

ALBANY INSTITUTE OF HISTORY & ART

Albany Institute of History & Art

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NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ALBANY INSTITUTE TO OFFER FREE ADMISSION ON MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY

Monday, January 20, 2014 from 10AM-5PM

ALBANY, NY – The Albany Institute of History & Art will offer FREE admission to the museum on Monday, January 20, 2014 from 10AM-5PM. Gallery Tours will take place at 1PM and 3:30PM. This Holiday Monday free admission day is sponsored by M&T Bank.

Guests of all ages are invited to spend the day viewing several new exhibitions, GE Presents: The Mystery of the Albany Mummies; Big and Bold: Contemporary Paintings, Collage, and Sculpture from the Albany Institute's Collection (in the recently renovated Lansing Gallery); and The Hudson River School and the Nineteenth-Century Landscape. Additional exhibitions include, Traders and Culture: Colonial Albany and the Formation of American Identity; Nineteenth-Century American Sculpture: Erastus Dow Palmer and His Protégés Launt Thompson, Charles Calverley, and Richard Park (in the recently renovated Sculpture Court); Robert Hewson Pruyn: An Albanian in Japan, 1862-1865; and A Gather of Glass: Selections from the Museum's Collection. Gallery Tours, led by museum docents, will start at 1PM and 3:30PM, and are also free.

The museum will also be hosting the third day of competition for its 2014 Lego® Building Challenge on Monday, January 20, 2014. People are invited to bring family, friends, and colleagues to work together to create sculptures that reflect this year's theme- Egypt: Past, Present, and Future. Teams from across the Capital Region will compete to win prizes. Building sessions are at 11AM and 2PM. The Lego® Building Challenge registration fee is \$5 per person

and teams may have 1-4 people. (The Lego® Challenge is not included in the free admission day). Space is limited and pre-registration is required. Register online at www.albanyinstitute.org. Please note: basic building blocks will be supplied; however, contestants may also bring their own.

The Albany Institute is open Wednesday-Saturday 10AM-5PM, Thursday until 8PM, and Sunday Noon-5PM. On Tuesdays, the museum is open to registered groups only. The museum is closed on Mondays and some holidays. Admission is FREE for Albany Institute members; \$10/adults; \$8/seniors and students with ID; \$6/children 6-12; FREE/children under 6. Thursday evenings (5PM-8PM) are now FREE at the Albany Institute! For more information and a listing of our upcoming events, please visit 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 and be sure to follow us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/albanyinstitute) and Twitter (www.twitter.com/albanyinstitute).

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