SPRING/SUMMER 2026

Ahoy!

The Mariners' Museum and Park

FEATURING OUR NEW ANNUAL REPORT

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

To our World of Champions,

What a beautiful cover on this edition of *Ahoy!* Visually, the color and composition of Amanda Shields's photo are stunning. Amanda tells a powerful story, too, through the image. This small but mighty pollinator is setting in motion the fertilization, seed production, fruit production, and reproduction that leads to a vibrant ecosystem. Without the pollinator's work, the ecosystem collapses. That work is never done, of course, and reflects the intersection of powerful concepts like maintenance, growth, and sustainability.

It struck me that each of the articles in this edition of *Ahoy!* speak to the exact same intersection of concepts. Our Mariners' Team, our World of Champions, our local, national, and global communities we serve, are all increasingly speaking and writing about our work LESS in terms of discrete projects that we start and complete, and MORE in terms of the maintenance, growth, and sustainability of the work and its impact in the world.

Look for these concepts as you read these articles yourself. I suspect that you will notice one other thing. If you follow this metaphor of Mariners' Team / World of Champions / Community Member = "pollinator," you see that each of the articles features "pollinators" doing work in the Collection (Stewardship) and the Community (Engagement). In other words, all of this effort follows our Collections-Based, Community-Focused Strategy. Even more importantly, over and over again, you see images and read stories of "pollinators" doing this work together. The work, itself, is fostering connection between people – the work, itself, is accomplishing our Mariners' Mission.

Finally, this edition of *Ahoy!* includes an annual report and an opportunity to make a mid-year investment in our Mariners' Team and Mission. I, and our entire Mariners' Team, would be humbled by, and grateful for, anything you might contribute. It is also my sincere hope that you see in the stories ahead that your past investment has, and any future investment you make will – all at once – fuel the maintenance, growth, AND sustainability of the impact detailed in the pages that follow.

With Gratitude,

Howard H. Hoege III
President and CEO

The Mariners' Museum and Park®

The Mariners' Museum and Park

Howard H. Hoege III
President and CEO

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A bee sits atop a Sweet Goldenrod in Mariners' Park
Photo:
Amanda Shields

MEET A MARINER
Louisa Hoffman

TOP Louisa works on her ship model in the ship modelmaker's booth.
BOTTOM The product of Louisa's hard work and creativity: *Jolly Roger.*
PHOTO Will Hoffman/The Mariners' Museum and Park

Most seven-year-olds spend their free time exploring the outdoors, playing with their friends, or watching TV. While Louisa Hoffman also enjoys those activities, she engages in something not many young people do: ship model making. It might seem a tad unusual for someone so young to be interested in making models of ships, but for someone as creative as Louisa, it makes perfect sense. She loves art, making things with her hands, enjoys spending time on the beach, and, most importantly, spending time with her dad.

If you haven't made the connection yet, Louisa is the daughter of The Mariners' very own Director of Conservation and Chief Conservator Will Hoffman! Louisa has visited The Mariners' numerous times since her birth, and Will recalls her expressing a desire to build a ship model with him at the Museum. After securing a ship model kit that Louisa's grandmother found in a thrift store, Will only needed to ask Beth Heaton, The Mariners' Volunteer Manager, and Model Maker Ron Lewis for permission to use the Model Maker Booth. With their permission, Will and Louisa spent two Sundays putting together their ship model, which they dubbed *Jolly Roger.*

Her favorite part of making the model was getting to paint it and add cotton balls to give the illusion of the ship flying through the air. The hardest part was adding the rigging to the masts and sails, a task that Louisa generously let her dad take the lead on.

Will and Louisa reflect on the days they spent building a ship model. "It's a great way to spend time with one another," comments Will. Louisa agrees and adds that she loved talking to guests who stopped by the booth while she was working. "I think they were surprised to see me!" she stated. It's no shock that guests may have done a double-take – seeing a seven-year-old making a ship model isn't a common occurrence. But Louisa proves that anyone at any age can try something new. And you never know, you might just be good at it!

