

# EXHIBITIONS



## Fashionable Frocks of the 1920s

CLOSING JANUARY 2, 2022

The exhibition *Fashionable Frocks of the 1920s* showcases more than twenty-five rarely-seen dresses from the Albany Institute's historic clothing collection to explore fashion trends and transformations from an infamous era. With inspiration from French fashion plates and rich colors, fascinating fabrics, and eye-catching accessories, this exhibition is not-to-be-missed! As visitors will see, fashion of the 1920s amounted to much more than the quintessential flapper's dress.

*Thank you to our exhibition sponsors* | This exhibition is supported by The Michele L. Vennard Hospitality Grant Program of the Albany County Convention and Visitors' Bureau Fund of the Community Foundation for the Greater Capital Region and *Times Union*.

Additional sponsors include William H. Harris and Holly A. Katz, Alan P. Goldberg, Magda and Gus Mininburg, The Costumer, Douglas L. Cohn, D.V.M., Barbara K. Hoehn, Dr. and Mrs. Lawrence Marwill, Nancy and Donald Newkirk, Mrs. Arlen Westbrook, Christine Miles Kelliher, Mr. and Mrs. John Walsh, III, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hershey, Ms. Evelyn D. Trebilcock, and Mr. and Mrs. F. Michael Tucker.



## The Wyeths: Three Generations Works from the Bank of America Collection

CLOSING JANUARY 2, 2022

For three generations, the Wyeths have created art that captures the imagination and admiration of a wide audience. This exhibition presents more than sixty paintings, drawings, and illustrations by N.C. (Newell Converse) Wyeth, his daughter Henriette Wyeth, his son Andrew Wyeth, and his grandson Jamie Wyeth. The works—from the early 1900s to the early 2000s—reveal the breadth of the Wyeth family's creative output and illuminate both common themes within the works and the artists' individual styles.



*This exhibition has been loaned through the Bank of America Art in Our Communities® program.*

*Additional sponsors include* William H. Harris and Holly A. Katz, Alan P. Goldberg, Mr. and Mrs. John Walsh, III, and Dr. and Mrs. Lawrence Marwill



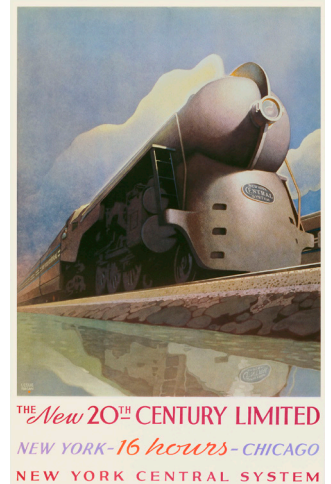
*Rip Van Winkle, cover illustration, N.C. Wyeth (American, 1882-1945), 1921, oil on canvas, Bank of America Collection*

# EXHIBITIONS

## Romancing the Rails: Train Travel in the 1920s and 1930s THROUGH FEBRUARY 2022

The 1920s and 1930s were a kind of golden age for rail travel in the U.S., a period when railroads were portrayed as modern amenities that carried passengers to romantic getaways in luxury and comfort. Yet the story of railroads and rail travel during the period is much more complex, involving talented individuals, hardworking people, engineering accomplishments, celebrations, and momentous events. *Romancing the Rails* features objects and library materials from the Albany Institute's railroad collections, including rare photographs, posters, locomotive models, and objects designed for New York Central's 20th Century Limited that debuted in 1938 and ran from New York City to Chicago in sixteen hours.

