



## January 2021 Museline Transcript

Hello and Welcome the January 2021 Edition of TAM's Museline, our digital newsletter covering all things TAM. *The Texas Association of Museum's mission is to strengthen the Texas museum community through collaborations, connections, professional development, and advocacy.*

Happy New Year! We have so much to cover this month, so let's jump in by starting with TAM 2021 in San Antonio. This year's hybrid, decentralized conference is slated for April 10th through the 13th at venues across the city followed by a virtual best of program later in the month.

Our schedule-at-a-glance is now available on TAM's website and highlights include a Saturday evening event at the Briscoe Western Art Museum followed by a day and evening on Sunday at the Witte Museum. On Monday attendees will choose from concurrent sessions held at the San Antonio Museum of Art or the Southwest School of Art and then choose from open air, city-wide tours or workshops. We'll wrap up the conference on Tuesday at the San Antonio Botanical Garden.

Thanks to our host venues for enabling the conference to proceed in a decentralized and safe manner. We should have a complete schedule of events and open registration to the general public in February. Of course we will continue to monitor conditions in our planning.

This month we opened sponsorship and advertising opportunities to non-members. In lieu of a traditional exhibit hall, the Witte is hosting an outdoor "light-weight" exhibitor reception on Monday afternoon. Additional sponsorship and advertising opportunities can be found on our event page.

Thank you to our Underwriters, The City of San Antonio Department of Arts and Culture, Visit San Antonio, and Bexar Heritage and Parks Department. Additional thanks go to our Platinum Level Sponsor Exhibit Concepts and our Gold Level Sponsors Higginbotham Insurance, Re:Discovery Software, and Vault Fine Art Services.

This year we are providing nearly 20 scholarships and the application process will be a breeze. By filling out just one application, you will be considered for all scholarship types. Applications are due Monday, March 1, 2021.

Finally, we've opened up 2021 award nominations. TAM promotes the highest standards of graphic design and media Innovation & Excellence through our Mitchell A. Wilder Publication Design Award Competition and The Texas Association of Museums Media Innovation & Excellence Awards, TAMMIE for short. People awards include: The President's Award, Jo Stewart Randel Outstanding Trustee Award and the Jack Nokes Outstanding Service Award. Nominations are due Friday, February 26th.

Now on to other upcoming program highlights: on Wednesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> we are hosting the virtual workshop titled Conflict De-escalation and Bystander Intervention presented by a team from Hollaback!, an organization devoted to ending harassment in all its nasty forms. This workshop is free for members and low cost for non-members.

And for those early in your career or wanting to make a switch, the Museum Emerging Leaders of Texas (MELT) Affinity Group welcomes Valencia L. Johnson for the webinar on a "Career in Archives" on Thursday, February 11th. Ms. Johnson is the Archivist for Student Life at Princeton University where she engages with student organizations on managing and preserving their records, in analog and born-digital formats.

Registration is open through January 19th for next month's Museums Advocacy Day to be held virtual this year on February 22 and 23rd. It is a unique way to network with your Texas museum peers, hear from federal agency and nonprofit leaders and build your own professional skills. Together we reaffirm our value, collective contributions, and aspirations.

Finally, we want to highlight this year's Real Places Virtual Conference hosted by the Friends of the Texas Historical Commission

Real Places is the premier historic preservation and heritage tourism conference in the Lone Star State, where anyone interested in protecting our past can work directly with industry-leading experts to learn practical, actionable solutions they can apply in their community.

Presented by Phoenix I Restoration and Construction Real Places 2021 will take place online, February 3–5, 2021. Register for just \$125. Learn more and sign up at [realplaces.us](https://realplaces.us)

Register for just \$125. That's more than \$300 off the regular rate for the in-person event, and it comes without added lodging and travel expenses. Plus, you get the same exceptional educational experience Real Places always delivers. There will be 28 sessions on a variety of historic preservation and heritage tourism topics presented by 44 expert speakers from across Texas and the U.S.

Lastly, there is one more important election! Council Elections Voting is now open to fill four Councillor-at-Large positions on TAM Council for the 2020-2022 term. [Meet the candidates](#) and cast your vote before February 28th. All current TAM members in good standing may vote in the

election - that reminds me, if you haven't already, please check out our new membership types and levels.

The roster of candidates includes:

- Ami Kamara, Fire Museum of Texas
- Daniel Carey-Whalen, El Paso Centennial Museum and Chihuahuan Desert Gardens
- Rorie Cartier, National Museum of the Pacific War
- Cynthia Evans, French Legation State Historic Site
- Ann Fortescue, International Museum of Art & Science
- And, Emily Wilkinson, Texas Tech University

That's all for now -- See you next month!



*Alex Freeman*

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