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PUTTING THE FUTURE INTO FOCUS

If you're a longtime member of The Mariners', then you know that the school-aged child is the largest and most important community segment we serve. The Education Team is proud of the impact it has on young minds through Educational Enrichment Programs (EEPs) and is always seeking new ways to innovate and foster meaningful learning. This year, we are focusing on a new kind of exploration within our galleries and outdoor spaces – career exploration!

When students engage in career exploration, they're not only evaluating their professional and occupational options, they're also learning about themselves, their values, and their goals beyond a career setting. The Education Team is uniquely positioned to support students in their vocational development thanks to our multiple-engagement model, where educators engage with students several times throughout their academic careers. These repeated engagements align with a widely accepted theory of social development[1] that states that vocational development is a lifelong process people undergo that can be separated into five stages: growth, exploration, establishment, maintenance, and decline. Currently, Mariners' EEPs are well-positioned to support the growth and exploration stages.

During the growth stage, students begin to imagine themselves in different careers and develop a sense of awareness of future possibilities. Through storytimes, interactive games, and hands-on crafts, young learners engage with career concepts, often without realizing it. Our early childhood EEPs, designed for students Pre-K through second grade, align well with this stage.

In the exploration stage, individuals engage in experiences that inform their future career and vocational choices. This is where students start to

1. Super, Donald. "A theory of vocational development," American Psychologist 8, 5 (1953): 185-190, https://doi.org/10.1037/h0056046.

LEFT High school students bore out one of USS *Monitor*'s guns using tools they created, just like the Mariners' Conservation Team.
RIGHT Sixth-grade students act as underwater archaeologists and map the "debris field" of the USS *Monitor* wreck site.
BOTTOM Docent Paul Mulherin uses his skills as a retired shipyard engineer to talk about deep sea exploration with a fifth-grade class.
PHOTOS Amanda Shields & Ann Marie Jenkins

understand themselves and the world around them, crystallize their career interests, and consider pursuing the necessary education or experiences to accomplish their goals. EEPs for late elementary, middle, and high school students offer experiences that are helpful during the exploration stage.

We use two strategies to encourage career exploration: direct and indirect. For The Mariners', direct career exploration includes explicitly talking about what our Library and Archives Team does, showing photos of our Facilities Team at work, or connecting a student's interest in video games to a career as an ROV pilot. Conversely, we can tap into more indirect exploration by screening the YouTube Shorts our Multimedia Productions Team has made, teaching in spaces that showcase the real work our Conservation Team is doing, and highlighting connections with our docents and volunteers during programming.

The Education Team is actively employing both strategies across all of our EEPs in the hopes of exposing students to as many diverse career paths as possible. The Mariners' is such a unique intersection of voices and stories that we don't have to look too far for ways to inspire the next generation of conservators, shipbuilders, archivists, or horticulturists!

Claudia Moncada-Wireman
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LEFT Elsa carefully handles timbers from *Princess Carolina* in the Batten Conservation Complex workroom. **RIGHT** Elsa stands in front of some of *Princess Carolina's* timbers and next to the "Rosloff model" of the bow. Jay Rosloff was a student at Texas A&M and made this model — now part of the Museum's Collection — in 1985. **PHOTOS** Brian Townsend

PRESERVING THE PRINCESS

How We're Using Nanoparticles to Treat *Princess Carolina*

With an undergrad in physics and chemistry, a conservation degree, and a master's in archaeology, Elsa Sangouard's scientific background – and her love of nature and the ocean – are essential to critical conservation efforts at The Mariners'. As the Senior Archaeological Conservator, she lends her expertise to the conservation of multiple ships, including *Princess Carolina*. Elsa spoke with us about *Princess Carolina*'s status and the innovative role nanoparticles play in treating this storied vessel.

What is *Princess Carolina*, and why is it important?

Princess Carolina was a merchant ship built in 1717 in Charleston, South Carolina. We have excellent plans, blueprints, and records of how warships were built during that period, but we know far less about merchant ships. *Princess Carolina*'s timbers indicate a "clunky" construction, yet very functional, giving us insight into how merchant ships were actually built and used.

Each object comes with its own unique set of challenges as it relates to conservation. With *Princess Carolina*, it's acidification. Can you tell us what that is?

