# MUSEUM AT HOME

# Online Options Encourage Curiosity & Creativity from Home

Stay curious and discover ways to connect with us online this winter! You can use our *Museum at Home* materials to explore the museum remotely. We hope these activities will help you be creative, get inspired, and learn something new. Visit our website at www.albanyinstitute.org/museum-at-home.html for links to resources like the ones mentioned below. We will continue to update these materials and will highlight them on our website, social media channels, and email. Have fun!



### New! Virtual 3-D Tour of Recent Walter Launt Palmer Exhibition

A Brilliant Bit of Color: The Work of Walter Launt Palmer is now available as a virtual exhibition. Explore the Albany Institute's collection of paintings, watercolors, and archival materials related to Albany artist Walter Launt Palmer from the comfort of your home!

Ready to get started? Go to https://www.albanyinstitute.org/online-exhibitions.html. You will also find our 3-D tour of *The Hudson River School:*Landscape Paintings from the Albany Institute, as well as our online exhibitions

The Making of the Hudson River School and The Capital Region in 50 Objects.

# DIGITAL RESOURCES

### Create

- Become a Museum Maker | Our Museum Makers blog is filled with creative project ideas that utilize everyday materials at home to make art!
- Accept the Challenge | Recreate one of our collection items at home and share it with us! Tag us and use #LifeImitatesArtAlbany.
- #ColorOurCollections | Looking to get a bit creative? How about relaxing with some museum coloring sheets? Feel free to share them online and tag #ColorOurCollections.

# Discover

- Go Behind-the-Scenes | Our blog Behind-the-Scenes with Curators will take you behind-the-scenes with our curatorial department where you will learn more about current projects and upcoming plans.
- Our Research blog showcases collections and materials in our Library and Archives.

# **Explore**

- **YouTube** | Be sure to check out our YouTube videos to watch interviews, presentations, and more!
- Teaching Resources | Find information about online teaching resources suitable for both classrooms and living rooms.
- Have an Adventure | Our Digital Museum Scavenger
   Hunt is an interactive online adventure that gives you
   the opportunity to explore objects in our galleries and collections from your home.
- Uncover More | Our Gallery Plus blog offers stories and insights about the museum's collections and exhibitions, plus:
  - Artists' Voices films highlight the work of several contemporary artists in the museum's collection
  - Junior Interpreter Blogspot includes articles written by the museum's teenage tour leaders
  - ArtStory series is like story time, but with works of art
  - Museum Morsels are short presentations about different topics related to the museum











# **EXHIBITIONS**

# A Sense of Time: The Historical Art of L. F. Tantillo

JANUARY 27 - JULY 25, 2021

Artist Len Tantillo is recognized for his ability to capture specific moments and visualize places of the past through his paintings. The exhibition A Sense of Time: The Historical Art of L. F. Tantillo highlights the artist's forty-year career and brings together a selection of 75 paintings by one of the most noted painters of historical subjects and marine views of our time.

Having spent his life in the Hudson Valley, most of Tantillo's work portrays the sites and events that shaped the history of New York State, from pre-European contact Iroquois villages to Dutch settlement and continuing to the development of railroads and the construction of iron bridges across the Hudson River. By looking at a single



The 1748 Arrival of Governor George Clinton, Len Tantillo, 2016, oil on canvas, Albany Institute of History & Art, gift of Donald and Ann Eberle, 2016.27.1

Tantillo painting, a viewer can be transported back in time to when the Hudson River was a major highway with vessels of all shapes and sizes plying the waters or imagine how seventeenth and eighteenth-century Albany, Kingston, and Manhattan may have looked. Tantillo's painting of Fort Orange gives us a sense of what the earliest settlement of what is now Albany looked like in 1635 while his painting of a c. 1880 Hudson River icehouse depicts an important industry that no longer exists. He also envisions nineteenth-century shores of Troy and Rondout jammed with steamships, breathes life into steam engines pulling into railroad stations, and captures the energy of twentieth-century Grumman airplanes soaring through clouds.

As an artist, Tantillo is known for his attention to detail and historical accuracy. A Sense of Time, which features 94 works of art from fifty institutions and collectors, will provide insight into his artistic process. Before a painting, Tantillo meticulously researches his subject to ensure the accuracy of the painting's details and setting. The exhibition pairs some of Tantillo's works with historical maps, images, and objects that informed and shaped their accuracy. In addition, visitors will be able to see Tantillo's working models, digitally reconstructed villages and street scenes, and preparatory sketches.



Len Tantillo was born in 1946 in upstate New York and attended the Rhode Island School of Design. From 1969 to 1976 he worked as an architectural designer and acquired a working knowledge of building design and construction. During his apprenticeship the focus of his work shifted to visual presentation and in 1976, Tantillo began working as a free-lance architectural illustrator. In 1980, he was commissioned to depict a series of 19th century structures from archeological artifacts and historic documents. Similar projects followed and in 1984, Tantillo left commercial art and began the full-time pursuit of historical fine art. He has spent the past 40 years creating numerous historical and marine paintings, which have continued to draw a wide audience. His work is in the collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Albany Institute of History & Art, Historic Huguenot Street,

Fenimore Art Museum, Excelsior College, and in many other public collections. In 2009, the Westfries Museum, Hoorn, Netherlands exhibited 50 of his works in the exhibition *Hollanders and the Hudson: The Paintings of L.F. Tantillo*. He is a fellow of the American Society of Marine Artists and the New York Academy of History. Tantillo's studio is located in southern Rensselaer County in upstate New York.



