

# ALBANY INSTITUTE OF HISTORY & ART

## Albany Institute of History & Art

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## NEWS

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## ROBIN OLIVEIRA TO LECTURE AT ALBANY INSTITUTE

ALBANY, NY — Albany area native and registered nurse Robin Oliveira will discuss her debut novel *My Name Is Mary Sutter* at the Albany Institute of History & Art on Sunday, October 30 at 2 PM. This work has earned her the Michael Shaara Award for Excellence in Civil War Fiction, which she will receive on November 19.

*My Name Is Mary Sutter* tells the story of a young woman aspiring to become a doctor at the time of the Civil War. When Mary seeks admission to medical school, she finds herself rejected because of her sex. Determined to overcome prejudices against women in medicine, Mary travels to Washington, D.C. to help tend to the legions of Civil War wounded. Several aspects of the novel were researched at the Albany Institute's own library.

Oliveira's lecture is a great addition to the exhibition *Albany and the Civil War: Medicine on the Home and Battle Fronts* currently on display at the Institute. Following the lecture, Oliveira will be available to answer questions and sign copies of the book, which is available for sale in the Albany Institute Museum Shop. ***This event is FREE and open to the public.***

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### *Related Exhibit:*

#### **Albany and the Civil War: Medicine on the Home and Battle Fronts**

Through February 26, 2012

On the Civil War home front and on the battlefields, Albany residents played key roles in providing medical care for the sick and wounded. In 1864 the citizens of Albany organized the Albany Relief Bazaar and collected \$117,189 for medical supplies to send to Union troops. Two Albany brothers, Dr. Albert Vander Veer, a nationally known surgeon who was dean of Albany Medical College from 1895-1904, and Garrett Vander Veer, who was killed in action, wrote first-hand accounts of their experiences on Civil War battlefields. The exhibition includes photographs and manuscripts related to the Albany Relief Bazaar, journals and letters written by the Vander Veers and materials related to President Abraham Lincoln's two trips to Albany and a painting memorializing his death completed in 1872 by Howard Hill. This exhibition is supported by Albany Medical Center. *Entry 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](http://www.albanyinstitute.org) for more information, and be sure to follow us on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/albanyinstitute](http://www.facebook.com/albanyinstitute)) and Twitter ([www.twitter.com/albanyinstitute](http://www.twitter.com/albanyinstitute)).

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