Acidification is when a material's pH shifts toward the lower, more acidic end of the pH scale. Oak, which comprises most of *Princess Carolina*'s timbers, naturally has a slightly acidic pH. However, certain types of degradation form sulfuric acid, a strong acid, decreasing the pH further and breaking down cellulose chains and weakening the wood. The wood becomes very soft, particularly around former holes where iron bolts once sat.

The degradation process requires three main factors: high relative humidity, sulfur compounds, and iron ions. Sulfur compounds can accumulate naturally in waterlogged environments and are also produced by sulfur-reducing bacteria. Iron ions act as catalysts in the reaction.

The timbers were in an uncontrolled environment for nearly 40 years, reaching high relative humidity in the summer. Treatments in the 1980s attempted to remove iron, but some residues remained, contributing to the acidification we later observed.

How are nanoparticles being used in treatment?

In 2019–2020, former Mariners' intern Christina Atland extensively evaluated slightly alkaline (basic) solutions, also called "nanoparticle dispersions," that could neutralize acidity.

She compared them to treatments used in laboratories around the world facing similar issues. Her work determined which particles penetrated deepest, produced the best neutralization results, and were easiest to handle safely.

Now, thanks to the Maritime Heritage Grant, we're applying that treatment to 80 timbers that make up the bow and the bow's knee.

Treatment takes about 2–3 weeks for a small group of timbers. After treatment, they're scanned using a handheld 3D scanner, generously funded by The Bronze Door Society. These scans allow us to digitally reconstruct the bow and eventually design a custom cradle so the timbers can be safely assembled and, ultimately, placed on display.

What fascinates you most about *Princess Carolina*'s journey?

What I find most fascinating is imagining this relatively small, roughly built merchant ship crossing the vast Atlantic with no GPS and only about 16 crew members.

Another fascinating detail involves teredo worms, which infest wooden ships. Different species inhabit different oceans. The species found in *Princess Carolina*'s timbers suggests the ship had either traveled to or had contact with ships from the Pacific regions.

Historical records show *Princess Carolina* visited major ports such as London, Lisbon, Barcelona, and Madeira. Of the possible ship candidates, this travel history made it the strongest match.

What does future success look like for *Princess Carolina*?

Success would mean an assembled bow on display, a strong representation of the 14,000+ associated artifacts excavated with the ship, and continued research.

The site eventually became landfill, and we have a wide range of materials, including leather, tools, and everyday colonial-era objects. There's still much to study. Student research and continued scholarship would help deepen the story.

It's rewarding to be at a stage where we can see real progress and a clear path forward. There's such strong institutional support and collaboration – and that makes a big difference.

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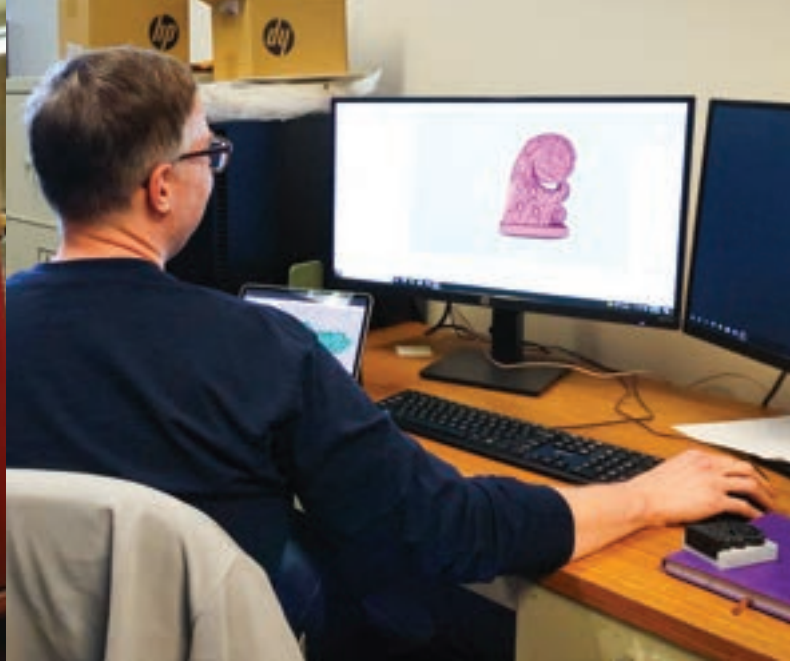
BRINGING HISTORY TO LIFE WITH 3D PRINTING

3D scanning technology isn't new – far from it – and as far back as the early 2000s, The Mariners' Museum has been experimenting with 3D scanning and applying it to cultural heritage projects. The problem was that the work always had to be performed by external vendors.

