

# GAMG 2013

Georgia Association of Museums and Galleries Newsletter

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## *President's Message*

**Catherine M. Lewis, Ph.D.**



Dear GAMG Members,

As spring approaches and our days lengthen, I know we all look with anticipation as the new season begins. There is much to look forward to in our museum community this coming year. The GAMG board is beginning to plan for our 2014 annual meeting in Dalton with a site visit on March 15, 2013, led by the chair of our host committee, Ty Snyder. We

appreciate all of your feedback at the 2013 meeting and hope to create a program that is engaging, stimulating, and thought-provoking next winter. Many thanks, again, to the whole planning team and membership who made the 2013 meeting such a success.

I know many of you plan to attend the American Alliance of Museums (notice the name change from the American Association of Museums) in Baltimore from May 19–22, 2013. Attendees may choose from more than 150 program sessions, hear from dozens of leaders in the field, see and sample the latest museum products, and share challenges and solutions with colleagues from around the world.

AAM also has some important membership changes that are detailed at <http://aam-us.org/alliance?gclid=CJOyndHE47UCFQeznQodCXQAbw>. The most notable is that you can take advantage of their new tiered membership categories that encourage a larger proportion of smaller museums to join. In this tough budget climate, that is a welcome change for museums in our state.

GAMG has built a stronger relationship with the Southeastern Museums Conference (SEMC) over the past several years and is pleased to see that their 2013 meeting will be in Savannah from October 7-9, 2013. Susan Perry has been a great ally of GAMG, and we look forward to their fall program. It's always nice to have another museum conference in our home state. For more information about the SEMC annual meeting, visit: <http://www.semcdirect.net/Default.aspx?pageId=704435>.

I wish you all a happy and productive spring and look forward to our next steps together.

Warm regards,

Catherine M. Lewis, Ph.D.  
Executive Director, Museums, Archives & Rare Books  
Director, Museum of History and Holocaust Education  
Kennesaw State University



### Michele Rodgers

We all know that volunteers are an extremely important part of our organizations, but do we always provide the structure and guidance that good volunteers need? Take time to review your volunteer program and make sure your organization has developed job descriptions, policies and assessment tools for dealing with this valuable resource. In addition, make sure that you have established meaningful rewards for those hard working volunteers. Want to learn more about developing a strong volunteer program? Visit the American Alliance of Museums' recorded webinar library where you can find a transcript of the December 2012 webinar "Planning or Transforming Your Museum Volunteer Program Infrastructure," which was created in collaboration with the American Association for Museum Volunteers. For more information about Alliance webinars, visit [aam-us.org/resources/online-learning](http://aam-us.org/resources/online-learning).

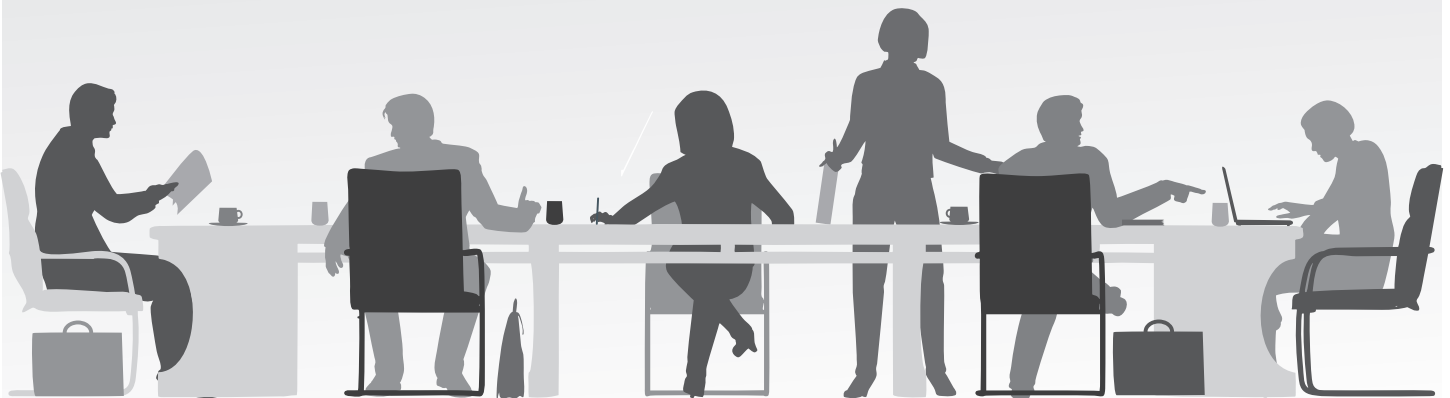
Speaking of volunteers, I'd like to send out a HUGE note of gratitude to the many folks in Athens who played a role in making the January GAMG Conference a tremendous success!! We had a record number of attendees, raised more than \$ 2500 for the MUSE program, and experienced the best that Athens had to offer. Special thanks to the Host Committee: Carissa DiCindio and Sage Rogers from the Georgia Museum of Art, Nancy Lukasiewicz of the Lyndon House Art Center, Evelyn Reece of the Athens Welcome Center and the Church-Waddel-Brumby House, Connie Cottingham of the State Botanical Garden of Georgia, Bud Freeman of the Georgia Museum of Natural History, Sarah D. Chandler of the Taylor-Grady House and Junior League of Athens, and Jean Cleveland of the University of Georgia Special Collections Library.

