



The Maryland Association of History Museums

Volume 1, Number 2

Fall 2009

The Maryland Association of History Museums is an alliance of historical and cultural institutions that collect, hold, interpret and protect the cultural and material heritage within the State. The Association advocates for member institutions by enhancing professionalism in those organizations and promoting awareness of Museum interests.

A Busy Summer and Fall with MAHM!

This Summer, MAHM partnered with several other organizations to offer a workshop by Dale Jones of Making History Connections titled "Best Practices in Live Interpretation." This workshop was very well attended and had approximately 80 people in attendance as well as a very long waiting list. Dale discussed current research regarding live interpretation. He followed this with a great discussion on how to improve your live interpretation to maximize the visitor's experience.

The fall, MAHM offered a workshop at Belair Mansion. The first half of the workshop was given by Mary Alexander, director of the Museum Advancement Program of the Maryland Historical Trust on grant writing. She worked with approximately twenty participants to outline the fundamentals of grant writing and how to write a grant that's not a disaster. She was followed by presenters from Jefferson Patterson Park and the Maryland Archives who discussed an IMLS grant to improve disaster preparedness in the state of Maryland.

Advocacy Alert!!

Report on coming legislative session

Discussions are underway now to formulate an advocacy action plan for the 2010 Legislative Session.

As with all things financial, grant funding seems to have a less-than-sunny forecast. It will be critical for ALL museums to help with the advocacy and outreach issues. To paraphrase Benjamin Franklin, if museums don't hang together, we'll surely hang alone.

Once plans are firmed up, all Maryland museums – whether MAHM members or not – will need to make their voices heard.

Education Program Planned for the Spring!

Keep your eyes and ears open for another great program for the Spring.

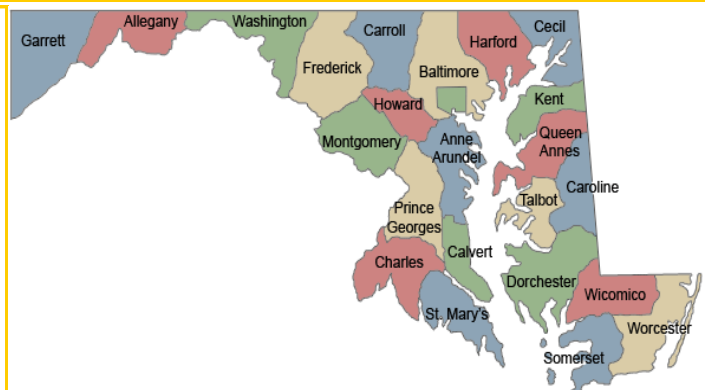
MAHM is in the process of planning a program focusing on education once the weather warms up.

Have something you'd love to see covered? Contact Pam Williams at pwilliams@cityofbowie.org.

Ever Wonder Where Our Membership Comes From?

MAHM is committed to serving organizations throughout the state of Maryland. The areas with the greatest number of member organizations are: Baltimore city, with 12 members, Anne Arundel County with 8 members, Montgomery County with 7 members, and Prince George's County with 6

members. Although our membership extends to most areas of the state, there are a few counties unrepresented. If you know an organization from Charles County, Dorchester County, Garrett County, or Queen Anne's County, please pass along the good word of what we do at MAHM!



MAHM Speakers Bureau: A Call to Action

We all have experience in the Museum field.

Now let's share it!

MAHM is in the process of planning a speakers bureau to provide short, informative talks to organizations throughout the state.

Speakers do not need to be "experts" at their topic, only capable of sharing their experience to help organizations in Maryland!

Topics We Already Have:

- Creating a Strategic Plan
- Intern Management
- Creating Programs
- Working with Schools
- Tackling Tough Tour Topics
- Volunteer Management

Topics We Need:

- Introduction to Past Perfect
- Caring for Collections
- Surveying Visitors
- Fundraising
- Disaster Preparedness
- AND MORE!!

Interested in learning more about our Speakers Bureau?

Willing and able to volunteer your time and experience as a potential speaker?

Interested in scheduling a speaker for your organization?

Contact Ellen Seagraves at:
eseagraves@hsfcinfo.org

Look out for your membership renewal information in January!

MAHM Board of Directors

President: Edward Day, Riversdale Historic House Museum

Vice Pres.: Pam Williams, City of Bowie Museums

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This is YOUR Newsletter!

Advertise your museum news here in the next issue!

New Exhibit?

Spectacular Program?

Bartering options?

Ideas?

Here's your opportunity!

Email pwilliams@cityofbowie.org
for inclusion.

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