

EXHIBITIONS

2020 Exhibition by Artists of the Mohawk-Hudson Region

SEPTEMBER 19, 2020 – JANUARY 3, 2021

Founded in 1936 by the Albany Institute of History & Art, the Exhibition by Artists of the Mohawk-Hudson Region is hosted by the museum in 2020, which is its eighty-fourth year. The Albany Institute of History & Art partners with the University Art Museum, University at Albany, The Hyde Collection, Glens Falls, New York, and Albany Center Gallery to present the exhibition. Each year, this juried exhibition highlights the art of some of the best visual artists living and working in our region. The 2020 Juror is Susan Cross, Senior Curator at MASS MoCA. The exhibition includes 108 works by 73 artists, ranging from paintings and drawings to prints, photography, collage, sculpture, textiles, and installation works. A catalogue of the exhibition is available through the Museum Shop.

Since 1936, the Albany Institute has purchased one or more works for the permanent collection from this exhibition. This year, the museum acquired three works, each of which reflects aspects of the world we are experiencing today. Two of the works are lithographs by Amy Silberkleit. The first, *1918*, is a portrait of a woman wearing a mask, reminding us of the 1918 influenza pandemic that affected more than one third of the world's population. The second, titled *Shelter in Place*, depicts a wasps' nest, and as Susan Cross writes in her catalogue essay, "recalls the individual sacrifices social animals make for the strength of their community." The third work, *Strange Fruit 38* by Debra Priestly, is part of a series Priestly has been working on that explores memory, ancestry, history, and cultural preservation. For Priestly, the tradition of canning foods is personal and functions in a way to collectively preserve memories. As Cross points out, the title *Strange Fruit* references the Billie Holiday song protesting the lynching of Black Americans. "Here Priestly has 'preserved' the sheet music for 'Amazing Grace' which President Obama movingly sang at the funeral of Reverend Clementa Pinckney, killed by a white supremacist at Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, South Carolina in 2015."



1918 by Amy Silberkleit



Shelter in Place by Amy Silberkleit

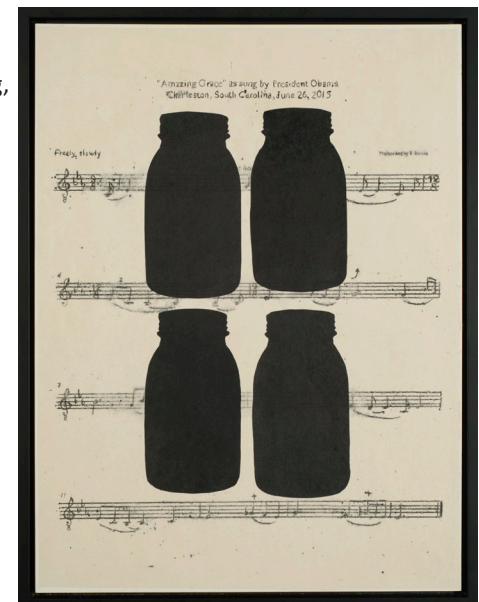
Artist Videos

In past years when the Albany Institute hosted the annual Mohawk-Hudson Regional, we have invited featured artists to lead gallery talks about their work on display. While we are not able to host in-person gallery talks this year, we have worked with many of the artists to record short 5-10 minute video segments discussing their work selected for the show. These videos allow our audiences to continue learning more about the vibrant artistic scene in the Mohawk-Hudson Region. A selection of videos are being released weekly on the museum's website, YouTube page, and social media. Go to the 2020 Exhibition by Artists of the Mohawk-Hudson Region exhibition page on our website for links to the videos.

2020 Featured Artists

Fern Apfel, Cyndy Barbone, Richard Barlow*, Deborah Bayly, Susan Berger, Meredith Best, Roger Bisbing, Jane Bloodgood-Abrams, Pennie Brantley, Lynn Dreese Breslin*, David Brickman, Berly Brown, Paul Chapman, Colin Chase*, Katherine Chwazik, Mandi Coburn*, Susan Spencer Crowe, Katie DeGroot*, Giovanni di Mola*, Andrew Dines, Jane Ehrlich, Donise English, Jean Feinberg, Richard Garrison, Barry Gerson, Gail Giles, Mike Glier, Kathy Greenwood, Josepha Gutelius, John Hampshire, Daesha Devón Harris*, Niki Haynes, David Herbert*, Katarina Holbrook-Spitzer*, Beth Humphrey, Mame Kennedy, T. Klacsmann, KK Kozik*, Madison LaVallee*, Lori Lawrence, Susan Martin Maffei, Dana Matthews, Claudia McNulty, Susan Meyer, Ian Myers, Stephen Niccolls, Michael Oatman, Gina Occhiogrosso, Thom O'Connor, Hideyo Okamura; Olufunmilayo, O. Oladipo; Mark Oshansky, Fernando Orellana, Dorothea Osborn, Victoria Palermo, Kingsley Parker*, Debra Priestly*, Sara Pruiksma, Peggy Reeves*, Corinne Robbins, Jamie Rodriguez*, Anthony Ruscitto, Thomas Sarrantonio, Victor Schrager*, Amy Silberkleit*, Greg Slick, Sean Stewart, Susan Stuart, Laura Hammond Toonkel, Victoria van der Laan, Jeff Wigman*, Gerald Wolfe, Deborah Zlatsky*