Thank you to our exhibition sponsors | William H. Harris & Holly A. Katz,  
Alan P. Goldberg, Mr. & Mrs. John Walsh, III, and Elizabeth A. Lee



*The New 20th Century Limited*, from original painting by Leslie Ragan (1897-1972), lithograph by Latham Litho. Co., Long Island City, NY, 1938, photolithograph, gift of the New York Central Railroad, 1959.130.168



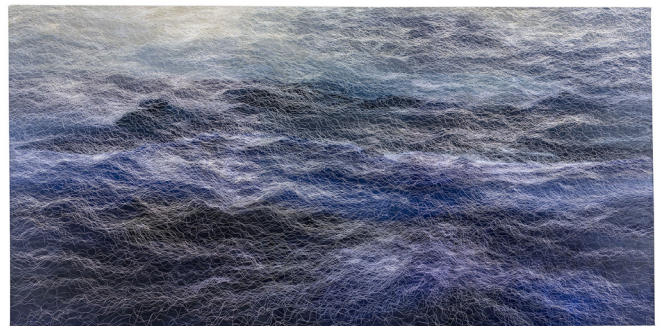
## Joan Steiner's Look Alikes® NOVEMBER 26, 2021 – FEBRUARY 27, 2022

These miniature scenes offer fun for all ages. The more you look, the more you see! A selection of the popular miniature dioramas by the award-winning illustrator Joan Steiner will once again be 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, first published in 1998.

## UPCOMING EXHIBITION

## Leigh Li-Yun Wen: Constant Motion and Currents JANUARY 29–JUNE 18, 2022

*Constant Motion and Currents* by Taiwanese artist Leigh Li-Yun Wen explores the four elements of nature: water, fire, earth, and air. Her monumental paintings, mixed media works, fashions, and ceramics highlight the supernatural power found in nature and the simplicity and harmony that exists in the chaos of the world. Wen's imagery is dominated by her process of subtraction from darkness to light. When she paints, she works quickly, covering a small section of canvas with dark paint, and then, using a stylus, she removes the paint to reveal a light-colored ground. Hundreds of carefully calculated rhythmic lines etched into paint creates a surface constantly in motion. Wen feels that something of the self is lost in this resulting tangle of lines, is regained, and lost again. She describes her works as "deeply autobiographical."



*Untitled VI*, Leigh Li-Yun Wen, 1997, Oil on canvas, 84 H x 168 W, 1998  
Mohawk-Hudson Regional Exhibition Purchase Prize, 1998.16

The exhibition reflects different phases throughout her 35+ year career. Wen has exhibited nationally and internationally since the early 1980s. Born in Taipei, Taiwan, she received her BFA from Washington State University and her MA and MFA from the University at Albany. She has strong ties to the Capital Region, where she lived for a number of years. In addition to numerous awards and recognitions, solo and group exhibitions, and representation in public and private collections, her paintings have been selected to be in over 15 American Embassies around the world as part of the Art in Embassies Program of the United States Department of State. She currently splits her time between studios in New York City and Taipei.



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

For up-to-date information about Albany Institute activities, policies, and procedures, please check our website at [www.albanyinstitute.org](http://www.albanyinstitute.org). You can also sign up for our emails or follow us on social media: Facebook ([facebook.com/albanyinstitute](https://facebook.com/albanyinstitute)), Instagram ([albanyinstitute](https://instagram.com/albanyinstitute)), and Twitter ([@AlbanyInstitute](https://twitter.com/AlbanyInstitute)). Thank you!

## NOVEMBER

### PARTNER PROGRAM

#### Train-Themed Storytime with Albany Public Library

Saturday, November 6, 10:30AM | YouTube Premiere | Ages 2-8

All aboard! Albany Public Library's storytime is taking its inspiration from the trains in the museum's *Romancing the Rails: Train Travel in the 1920s and 1930s* exhibition in this exciting partner program! Children and their families will enjoy multiple train picture books, as well as a fun suggested art project. Craft bags are available by registration through Albany Public Library at <https://tinyurl.com/APLstory> or you may use your own materials at home. This pre-recorded program will premiere on APL's YouTube channel at 10:30am: <https://tinyurl.com/YouTubeAPL>