This presented two main challenges. The first was that the data could be delivered in formats we cannot work with if we lack the necessary, often proprietary, software. The second was a general lack of knowledge on our team about what to do with that data once it is delivered.



LEFT 3D scanning *Princess Carolina*'s timbers will advance conservation efforts for the ship.
ABOVE Brock scans the USS *Saratoga* billethead to provide 3D prints the team can easily use to tell its story.
BELOW History is in the palm of our team's hands with these 3D-printed amphorae miniature copies.
PHOTOS Brian Townsend and Emily Ransone

In 2017, our team began experimenting with photogrammetry, a form of 3D imaging that utilizes photographs and location targets to assemble a model of an object. Photogrammetry has its uses, but is a cumbersome and time-consuming process that creates a model lacking the precision required for many use cases. Recognizing these limitations, our team began exploring ways to build this expertise in-house and gain greater control over the process. On the other end of the spectrum is laser scanning, a highly precise method, but extremely expensive. So we met in the middle, identifying structured light scanning as our aim. Structured light scanners project a pattern of light onto the surface of an object and read the distortion of that light to create a 3D model. While structured light scanning is not quite as precise as laser scanning, it is still accurate to within 0.2 mm.

Thanks to generous funding from The Bronze Door Society in 2024, we purchased our very own Artec Leo structured light scanner and received training in its operation. Where photogrammetry is a labor-intensive process, the Leo can capture a scan without location targets, and a moderately sized object can be fully scanned in as little as 10 minutes and processed in as few as 20.

We began testing use cases for 3D scanning in 2025, focusing on conservation and access applications.One of the first projects was to scan the billethead from USS *Saratoga*. Our goal was to 3D print the model and paint it gold.

Analysis of the paint on the billethead revealed a thin layer of gold, leading us to believe it was originally gilded. The gold-painted 3D print allows us to demonstrate how it might have looked in its day without the lengthy and expensive process of stripping the paint from the original piece.

In another use case, we scanned one of our amphorae and printed several miniature copies. Meanwhile, our Custom Production Team is creating a small cutaway of a ship's hull in which the 3D printed amphorae can be stacked. This will allow our Curatorial and Education Teams to show our guests how amphorae were used to transport goods in ancient times through a hands-on activity.

Most recently, in October 2015, we began a project to deacidify the timbers from the ship *Princess Carolina*. As treatment is completed, each timber is 3D scanned. These scans will later be combined to create a digital reassembly of the ship's bow. The digital reconstruction will allow our team to begin planning mounting solutions to eventually reconstruct the timbers in our galleries – all without moving or directly touching the original objects.

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HOW A NEW MAT CUTTER IS TRANSFORMING COLLECTIONS STEWARDSHIP

In 2023, The Bronze Door Society graciously funded a new computerized mat cutter (CMC). The Museum's previous mat cutter was no longer serviceable and was running on a 25-year-old operating system. The new CMC, Swiss-engineered Gunnar AiOX Professional XL, arrived at the Museum in January 2024. A Gunnar service technician then assembled the machine and provided a two-day training to Museum staff on how to operate and maintain our new CMC.

The Gunnar mat cutter not only cuts mats more efficiently and precisely than the old mat cutter, but it also provides new opportunities to make custom boxes and other types of enclosures. The mat cutter's software offers a variety of built-in, customizable templates for mats, boxes, and folders, with the added flexibility for users to create their own custom designs.

Proper storage enclosures are essential for the long-term preservation of the Library, Archival, and Object Collections because they provide protection from agents of deterioration: physical force, light, pests, and pollutants. Enclosures are not only important for keeping Collection materials safe in storage, but they also facilitate greater access to the Collection by minimizing the risk of direct handling.