*Indicates artist recognized with cash prize, gift certificate, or purchase award



Strange Fruit 38 by Debra Priestly

EXHIBITIONS

Summerland: A Sound Installation by Matthew Ostrowski

SEPTEMBER 19, 2020 – JANUARY 3, 2021

During the 1840s, the world of scientific invention and the spirit world overlapped. Summerland, a sound installation by artist Matthew Ostrowski creates imagined dialogues between these two worlds and explores the “elusive promise of communication.”

When Samuel F. B. Morse’s telegraph became commercially available in 1844, it changed the nature of communication. By using electromagnetic impulses that could be sent and received over a single wire, the telegraph transmitted information across thousands of miles almost instantaneously. It conflated time and space in a nearly unimaginable way. Some thought it was magic. Four years later, Maggie and Kate Fox, two sisters in upstate New York, created a series of rapping sounds to fool others into believing they were communicating with spirits. Their undisclosed hoax soon captivated others and before long a growing interest in spiritualism brought the promise of communication with departed loved ones. Summerland, as Ostrowski comments, is a séance—a telegraphically audible dialogue between Morse and Kate Fox—that is communicated through a series of telegraph sounders, each one tapping out its binary code.



Joan Steiner's Look Alikes®

NOVEMBER 27, 2020 – FEBRUARY 21, 2021

These miniature scenes offer fun for all ages. The more you look, the more you see! Ten miniature dioramas by the award-winning illustrator Joan Steiner are once again on display at different locations throughout the museum. These meticulously crafted scenes were created from everyday objects and edible treats, and photographed for Steiner's *Look-Alikes®* books. Joan Steiner's first book, *Look-Alikes®*, published in 1998, was named one of *Time* magazine's best children's books and one of the *New York Times Book Review's* Notable Children's Books that year. The series continued with three additional books: *Look-Alikes® Jr.*, *Look-Alikes® Christmas*, and *Look-Alikes® Around the World*. These four books have been translated into sixteen languages and have sold over a million copies worldwide.



Pop-Up Outdoor Exhibition

WINTER 2020 – 2021

This winter, bundle up and visit our lawn to see a pop-up outdoor exhibition of winter scenes from our collection. This exhibition will debut on Thanksgiving weekend as part of the Home for the Holidays kick-off activities and will be on view through February 2021. It will be a great way to enjoy some socially-distant art downtown this season!

EXHIBITIONS

Fellow Citizens! DeWitt Clinton's Broad­sides of the Early Republic

AUGUST 1, 2020 – MARCH 14, 2021

The Albany Institute is home to what is likely the earliest collection of political material specifically assembled as a political collection – the DeWitt Clinton Broadside Collection, which encompasses over one hundred broadsides ranging in date from 1775 to 1813. A broadside is a single sheet of paper printed with information on one side. Donated to AIHA by Theodorick Romeyn Beck (1791–1855), the broadsides collection would be tucked away and forgotten about, rediscovered and acclaimed, and stored once more until a local political memorabilia collector learned about the Institute’s collection in 2018, and was thrilled by the discovery. Historically, broadsides were ephemeral sources of information created to serve specific, temporary purposes. After serving their purpose they were either thrown away or repurposed, and since paper was a scarce commodity in early America, their survival today is rare. *Fellow Citizens! DeWitt Clinton’s Broad­sides of the Early Republic* exhibition focuses on five New York State gubernatorial elections, the context of American life at the time the broadsides were written, and the life and legacy of DeWitt Clinton. It includes a selection of nearly twenty political broadsides, along with contemporary paintings, artifacts from the era, and a rare map of New York from 1796.



