NYS M

NEW YORK State Museum

The Museum calendar

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2010

NOT JUST ANOTHER PRETTY PLACE

THE LANDSCAPE OF NEW YORK

OPENS SEPTEMBER 3, 2010 | WEST GALLERY

exhibitions

Not Just Another Pretty Place: The Landscape of New York

September 3 ■ West Gallery

The rich and varied landscape of New York State has been a subject of interest to artists, photographers, historians, and scientists for hundreds of years. While many of these works of art are beautiful, the landscapes were often depicted for reasons that go beyond their aesthetic value. *Not Just Another Pretty Place* explores the many ways that the landscape of New York State has been recorded, used, and admired from the early 19th century to today. The exhibition presents over 100 landscape scenes from the New York State Museum's collection and includes paintings, photographs, prints, ceramics, furniture, and much more.

Above: *The Cut*, Cecil Chichester (1891–1963). Oil on canvas, c. 1938. 24 ¼ inches x 30 ¼ inches. NYSM 1997.11.1

Cover: North Lake from the Bear's Den, Vincent Bilotta. Archival Inkjet Print, 2005. Image courtesy of the artist. New York's landscape has captured the interest and imagination of artists and others for centuries.

Wish You Were Here! New York State Photographed by You

September 3 ■ West Hall Corridor

From the trails of the Adirondack Mountains to the streets of New York City, from the fertile Hudson Valley to the breathtaking views at Niagara Falls, New York State is a beautiful place. The scenic landscapes make for picture perfect postcards from every corner of this great state. We invited the public to send in photographs of their favorite landscape, whether it is the backyard, a neighborhood street, vacation spot, or other special place. We selected some of the best photographed landscapes to be part of this exhibition. The images in the Museum and many others are also part of an exhibition on the New York State Museum's website and Flickr page.

Are you interested in sharing your favorite New York State landscape? We are still accepting photographs. Please visit the Museum's website, www.nysm.nysed.gov, for more information, to view the online exhibition, and to upload your photo.

Above: Little Long Pond, Saint Regis Canoe Area, Tyler Laramie, Queensbury, N.Y. Photograph, 2010.

Focus on Nature XI

Through October 31 ■ Photography Gallery

Focus on Nature XI, a juried exhibition of natural and cultural history illustration organized by the State Museum, features the work of 73 artists from 14 countries. The artists depict biological, geological, archaeological, and botanical subjects and use a wide range of media, from traditional watercolor to digital techniques. The basis for the selection of these works is degree of technical skill, aesthetic qualities, originality, and scientific accuracy. The State Museum initiated the biennial exhibition to highlight illustration as a means of communicating scientific and artistic observation.

Above: Red-shanked Douc Langur (*Pygathrix nemaeus*). Erin Daniel, Brooklyn, N.Y., 2009. Digital, 9.5 x 17 inches.

special exhibition & lecture

PRESENTED BY THE NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY

Citizen Soldier: New York's National Guard in the American Century

Through March 2011 ■ Exhibition Hall

Since its inception, New York has been guided by the principle that its defense lies in the hands of its citizenry. From militiamen defending their homes on the colonial frontier to individuals serving in global conflicts around the globe, a courageous cadre of New Yorkers continues this legacy of selflessness to the present day. This exhibition traces the service of New Yorkers through several wars and battles as well as natural disasters and national emergencies. Personal stories and mementos, uniforms, and artillery pieces from the Museum's collection, the New York State Military Museum, members of New York's National Guard, and local collectors anchor these amazing stories from the 20th century.

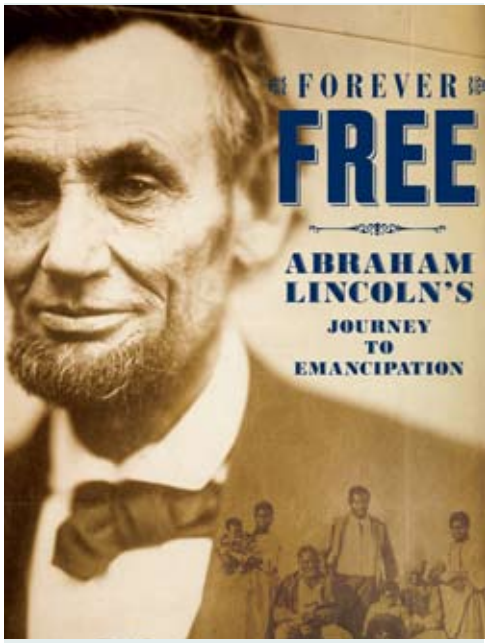
Above: Mealtime in the American trenches. Courtesy of the New York State Library, Manuscripts and Special Collections.

special presentation

The History of the New York State Military Museum and Its Collections

Thursday, September 23 ■ Noon–1 p.m.
Huxley Theater ■ FREE

Michael Aikey, director of the New York State Military Museum and Veterans Research Center, talks about the creation of the state military museum in 2001 and its collection that dates back to 1863.

