

Ahoy!

The Mariners' Museum and Park
FALL/WINTER 2021

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Princess Carolina

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LOOKING FORWARD

Strengthening Partnerships, Celebrating Community,
Exploring New Ways to Serve

Message from the President

Dear Mariners' Family,

After reading this edition of *Ahoy!*, I am once again so proud and so humbled to serve with such an amazing team and such an enthusiastic world of champions!

The thing that leaps off these pages at me, more than anything else, is the culture of servant leadership we continue to build at The Mariners' Museum and Park. For us, servant leadership has two main elements. First, our entire team – including our beloved volunteers – is in service of something bigger than themselves: the Mariners' mission.

We connect people to the world's waters, because through the waters – through our shared maritime heritage – we are connected to one another.

Second, our entire team strives to serve others. As you read the following pages, note the number of times that we are acting to help others – it transcends the entire organization.

- Kenny Crofton – a member of our Board – rallied his family and the Crofton team to lift and relocate our iconic Japanese Mini-Sub in service of our Conservation team.
- Tom Brandl and his Tidewater Wooden Boat Workshop team – among our strongest partners – innovated to find a way to serve youth in our community.
- Christina Altland, Elsa Sangouard, and others on our Museum team are sharing their research in service of the broader museum field.
- Andrea Rocchio, Harriet Smith, and our Education team, along with Erica Deale and our Park team, are working every day to reopen Mariners' Lake to serve local students' wellness and educational needs.
- Lyles Forbes, our Curatorial team, and our Education team are revamping how we design our core galleries to include a more inclusive, more complete historical and cultural account in service to all.

There are, of course, many more examples. Luisa Vázquez-López's description of our growing endowment reflects our servant leadership approach. Our team is willing to forego the instant gratification of a dollar raised for use today to build endowment, the full benefit of which will only be realized decades from now. And those of you who have contributed to our growing endowment, know that you are investing in future families, youth, and communities that you may never know. What a powerful and selfless legacy!

Please know how very grateful I am to you and for your servant leadership approach to our all-important Mariners' mission.

Enjoy the stories that follow!



Howard H. Hoege III
President and CEO



The Mariners' Museum and Park

Howard H. Hoege III
President and CEO

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Ahoy!

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On the Cover:
Ninth-grade science teachers
from Newport News Public Schools
participate in kayak training for an
on-the-water student program
scheduled for spring 2022.

PHOTO: AMANDA SHIELDS



Meet a Mariner

The Crofton Family

The Museum is pleased to introduce you to a whole family of Mariners in this edition of *Ahoy!*

The year was 1949. World War II Navy veteran, Juan Crofton, opened his first diving firm with partner Earnest "Duke" Morris. After Duke's departure, the company became Crofton Diving Corporation, growing exponentially in the second half of the century. The importance of the maritime industry in Hampton Roads and its impact on our country's trade, military, and overall development cannot be overstated. Juan and the love of his life, Bunny Smith Crofton, dedicated their lives to helping maritime industry projects succeed for the benefit of our community.

As Juan and Bunny neared retirement, each of their four children, Camille, Juan (Jay), Robert (Bob), and Kenneth (Kenny), played an essential role in propelling their small family business into a force, making Crofton a household name in the East Coast maritime profession. Offering expertise in diving, marine construction, cranes, and rigging for 72 years now, Crofton Diving Corporation still operates with the serve-first mindset that hallmarked Juan and Bunny's careers. The community grieved when Bunny and later Juan passed away in 2003 and 2011, respectively. Today, if you ask around Crofton's offices or even other companies on the waterfront, folks can't help but smile thinking back on their time with Juan and Bunny.

Top left: *Samson*, a 350-ton floating crane, salvages concrete pilings. Top right: Bob, Camille, Juan, Jay, and Kenny Crofton. Above: Juan's Boys, ca. 1980s.

The Mariners' Museum and Park is proud to call the Crofton family partners in many ways. The youngest Crofton sibling, Kenny, joined the Museum's Board of Trustees in 2015, and he holds a record of distinguished service in that role. In 2019, when the Museum was searching for a solution to lift its 20-ton midget submarine into a new support system for conservation treatment, Kenny knew that his crew could help. With a mobile crane unit and highly skilled professionals, the Crofton team lifted and moved the submarine at no cost to the Museum!