# **EXHIBITIONS**

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

THROUGH 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 the museum by Theodoric 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 THROUGH 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 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.



# WINTER AMUSEMENTS

# 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.



(detail) Kitchen diorama by Joan Steiner



# Pop-Up Outdoor Exhibition

THROUGH FEBRUARY 2021

This winter, bundle up and visit our lawn to see a pop-up outdoor exhibition of winter scenes from our collection. Our Outdoor Exhibition brings a selection of artwork and photographs from the Albany Institute's collection outside for all to enjoy. See the beauty of freshly fallen snow and the joys of sleigh rides and ice skating parties from the past two hundred years. It is a great way to enjoy some socially-distant art downtown this season!

# **Art Activities to Go**

AVAILABLE DURING REGULAR OPEN HOURS

Visiting the museum? Be sure to pick up one of our Art for All: Art to Go! activity sets at the Admission Desk. These sets are included with museum admission, are offered during regular open hours, and projects change monthly. January's project is inspired by the Joan Steiner Look Alikes found-object dioramas and February's project will explore portraiture.



### THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

We thank our Winter Amusements sponsors for their support: Omni Development Company, Inc., Trudeau Architects, pllc, Capital Wine, Jean Lewis Maloy, Discover Albany, and Couch White, LLP.











# 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), and Twitter (@AlbanyInstitute).

# **JANUARY**

VIRTUAL ART DU JOUR

# The Head Waters by Walter Launt Palmer

Wednesday, January 13, 1PM | \$10 suggested donation

Take a break! This virtual program features a relaxed, explorative discussion of *The* Head Waters by Walter Launt Palmer. 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 canvas, gift of Lorraine Foster in are required and may be made through our website.



The Head Waters, Walter Launt Palmer (1854-1932), 1911, oil on memory of CDR William Grady Foster USN, 2019.42

# VIRTUAL PRESENTATION

# The Life & Times of DeWitt Clinton

Saturday, January 16, 2PM | \$10 suggested donation Derrick Pratt, Erie Canal Museum

Join Erie Canal Museum Educator Derrick Pratt for this discussion of DeWitt Clinton, from his early life to his career in New York State politics, as well as the strong social and economic forces that fostered the idea of a man-made waterway across Upstate New York more than 200 years ago. Registration and details at www.albanyinstitute.org.



Governor DeWitt Clinton (1769-1828), Ezra Ames (1768-1836), 1818, oil on canvas, permanent deposit by the City of Albany, 1971.12.5

Many of our virtual programs are offered free, with a suggested donation of \$10. Each program is offered live via will receive the Zoom link one hour before the program to the email used during registration.

### VIRTUAL PRESENTATION

# **Broadsides of the American Revolution**

Thursday, January 21, 7PM | \$10 suggested donation Tom Keefe, Historian and Collector of American Political Campaign Material

Tom Keefe will discuss rare broadsides printed during the American Revolution which are featured in the DeWitt Clinton Broadside Collection at the Albany Institute. Registration and details on our website.

### VIRTUAL EXHIBITION OPENING

### A Sense of Time: The Historical Art of L. F. Tantillo

Thursday, January 28, 6PM | \$10 suggested donation

This virtual opening of the newest exhibition A Sense of Time: The Historical Art of L. F. Tantillo will include special guests, exhibition highlights, and more! Registration required. Register online.

### VIRTUAL BOOK & ART CLUB

### The Queen's Gambit

Thursday, January 28, 7PM | Free, but RSVP required Register through the Albany Public Library's website



Join Albany Public Library and the 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. January's book is *The Queen's* Gambit by Walter Tevis.

# **FEBRUARY**

ONLINE EVENT #ColorOurCollections February 1 – 8 | *Free* 



Enjoy a relaxing, stress-relieving art activity! Special coloring pages will be available on the Museum Maker's blog on our website as well as through our Facebook event page as part of #ColorOurCollections, an annual week-long digital coloring fest organized by libraries, archives, and other cultural institutions around the world. Did you know? Printed collections coloring packages are also available for sale in the Museum Shop!

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

VIRTUAL PERFORMANCE

## The Motown Story

Saturday, February 6, 2PM \$10 suggested donation

Join us for a performance previously recorded at Hudson Valley Community College featuring Donald "The Soul Man"



Hyman, with Sheila London and Cheryl Glenn for an afternoon of classic Motown hits. Q&A session with Donald Hyman will follow the performance. Register online.

### VIRTUAL ART DU JOUR

# The 1920s...The Migrants Arrive and Cast Their Ballots by **Jacob Lawrence**

Wednesday, February 10, 1PM | \$10 suggested donation

Take a break! This virtual program features a relaxed, explorative discussion of The 1920s...The Migrants Arrive and Cast Their Ballots by Jacob Lawrence. 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.



