

ALBANY INSTITUTE OF HISTORY & ART

Albany Institute of History & Art

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NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Am I On? Open Mic Program to Collect and Document Albany's History

Organized by Partners for Albany Stories (PAST)

ALBANY, NY— This spring, the Partners for Albany Stories (PAST) invites the public to share personal stories that relate to the history of Albany. PAST partners will host a series of eight, open-mic story-telling events. Storytellers sign up on a first-come, first-tell basis one hour prior to the event and have 10 minutes at the microphone to enchant and enlighten the audience. Stories will be video documented for preservation at the Albany Public Library.

Both storytellers and listeners are welcome to attend these events. Interested but not sure what to talk about? Check our websites for story suggestions. Interested, know what you want to talk about, but want help with telling your story? Come to a free coaching session one hour before each event.

- **Thursday, March 26 at 6:00 PM** at the Albany Institute of History & Art
- **Sunday, March 29 at 2:00 PM** at Historic Cherry Hill's Edward Frisbee *Center for Collections & Research*
- **Tuesday, March 31 at 6:00 PM** at Schuyler Mansion State Historic Site
- **Tuesday, April 7 at 6:00 PM** at Ten Broeck Mansion
- **Sunday, April 19 at 2:00 PM** at Shaker Heritage Society
- **Thursday, April 30 at 6:00 PM** at the Van Ostrande-Radliff House, Historic Albany Foundation
- **Monday, May 4 at 5:00 PM** at the Main Branch, Albany Public Library, Pruyn Collection Room

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- **Sunday, May 17 at 4:00 PM** at the Stephen and Harriet Myers Residence, Underground Railroad History Project of the Capital Region

Funding for this project is provided through the Community Projects Fund created by 1996 amendments to the State Finance Law sponsored by Assemblywoman Patricia Fahey.

For more information about Partners for Albany Stories (PAsT), please visit <http://www.historiccherryhill.org/partners/>.

The Albany Institute of History & Art is located at 125 Washington Avenue in Albany, New York. Free parking is available in the museum's lot at the corner of Elk and Dove Streets. 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 some holidays. Admission is free for Institute members; \$10/adults; \$8/seniors; \$8/students with ID; \$6/children 6-12; FREE/children under 6. *We are now offering free admission on Thursdays from 5PM-8PM. For more information, visit www.albanyinstitute.org or call (518) 463-4478.

The logo for Partners for Albany Stories (PAsT) features the letters 'PAsT' in a large, stylized, orange-to-yellow gradient font. The 'P' and 'A' are in a darker orange, while the 'S' and 'T' transition to a lighter yellow. The 't' is lowercase and positioned to the right of the 'S'.

PARTNERS *for* ALBANY STORIES

A collaboration exploring the stories of Albany's rich history

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Founded in 1791, the Albany Institute of History & Art is New York's oldest museum. Its collections document the Hudson Valley as a crossroads of culture, influencing the art and history of the region, the state, and the nation. With more than 35,000 objects and one million documents in the library, it is an important resource for the region, giving our community a sense of the part the Hudson Valley played in the American story, and our own place in history. Permanent and temporary exhibitions are open year-round and create a sense of place, allowing visitors to meet the people who helped shape this region. Over 25,000 people visit the Albany Institute of History & Art every year, enjoying the collections, workshops, school programs, and lectures, helping to build an understanding of the history and culture of our region. Among the museum's best-known and most-loved collections are the 19th century Hudson River School landscape paintings by artists like Thomas Cole and Frederic Church, the 19th century sculpture collections, and, of course, the famous Albany Mummies that came to the museum in 1909 and have been on view ever since. For more information, please visit www.albanyinstitute.org and be sure to follow us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/albanyinstitute) and Twitter (@AlbanyInstitute).

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