### ADULT ART WORKSHOP

#### Paint & Learn: Adirondack Mountains

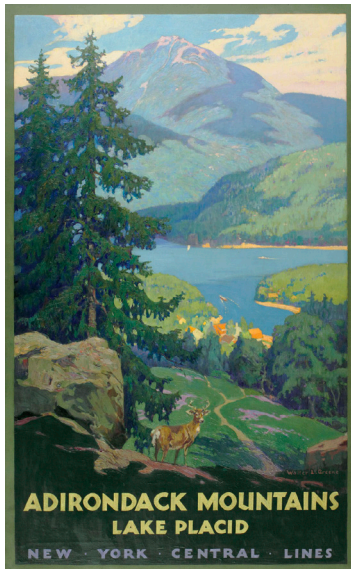
Saturday, November 6, 2:30–4:30PM

\$30 members, \$35 non-members

Led by artist Noreen Powell

Join us for a fun adult art workshop! Powell will lead participants through a guided painting experience, taking inspiration from the painting *Adirondack Mountains Lake Placid* by Walter L. Greene currently on view in the exhibition *Romancing the Rails: Train Travel in the 1920s and 1930s*. All materials are included with the registration fee. Registration is required and is available on our website.

Please note that while this program is scheduled to be onsite at the museum, we are following Covid-19 safety protocols and reserve the right to convert this event to a virtual platform.



*Adirondack Mountains, Lake Placid*, Walter L. Greene (1870–1956), c. 1930, oil on canvas, gift of New York Central Railroad, 1959.130.93

### VIRTUAL ART DU JOUR

#### On the Sea Wall with John Paul Jones

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

Take a break! This virtual program features a relaxed, explorative discussion of *On the Sea Wall with John Paul Jones* by N.C. Wyeth. 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. Register online.



*On the Sea Wall with John Paul Jones*, For a long moment Paul Jones gazed out over the crowded shipping, down the long narrow harbor, out to the open water. He whistled dolefully between his teeth, N. C. Wyeth (1882–1945), 1928, oil on canvas, Bank of America Collection

### HOLIDAY HOURS

#### Museum Open

Thursday, November 11, 10AM-5PM | Regular admission

Free admission for military veterans and active-duty personnel and their families

The museum galleries and shop will be open for visitors to enjoy. We will also have drop-in art making (see next page).

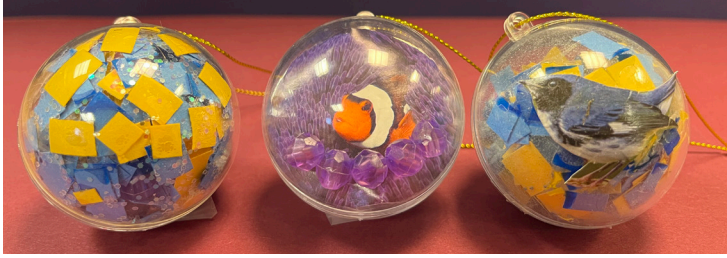
## Drop-In Art Making Opportunities

All ages are invited to get creative with us at the museum! Our hands-on art programs take place in the museum's large multi-purpose room which provides ample space to spread out, socially distance, and be creative. Details available on our website: [www.albanyinstitute.org](http://www.albanyinstitute.org).



Family Art Making projects are sponsored in part by Stewart's Shops.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS



## FAMILY ART PROGRAM

### Federal Holiday Drop-In Art Making: Ornaments

Thursday, November 11, 10AM–4:30PM | *Included with admission*

November's project follows the Albany Institute of History & Art's tradition of preparing for the holiday season by crafting festive decorations. Decorate small plastic bulb ornaments by filling the inside with cheerful colors or by gluing on pictures.

## FAMILY ART PROGRAM

### Second Saturday Drop-In Art Making: Ornaments

Saturday, November 13, 10AM–4:30PM | *Included with admission*

This month, make festive decorations with small plastic bulb ornaments by filling the inside with cheerful colors or gluing on pictures. *Sponsored in part by Stewart's Shops.*

## ONSITE BOOK TALK & BOOK SIGNING

### John Ham: From Grand Central to Albany

Sunday, November 14, 2PM | *\$10 per person (includes museum admission)*

John Ham will be joined by railroad historians Roger A Liller, Eugene C. Dauner, Leonard Kilian, and Ernie Mann for a Q&A session following Ham's presentation.