The 1920s...The Migrants Arrive and Cast Their Ballots, Jacob Lawrence (1917-2000), color serigraph on paper, 1974, gift of the Lorillard Company, 1976.24.11

# VIRTUAL PRESENTATION

# Black Swan Records & Motown Records: African American **Independent Music Companies**

Saturday, February 13, 2PM | \$10 suggested donation Donald "The Soul Man" Hyman, Singer, Writer, Actor, Teacher; former professor, American Studies Department, College of St. Rose

During the Harlem Renaissance, Harry Pace Jr. started Black Swan Records whose impact on the music industry opened the door for Black performers. During the Civil Rights movement in the 1960's Motown records started by Berry Gordy would dominate the popular music industry and the Top 40 charts with groups like the Supremes who had twelve number-one records. Register online.

### ONLINE ART CLASS

### **Punchy Patterns**

Tuesday, February 16, 10–11:30AM | Ages 6-12 \$20 members, \$25 non-members

Discover the lovely calm of drawing patterns with us as we take inspiration from elaborate decorations on punchbowls from the 1700s. We'll discover symmetry, balance, and repetition in pattern work. After admiring the antique artwork we'll put our own fresh modern take and fill a favorite shape with our own patterned designs. This class will be led via Zoom. Register online.

### ONLINE ART CLASS

# Sunset Seascape Paint-Along

Thursday, February 18, 10–11:30AM | Ages 6-12 Cost options:

Registration with material kit: \$30 members, \$35 non-members Registration without material kit: \$20 members, \$25 non-members

Paint along with us as we create our own serene sunset seascape scenes. We'll investigate seascapes in the museum's collections and observe the components that build the works before we create one of our own. Participants will build confidence working together promised gift of Albert B. Roberts step-by-step, and will also have



La Vita, Bill Sullivan, oil on canvas, 1999, Albany Institute of History & Art,

opportunites to personalize their artwork.

This class will be led via Zoom. Register online.

Participants may choose to provide their own paints and painting surface or may purchase a class registration which includes a material kit with canvas, paint, and brushes. Material kits can be picked up at the museum the week before the program.

### VIRTUAL BOOK & ART CLUB

### The Narrative of Sojourner Truth



Wednesday, February 24, 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. February's book is *The Narrative of Sojourner Truth*.

# MUSEUM NEWS

# Announcing Access Program for Low-Income Families

The Albany Institute of History & Art has joined Museums for All, a signature access program of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS),



an initiative of the Institute of Museum and Library Services

administered by the Association of Children's Museums (ACM), to encourage people of all backgrounds to visit museums regularly and build lifelong museum-going habits.

The program supports those receiving food assistance (SNAP) benefits visiting the museum to receive free admission (up to four people) with the presentation of a SNAP Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) or Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) card. Similar free and reduced admission is available to eligible members of the public at more than 500 museums across the country. Museums for All is part of the Albany Institute's broad commitment to seek, include, and welcome all audiences.

# CREATE

# Art Kits: An Art Workshop in a Bag! **Delft Painted Tiles**

Our newest Art Kit will be available this February!

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 Art Kit of the new year takes inspiration from lovely blue Delftware in our collection. The Delft Tile kit includes 3 tiles to paint, a brush and blue paint, images of traditional delft tile designs, transfer paper to copy designs onto tiles to paint, as well as a collections coloring page of one of our



Dutch ceramic pieces. Detailed instructions accompany each kit, as well as a link to a short video introducing the Dutch delft tiles in the museum's collections.

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

# Thank You for Your Support of An Artful Evening!

On Wednesday, November 4, 2020, the Albany Institute of History & Art held its first virtual gala, An Artful Evening to celebrate the vibrant cultural landscape of our region. We combined our two signature events – the Museum Gala in June and Work of Art in November – into one to reduce overhead so that your support went directly to exhibitions and education programs.

We would like to thank our co-chairs of the event. Deborah Groesbeck Bennett and Dr. John Bennett, and our honorees, Peter and Rose-Marie Ten Eyck and Amy Biancolli, as well as all our sponsors and guests. Thanks to your generosity we were able to raise approximately \$200,000!

An Artful Evening featured a silent auction of works by contemporary artists, continuing the Institute's support of our vibrant community of regional artists. Proceeds from the auction were shared equally between the Albany Institute and the artists.

We hope you were able to join us for our online auction, video presentations, virtual cocktail hour, and virtual dinner parties. If you were unable to attend, we have uploaded select moments from *An Artful Evening* on our YouTube channel (search for Albany Institute of History & Art).

Thank you to our sponsors!



































THE MASSRY **FAMILY** 

























# 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

The Museum Cafe is temporarily closed.

# **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.

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.



Programs and exhibitions are supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts. To find out more about how National Endowment for the Arts grants impact individuals and communities, visit www.arts.gov.



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# ALBANY INSTITUT OF HISTORY & AR

JANUARY—FEBRUARY 2021