A Fresh Look at Eighteenth-Century Portraits

SEPTEMBER 2, 2020 – MARCH 14, 2021

With support from the Stockman Family Foundation, the Williamstown Art Conservation Center was awarded more than \$238,000 to conserve thirty-one of the Albany Institute’s earliest Hudson Valley portraits dating from the first half of the eighteenth century. The exhibition focuses on a small group of these portraits to highlight the process of conserving works of art that are close to three hundred years old. Detailed photographs will accompany the portraits to show before and after results of conservation. The results of conservation reveal much about the materials artists used, their techniques and painting procedures, and what has been lost and revealed anew through conservation treatment.



The leading sponsor for this exhibition is Ten Eyck Bronk Powell III. Major support is provided by Douglas L. Cohn, D.V.M.

Ceramics from the Collection

ONGOING

The Albany Institute’s ceramics collection of more than 2,200 objects includes examples of earthenware, stoneware, and porcelain made during the four-hundred-year period from the seventeenth to the twenty-first centuries. Delft tiles, stoneware jugs, delicate hand-painted figurines, and works by ceramic artists are among the pieces stored in drawers and on shelves in storage which are grouped by country of origin and then by maker if known (e.g. plates made in Staffordshire, England are all together.) A few of the objects from this extensive collection are now on view in cases in the museum's atrium. The theme? Dessert plates featuring stunning artwork of flowers and fruit.



Plate, Édouard Honoré, Paris, France, c.1840-1850, porcelain, from the Estate of E. Corning Rawle, through Mary R. Halliwell, Patricia R. Rowe, and Elizabeth R. McManus, 30.1983.25.1+

COLLECTIONS NEWS



Miki Conn's Collection on Integrating Delmar

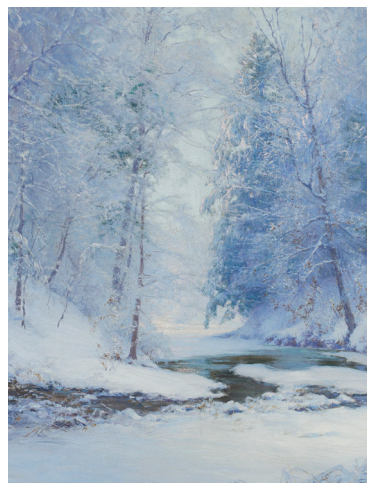
In 1957, the Cunningham family and Arlen Westbrook (b.1928) unintentionally began the integration of Delmar, New York. Arlen simply rented her home to Dr. James Cunningham (1918–2015), his wife Margaret (1919–2016), and their daughters, Margaret “Miki” and Fern, while she and her husband were away in Amherst, Massachusetts for the year. This commonplace event became exceptional, as the Cunningham’s were Black, and moved into all-White Delmar. For two months, Arlen lived with the Cunningham family while the house in Amherst was being prepared. Together, they faced the pushback against the Cunningham’s presence from some community members and began a lasting friendship. Unbeknownst to either woman, both Margaret and Arlen kept journals of their experiences within the community and with one another. Years later after realizing this, Margaret and Arlen decided to co-author a book of their lives during this time with the assistance of Margaret’s daughter, Miki Conn. The book would become *Integrating Delmar: The Story of a Friendship*.



In February 2020, Miki Conn donated her collection of *Integrating Delmar* materials to the Albany Institute. This collection spans the years 1962–2020, and includes drafts of the book, information that did not make the final cut, correspondence, photographs of the Cunningham family and Westbrook, and an article on racism in housing. This collection is open for researchers. Please contact archivist/librarian, Hannah Cox at coxh@albanyinstitute.org for an appointment, and see the finding aid to the collection in the Library section of our website.

New Painting by Walter Launt Palmer

The Albany Institute recently acquired a new painting by Walter Launt Palmer, the master of American snow scenes. Palmer was born in Albany in 1854 and throughout his long professional career as a painter he perfected the illusion of shadows on freshly fallen snow. More specifically, he was one of the first artists to paint shadows in colors. His snow scenes come alive with blue, violet, and rose-colored snow.



The Head Waters, Walter Launt Palmer (1854–1932), 1911, oil on canvas, gift of Lorraine Foster in memory of CDR William Grandy Foster USN, 2019.42

According to the donor, Lorraine Foster, the painting was originally purchased by her husband’s aunt, Miss Ethel Grandy, who was born in Johnstown, New York, in 1894. The painting had an old label with the title “Head Waters”, which was a clue to learn more about the its history.

