



July 2020 Museline Transcript

Welcome to our July 2020 Edition of the Texas Association of Museum's Museline, our digital newsletter covering all things TAM. In light of the Black Lives Matter movement, there is an increasing debate on the future of Civil War monuments and statues. AASLH recently held a conversation with representatives from University of Dayton, Creative Strategies 360°, and Georgia Historical Society titled "Monuments and Memory." This talk spanned several topics including how history practitioners and organizations can best contribute. The talk was recorded and you can find it on AASLH's "[Free Resources](#)" page. In Texas, TAM also had a conversation around this topic with Texas Historical Commission Executive Director Mark Wolfe. That talk reintroduced Wolfe's 2017 document [Policy and Process Recommendations for Evaluating Requests for Removal and Relocation of Monuments or Markers](#) that we recently posted on our new website. It serves as a guide to making decisions around these contentious public works.

Let's kick off this month with a look at TAM's new website! It was clear through our latest member survey that you wanted a better user experience and we have delivered! Using the NOVI AMS platform, we have broken down our data silos with a fresh new interface. With a brand new look and updated technology, we'll better serve all our members, prospects, and greater museum community. We've already had many positive responses. In order to get the most out of your member experience, you will need to create a new login. I know, another login, but, with your login, you will be able to:

Register for events, Update your profile information, Track event attendance, Search our member directory, View/Pay invoices, and Create a Job Posting, as long as it contains salary information.

Now on to TAM 2021. I am happy to share that the San Antonio Local Host Committee has been hard at work selecting the following theme for TAM 2021 - *Roots and Reckoning: Museums Respond and Redefine*. In light of this new development we have extended our Call for Session Proposals for TAM 2021 through 5 pm on Friday, August 7. [here](#).

Our premier three-day conference, to be held April 10-13, 2021, in San Antonio at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center and Hilton Palacio Del Rio, offers a growing audience of museum professionals the chance to learn from authorities in the field who hail from around Texas and across the country.

This month we also continue to thank our [TAM 2020 Virtual Diamond and Platinum Sponsors](#). Thank you, Gaylord Archival, George Bush Presidential Library and Museum, Mayborn Museum, and Q Media Productions for your continued support of TAM.

In programming news, we kicked off a series of workshops this week titled [Going Local: Creating History Exhibits Your Visitor's Won't Forget](#). Presented by the Smithsonian's Museum on Main Street program, the Texas Department of Transportation, the Texas Historical Commission, and the Texas Association of Museums, this five-part online workshop series will teach you the fundamental skills and concepts you need to understand how to incorporate local Texas history stories into your exhibits – especially traveling exhibits.

The workshop series kicked off on July 23 and continues on July 30 with *Make Them Care, Part 2: How to Create More Memorable and Compelling Exhibits through Interpretation*. August 6th features Give 'Em Something to Talk (and Think) About: Strategies for Engaging and Provoking Exhibit Audiences, August 13 features Well, That Was Awkward: Interpreting Difficult Stories in Your Exhibits, and closes out on August 20 with *Made You Look!: How to Select Visuals that Will Keep Visitors Engaged with Your Exhibits*. For full descriptions of each workshop, visit our [website](#).

Affinity Groups

Are you a member that wants to be more involved with TAM? Please consider joining a [TAM Affinity Group](#) today. We are diligently working to create a rich experience for our members and to grow our programs through affinity group enrichment. Learn more about all of our Affinity Groups on our website. Affinity Groups are special interest groups for museum professionals within specific fields such as art & curation, education, collection management, historic preservation and DEIA efforts. You will intersect with and gain information from these key job-related groups. You will work to advance the mutual concerns and interests of these professional societies. Please email Emmy at admin@texasmuseums.org to learn more or to attend an upcoming AG meeting.

Member News

Finally, members are the key to our community. Please help me welcome TAM's newest member(s): [Clare Hulfish with Irving Arts Center](#), Jessica Holt with Art Museum of South Texas, [Alysha Richardson](#) with the Texas Historical Commission, [Amelia Bragg](#) from Denton, [Erika Herndon](#) from Austin. Finally, I want to thank [Mikey Sproat](#) for his recent donation.

TAM's mission is to strengthen the Texas museum community through collaborations, connections, professional development, and advocacy.

To Learn more about TAM Membership and become more involved go to www.texasmuseums.org or reach out to me directly at alex@texasmuseums.org. Be safe out there!



Alex Freeman

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