The Croftons' generosity doesn't stop there. This year, the family established The Crofton Diving Corporation Fund in Honor of Juan and Bunny Crofton to foster stability of finances for the Museum's Conservation projects. The Crofton family's legacy is one marked by humility, family values, and servant leadership. We are thankful for this opportunity to conserve objects of our shared maritime heritage while honoring a pair of remarkable Mariners, Juan and Bunny Crofton.

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Nautical skills take flight under the leadership of Tidewater Wooden Boat Workshop's **Tom Brandl** (top photo, far left). The Museum enjoyed hosting these young Mariners as they learned sewing, rowing, painting, and knot tying.

PHOTOS: AMANDA SHIELDS



Nautical Skills Summer Camp

IMAGINE THE IMPACT!

You can't keep a leader like Tom Brandl, executive director of Tidewater Wooden Boat Workshop (TWBW), from doing what he does best: Always have a Plan B. And be ready to execute Plan B without hesitation.

Tom and the not-for-profit TWBW have partnered with the Museum for four years. In the past, students attended a two-week camp, building two 12' Bevin's skiffs. The pandemic forced the Museum to cancel the program in 2020, and earlier this year, in observance of COVID-19 safety protocols, the boatbuilding program was postponed until next summer.

Undaunted and determined to serve young people on the Peninsula, Tom, a US Naval Academy graduate and 29-year career US Marine Corps officer, called upon his crew of nearly 20 volunteers to present a seven-day Nautical Skills Camp at the Museum in August. Watching them report for duty every day was akin to observing a precision drill team. The choreographed movement of people, equipment, and supplies showed the value of being part of a mission-driven team and one whose leader serves with the greater good at heart.

Tom says TWBW's programs strive to: "give our students unique, hands-on learning experiences that are fun and help them build self-confidence. Our favorite words we love to hear them say are, 'I did this!' We help them develop technical and life skills such as communication, teamwork, critical thinking, and problem-solving."

The Museum welcomed an enthusiastic group of middle and high school students, part of a City of Newport News Parks and Recreation Department summer camp program. Each young person rotated through 10 learning stations introducing them to nautical skills, including sewing a canvas ditty bag, sailing remote-controlled model sailboats, rowing a skiff on Mariners' Lake, attending an environmental science class about oysters, and operating a CNC machine. Creativity flowed as the students eagerly painted model boats and tie-dyed T-shirts.

Adding to the students' experience, docents and fellow team members gave gallery tours and curated talks featuring items from the Collections. Everyone was given a one-year Family Membership to the Museum.

The City's Superintendent of Youth Programs Casey Jenkins says, "Museums and their programs are so important for our students. They expand who these young people are and how they develop. The experiences offered by The Mariners' Museum allow our youth to understand different career paths that they may have never been exposed to if not given this opportunity."

The Museum's Director of Strategic Partnerships Sabrina Jones describes this partnership with Parks and Recreation as a way to impact young people in authentic ways: "Many of our programs are one-offs and don't allow us to build a relationship with students. The Tidewater Wooden Boat Workshop's programs are a great example of the deeper connection we seek with the community."

Participants shared feedback about the camp. When asked, "What did you get to do here for the first time?", there was a three-way tie: visiting the Museum, rowing a boat, and operating a sewing machine. Several participants reported their interest is piqued to learn more about the history of boats, especially ironclads. One young Mariner said, "I liked the chance to do the activities with my friends. It was a good time."

Tom Brandl summed it up nicely: "The partnership between our organizations works so well because we are blessed with great staff and volunteers who are mission-driven and flexible. I look forward to our future collaborations." Tom, so do we.

Julie Murphy
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The Legacy of *Princess Carolina*

Eighteenth-century merchant vessel *Princess Carolina* spent more than 250 years buried underneath Water Street in New York City's Manhattan borough. The once-proud ship traversed the Atlantic Ocean from 1716 to 1729, ferrying cargo between Europe, the Caribbean, and New York. But after the 12-year-old ship suffered storm damage during its last voyage, it was abandoned in the East River.

That probably would have been the end of *Princess Carolina*'s story, but fate intervened just eight years later. In 1737, merchant landowners began a project to extend their neighboring properties on Water Street out into the East River beyond the low watermark. The land extensions and a new wharf would make it easier to load and unload ships. According to the city's charter, ownership of the extended property was granted if the "water lots" were completed within 10 years.

The merchants moved the derelict *Princess Carolina* against the shoreline and secured the vessel in place.

Then they began filling the hull and surrounding area with whatever materials they could find, including dirt, trash, foodstuffs, discarded consumer goods, and defective products from their businesses. Ships coming in and out of the harbor

supplied ballast stones, chunks of coral and rock, shells, and goods damaged in transit across the Atlantic.