The Albany Institute has the largest public collection of artwork by Palmer, including drawings, sketchbooks, photographs, and manuscript materials. Contained in the Walter Launt Palmer manuscript collection in the Albany Institute's Library, Palmer's sales record book was a source of further information. Palmer made an entry in 1914 for the sale of *The Head Waters*. He noted the size of 24 inches wide by 32 inches high, which exactly matches the new painting. He also indicated it was oil on canvas and was painted in the 1911. The sales book also records it sold at Annesley's Gallery, Albany's venerable art gallery and art materials supplier. Palmer exhibited many of his paintings at Annesley's and the gallery regularly sold his work. Unfortunately, Palmer did not record the buyer of the painting, possibly because Annesley's did not provide that information. Did the twenty year-old Miss Ethel Grandy acquire it? More likely another family member purchased it and it descended to Miss Ethel later in life.

There’s more to the story! Check out our Behind-the-Scenes blog post “Snowy Scene: New Painting” to get more information about this story and see images of the painting before and after conversation. Plus, this painting will also be on special view in the museum galleries this winter.

*Above left: Margaret, Jim, Miki and Fern Cunningham (photograph) circa 1957, MG 260
Left: Arlen Westbrook (photograph) circa 1957, MG 260*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The museum will continue to host programs virtually. For up-to-date information about our events (including new event announcements), please check our website www.albanyinstitute.org. You can also sign up for our emails or follow us on social media: Facebook (facebook.com/albanyinstitute), Instagram ([albanyinstitute](https://instagram.com/albanyinstitute)), and Twitter ([@AlbanyInstitute](https://twitter.com/AlbanyInstitute)).

NOVEMBER

VIRTUAL SPECIAL EVENT

An Artful Evening

Wednesday, November 4, 6–8PM | Tickets start at \$50

The Albany Institute of History & Art's primary fundraiser, *An Artful Evening*, combines our annual Museum Gala and Work of Art into a single virtual event for 2020. In addition to recognizing our honorees Peter & Rose-Marie Ten Eyck and Amy Biancolli and celebrating the work of the museum, there is a contemporary art auction featuring the work of regional artists. Reservations and details at www.albanyinstitute.org.

ART DU JOUR

Myrtle Street (Grandmother) by Marta Jaremko

Wednesday, November 11, 1PM | \$10 suggested donation

Take a break! This virtual program features a relaxed, explorative discussion of *Myrtle Street (Grandmother)* by Marta Jaremko. Participants will be guided through a contemplative analysis of the painting by a member of the education staff. The guided discussion will be about 30-45 minutes, perfect for a break from your busy day at work or at home. No background in art is required to enjoy this program, but reservations are required and may be made through our website.



Myrtle Street (Grandmother), Marta Jaremko, 1991, gouache on paper, AIHA Purchase, 1992.41

VIRTUAL PRESENTATION

Print and Partisanship in Early New York State

Thursday November 12, 7PM | \$10 suggested donation

Dr. Joseph Adelman, Framingham State University

After the American Revolution, Americans launched themselves headlong into the process of creating governments and political culture. They did much of that work in print. Printers and editors became key figures in the first national political parties as well as in the local and state battles that took shape in the 1790s. That was especially true in the ever-combative political environment of New York. Building on the DeWitt Clinton collection of broadsides, this lecture will explore the world of print in early New York State and the role that newspapers, broadsides, and their creators played in creating American politics. Register online.



Frenchman's Bay, Mount Desert Island, Maine by Thomas Cole (1801-1848), 1844-1845, oil on wood panel, ht. 14" x w. 23", Bequest of Evelyn Newman, 1964.69

VIRTUAL ADULT ART WORKSHOP

Paint & Learn: Sublime Ocean Waves

Friday, November 13, 6:30–8:30PM

With materials: \$30 members, \$35 non-members

Without materials: \$20 members, \$25 non-members

Join us for a guided painting experience via Zoom while we take inspiration from the painting *Frenchman's Bay, Mount Desert Island, Maine* by Thomas Cole. Artist Noreen Powell will lead participants through the process of creating a seascape depicting cliffs and dramatic ocean waves. Participants may choose to use their own paints and canvas for a reduced ticket price or to purchase a workshop ticket which includes all necessary materials. Space is limited and registration is required. Register online.

COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

The Future of the Exhibition by Artists of the Mohawk Hudson Region

Wednesday, November 18, 7PM | Free, but registration required

We are thinking about the future of one of the longest-running juried exhibitions in the country and we want to hear from you! Hosted by Albany Institute's executive director Tammis Groft, this virtual event will discuss the exhibit's legacy and where it might go from here. Register online.