## NEWS YOU CAN USE!

The National Center for Education Statistics recently created a National Education Index for students interested in pursuing history graduate programs across the US. Featuring data from more than 19,000 education programs at 2,240 universities throughout the nation, it is packaged into an easy

to use database that is insightful and useful. This index can be found at [Graduate-School.PHDs.org/education-index](http://Graduate-School.PHDs.org/education-index) and is the internet's premier source of updated, clear educational data about undergraduate and graduate programs in the US.

## MUSEUM EDUCATION



**Looking to give back to the field of museum education and connect with your peers?  
Consider joining the Museum Education Roundtable Board of Directors!**

MER is seeking nominations of qualified professionals to serve as candidates for election to the MER Board of Directors. MER serves a worldwide membership of individuals and institutions through its topical programs and publications including the Journal of Museum Education. Interested in applying? Visit the MER website for detailed information on applying/nominating: [www.museumeducation.info](http://www.museumeducation.info). **Deadline for nominations is Friday, March 29, 2013.**

# ANNUAL AWARD LUNCHEON - ATHENS, GA



## GAMG

### GEORGIA ASSOCIATION OF MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES JANUARY 25, 2013



**Patron: Carl Mullis III, Georgia Museum of Art**

Carl Mullis, and his wife, Babe, have given hundreds of works of art to the Georgia Museum of Art over the past dozen or so years. While closed for construction during 2009 and 2010, the museum was able to continue its programming in part because of Carl, who lent his collection of works by the late Georgia artist R. A. Miller for an exhibition. Carl was elected chair of the Board of Advisors in 2009, and will complete his second and final term in 2013. He is constantly cajoling and encouraging his fellow members to increase their support of the museum. During the year leading up to the grand opening of the new facility, he led a very successful drive to garner for the museum works of art donated from board members' personal collections. Carl participates financially but, more than that, he gives freely of his time, trying to help every department at the museum.



**Museum Professional: Kathryn V. "Kathy" Dixon, Avient Museum Services**

Kathy Dixon has been a loyal, productive member of GAMG since coming to Georgia in 1984. Formerly curator and head of museum services at the Atlanta History Center, she later founded the consulting firm Avient Museum Services. She advises large institutions and helps promote professional practices in small organizations, often with no permanent staff. Kathy has served GAMG as a member of the board, chair of the long-range planning and awards committees, and a tireless volunteer. She brings the best of GAMG to Georgia's museum community.



**Business/Corporation: The City of Albany and Dougherty County, Georgia**

From their founding, the City of Albany and Dougherty County have understood the value of art and cultural institutions and how they contribute to quality of life, enhance education, and support economic development. Since 1994, over \$8,000,000 has been allocated for improvements at Thronateeska Heritage Center. Projects include rehabilitation of Union Station; restoration of the steam locomotive and railcars; construction of a science museum, planetarium and downtown river walk trail; stabilization of the 1857 train depot; and construction of a new 10,000-square-foot archive facility. Dougherty County and the City of Albany have been constant advocates for the development and sustainability of local museums. Our elected officials and staff have set the example for other communities and encouraged citizens and businesses to invest in their own community's cultural institutions.



**Institution: Tellus Science Museum**

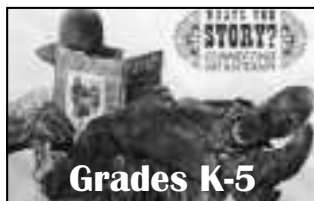
Tellus Science Museum is a 120,000-square-foot facility located in a 50-acre park-like setting on I-75 in Cartersville, Georgia. The museum is a Smithsonian affiliate, a recipient of NASA's Shuttle Artifact Program, and the repository for the state's geological collection. Tellus features exhibits on gems and minerals; dinosaurs and other fossils; transportation technology; hands-on science; a planetarium and observatory; gem panning and a fossil dig; and outdoor exhibits including a solar house, wind turbine, mining machinery, and a boulder garden. The museum serves nearly 200,000 visitors annually, including 45,000 students participating in one of the museum's educational science programs.

