

ALBANY INSTITUTE OF HISTORY & ART

Albany Institute of History & Art

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NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AIHA TO CELEBRATE MUMMIES' 102nd ANNIVERSARY

ALBANY, NY— The Albany Institute of History & Art is excited to celebrate the 102nd anniversary of the Albany Mummies' arrival with a Mummy Birthday Party on Sunday, November 6 from noon to 5 PM. This annual Family Festival is **FREE with museum admission** and will include Egyptian themed art activities, tours, and refreshments.

Learn the history of the mummies and ancient Egypt through guided tours of the *Ancient Egypt* exhibition at 1 PM and 3 PM. Children are invited to bring a toy to mummify in our art studio between 1 and 4 PM. Using hieroglyphics, participants can decorate cupcakes provided by The Placid Baker of Troy, NY for a yummy mummy treat.

The two mummies were brought to the Albany Institute from Cairo, Egypt in 1909 by Samuel W. Brown, a member of the museum's Board of Trustees. The mummies and their coffins have been seen by generations of visitors and have become part of Albany history. They remain objects of ongoing international study, slowly unveiling clues about the ancient world in which they once lived. The Albany Institute will present a major exhibition on Egypt in 2013, *The Mystery of the Albany Mummies*, which will tell the full story of the mummies' journey to Albany.

For more information about the Mummy Birthday Party contact Barbara Collins, Education Coordinator, at (518) 463-4478, ext. 405, collinsb@albanyinstitute.org. This Family Festival is supported by Bank of America.

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Related Exhibition:

Ancient Egypt

Permanent Exhibition

Three key concepts: "The Nile," "Daily Life," and "The Afterlife," are explored through objects, text, and hands-on activities to give an overview of ancient Egypt. This gallery features the Albany Institute's mummies, along with loan objects from major national museums. *Egyptian Gallery*

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The Albany Institute's distinguished collections and acclaimed exhibitions comprise the definitive expression of the cultural, historical, and artistic heritage of Albany and the upper Hudson Valley. From its world-renowned Hudson River School collection, to the famous Albany Mummies, to the wide range of performances, lectures, and festivals, to its outstanding educational and family programming, this distinctive and engaging institution provides visitors of all ages and interests with a splendid museum experience. One of America's oldest museums, the Albany Institute of History & Art was founded in 1791, during the presidency of George Washington, making it older than the Louvre, the Smithsonian, and the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Visit www.albanyinstitute.org for more information, and be sure to follow us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/albanyinstitute) and Twitter (www.twitter.com/albanyinstitute).

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Hi- and lo-resolution images may be available. Contact Nycole Kinns, Marketing and Public Relations, at (518) 463-4478, ext. 420, kinnsn@albanyinstitute.org.