Here are a few recent examples of how departments have utilized the mat cutter:

Archives:

- Cut over 200 folders and 30 boxes to house the Marples Archival Collection, containing plans related to trimarans

Conservation:

- Created 64 new enclosures for books with hazards, such as mold and heavy metal pigments
- Created 15 standard-sized mats for the 2D Collection (prints and drawings)
- Created 11 boxes for artifacts associated with USS *Monitor*'s skeg assembly
- Created holders for polarized filters that are used to identify film bases

Library:

- Created over 100 custom enclosures to house registers and other non-permanent Library Collection materials

We have already accomplished so much with the mat cutter and have more projects lined up for this year. The Library plans to cut an additional 100+ enclosures to rehouse rare books, and Conservation will continue creating standardized mats for the 2D Collection.

The CMC is an amazing tool that has cut down on hundreds of staff hours spent manually building custom enclosures, which has allowed our team to focus on other ways to better steward the Museum's Collection. We are excited to continue refining our use of the mat cutter and finding new ways to maximize its capabilities.

Montana Coward
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LEFT The Gunnar mat cutter's software allows Montana to create custom designs for various projects.
BELOW After creating the design for a box, Montana cuts and assembles the final product.
PHOTOS Brian Townsend

WILD ABOUT NATIVE SPECIES

In Mariners' Park

Mariners' Park contains a wonderful diversity of plants, most of which are native to the area. However, several invasive species exist in the Park, outcompeting native plants for space and resources. For years, the Park Team has been reducing the number of invasive plants present. A great example is the recently completed Discovery Project. As part of the project, Mariners' Horticulturist Crew Lead Sav Allen designed and planted a 3,286-square-foot all-native landscape to support local pollinators. The area was overgrown with English ivy – now it hosts species like dotted mint, hay scented fern, and columbines. This new landscape, along with the raised pollinator garden bed, supports a variety of native pollinators!

The successful undertaking of the Discovery Project allowed the Park Team to set their sights on a bigger project: removing invasive plant species from 100 acres of Mariners' Park. With the help of a 2020 Community Forest Management Plan created by the Virginia Department of Forestry, the Landscape and Forestry Teams identified six areas with the largest amount of invasives. They contain Japanese Wisteria, stilt grass, English ivy, periwinkle, Chinese privet, Japanese honeysuckle, Bradford pear, autumn olive, wintercreeper, multiflora rose, white mulberry, yellow iris, and mimosa tree.

In September 2024, after a tremendous amount of work from the Advancement and Park staff, Mariners' Park received its largest-ever grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation through their Watershed Investments for Landscape Defense (WILD) grant. The grant funds the removal of invasive groundcover in all six areas and native replanting in four of the identified sites. With the eradication of invasive plants in these areas, the Park Team aims to increase native plant groundcover with the hope of increasing native insect populations. These insects will provide food and habitat for 32 imperiled bird species in Mariners' Park, as identified by Katrina Kelso, staff horticulturist.

LEFT Mariners' staff and volunteers clear out Japanese Wisteria, English Ivy, and Periwinkle — all examples of invasive species that crowd out our local habitat.
ABOVE Arborist Danny Bandula removes a Chinese privet, an aggressive invasive species. The shrub will be replaced with native species that better support the health of Mariners' Forest.
RIGHT A Red-eared slider (*Trachemys scripta elegans*) chills out at Mariners' Lake.
PHOTOS Kyra Duffley and Brian Townsend

After the Advancement Team received a categorical exclusion through the National Environmental Policy Act in fall 2025, work on the project began earlier this year with the removal of invasive plants and trees near Loop Road Path. Staff and volunteers will continue to remove invasives through winter 2027 in areas near the Noland Trail, the SS *United States* propeller wall, and Copeland Field. The project will culminate in spring 2027, where staff and volunteers will plant natives to restore habitats. Examples of plants include shortleaf pine, buttonbush, and mayapple.