# ANNUAL AWARD LUNCHEON - ATHENS, GA



## **Museum Volunteer: Dr. Lee Ann Caldwell, Historic Augusta, Inc.**

Dr. Lee Ann Caldwell is the director of the Center for the Study of Georgia History at Augusta State University and serves on Historic Augusta's Board of Trustees as the Wilson House Committee Chair. She has provided invaluable service to the Boyhood Home of President Woodrow Wilson through her expertise, time, contacts, advocacy, and encouragement of others. Her many contributions include the interpretation of the museum, lectures, and text for an introductory video. She is an outstanding volunteer who has raised the profile, awareness, professionalism, and appreciation of the museum by local citizens, tourists, and a national scholarly community.



## **Education: What's the Story? Connecting Art & Literacy, Booth Western Museum**

What's the Story is a program for students in grades K-5 at Booth Museum. It was designed with the belief that there is a correlation between narrative works of art and the development of literacy skills in children. The program enhances reading and writing skills using the Museum's collection and provides teachers with language arts lessons that build on skills used at the museum. Each program focuses on a particular skill such as sequencing, comparison and contrast, the difference between tall tales, fairy tales and legends, fact verses opinion, and identifying characters, setting, and plot.



## **Education, Certificate of Commendation: The Weinberg Center for Holocaust Education, Breman Museum**

The Weinberg Center forged a relationship with the Savannah College of Art & Design to pair a Holocaust Survivor with an undergraduate student studying in Television Studio Production and/or Segment Producing. The students researched, prepared, and then interviewed Survivors on camera about their memories of the Holocaust. The interviews were conducted in the SCAD studios, where students assumed responsibility for everything from lighting, sound, makeup, and camera operation to the set design that included the Survivors' photos and personal mementos. The Museum now hosts programs featuring the films followed by supplemental talks by the Survivors, who also answer questions from the audience.



## **Museum Exhibition, Category 1: The Art of Golf, High Museum of Art**

Organized by the High Museum of Art and the National Galleries of Scotland, The Art of Golf explores how artists have depicted the royal and ancient game for more than four centuries. Co-curated by Julia Forbes and Catherine Lewis, the exhibition opened at the High Museum in February 2012 and has traveled to three national venues. From the seventeenth-century landscapes of Avercamp, to early twentieth-century portraits of Atlanta native Bobby Jones, to Warhol's painting of Jack Nicklaus, artists have approached golf from a diverse range of perspectives. The exhibition brings together extraordinary, rare, and even whimsical works of art to celebrate what Jones called "a game of considerable passion."



## **Museum Exhibition, Category 2: Georgia Bellflowers: The Furniture of Henry Eugene Thomas, Georgia Museum of Art**

Georgia Bellflowers marked the first scholarship on Gene Thomas, an Athens-based furniture maker who created distinctly regional Colonial Revival furniture and helped build important collections of antique Piedmont furniture. Little of his life and career was in print, so documenting oral history through interviews with family members and Athenians was an act of research and preservation. The guest curator, Ashley Callahan, is the former curator of GMOA's Henry D. Green Center for the Study of the Decorative Arts, and she became interested in Thomas during her tenure here. Thomas was a prominent figure in the first generation of collectors in Georgia and operated during the first recovery of furniture from Piedmont Georgia. He was an associate and friend of Henry D. Green and a significant craftsman in his own right. As such, a study of his work and career aligned perfectly with the goals of the Green Center, with its emphasis on the study of Georgia material culture.



## **Museum Exhibition, Category 2, Honorable Mention: EOD: Robins Air Force Base and Beyond, Museum of Aviation**

EOD: Robins Air Force Base and Beyond was curated by three seniors from Northside High School in Warner Robins with guidance from museum staff. The exhibit engages visitors with a dramatic story, personalized with spotlights on Air Force explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) specialists who live and work in central Georgia. The exhibit features an 800-pound EOD robot, a bomb suit, uniforms worn by members of the Georgia Air National Guard's 116th Air Control Wing EOD Flight, munitions training aids, and two short videos showing EOD specialists at work.

# ANNUAL AWARD LUNCHEON - ATHENS, GA



## Special Projects, Category 2: Bulloch County's Military Heritage – A Commemorative & Educational Exhibit for Southeast Georgia, Georgia Southern University Museum

Bulloch County's Military Heritage was researched, designed, and produced by the team of Dr. James D. Bigley (Project Director), Dr. Brent Tharp (Associate Director), and Mr. Santanu Majumdar (Graphic Design & Production), all of Georgia Southern University. The exhibit consists of eleven full-color panels that interpret the involvement of Bulloch County and its residents in each of the United States' major military conflicts from the Revolutionary War to the present day. Two large exhibit cases present personal artifacts with interpretive text related to local veterans.



