

# ALBANY INSTITUTE OF HISTORY & ART

## **Albany Institute of History & Art**

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## **NEWS**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**November 4, 2013**

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## **ALBANY INSTITUTE OF HISTORY & ART ANNOUNCES ITS MUMMY BIRTHDAY FAMILY PROGRAM Sunday, November 10, 2013 from NOON – 5 PM**

ALBANY, NY – The Albany Institute of History & Art invites families in the capital region to come celebrate the 104<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the arrival of our mummies! This day full of engaging and stimulating activities will take place at the Albany Institute of History & Art on Sunday, November 10, 2013 from Noon to 5PM. Families will sample delicious birthday treats, learn about the mummification process, and explore science with the “Having Fun with Pyramids and Pharaohs” program. In addition, there will be face painting and a visit by Mummy Ankhfenmut himself! The refreshments have been generously donated by Crisan Bakery & Edible Art. This event was sponsored by Tabner, Ryan & Keniry.

In addition to experiencing the new exhibition, *GE Presents: The Mystery of the Albany Mummies* the Albany Institute encourages visitors to bring a stuffed animal or doll from home to learn about and experiment with the mummification process at a plaster “mummification station” in the art studio. Please note that participants should “dress for mess” (and the mummification project is irreversible.)

From 12:30-2:30pm, visitors will have the opportunity to sit in the King Tut replica throne and have their face painted by Barbara Arpante.

“Having Fun with Pyramids and Pharaohs” is hosted by amateur paleontologist and founder of Fun with Science Programs, Paulette Morin. Morin is known as a performance educator who uses hands-on and multimedia presentations to capture the attention of students and educators alike. By using dance, music, storytelling, Egyptian artifacts, replicas and jewelry, Morin will

explore the everyday life of an ancient Egyptian. This educational program will start at 3PM and will run for approximately one hour.

As an additional surprise, guests will have the chance to visit with one of the honorees himself, Mummy Ankhefenmut, who will be greeting people and enjoying this fun anniversary party too!

Throughout the event, guests are invited to enjoy specially-made Egyptian-themed cupcakes and cookies from Crisan Bakery & Edible Art Gallery located on Lark Street in Albany, New York.

This family program is FREE with museum admission, thanks to generous sponsorship by Tabner, Ryan & Keniry. Admission is FREE for Albany Institute members; \$10/adults; \$8/seniors and students with ID; \$6/children 6-12; FREE/children under 6. The Albany Institute of History & Art is located at 125 Washington Avenue in downtown Albany, New York. For more information on upcoming Family Programs, please visit [www.albanyinstitute.org](http://www.albanyinstitute.org) or call (518) 463-4478, ext. 405.

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*GE Presents: The Mystery of the Albany Mummies* is the largest exhibition on Ancient Egypt ever presented in New York's Capital Region. Art and artifacts from around the world, combined with advanced medical technologies help unravel the mystery of the Albany Mummies. Acquired directly from the Cairo Museum in 1909, the Albany Institute's mummies have kept secrets that only recently have been revealed. Visit the exhibition to discover how new research, new technologies, and a team of experts have helped uncover their hidden stories. Learn about their lives and the ancient practice of mummification, all at the Albany Institute of History & Art.

- **From Cairo to Albany** highlights the 1909 acquisition of the two mummies and their coffins from the Cairo Museum.
- **Preparing for the Afterlife** examines the science of mummification through interactive stations and shows the results of new CT scans and x-rays taken at Albany Medical Center.
- **Ankhefenmut and His World** explores the daily life and culture of ancient Egypt during the 21<sup>st</sup> Dynasty.
- **Egyptomania** will showcase our ongoing fascination with ancient Egypt.

**Interactive stations** include: How to Make a Mummy, Pharaoh for a Day, Learn Hieroglyphs, and more!

**Family Festivals, Art for All** activities, and an **International Lecture Series** will be offered.

A special **Museum Shop** will offer Egyptian-themed items.

The museum is open Wednesday-Saturday 10AM-5PM, Thursdays until 8PM, and Sunday Noon-5PM. On Tuesdays, the museum is open to registered groups only. The museum is closed on Mondays and major holidays. Admission is FREE for Albany Institute members; \$10/adults; \$8/seniors and students with ID; \$6/children 6-12; FREE/children under 6. For more information, visit [www.albanyinstitute.org](http://www.albanyinstitute.org) or call (518) 463-4478.

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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 lectures, outstanding educational and family programming, and special events, 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. For more information, please visit [www.albanyinstitute.org](http://www.albanyinstitute.org) 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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