To track the grant's progress, visit the team's new WILD Wednesdays monthly blog series on MarinersMuseum.org. There, you can learn more about natives and invasives, wildlife benefits, and partnerships! If you'd like to volunteer to help remove invasive species in Mariners' Park, please contact bheaton@MarinersMuseum.org.

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MINDFULNESS MOMENT

Do you ever feel worn down by the struggle of working toward a better future? It can feel frustrating to face the waves of challenges to our happiness and peacefulness that show up every day. We may even choose to pause our effort to think about these things for ourselves until things get better or a big project is finally finished. Do you tell yourself that if you keep working hard and just "push through it," you'll get to it later?

Trading our happiness and peacefulness for the hope we will find it in the future comes with risks and can pull us away from ever showing up to notice when good things actually arrive. We are now in the future created by those who came before. Our hopeful ancestors and past selves planned, toiled, and cultivated opportunities for our happiness and peace. Would you squander their gifts? We honor them by taking time in the present moment to fill our lives with this abundance. Noticing beauty, savoring positive experiences, breathing deeply, and finding stillness are ripe on the vine, awaiting harvest, and take just as much time to engage as worry, blame, and shame, which are low-hanging fruits when we feel stress. What we feed our hearts reflects in our relationships with others, including our past and future selves, and fuels us for the work ahead. This is your invitation to self-kindness, to take time to open to the goodness you are working so hard to provide for others, found only in this moment.

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EXPERIENCING THE POWER OF SHARED DISCOVERY THROUGH GROUP TOURS

TOP The council from Newport News' sister city, Cork County, Ireland, tours the Museum with Vice President of Collections and Chief Curator Lyles Forbes.
BOTTOM A group of new hires from Newport News Shipbuilding tours the galleries to learn more about the history of the Shipbuilding.
PHOTOS Kyra Duffley, Amanda Shields, and Tim Kines

There is something special about experiencing a museum together. A gallery becomes more than a quiet place to observe artifacts; it becomes a space for questions and conversation. One person notices a detail in a ship model, another recalls a story from their own experience, and familiar objects begin to take on new meaning as our staff helps connect the stories behind them.

Guided group tours often create moments like these. Whether it's a community organization, family, or a gathering of Museum Members, exploring together invites people to share perspectives and curiosities. These shared experiences are what we aim to create when a group reaches out to us about how they can best connect with our Museum.

One recent example comes from a member of our Bronze Door Society, Ingrid Knowlton, who reflected on a special curator-guided tour at the Museum. Their story showcases how curiosity, connection, and discovery unfold when a group explores the Collection with a Museum expert.

"On a frigid January morning, long-standing and brand new Bronze Door Society members gathered for hot coffee, sweet treats, and warmhearted conversation. Following our morning social, the group was introduced to Wisteria Perry, Associate Curator, Community Engagement, who led us on a private Museum tour.

As we began, Wisteria guided us to specific artifacts in the Collection. The first was a simple ship's nameboard, Lydia Skolfield. She explained the extensive research and records maintained for each piece. The investigation on one piece often leads to more questions than answers. However, diligent sleuthing almost always leads to deeper understanding of the human stories surrounding an object. It links random artifacts that allow a maritime story to be told. It is tedious work, but well worth the effort. Wisteria explained that the nameboard, one which most visitors may not even notice, was associated with a figurehead. The figurehead was then further linked to a random photograph in our vast Collection. The three objects told the story of the Skolfield family, three generations of New Englanders whose livelihood was the sea. Each item has a unique story, but by making these kinds of connections, we all can gain a deeper understanding of our shared maritime history.

Wisteria's knowledge is vast, but her dedication to The Mariners' Museum is what stood out to all of us. This shared passion is what truly connects The BDS and all who love The Mariners' Museum and Park. Look for more informal get-togethers for BDS members this spring."

Group Experiences like this are what make group visits to the Museum so important. When people have the opportunity to explore the Collection on a tour, guided by the knowledge and passion of our staff, the visit becomes something deeper – an experience that creates meaningful connections to maritime history and to one another.