Princess Carolina's resting spot was discovered during an archaeological survey in January 1982. It was the first colonial merchant ship to be found that allowed opportunities for study and preservation.¹ Unfortunately, it wasn't possible to save the entire ship, so after information was gathered about its design and construction, the most structurally significant pieces, the bow timbers, were removed. They accompanied artifacts found inside the hull to The Mariners' Museum in May 1985.

While conservation treatments to stabilize the bow timbers were underway, the search was on to find the artifacts a permanent home. The Mariners' Museum expressed interest in acquiring them. After much discussion, the Museum was identified as the only institution with the space and resources to care for them properly.



Archaeologists work to remove one of the bow timbers from *Princess Carolina* during the archaeological dig in 1985.
PHOTO: ROBERT ADAMS



Clay pipe bowl decorated with the Hanoverian Arms, British, ca. 1730-1760. Decorated pipe stem, unidentified. The Mariners' Museum 1988.59.17.41 A & B

PHOTO: BROCK SWITZER

These artifacts offer a fascinating look at transatlantic commerce, especially the goods transported in and out of New York and those sold in the city between 1740 and 1770. The collection includes ceramics, pipes, jewelry, wood fragments, buttons, trade beads, shells, building materials, and other items like a child's leather shoe (see Conservation, page 8).

Current work with the artifacts involves researching some of the beautiful decorations and maker's marks on the pipes and pipe stems. Some have already been linked to their Dutch and British manufacturers! Other ongoing projects involve researching ceramic patterns and button designs.

Princess Carolina's legacy to the Museum is an incredible opportunity to share stories of transatlantic trade. The Museum's Collections and supporting storylines encompass six thematic areas (see Exhibitions, page 13). *Princess Carolina* is a perfect

fit for "Commerce." We hope that guests seeing these pieces will imagine traveling across the Atlantic in a merchant ship and buying goods brought in from faraway lands.

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1 Reiss, Warren Curtis, "The Ronson Ship: The study of an eighteenth-century merchantman excavated in Manhattan, New York, in 1982" (1987). Doctoral Dissertation.



Kress Conservation Fellow
Christina Altland applying
deacidification treatment to
a *Princess Carolina* timber.
PHOTO: BROCK SWITZER

From Partnership to Outreach: Treating the Timbers from *Princess Carolina*

In 1981, an archaeological excavation began in Manhattan, New York City. Initially a pre-construction excavation, this project would recover remains from what is believed to be the oldest surviving European-American-built merchant ship: *Princess Carolina*. This vessel sailed transatlantically from its construction in 1716 until it was damaged in 1729 and was eventually used as cribbing for land expansion efforts (Riess, 2015).

During excavation, approximately 330 timbers from the ship's bow were recovered and eventually moved to The Mariners' Museum. Despite best conservation practices at the time, Conservation team members recently noticed concerning areas of the timbers where patches of sulfuric acid have developed. This condition is well known in the conservation field and can cause severe damage to wood, leading to substantial loss in mechanical strength.

Renowned shipwrecks like *Vasa* and *Mary Rose* also suffer from this "disease," and the notoriety of these vessels helped initiate significant research to try and mitigate the issue. In 2019, based on this previous work and in collaboration with international researchers, Museum team members began their own study contributing to this global effort while assessing treatment options for *Princess Carolina*. Over the next year, an extensive condition survey was performed, and a long-term experiment developed.

In fall 2020, the Museum was awarded a grant from the Samuel H. Kress Foundation administered by the Foundation for Advancement in Conservation to continue this work. This funding allowed Christina Altland, an emerging conservation professional, the opportunity to develop valuable skills in research, treatment, and preventive conservation methods while advancing the project.

Throughout the fellowship, Altland performed testing on a series of timbers and was able to identify the most appropriate treatment for the large-scale stabilization of *Princess Carolina*'s timbers. The information gained from comparative analysis of deacidification techniques is a milestone for The Mariners' Museum Collections (mainly *Princess Carolina*, but also for USS *Monitor* organics). While details of the project have been presented to the broader heritage community (SHA, MAHS, WOAM)¹, the Conservation team looks forward to sharing the results at more professional conferences to gather feedback from its peers (Altland and Fleming, 2021; Altland and Sangouard, 2021).