## Advocacy: Dianne Cannestra, President - Friends of Georgia Archives & History

Under the leadership of Dianne Cannestra, the Friends of Georgia Archives & History has taken a proactive stance as an outspoken advocate for the Georgia Archives. Under pressure from constituents organized and informed by Dianne Cannestra and the Friends, the Governor has pledged to restore funding to keep the Archives open through the rest of the fiscal year. Continuous pressure and tireless advocacy is needed to obtain long-term results. As President of the Friends, Dianne has forged strong partnerships with organizations including the Society of Georgia Archivists, the Coalition to Save the Georgia Archives, and Georgia Archives Month. Her efforts have raised awareness of what a vital asset the Georgia Archives is to the state.



## Lifetime Achievement: David Dundee, Tellus Science Museum

David Dundee has devoted nearly forty years of his career to interpret and educate diverse audiences about the beauty of the sky. Starting at the Flandrau planetarium in Tucson, Arizona, then on to the Hayden Planetarium at the American Museum of Natural History, he spent the next thirty years as astronomer at Fernbank Science Center in Atlanta. David has served twice in both positions of vice president and president of GAMG. David has been awarded Museum Professional of the Year in 1996 and again in 2010. For the past five years he has been the Astronomer at the Tellus Science Museum.

# GAMG 2013 ANNUAL MEETING ATHENS WRAP-UP



*Above: Representatives of Dorchester Academy compare notes after attending morning sessions.*

Thanks to outstanding local hosts, the GAMG 2013 Annual Meeting in Athens was a huge success! More than 140 attendees gathered for three days of education, networking and touring in this historic Georgia community. Numerous college students, representing six universities, also took part in the conference, helping to strengthen the future of Georgia's museums and galleries. Four of those students, Jared Wright, Brianna



*Left: Bill Eiland, Director of the Georgia Museum of Art, gave a thought provoking keynote address.*

*Right: Cindy Bowden of Bright Ring Foundation discusses how her organization can assist Annelies Mondri of the Georgia Museum of Art.*



*Above: Team Brazil, also known as Team KSU, celebrates its GAMG World Cup win! Helping raise over \$2500 for MUSE.*

Grisham, Carter Ivey, and Keri Adams, received scholarships to attend the conference and were invaluable assistants throughout the meeting, and especially at the MUSE auction!

If you were unable to attend GAMG this year, make sure to put the 2014 Conference, to be held in Dalton January 22 – 24, on your calendar.

*Scenes from Athens, courtesy of John Slemple © 2013.*

# GAMG



# 2013

Georgia Association of Museums & Galleries  
c/o Michele Rodgers, Administrative Director  
P.O. Box 2133  
Marietta, GA 30061

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## NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS SINCE DECEMBER 2012

### Institutional

Bulloch County Historical Society  
The Funk Heritage Center  
Georgia Dept. of Natural Resources/Historic  
Preservation Div.  
Georgia Museum of Art  
Georgia Southern University Museum  
Grady County Museum & History Center  
Jack Hadley's Black History Museum  
Madison/Morgan Cultural Center  
Morgan County African American Museum  
Smith Plantation  
Southeastern Quilt & Textile Museum  
Steffen Thomas Museum of Art  
Tellus Science Museum  
University of Georgia Libraries  
Valdosta State University Fine Arts Gallery  
Whitfield-Murray Historical Society

### Sponsor

Avient Museum Services  
Bright Ring Foundation  
Color Reflections  
Goosepen Studio & Press  
The History Workshop  
Malone Design/Fabrication  
University of Georgia Press

### Individual / Student

David Dundee  
Beverly Hammack  
Marilyn Hubbard  
Annelies Mondt  
Marilyn Osterkamp  
Nichole Rawlings  
Michael Rowland  
Mary Ross  
Stacey Savatsky  
Ellen Thompson  
Ed Weldon  
Jane Powers Weldon  
Norma West  
Cynthia White  
Jacquelyn Wright

## **GAMG** INFORMATION ON BECOMING A MEMBER

Georgia Association of Museums and Galleries is comprised of more than 200 members including individuals, businesses and art, history, natural history, and science museums.

We are open to all non-profit museums, galleries, history centers, science museums and museum associations dedicated to the development and implementation of professional museum practices.

If you are interested in becoming a member or are interested in the exceptional benefits GAMG has to offer, please visit:  
[www.gamg.org](http://www.gamg.org) for more information.