Want to learn more about Group Experiences? Contact Johnnie Barefoot by phone at 757-591-7716 or email groupexperiences@MarinersMuseum.org

Want to learn more about The Bronze Door Society? Contact Sherri Fosdick by phone at 757-591-7730 or email sfosdick@MarinersMuseum.org

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ABOVE Elsa Sangouard teaches the Colonial Williamsburg Blacksmithing Convention about *Monitor*'s conservation during a tour of the Batten Conservation Complex.

BACKGROUND Gantry Crane, MS0772. Item #: MS0772/01-05#063.

Collis P. Huntington photo. Cerinda Evans Papers, MS0004. Item #: MS0004/-04.01#13.

Archer Milton Huntington, 1959. Herbert Bohnert, oil on canvas. Gift of the artist. The Mariners' Museum and Park.

THE SHIPYARD THAT BUILT A CITY

140 Years of Newport News Shipbuilding

In 1886, Newport News was not really a city, but rather a small, rural area of about four square miles and a population of only a few thousand people. But Collis Huntington saw this area as a pivotal location for maritime industry.

Huntington's story is one of rags to riches. He was the sixth of nine children growing up in Connecticut in a poor family. Leaving home at the age of 14 to find work, he would go on to establish himself as a successful businessman and railroad tycoon. It would be the Chesapeake and Ohio (C&O) Railway that would lead to one of his most unique accomplishments.

Huntington extended the railway line from Richmond to Newport News. Here, Huntington created a shipyard to serve as a ship repair facility to service the vessels arriving at the C&O terminus. The Chesapeake Dry Dock and Construction Company was founded on January 28, 1886. This shipyard is better known today as Newport News Shipbuilding, a division of Huntington Ingalls. Legend has it, Collis Huntington stated, "We shall build good ships here. At a profit if we can. At a loss if we must. But always good ships." This legacy still resonates in 2026 as we commemorate 140 years of shipbuilding capabilities.

"Photographs of the Personnel of the Mariners' Museum" (1935). Mariners' Institutional Archives. Item #: INST-ST-28.

The Mariners' Photograph Collection, P0001. Item #: P0001.003/01-#PB30267

E. P. Griffith Collection, MS0228. Item #: MS0228/01-10#0356. Sponsored by a Hidden Collections grant from the Council on Library and Information (CLIR). Contract number CON-539.

The first vessel launched was the tugboat Dorothy in 1891. From this point forward, the shipyard has had its moments of prosperity and struggles. From global conflicts to financial hardships, Newport News Shipbuilding has pressed on to become the premier shipbuilding company for our nation.

Newport News has prospered into the city we see today as a direct result of the shipyard, creating a community unique and special to this region. For example, did you know that Hilton Village was built in 1918 to house shipyard workers and their families during World War I?

Also, our Museum would not exist if it weren't for the shipyard. In 1930, at the outset of the Great Depression, Archer Huntington, the shipyard's owner, and Homer Ferguson, its president, were concerned for the well-being of shipyard workers and their families while the demand for shipbuilding was low. Huntington and Ferguson used shipyard workers to build a museum and library dedicated to promoting all things nautical and maritime – The Mariners' Museum and Park! Our connection to Newport News Shipbuilding is one we are extremely proud of, and it's a relationship we continue to grow and foster to this day.

But what really makes Newport News Shipbuilding so important? It's the men and women who carry on the skill and craftsmanship of shipbuilding, a tradition that can be found in just about every culture across the globe throughout history. Over the years, Newport News Shipbuilding has been a place where generations of families have worked. There is pride in the work that takes place there. And that pride is evident with every vessel that is built, launched, and sent out into the world. 140 years and still going strong. Thank you to all of the men and women – past, present, and future – for your dedication and commitment to building good ships.