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Sources:

Altland, C. and H. Fleming (2021) "Saving *Princess Carolina*: Renewed Efforts to Preserve an 18th Century Maritime Collection." Maritime Archaeological and Historical Society Newsletter (MAHS News), 32: 2. To be published in fall 2021.

Altland, C. and E. Sangouard (2021) "Deacidification Treatment Testing at The Mariners' Museum and Park." ICOM-CC Wet Organic Archaeological Materials Working Group Newsletter, 60, pp. 18-19.

Riess, W.C. and S. Smith. (2015) *The Ship That Held Up Wall Street*. College Station, TX: Texas A&M University Press.

1 SHA: Society for Historical Archaeology, MAHS: Maritime Archaeological and Historical Society, WOAM: ICOM-CC Wet Organic Archaeological Materials Working Group



Princess Carolina during excavation.

PHOTO: ROBERT ADAMS



Child's leather shoe from the Museum's Ronson collection.



Growing Outdoor Education

at The Mariners' Museum and Park

The Mariners' Museum and Park's mission is simple — serve first. Admittedly, the mission statement reads: “We connect people to the world's waters because that is how we are connected to one another.” That statement, however, is based on service to our community, using our most valuable resources. These resources are what make the Museum a world-class institution: our Collections, our people, this place.

Over the past year, the Museum made significant investments in the Park, lovingly known as our Living Collection. Many of you are no stranger to the beauty of the Noland Trail, the iconic Lions Bridge, and Mariners' Lake. Our team is diligently working to make the Park a place filled with unique learning experiences, adventure, and, as we found during the pandemic, a place to find peace.

In May 2021, the Museum was awarded a grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), supporting the creation of the Mariners' Environmental Co-op, a nod to the spirit of service to our community and collaboration in the environmental arena.

The three-year grant, funded through the Bay Watershed Education and Training (B-WET) program, will support all ninth-grade students participating in a large-scale watershed restoration project. It also includes 30 hours of professional development for Newport News Public Schools science teachers. Partners include Newport News Public Schools, the James River Association, The Center for Educational Partnerships at Old Dominion University, Christopher Newport University, and NOAA National Marine Sanctuaries.

The project will involve multiple school visits in fall and early spring to set up growing stations in the classroom, prepare students for fieldwork, and provide background on pollution issues and solutions in the Chesapeake Bay. In partnership with

the James River Association, students will begin planting native grasses in Mariners' Lake in the spring. Museum educators will visit again in late spring to conduct a wrap-up and knowledge assessment. Lastly, funds through B-WET will provide small grants to science teachers in Newport News to implement student-led action projects, allowing them to address environmental issues they are observing in their community.


At the end of this grant period, the goal is to create environmental stewards who understand the issues facing our region and nation. These young people will feel confident in developing solutions to environmental challenges and gain awareness of potential opportunities in the green jobs sector.

Before creating the Park Department in October 2020, the Park team focused largely on the health and sustainability of this vast natural resource. With that effort well underway, the Museum can turn its focus to meaningful partnerships and experiences, such as B-WET, to ensure the Park is utilized in ways that build the social fabric of our community and prepare students for success. We look forward to sharing updates about this important project with you.

Andrea Rocchio
Senior Science Educator
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Top left: Museum Environmental Science Educator Shantelle Landry showing Casey Ruder, a science teacher in the B-WET program, a bivalve pulled from Mariners' Lake.

Top right: Science teacher Brittany Hutchison participating in the B-WET teacher professional development program.

A woman with brown hair tied back, wearing sunglasses, a light blue long-sleeved shirt, and a red life vest, is kayaking on a calm body of water. She is holding a black paddle and is in the middle of a stroke. The kayak is bright yellow-green. The water is dark green with some ripples. In the background, there are green trees and foliage. The scene is peaceful and scenic.

Victoria Allan, Newport News Public Schools science educator, learning the practice of mindfulness while kayaking, a program scheduled for teachers and students in spring 2022.

A Three-tiered Approach to Reopening Mariners' Lake

Over the past five years, The Mariners' Museum and Park team has been taking intentional steps to reopen Mariners' Lake in a way that is sustainable — environmentally and financially. First, a comprehensive survey and analysis of the Living Collection, including the water and shoreline, was completed. After that, the Park Department was established, and recently, The Mariners' Lake Endowment was created and its growth over time is critical to the Museum's future.