Many of our virtual programs are offered free, with a suggested donation of \$10. Each program is offered live via Zoom, and often includes a Q&A session. All participants will receive the Zoom link one hour before the program to the email used during registration.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

VIRTUAL PRESENTATION

Personal Insults, Street Brawls, and Uncounted Ballots: Electoral Politics in Federalist New York

Thursday, November 19, 7PM | *\$10 suggested donation*

Dr. Robb Habermann, PhD Associate Editor of The Selected Papers of John Jay, Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Columbia University Libraries

John Jay played important and prominent roles during the founding of the United States, and yet his name isn't one that many would list if asked to name founding fathers. In this program, Robb K. Haberman, Associate Editor of The Selected Papers of John Jay will provide insights into early gubernatorial elections in New York State which included Jay as a Federalist candidate. Haberman will provide details about campaigning in early elections and controversies related to election results. Register online.



Home for the Holidays Kick-Off Weekend

Friday, November 22, 10AM–5PM

Saturday, November 23, 10AM–5PM

Sunday, November 24, 12PM–5PM

Timed tickets strongly recommended

Regular admission rates apply

Celebrate the holiday season at the Albany Institute! Bring friends and family to explore an outdoor art exhibition; discover decorated trees; admire a special exhibition of miniature dioramas by Joan Steiner, the award-winning illustrator and creator of the Look-Alikes® books; pick up take-home crafts; shop for handmade items and one-of-a-kind gifts in our Museum Shop; savor treats from the Museum Shop; explore our current exhibitions; and more! Most activities available during regular open hours through Jan 3, 2021.

DECEMBER

BOOK & ART CLUB

The Readers of Broken Wheel Recommend

Thursday, December 3, 7PM | *Free, RSVP required*

Register through the Albany Public Library's website

Join Albany Public Library and Albany Institute of History & Art for an exciting book and art discussion that focuses on works held locally by the Albany Institute and complementary books. Led by a museum educator and a librarian, this online program explores the intersection of books and art with examples, insight, and enjoyable conversation. December's book is *The Readers of Broken Wheel Recommend* by Katarina Bivald.

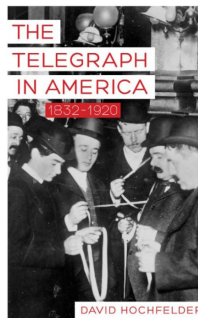


VIRTUAL PRESENTATION

The Telegraph in America, 1832-1920

Thursday, December 3, 7PM | *\$10 suggested donation*

David Hochfelder, Associate Professor of History, University at Albany



Telegraphy in the nineteenth century approximated the internet in our own day. Historian and electrical engineer David Hochfelder will examine the correlation between technological innovation and social change and show how this transformative relationship helps us to understand and perhaps define modernity. Register online.

VIRTUAL AFTER-SCHOOL ART WORKSHOP

Ancient Egyptian Jewelry & Symbolism

Friday, December 4, 3:30–5PM | *\$15 non-members; \$10 members*

Recommended for ages 8 and above

Join us as we admire the jewelry and symbols from Ancient Egypt including examples from the museum's own Ancient Egyptian displays. Using everyday household materials, we'll create our own versions of scarab heart amulets and other wearables inspired by artifacts. This workshop fulfills many of the requirements for the Junior Jewelry Girl Scout badge. A supply list will be provided with household materials to be used. Space is limited and registration is required. Register online.

ART DU JOUR

Judge Van Aernum in his Sleigh by Thomas Kirby Van Zandt

Wednesday, December 16, 1PM | *\$10 suggested donation*

Take a break! This virtual program features a relaxed, explorative discussion of *Judge Van Aernum in his Sleigh* by Thomas Kirby Van Zandt. Participants will be guided through a contemplative analysis of the painting by a member of the education staff. The guided discussion will be approximately 30-45 minutes, perfect for a break from your busy day at work or at home. No background in art is required to enjoy this program, but reservations are required and may be made through our website.



Judge Van Aernum in his Sleigh (John Van Aernum (1807-1856), Thomas Kirby Van Zandt (1814-1886), 1855, oil on canvas, Albany Institute of History & Art Purchase, 1946.26

BE CREATIVE

Art for All: Art to Go!

Available during museum open hours | *Included with admission*



Wreath ornament

Enjoy your visit to the museum and then bring home an art activity inspired by the exhibitions and collections. Art for All: Art to Go! activities can be picked up at the front desk and both children and adults are invited to participate. Instructions are included with the materials. Activities change monthly.