Join renowned railroad historian John Ham for a high-speed visual presentation of many of the 650 images from his newest book, *From Grand Central to Albany: New York's Water Level Route*. In addition to including photography by many of the most noted rail photographers of the 20th century, Ham's presentation will include a never-before-seen video of trains from the New York Central's "glory years." At the end of the screening, Ham will be available for questions and conversations. He will be signing copies of his newest book, which is available in the Museum Shop. Register online.



## VIRTUAL BOOK & ART CLUB

### The Picture of Dorian Gray

Thursday, November 18, 7PM | *Free, RSVP required*  
*Register through the Albany Public Library's website*



This month, we are reading *The Picture of Dorian Gray* by Oscar Wilde. Led by a museum educator and a librarian, this program explores the intersection of books and art with examples, insight, and enjoyable conversation. Participants can register for this discussion and receive access to no cost audio book and e-books through the Albany Public Library webpage. Link and details online.

### Home for the Holidays Kick-Off Weekend

Friday, November 26, 10AM–5PM

Saturday, November 27, 10AM–5PM

Sunday, November 28, 12PM–5PM

*Regular admission rates apply*

Enjoy the holiday season at the Albany Institute! Beginning the weekend after Thanksgiving, bring friends and family to explore our outdoor art exhibition; discover decorated trees; admire a selection of miniature dioramas by Joan Steiner, the award-winning illustrator of the Look-Alikes® books; pick up take-home crafts; shop for handmade and one-of-a-kind gifts in our Museum Shop; explore our current exhibitions; and more! Most seasonal activities will be available during the museum's regular open hours through January 2, 2022.



## FAMILY ART PROGRAM

### Drop-In Art Making: Ornaments

Saturday, November 27, 10AM–4:30PM | *Included with admission*

Join us to continue the museum's tradition of preparing for the holiday season by crafting festive decorations. Decorate small plastic bulb ornaments by filling the inside with cheerful colors or gluing on pictures. *Sponsored in part by Stewart's Shops.*

*(Left) 20th Century Limited, William Harnden Foster (1886–1941), 1917, oil on canvas, Albany Institute of History & Art, gift of New York Central Railroad, 1959.130.159*



# DECEMBER

FOR MEMBERS

## Sip & Shop

Thursday, December 2, 5:30–7PM | *Free, but RSVPs requested*

Looking for the perfect gift? Join other museum members for an evening of browsing and holiday sweets! Our Museum Shop will be open late to help you find gifts from local artists or inspired by the museum's collections. Knowledgeable staff will be available to make recommendations while you sip sparkling wine and enjoy sweets and treats. Museum members receive 15% off! RSVP online or contact Sarah at (518) 463-4478 ext. 414 or [kirbys@albanyinstitute.org](mailto:kirbys@albanyinstitute.org).



Now available in the Museum Shop while supplies last: Exquisite brooches created by Hand & Lock (London), embroiderers to the British monarchy and couture designers around the world.

## VIRTUAL PRESENTATION

### Narrative Realism and American Illustration: Wyeth, Parrish, and Rockwell

Sunday, December 5, 2PM | \$10 suggested donation

Stephanie Plunkett, Deputy Director/Chief Curator, Norman Rockwell Museum

Plunkett will discuss the art of narrative storytelling for the covers and pages of American publications through the art of N.C. Wyeth, Maxfield Parrish, Norman Rockwell, and other noted illustrators. Plunkett is Chief Curator at the Norman Rockwell Museum, which studies, collects, and exhibits American Illustration. She has organized many illustration-based exhibitions, including *Keepers Of The Flame: Parrish, Wyeth, Rockwell and the Narrative Tradition*. Register online.



*Blind Pew, Newell Convers Wyeth (American, 1882-1945), 1910, Illustration for Treasure Island by Robert Louis Stevenson, oil on canvas*



*Evening Snow Scene, Clinton Loveridge, c. 1872, oil on canvas, 5 3/4 H x 11 3/4 W, Albany Institute of History & Art, gift of Warren Broderick, 2013.30*

## VIRTUAL ART DU JOUR

### Evening Snow Scene by Clinton Loveridge

Wednesday, December 8, 1PM | \$10 suggested donation

Take a break! This virtual program features a relaxed, explorative discussion of *Evening Snow Scene* by Clinton Loveridge. 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 required. Register online.