A multi-phased approach is being taken to allow public access to Mariners' Lake. First, we will serve the next generation of Mariners through enrichment programs, creating meaningful environmental educational experiences. Next, we will welcome *you* — our world of champions. And of course, we can't wait to invite everyone in our beloved community to enjoy Mariners' Lake. ***Stay tuned for updates.***

Back from the Brink: The Samuel Hartt Pook Papers



Naval Constructor Samuel Hartt Pook, USN.
Courtesy of Naval History and Heritage
Command # NH 47374.

In May 2016, The Mariners' Museum received an exciting gift. Well, "exciting" might not be the word one would choose to describe the old scrapbook as it arrived — missing both covers, pages torn and tattered, and speckled front to back in bright purple mold stains. But we knew that within the crumbling album was the story of one of the most significant advancements in American Naval history. Because these documents outlined, firsthand, the career of Naval Architect Samuel Hartt Pook.

Before that story could be teased out, the condition of the collection had to be stabilized. So the papers were whisked off to the Batten Conservation Complex Clean Lab for treatment. After a several-month stay in the freezer to deactivate any living mold colonies, that is.

Unfortunately, the poor condition of the scrapbook meant the binding could not be salvaged, so the work began with disbinding and separating the book into 105 documents, each of which individually required substantial treatment. From there,

more than 250 hours have been spent on the conservation of this collection, including vacuuming away surface mold, removing residual acidic binding adhesive, re-sizing severely mold-eaten areas, and mending tears and losses. The treatment is still underway and will culminate with the final step of sleeving each document and rebinding them. This will make the collection safer to handle and more closely represent the original format of the scrapbook, which Pook likely assembled himself.

The treatment of Pook's papers will not be satisfying in the same way other conservation projects might be. There will be no dramatic before- and after-treatment photos, and the documents will not look "pretty" when the work is done. But this treatment isn't about aesthetics. This treatment is about delivering invaluable information from a state of near loss back into the hands of researchers and the public.

The information made available through this treatment provides a narrative of Samuel H. Pook's career with the US Navy between 1866 through 1889. He served as Assistant Naval Constructor, and later, Naval Constructor. Before this, Pook had already risen to prominence with his designs for well-known clipper ships, including *Surprise*, *Witchcraft*, *Game Cock*, *Herald of the Morning*,



PHOTO: BROCK SWITZER

This treatment is about delivering invaluable information from a state of near loss back into the hands of researchers and the public.

and *Red Jacket*, which held a transatlantic speed record. With the onset of the Civil War, Pook and his father, Samuel Moore Pook (also a naval architect), turned their attention to designing warships for the US Navy.

During his career, Pook aided directly in the transition of the US fleet from wooden to iron and steel-hulled warships. As a result, his influence can be seen in naval ship design to this day. And his papers, available in January 2022 for digital and in-person research, provide rich context for the study of naval architecture and history during the Civil War and beyond.

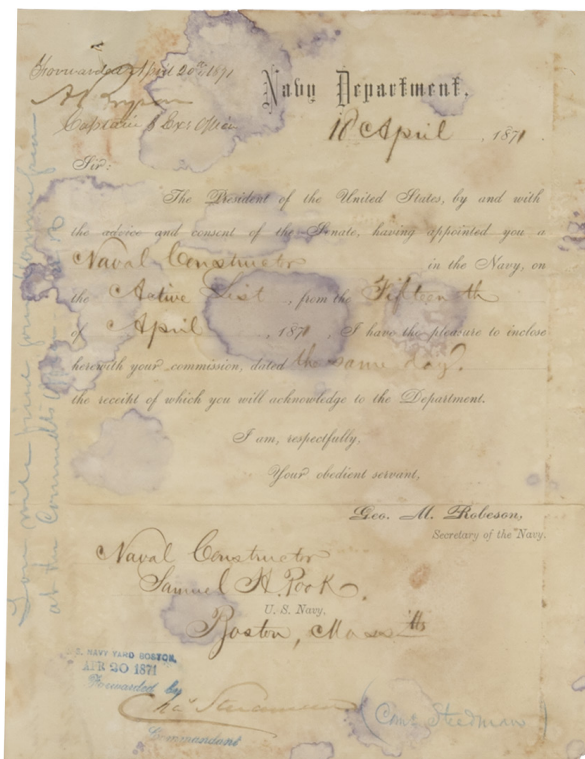
The Museum thanks John C. and Rhonda Frohingham and family, descendants of Samuel H. Pook, for this collection and other generous gifts.