November's Project: Ornaments

In November, we'll continue with the museum's tradition of preparing for the holidays by creating ornaments using mini wreath templates and tissue paper.

December's Project: Tree Transfer Drawings

December's project takes inspiration by the work of Richard Barlow in the *2020 Exhibition by Artists of the Mohawk-Hudson Region*. Discover a unique image transfer process to create striking white-on-black compositions.

Art Kits: An Art Workshop in a Bag!

Are you looking to get creative?

We are now offering Art Kits, with special projects that can be done on your own schedule. Our first featured Art Kit is a fun quilling project inspired by a lovely quilled tea caddy in the museum's collection.

Quilling uses paper strips to create decorative designs. The

Quilling Art Kit includes detailed instructions, a craft box to decorate, paper quilling strips, simple quilling tools, and glue. A link to a short video introducing the quilled tea caddy in the museum's collection is also included and will be found in your order confirmation message. Kits may be purchased online and picked up at the museum during regular admission hours. Cost is \$12 for members and \$15 for non-members. Learn more and make your purchase on our website.



THANK YOU

As we approach a time of the year when many of us pause to give thanks and reflect, the Albany Institute would like to thank everyone who has supported us this year. Whether you made a donation or became a member, volunteered, joined us for one of our virtual programs, interacted with us on social media or our website, participated in a community art project, or visited us now that we are reopened, we are grateful you choose to support the Albany Institute. We will continue to adapt and grow as an organization, reimagining our mission to connect our audiences to each other and to the art, history, and culture of the Upper Hudson Valley – both in person and virtually! We hope to see you soon.

MEMBERSHIP

Gift Membership Special!

Give the gift of Membership at the Albany Institute this holiday season. Members receive free admission at the museum for one year. At the Supporter-level and higher (\$150), receive free admission to over 1,000 museums around the country through the North American Reciprocal Museum program. This holiday season, give a Supporter-level Membership and receive a free tote bag! To purchase a membership, visit www.albanyinstitute.org or call Barbara Speck at (518)463-4478 ext. 414. Valid only for new memberships. Cut-off for holiday shipping is Monday, December 21.

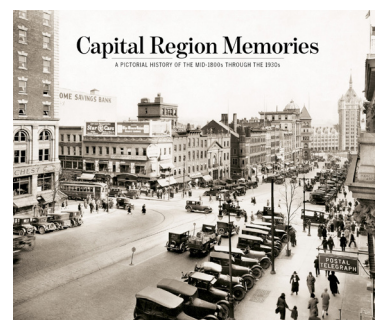
MUSEUM SHOP

New in the Museum Shop!

Capital Region Memories: A Pictorial History of the Early Years through the 1930's

Don't miss the chance to purchase this recently published limited edition book which includes more than 200 historic photographs from area collectors, historical societies and museums. Price: \$44.95 (\$40.46 for AIHA members)

Included in the book are twenty-four images from the Albany Institute's library collections. AIHA images are also available as fine art print reproductions in four sizes. Please call the museum shop at (518) 463-4478 ext. 459 to reserve your book or order a print.



ALBANY INSTITUTE OF HISTORY & ART

125 Washington Avenue, Albany, New York 12210
(518) 463-4478 | www.albanyinstitute.org

Galleries & Shop

Monday	Closed
Tuesday	Closed
Wednesday	10AM–5PM
Thursday	10AM–5PM
Friday	10AM–5PM
Saturday	10AM–5PM
Sunday	12PM–5PM

Cafe

Monday	Closed
Tuesday	Closed
Wednesday	10AM–3PM
Thursday	10AM–3PM
Friday	10AM–3PM
Saturday	10AM–3PM
Sunday	12PM–5PM

Admission

Members free | Adults \$10 | Seniors (62+) \$8 | Students with ID \$8
Children 6-12 \$6 | Under 6 Free | *Admission discount information online*
Timed ticket information is available on our website.



If you miss a spot in our parking lot, consider downloading the ParkAlbany app to help keep track of your onstreet parking meter during your visit.



**Council on
the Arts**

Programmatic and exhibition support is made possible in part by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

Season exhibition and program support is provided by Phoebe Powell Bender, Mr. and Mrs. George R. Hearst III, Charles M. Liddle III, Lois and David Swawite, and the Carl E. Touhey Foundation, Inc.

ALBANY INSTITUTE
OF HISTORY & ART
NOVEMBER—DECEMBER 2020

