Dear Fellow GAMG Members,

Fittingly, the first GAMG conference I ever attended was in Albany, Georgia, in 2006. It was wonderful to be back this year to begin my time as president. I am thrilled to serve as the new president of GAMG and to work with all of you. Catherine Lewis has left big shoes to fill.

I appreciate the work of our wonderful board, including Jose Santamaria, vice president, and Arden Williams, treasurer, as well as the incredible Michele Rodgers, whose guidance has already proved invaluable. I'd also like to welcome new board members Christy Crisp, Georgia Historical Society; Polly Huff, Georgia Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village at ABAC; and Ephraim Rotter, Thomas County Museum of History.

The 2016 conference was a great success. I want to thank Tommy Gregors, of Thronateeska Heritage Center, and the host committee for Albany for their smooth operation and warm hospitality. Michele Rodgers kept everything efficient and organized. Our awards committee, led by David Moore of Historic Oakland Foundation, did an amazing job. Congratulations to all of the award recipients this year. Finally, I want to thank all of the museum and gallery professionals who presented this year. I left with a notebook full of new ideas, and I hope you all did too.

Inspiring conferences, the professional support of colleagues, and opportunities to share ideas and services with one another have always been at the heart of this organization, and I know that this collaborative spirit will continue thanks to the strong museum professionals we have in Georgia. We are already busy coordinating our next conference so start thinking of ideas. Please feel free to contact Jose Santamaria at joses@tellusmuseum.org about session topics. A call for proposals and more information about the next conference will be out shortly.

All the best,

Carissa DiCindio, Ph.D.
Curator of Education, Georgia Museum of Art
President Georgia Association of Museums and Galleries
I can't say enough good things about the warm southern welcome GAMG received when we held our conference in Albany in January! The staff at Merry Acres Inn made us feel like royalty, and the host institutions were gracious and a delight to visit. Many thanks to Tommy and Sandy Gregors for spearheading local arrangements. Additionally, Rashelle Beasley of Albany CVB, Vickie Churchman of Flint RiverQuarium, Alex LaPierre of Thronateeska Heritage Center, and Paula Williams of Albany Museum of Art, played major roles in making the conference a huge success.

Thanks to the generosity of numerous donors and eager bidders, GAMG raised over $3,000 for the MUSE program during the annual auction held during the conference. The variety of items sold ranged from original art to an Albany Get-Away package to a section of flooring from the Cyclorama!

Although it seems as if we just left Albany, the GAMG Board is already hard at work planning the January 2017 conference which will be held in Augusta. We'll be staying at the Partridge Inn, one of the National Trust's Historic Hotels of America, and exploring the sights of one of Georgia's oldest cities. Mark your calendar for January 18 – 20, 2017 and plan to attend!

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**FREE Collections Care Webinars**

The webinars scheduled for the end of March and first part of April. These webinars are designed for smaller cultural institutions and offered at no cost - sign up for one or for all of them!

- March 30, 2016, 2:00 - 3:30 EDT: "Notes From the Home Front: Care & Handling of Heirloom Textile Collections" with Jane Hammond (ICA - Art Conservation) http://www.connectingtocollections.org/notes-from-the-home-front-care-handling-of-heirloom-textile-collections/

- April 7, 2016, 2:00 - 3:30 EDT: "Caring for Artifacts Found in Archives Collections" with Rebecca Elder (Rebecca Elder Cultural Heritage Preservation) <http://www.connectingtocollections.org/caring-for-artifacts-found-in-archives-collections>

- April 14, 2016, 2:00 - 3:30 EDT: "Much Ado About Mannequins: Making the Perfect Form" with Apryl Voskamp and Jill Morena (Harry Ransom Center, University of Texas) http://www.connectingtocollections.org/much-ado-about-mannequins-making-the-perfect-form Connecting to Collections Care Online Community (www.connectingtocollections.org<http://www.connectingtocollections.org>), a program of the Foundation of the American Institute for Conservation, provides free collections care training and resources for smaller-sized cultural organizations.
**Category: Patron**

An individual or group who has worked closely with a museum (or museums) demonstrating leadership and providing assistance; is a major promoter of the museum(s) in his/her local area or statewide, and in the past year has made a significant contribution and will continue to be a sponsor in the future.

**WINNER:**

**The McCormack Family**  
_Nominated by Thronateeska Heritage Center, Albany, Georgia._

**Category: Business/Corporation**

A business or corporation in Georgia that has contributed significantly to the development of museums and galleries by providing funding or donations of materials and goods; has taken a leadership role in promoting museums and galleries in Georgia; has encouraged other businesses to participate.

**WINNER:**

**Century Bank of Georgia**  
_Nominated by Bartow History Museum, Cartersville, Georgia_.

**Category: Institution**

Is a nonprofit museum or gallery and a member of GAMG. Has been a leading institution in Georgia with a past record of accomplishment and acts as an important cultural resource in the community. Has taken an active role in promoting communication and cooperation among Georgia museums and galleries, and has provided an on-site or outreach program that has extended the museum’s mission while educating student and adult audiences.

**WINNER:**

**The Walter Breman Jewish Heritage Museum, Atlanta, Georgia**

**Category: Education**

An outreach program that extends the museum’s mission while educating student and/or adult audiences; demonstrates scholarship and originality contributing to the cultural and educational fabric of the nominee’s community or state; is an example of excellence in theory, planning and implementation.