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Letter appointing Samuel H. Pook to Naval Constructor, dated April 18, 1871, signed by Secretary of the Navy George M. Robeson. The Mariners' Museum MS0631

Exploration

Setting a New Course

Over the past 20 years, The Mariners' Museum team has created many excellent temporary exhibitions, but they have not allowed us to address the changes needed throughout our core galleries. As we look out to the beginning of the Museum's second century in 2030, we are excited about developing a vision for reimagining our long-term galleries around these six core themes: Exploration, Commerce, Conflict, Technology, Recreation, and Inspiration.

And we are beginning with a gallery dedicated to maritime exploration! Exploration is one of the most popular topics of interest and research on the Museum's website and is recognized by the Virginia Standards of Learning. The current *Age of Exploration* focuses primarily on European exploration of the new world, ending in the 18th century. However, maritime exploration is so much broader than just that period. In fact, it continues today.



Museum Science Educator Shantelle Landry shares the story of tapa cloth. Made from breadfruit or mulberry tree bark, Melanesian people wear garments made of this cloth.

Creating New Experiences

Like any major voyage of exploration, before the ships leave the dock there is a lot of planning and preparation. For us, we are changing our process of developing an exhibition. That, too, requires a lot of planning and preparation. For some of us who have been producing exhibitions for a long time, this new process is a lot like sailing over the horizon into the unknown for the first time!

We are beginning with a couple of hypotheses: we desire to tell a more broad-based story of exploration; and we want to create "space" to include more voices and cultural experiences in new ways.



Lyles Forbes, vice president of collections and chief curator, looks forward to the Museum expanding Exploration's lens to include other cultures, including Indigenous Pacific Islanders.

Rather than the tired, unoriginal chronological approach to the subject, our team is looking at more universal themes: *Why We Explore*, *How We Explore*, and *Where We Explore*. We want to create a storyline that has the flexibility to evolve to include new stories and objects, rather than an exhibit that remains static. This allows us to include an increasing set of new voices to the gallery experience over time, which is exciting.

Another big change is our process for developing exhibitions. In the past, curators and others have taken a concept and crafted it into a three-dimensional exhibition experience. The process, however, generally leaves the audience out of the development and creation of the exhibition. As we move forward serving our community through our renowned Collections, we will be asking Members and guests to help us create the Exploration storyline.

This fall, Museum team members will be removing the *Age of Exploration* and *The Nelson Touch* galleries to make way for this new experience. The new exhibition will evolve as we test and prototype concepts, stories, objects, and exhibition techniques – based on valuable input from you, members of the community.

You will see Museum team members in the gallery space and out in the International Small Craft Center, seeking your input over the next several months. And we hope that you will take this opportunity to join us on this new adventure to create something dynamic and impactful.

Lyles Forbes

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*“Man cannot discover new oceans unless he
has the courage to lose sight of the shore.”
— André Gide*



Jennifer Hackney, senior material culture educator, describes a wooden ruvettus hook used by Pacific Islanders to catch ruvettus (oilfish).



PLANTING SEEDS FOR THE FUTURE

The Museum's approach to philanthropy and the work the Advancement team is putting forward centers around building a strong foundation to sustain robust goals and a resilient future. It is clear that this foundation can only be built in partnership with our community: individuals, public and private organizations, foundations, and others.

Strong partnerships and financial investments are imperative to continue to execute our *Collections-Based, Community-Focused* strategy and to fulfill our mission. As we begin preparing for the Museum's 100th Anniversary in 2030, we cannot help but be inspired and encouraged by many early wins while we continue planting seeds for the future.


Creating a lasting legacy

The past five years have been dedicated to building strong relationships and increasing the Museum's financial resources so

we can effectively serve our community. One of our team's main efforts to ensure financial viability is growing our endowment. Endowed gifts build lasting financial strength and provide permanent support for student programs, conservation, research, the Park and Noland Trail, and much more. These gifts — and all future earnings from them — are a continuous source of financial resources. And the everlasting legacy of those who create these funds is preserved for generations to come.

There is a misconception that donations to endowment funds are for gifts of six figures or larger. In truth, the Museum has established 17 endowment funds, with principal gifts ranging from \$25,000 to \$10 million.





*Every gift, no matter the size,
gets us closer to reaching our goals!*

In addition to gifts that establish endowment funds, members of our community have donated to established funds that support the work about which they are most passionate. These gifts range from \$10 to \$100,000 and have been directed toward funds, including The Noland Trail Endowment, The Mariners' Conservation Endowment, and The Mariners' Lake Endowment. Through other pledges, bequests, and planned giving commitments, we have secured additional funding. The value of the endowment today, not including these planned giving commitments, is \$8.8 million.