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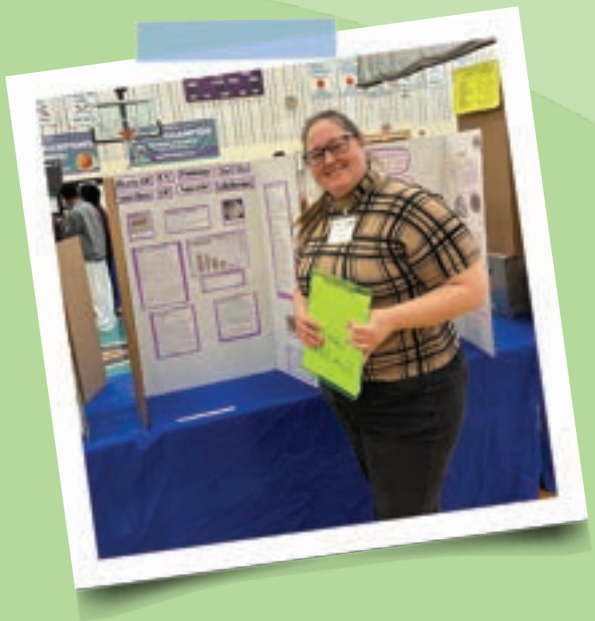
MARINERS' ON THE MOVE

The Mariners' Team has been out and about, spreading our mission around the city and beyond! Here are some of our favorite snapshots of the team partnering with other organizations and participating in events to expand our impact in the community.

▲ Marketing and Development Assistant Sarah Sumulong Jones visited the Newport News Visitor Center as part of a special familiarization tour for the city's tourism professionals.

▲ Senior Science Education Shantelle Landry greets visitors at the Virginia Aquarium for a Black History Month event.



▲ Molly McGath, Ph.D., along with several other Mariners' Team members, served as a judge for the Newport News Middle and High School Science Fair.

▲ Conservation Team members visited Virginia Commonwealth University to do some Raman Spectroscopy with Dr. Joseph Turner, Director of Instrumentation, CRIF, and Chemistry Service Professor. From left: Molly McGath, Dr. Turner, Amelia Hammond, and Elsa Sangouard.

COLLECTIONS SPOTLIGHT

This Sweet Goldenrod (*Solidago odora*) is nestled within our Bumblebee Learning Garden, an interactive space that introduces children to environmental stewardship concepts like pollination. Native to Virginia, and especially plentiful in the Coastal Plain, this vibrant beauty blooms in late summer through mid-fall, filling the air with the fragrance of anise and showcasing a display of cheerful yellow flowers. Sweet Goldenrods are pollinating powerhouses, attracting native bees, wasps, and butterflies. Our Park Team demonstrates its commitment to environmental stewardship by planting natives like these to increase the presence of pollinators throughout Mariners' Park.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Join us for these special summer events

JUNE

Jun 12
12 - 1 p.m.
USS *Monitor* Legacy Program
Lincoln's Admirals
Presenter: John V. Quarstein

Jun 14
9 - 11 a.m.
Friendly Hours
Quieter, less crowded Museum experience

Jun 24
9:30 - 10 a.m.
Wonder Wednesdays
Educational storytime for ages 2-4

Jun 27
6:30 - 9:30 p.m.
Night at The Mariners'
Presented by The Bronze Door Society

JULY

Jul
9:30 - 10 a.m.
Wonder Wednesdays
Educational storytime for ages 2-4
July 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29

Jul 10
12 - 1 p.m.
Friendly Hours
Quieter, less crowded Museum experience

Jul 12
9 - 11 a.m.
USS *Monitor* Legacy Program
Tinclads and Timberclads Change Riverine Warfare
Presenter: John V. Quarstein

AUGUST

Aug
9:30 - 10 a.m.
Wonder Wednesdays
Educational storytime for ages 2-4
August 5, 12, 19, & 26

Aug 9
9 - 11 a.m.
Friendly Hours
Quieter, less crowded Museum experience

Aug 14
12 - 1 p.m.
USS *Monitor* Legacy Program
USS Indianola*: Deluded People Cave In*
Presenter: John V. Quarstein

Scan the QR code to stay updated on all programs and events

MUSEUM ADMISSION IS $1 PER PERSON.

MarinersMuseum.org

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

Contact us for more information:

Guest Relations (757) 596-2222	Volunteer Services (757) 591-7712
Membership (757) 952-0418	Park (757) 591-7741
Advancement (757) 591-7730	Library (757) 591-7782
Education (757) 591-7745	Museum Shop (757) 591-7792

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The Mariners' Museum and Park®
100 Museum Drive
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