



## February 2021 Museline Transcript

Hello and Welcome the February 2021 Edition of TAM's Museline, our digital newsletter covering all things TAM. I know we only have a few days left in February but if you were in Texas last week, you know why we're sending a delayed message. We know that many of you lost power and had water damage at your homes and museums -- we're sorry to hear and want to point you in the right direction. If your museum or site sustained damage, [TX-CERA](#) is available to provide support from conservators, collections specialists, and cultural heritage professionals. They can be reached at 669-237-2243 or [tx.cera@gmail.com](mailto:tx.cera@gmail.com). Additionally, please reach out to me at [alex@texasmuseums.org](mailto:alex@texasmuseums.org) If you have sustained damage and we will pass along to our friends at Humanities Texas who is working with the National Endowment of the Humanities on emergency grants.

In other major news, it is with heavy hearts that we announce the cancelation of the TAM 2021 hybrid event scheduled to be hosted in San Antonio earlier this month. We will be moving to a completely virtual Annual Meeting April 12, 13, and 16, 2021. The attendees for our Annual Meetings come from all corners of the state and several factors played into this cancelation. They include a continued travel ban at some institutions, the reluctance of close constituents to travel, and a vaccine rollout that has prolonged past what was anticipated.

Although our plan for a hybrid event of small groups meeting in cultural spaces, inside and outside, throughout San Antonio was a sound solution, the lack of confidence in public interchange prompted a TAM Executive Committee vote to pursue a virtual event this year and explore returning to San Antonio in 2023.

We are deeply disappointed that we could not physically be in San Antonio this year but still want to honor the city virtually and create excitement for our return. Our thanks go out to our Underwriters, Sponsors, and Local Host Committee for their time and monetary investments. TAM 2021 Virtual will feature many of the presentations and speakers originally scheduled for TAM 2021 along with engaging networking events. We will share a detailed schedule and reopen sponsorships and registrations in the coming days.

In response to this shift, we've extended the deadlines for 2021 award nominations and scholarships to March 15th. TAM promotes the highest standards of graphic design and media Innovation & Excellence through our 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 & the Jack Nokes Outstanding Service Award.

Now on to an upcoming program highlight: on Thursday, March 11th we are hosting the virtual program titled “What’s the Bug Deal? Integrated Pest Management for Collections, Facilities, and Other Museum Personnel” hosted by the Collections Managers Committee and presented by Christa Deacy-Quinn the Collections Manager at the University of Illinois Spurlock Museum.

Whether you work in collections, education, guest services, maintenance, or administration, speaker Deacy-Quinn’s webinar will provide museum personnel at every level with the preventative techniques necessary for successful pest management. Registration is free for TAM members.

In Council news -- voting to fill four Councillor-at-Large positions on TAM Council for the 2020-2022 term is coming to a close. [Meet the candidates](#) and cast your vote by 11:59 pm CT on 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

Lastly, thanks to the Texas delegation who joined me earlier this week at AAM’s Museums Advocacy Day where we were able to speak to our representatives, senators, and their staff about the Covid-19 Relief, IMLS funding, and Tax Policy. Our group grows every year, so reach out if you’d like to participate in 2022.

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



*Alex Freeman*