Every gift, no matter the size, gets us closer to reaching our goals!

The next great challenge

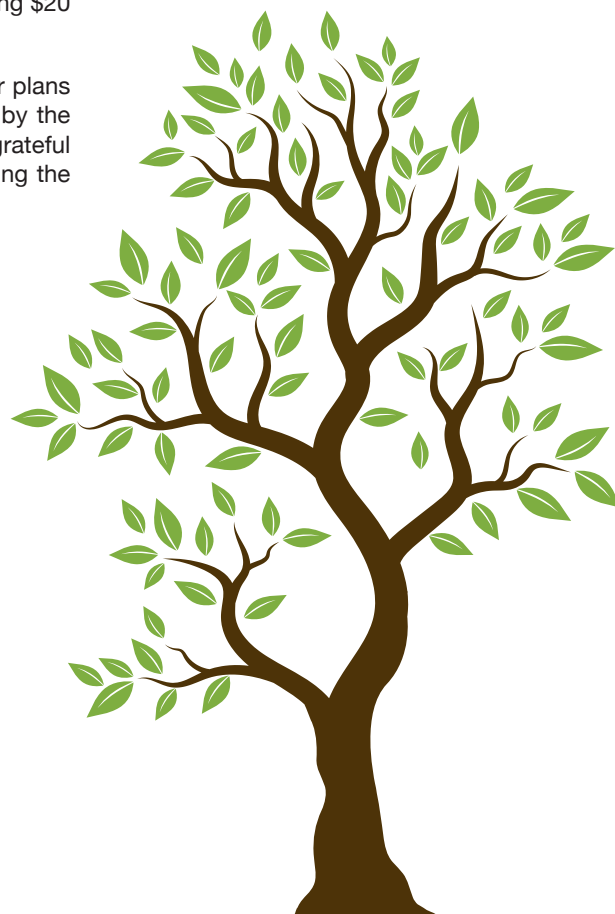
The examples above showcase the power of our community and the significant role it plays in moving the institution forward. Our supporters have shown determination to work hand in hand with us. Because we know that we have an entire community that believes in our work and invests in our mission, we are confident in setting big goals.

Our work to strategically raise endowment funds began before 2019, but when The Batten Foundation made a \$10 million gift to permanently endow the Museum's \$1 Admission policy, the clock on raising endowment started ticking. You may recall that the first \$5 million was an outright gift to the Museum, while the second \$5 million is conditioned on our raising \$5 million in new funds, whether for endowment or capital projects. To date, the Museum has raised more than \$1.75 million toward that match.

To meet the Batten match by the end of 2022, we have \$3.25 million left to raise. But our goal does not stop there. We have set our sights on raising \$20 million in endowment by December 2022.

Over the next months and coming years, we will continue to share our plans and aspirations. Our financial goals are ambitious, but we are driven by the immense impact that endowment has on fulfilling our mission. We are grateful to all who have joined us in this effort and are looking forward to seeing the Mariners' grow from the seeds we are planting today.

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PHOTOS: AMANDA SHIELDS



Serving the next generation!

In 2013, The Bronze Door Society laid the foundation for what would become one of the Museum's most impactful initiatives in serving our local community of young Mariners by fully funding our free membership program for students.

Since its inception, the student membership program has served nearly 1,300 students and families in the seven cities of Hampton Roads. These students are primarily in the fifth and sixth grades and have visited the Museum as part of our in-person Educational Enrichment Programs. The ownership these young people have, knowing this is *their* Museum, is inspiring! They arrive at The Mariners' Museum with their membership cards in hand, enthusiastically ready to lead their families through the galleries, embracing all the Museum offers.

Today, this legacy continues through the work of our Advancement team. Each educationally focused grant supports the Museum's one-year free membership program for students and their families, as well as teachers. The impact of our corporate and foundation partners will be appreciated by generations of young Mariners for years to come!

Sara Weatherill

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President and CEO Howard H. Hoege III (left) doing what he truly loves to do — help Museum guests discover their maritime connections.

MUSEUM CALENDAR

All programs are virtual unless otherwise noted and are subject to change. Times are ET.



Make a child's dream come true!

Donate a toy this holiday season

Now through December 11, 2021 donate to Toys for Tots! Bring the joy of the holidays and send a message of hope to America's less fortunate children. Please bring a new unwrapped toy (newborn - 11 years old) on your next visit to the Museum. Look for the donation box in the Main Lobby.