## FAMILY ART PROGRAM

### Second Saturday Drop-In Art Making

Saturday, December 11, 10AM–4:30PM | *Included with admission*

Have you seen the ornate beaded designs in the Fashionable Frocks of the 1920s exhibition? We'll use the 1920s beaded patterns in the exhibit as inspiration to create our own wall hanging designs by gluing small beads onto fabric. *Sponsored in part by Stewart's Shops.*



## VIRTUAL BOOK & ART CLUB

### The Girl Who Wrote in Silk

Thursday, December 16, 7PM | *Free, RSVP required*  
*Register through the Albany Public Library's website*

This month we are reading *The Girl Who Wrote in Silk* by Kelli Estes. Led by a museum educator and a librarian, this program will explore the intersection of books and art with examples, insight, and enjoyable conversation. Participants can register for this discussion and receive access to no cost audio book and e-books through the Albany Public Library webpage. Link and details online.



# MUSEUM NEWS

## Remembering Director Emeritus Norman Rice

On the morning of October 22, 2021, Norman Rice, Director Emeritus of the Albany Institute of History & Art, passed away at the age of 95.

Known for his connoisseurship, impeccable scholarship, and community involvement (and love of bow ties) he was passionate about art, decorative arts, architecture, and history, as well as his great love, the Albany Rural Cemetery. He was a beloved member of our museum family and his passions connected him to friends everywhere he went.



Left: Curator Norman S. Rice and Engeltje Wendell pose for a picture in 1966.



Right: Norman (L) at the 2013 Museum Gala, where he and his partner James (Jim) Gwynn (R) were honored.

Executive Director Tammis Groft reflects: "Norman was an icon of Albany art and history and he was my mentor, colleague, and dear friend for 45 years." We will miss him dearly.

## Welcome Andrea Belair, Archivist/Librarian

Andrea Belair joined the Albany Institute this fall as the museum's new Archivist/Librarian. Andrea most recently held positions at Yale University and Union College, where she worked in archives and special collections. She has also worked as a reference librarian at public libraries and universities. She has experience teaching research methods and how to use primary sources for a variety of audiences in classrooms, small groups, and individual sessions. In her roles, she has come to adore outreach to community and local organizations.

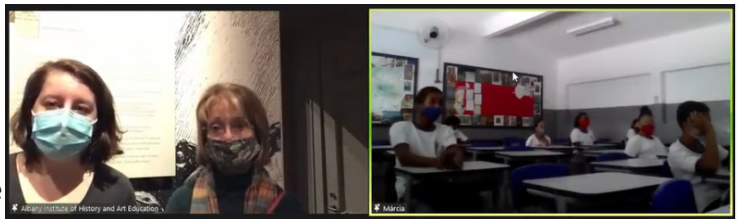


Andrea working in the Albany Institute Library to re-house records from the Kenmore Hotel.

Andrea is looking forward to getting to know the vast and fascinating holdings here at the Albany Institute of History & Art. She loves the process of discovery and is excited by all the interesting things she finds when she is researching projects. One of Andrea's first projects is processing records from the Kenmore Hotel, which were recently donated to the museum by author William (Bill) Kennedy. She is also hosting researchers and getting to know the ins-and-outs of her new job. Some non-library trivia about Andrea: She lives with her husband and two cats, co-owns a record store, and enjoys hiking. *Say hello!* You can reach Andrea by calling her at (518) 463-4478 ext. 415 or emailing [belaira@albanyinstitute.org](mailto:belaira@albanyinstitute.org).

