of New York at Oneonta. Originally from Portland, Oregon, Camille graduated last spring from Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas where she majored in Anthropology. Camille will work with our Education, Curatorial, and Public Programming teams on a project dedicated to engaging the public in the remarkable life of Ellen Garrison.



Holly Mansfield, Development Officer

We are delighted to welcome Holly Mansfield to her new role as Development Officer at the Concord Museum. After a decade-long career as a professional graphic artist, Holly shifted gears and achieved her masters in Non-Profit Management from Northeastern University in 2011. Since then, she has held a variety of development positions at institutions including The Discovery Museum, Fruitlands Museum, and the New England Forestry Foundation. Holly is working with other members of the Advancement team on a full range of projects, including support for the Museum's Guild of Volunteers. Her excellent design skills, combined with her professionalism and broad experience, make her an invaluable member of the advancement office at the Museum.

SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS

Alive with Birds:

William Brewster in Concord

Now – September 5, 2022

SUMMER HOURS

Starting in June: Tuesday – Sunday
10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

ADMISSION

\$15 Adult, \$12 Senior/Student,
\$8 Children 6-17, Child under
5 free & Museum Members free.

CONTACT

978-369-9763

cm1@concordmuseum.org

www.concordmuseum.org

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*Alive
with
Birds*

Alive with Birds: William Brewster in Concord

Now through
September 5, 2022.

Pair your visit with a walk
in Brewster's Woods
Wildlife Sanctuary



CONCORD MUSEUM SUMMER 2022 Newsletter