**WINNER:**

**National Center for Civil and Human Rights, Atlanta, Georgia and Museum of History and Holocaust Education at Kennesaw State University, Kennesaw, Georgia for their program: Conversation on Human Rights**

**WINNER:**

**Georgia Museum of Art, Athens Georgia, for its program: Teen Studio**
Category: Museum Exhibition-Over $100,000
Art, historical, or science exhibition of note that demonstrates scholarship and originality contributing to the cultural fabric of the state; is an example of excellence in planning; has effectively reached and broadened the museum or gallery audience.

WINNER:
Georgia Museum of Art, Athens, Georgia for its Exhibit: El Taller Grafica Popular: Vida y Arte

Category: Museum Exhibition-Under $100,000
Art, historical or science exhibition of note that demonstrates scholarship and originality contributing to the cultural fabric of the state; is an example of excellence in planning; has effectively reached and broadened the museum or gallery audience.

WINNER:
Oak Hill and the Martha Berry Museum, Mount Berry, Georgia for its exhibition: Menaboni’s Birds: Georgia’s Own Artist as Naturalist

Category: Special Projects-Over $100,000
A special program of note that demonstrates scholarship and originality contributing to the cultural fabric of the state; is an example of excellence in planning; has effectively reached and broadened the museum or gallery audience.

WINNER:
Thronateeska Heritage Center, Albany, Georgia for its project: South Georgia Archives Project

Category: Special Projects Under $100,000
A special program of note that demonstrates scholarship and originality contributing to the cultural fabric of the state; is an example of excellence in planning; has effectively reached and broadened the museum or gallery audience.

WINNER:
Georgia Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, Tifton, Georgia for its project: Back Roads of Georgia Literary and Photo Competition and Exhibit

Category: Student Project of the Year
This award recognizes the contributions of student work in the field of museums and galleries.

WINNER:
Meghan McFerrin, intern at Georgia Museum of Art, Athens, Georgia for her project: Notice us for Our Minds, in conjunction with, Not Ready to Make Nice: Guerilla Girls in the Art World and Beyond

Category: Museum Volunteer
An individual who has contributed time and effort in developing his/her museum’s programs and exhibitions in an exceptional way; has enlisted the aid of other volunteers in supporting Georgia’s museums and galleries; has served as an advocate of Georgia’s museums and galleries

WINNER:
Keith Rucker
Nominated by Georgia Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, Tifton, Georgia
Category: Museum Professional

An active museum or gallery employee working in the state of Georgia who has been a member of GAMG for at least one year and has worked to promote its goals; is involved professionally on the local, state, and national level and has demonstrated leadership in his profession.

WINNER:

Jose Santamaria, Executive Director, the Tellus Science Museum, Cartersville, Georgia

MSA is Coming to Atlanta

MSA, the Museum Store Association, the international association operators of museum and cultural instruction stores, is bringing the 61st annual MSA Conference & Expo to Atlanta's AmericasMart this April.

MSA is made up of professional retailers working in non-profit institutions and understand what it takes to be successful. Few businesses have the dual mission to be profitable and a brand ambassador for the institution.

The MSA Conference will have in-depth sessions on such topics as social media, management, eCommerce, POS systems, workforce management and Licensing & Copyrights. Sessions will be presented by professionals who special in each of these areas. The overall goal of the Conference is to provide to store operations new and trending information about better ways to run their operations. Simultaneous to the Conference, MSA hosts a curated Expo of fine and unique gifts from national and international vendors. The products exhibited are from categories such as hand made, fashion, custom designed, books, multimedia and paper products among others. This three day Expo brings vendor experts and buyers together to find just the right products that will sell in their stores.

Due to the large number of vendors and products coming to Atlanta, MSA has extended a very special offer to Atlanta Convention and Visitor's Bureau members. On Saturday, April 16th, MSA is offering a special day pass to tour the Expo floor for only $25. Tickets are available at the registration desk at AmericasMart. For more information please visit museumstoreassociation.org and click on MSA 2016 Conference & Expo.
NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS SINCE DECEMBER 2015

Institutional
Andalusia
Bartow History Museum
Georgia College Museum of Fine Arts
Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Georgia Department of Natural Resources/HPD
Georgia Museum of Agriculture & Historic Village at ABAC
Georgia Museum of Art
Georgia Southern University Museum
Georgia Writers Museum
Heritage Station Museum
Historic Oakland Cemetery
John's Creek Arts Center
Michael C. Carlos Museum
Oak Hill/Martha Berry Museum
Sautee Nacoochee Community Arts Association
Smith Plantation
Southeastern Quilt & Textile Museum
St. Mary's Submarine Museum
Summer Hill Heritage Museum
Tellus Science Museum

The Breman Museum
The Marsh House Museum
Thomas County Museum of History

Individual
Hillary Brown
Kathy Dixson
David Dundee
Mary Miller
Kaye Minchew
Luisa Perez
Brittany Ranew
Margaret Sommer
K. Sinclair
Ed Weldon
Jane Powers Weldon

Sponsor
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Southeastern Museums Conference
Spitz Inc.
The History Workshop
UGA Press
Oberg Research

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 for more information.