## International Virtual Program Partnership with Experimente Cultura

The Albany Institute has been partnering with Experimente Cultura in a series of programs connecting communities around Rio de Janeiro, Brazil to the museum's ancient Egypt exhibit. First, the program shows groups of students and seniors a video on ancient Egypt, which was produced by the Albany Institute and translated into Brazilian Portuguese. Following the video, participants engage in virtual Q & A



Museum Educator Victoria Waldron and volunteer Anne King host a recent virtual session with Experimente Cultura.

sessions with Museum Educator, Victoria Waldron. The Albany Institute has hosted 8 programs with Experimente Cultura. These programs served approximately 160 live participants and have garnered over 5,000 views on YouTube. For more information on the work done by Experimente Cultura, visit their website: <https://www.experimentecultura.com.br/>.



# MUSEUM NEWS

## Restoration Projects for Historic Rice House

This fall, the Albany Institute launched a long-awaited window and cornice restoration project for the museum's historic Rice House building. The structure, a Beaux Arts style building, was originally built in 1894-95 as the home for the newly married couple William Gorham Rice and his bride Harriet L. Pruyn by Richard Morris Hunt, one of America's most fashionable architects. The Albany Institute acquired the house in 1966 and converted it to offices and a library in 1970. The building is now used for programming, as special event and meeting space, and for staff offices.



*The historic Rice House building is located at the corner of Dove Street and Washington Avenue. Work began in October 2021.*

The project aims to improve energy efficiency while respecting the historic architecture of the building. The work, which is supported through a grant from the Environmental Protection Fund from the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation as well as The Bender Family Foundation, is being completed under the supervision of Mesick Cohen Baker Architects, LLP of Albany, NY. The grant monies for the Rice House Preservation Project will be used to repair windows, add interior storms to increase energy efficiency, and install copper flashing to protect the elaborate cornices. For up-to-date information about this project, please check out our social media channels and/or sign up for our email list! Architecture enthusiast? Matching donations to this effort are still welcome! Contact Tammis at (518) 463-4478 ext 423 or email [grofttk@albanyinstitute.org](mailto:grofttk@albanyinstitute.org) to learn more.

## Class is in Session for this Year's Junior Interpreter Program

The new class of our Junior Interpreter program has been busy training to get ready to give tours in 2022. This is the fifth class for the popular program designed specifically for teenagers 13-18 years old and this year's class has 12 members.



*Junior Interpreter participants aboard the USS Slater, to observe first hand how a tour is led and to reflect on how they felt as visitors. Thank you for the tour, USS Slater!*

Participants work as a team to develop and lead fun and engaging museum tours for visitors of all ages. During training, Junior Interpreters have the opportunity to tour historic sites, meet local artists, and even take an acting class! In addition to leading public tours, Junior Interpreters have written guest blog posts, produced audio tour stops, hosted how-to videos for projects, and more. We thank them for all their hard work and for inspiring us to learn more every day.

## Gift Membership Special for the Holidays

Give the gift of membership to the Albany Institute this holiday season. Members receive free admission and other benefits for one year. At the Supporter-level (\$150) and higher, receive free admission to over 1,000 museums around the country through the North American Reciprocal Museum (NARM) program. This holiday season, give a Supporter-level Membership and receive a free Albany Institute tote bag! To purchase a membership, visit [www.albanyinstitute.org](http://www.albanyinstitute.org) or contact Sarah Kirby at (518) 463-4478 ext. 414 or by email at [kirbys@albanyinstitute.org](mailto:kirbys@albanyinstitute.org).

*Tote offer valid only for new memberships. Cut-off for holiday shipping is Friday, December 17.*





# ALBANY INSTITUTE OF HISTORY & ART

125 Washington Avenue, Albany, New York 12210  
(518) 463-4478 | [www.albanyinstitute.org](http://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.*

## Library & Archives

*The Library and Archives are open by appointment only.*

## Admission

Members free | Adults \$10 | Seniors (62+) \$8 | Students with ID \$8  
Children 6-12 \$6 | Under 6 Free | *Admission discount information online*  
Advance 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](http://www.arts.gov).



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ALBANY INSTITUTE  
OF HISTORY & ART  
NOVEMBER–DECEMBER 2021