Visit MarinersMuseum.org for details.

Meeting You Where You Are

IN PERSON



VIRTUAL

Whether you are ready to get back out into the world, or maybe you still feel more comfortable at home, The Mariners' Museum and Park wants you to know that we are *Your* Museum, and we are here to serve *You*!

As we look ahead to the coming year, we cannot wait to invite you back into our galleries and program spaces to help you engage more fully with your maritime connections. We are developing safe, unique, and inviting in-person programs while simultaneously strengthening our virtual offerings.

Visit MarinersMuseum.org for a full listing of upcoming in-person and virtual programs. Missed a program or want to see it again? Go to [YouTube.com/TheMarinersMuseum](https://www.youtube.com/TheMarinersMuseum). If you have any questions or need assistance, the Guest Relations team is here to help!

Contact customerservice@MarinersMuseum.org.

NOVEMBER

- Nov 14 **Friendly Hours (IN PERSON)**
9 AM FREE with \$1 admission
- Nov 18 **Evening Lecture: *The Arbournaut***
7 PM Presenter: Meg Lowman, PhD
- Nov 19 **Civil War & Hampton Roads History Lecture**
12 PM Naval Intelligence in Hampton Roads: 1861-'62
Presenter: John V. Quarstein
- Nov 28 - **12 Days of Holiday Shopping**
Dec 9 Members enjoy 20% off, in person or online using promo code SHOP20
- Nov 30 **Giving Tuesday:** Donate to our Mariners' Park. Preserve Today, Inspire Forever.

DECEMBER

- Dec 3 **Civil War Discussion (IN PERSON)**
12 PM Battle of Fredericksburg
Presenter: John V. Quarstein
- Dec 4 **Wreathing of the Lions**
1 PM Presented by The Bronze Door Society
- Dec 9 **Evening Lecture: *Icebound: Shipwrecked at the Edge of the World***
7 PM Presenter: Andrea Pitzer
- Dec 10 **Civil War Lecture:**
12 PM Rear Admiral Stephen Decatur Trenchard
Presenter: John V. Quarstein
- Dec 11 **Toys for Tots:**
Final Drop-off day
- Dec 11 **Speakers' Bureau:**
11 AM Three Men, Three Gifts, and a Journey
Presenter: Erika Cosme
- Dec 12 **Friendly Hours (IN PERSON)**
9 AM FREE with \$1 admission
- Dec 17 **Civil War Lecture:**
12 PM 19th-century Holiday Traditions
Presenter: John V. Quarstein

JANUARY

- Jan 7 **Hampton Roads History Lecture: Diversity**
12 PM Among Lighthouse Keepers in Southeast VA
Presenter: Benjamin H. Trask
- Jan 9 **Friendly Hours (IN PERSON)**
9 AM FREE with \$1 admission
- Jan 14 **Hampton Roads History Lecture: Blackbeard**
9 AM Presenter: John V. Quarstein
- Jan 28 **Civil War Lecture: Battle of Trent's Reach**
12 PM Presenter: John V. Quarstein

FEBRUARY

- Feb **Black History Month**
In-gallery and virtual programming
- Feb 13 **Friendly Hours (IN PERSON)**
9 AM FREE with \$1 admission
- Feb 17 **Evening Lecture: Emphatically, the Black Man's President: African Americans and Lincoln**
7 PM Presenter: Jonathan W. White
- Feb 26 **Capt. Henry Marx Memorial US Sailing International Offshore Safety at Sea Hands-on Training Only**

For additional programs & events, visit MarinersMuseum.org.

MarinersMuseum.org

Explore new ways to engage with the Museum, in person and virtually. Learn more about the Museum's Collections and how we can help you discover your own maritime connections!

Contact us for more information:

Guest Relations
(757) 596-2222

Membership
(757) 591-7740

Advancement
(757) 591-7705

Education
(757) 591-7745

Volunteer Services
(757) 591-7712

Park
(757) 591-7741

Library
(757) 591-7782

Museum Shop
(757) 591-7792

MUSEUM ADMISSION IS \$1 PER PERSON.



@MarinersMuseum • #IamaMariner



100 Museum Drive
Newport News, VA 23606

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12 Days

of Holiday Shopping

November 28 - December 9

Members enjoy a
double discount.

20% OFF select items
when you shop in store
or online using
promo code
SHOP20

shop.MarinersMuseum.org