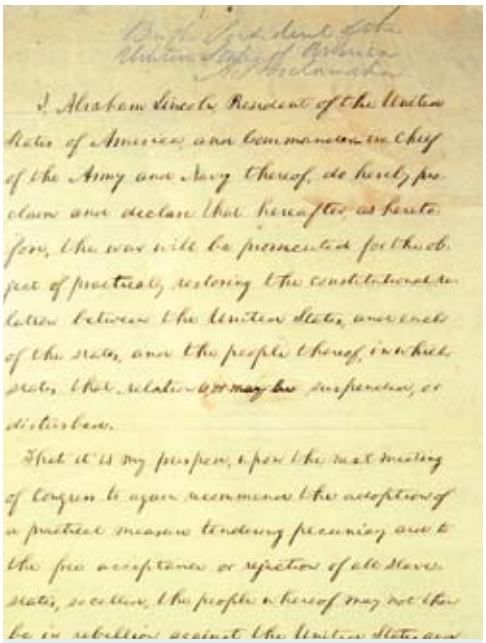


Forever Free: Abraham Lincoln's Journey to Emancipation

New York State Library ■ 7th Floor, Cultural Education Center ■ September 3–October 14, 2010 ■ Monday–Friday, 9 a.m.–5 p.m.

Forever Free: Abraham Lincoln's Journey to Emancipation re-examines President Lincoln's thoughts about slavery. The exhibition traces young Lincoln's America, the house dividing, war for the Union, the Emancipation Proclamation, the role of black soldiers in the Civil War, and the final months of the Civil War and Lincoln's life. Rare documents and the latest research take visitors through Lincoln's journey to emancipation, exploring his stance as a cautious moderate who was willing to allow slavery to preserve the Union and then, when this approach failed, to his determining that freeing the slaves immediately was necessary. The Emancipation Proclamation was the result.

Forever Free: Abraham Lincoln's Journey to Emancipation is organized by The Huntington Library and the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History in cooperation with the American Library Association's Public Programs Office and funded by a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.



Panel Discussion: Historical Perspectives on Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation

Tuesday, September 14 ■ 7 p.m. ■ Huxley Theater ■ FREE

The New York State Library presents a panel discussion on the Emancipation Proclamation. Professors Alan Ballard and Amy Murrell Taylor from the University at Albany and Professor Bruce Eelman from Siena College discuss the Emancipation Proclamation and its effectiveness, the formation of the United States Colored Troops, and other topics. State Assemblyman Jack McEneny moderates.

The New York State Library presents additional programs on the topics of Lincoln and emancipation.

For more information on Library programs, visit www.nysl.nysed.gov/programs/ or contact Sheldon Wein at swein@mail.nysed.gov. or at 518-474-2274.

research and collections lecture series

Lunchtime Short Talks: Brain Food for the Curious

Selected Wednesdays, September–November ■ 12:10–12:50 p.m. ■ Huxley Theater ■ Adults ■ FREE ■ Attendees are welcome to bring a lunch

Aquatic Critters Are Being Killed. Who Done It?

Wednesday, September 15

Dead and dying animals are discovered in a lake. Sometimes in a river. Disease or parasites are suspected to have killed them. Some of the dead are tiny invertebrates smaller than a pinhead. This is a case for Disease Detective Dr. Dan Molloy, the director of the Museum's Field Research Laboratory, and his international network of scientific sleuths to figure out. This is CSI: NYS Museum on a budget!

The Straight Story on the Marcellus Shale

Wednesday, September 22

Dr. Taury Smith, an oil and gas geologist and the curator of subsurface geological collections, discusses the geology of the Marcellus Shale, how and where wells are likely to be drilled and hydrofracked in New York State, and the likely environmental and economic impact of shale gas production.

Global Warming Isn't Going Away

Wednesday, September 29

The Earth has just experienced the warmest months in recorded history, yet polls show an American public that is increasingly skeptical of the scientific consensus position that human activity is warming the climate. Dr. Taury Smith, an oil and gas geologist and the curator of subsurface geological collections, presents evidence for global warming and discusses how media coverage is weakening the case for action.

Shaking the Helderbergs: Earthquakes in Berne, 1980 to 2010

Wednesday, October 6

Think "earthquake" and what places cross your mind? California, Indonesia, and China? Imagine this—23 earthquakes in the Helderbergs last year. Geologists are puzzled by small, deep earthquakes in the town of Berne, 3–13 miles below the surface. Dr. Charles Ver Straeten, a sedimentary geologist, delves into the action.

Human Frogs! The Twisted Story of Two Vaudeville Performers

Wednesday, October 13

Friede and Harry DeMarlo toured the globe between 1910 and 1928 performing contortionist and trapeze acts. In their most famous act, "A Frog's Paradise," they contorted their bodies into frog-like poses. Dr. Jennifer Lemak, curator of African American history, pieces together their extraordinary life based on artifacts in the Museum collection.

Should We Go Nuclear?

Wednesday, October 20

The amount of the relatively carbon dioxide-free form of energy generated by nuclear power plants will probably increase, but there are some constraints on future nuclear energy use. Dr. Marian Lupulescu, curator of geology, analyzes the availability of the uranium resources and the disposal of nuclear waste.

Zebra Mussels and The Batten Kill: What's the Threat?

Wednesday, October 27

Zebra mussels are unwanted invaders in our lakes and rivers, causing harm to native aquatic life. When they were discovered one year ago in the world-famous Batten Kill, a trout stream in Washington County, N.Y., residents and sportsmen feared the worst. Research Scientist Denise Mayer discusses what can be done to protect this river.

Meet the People of Colonial Albany Online at the People of Colonial Albany Live Here Website

Wednesday, November 3

Community Historian Stefan Bielinski leads an interactive tour of new and improved features of the community history website dedicated to the 16,000 people who founded and built the city of Albany from 1686 to 1800. The site has more than 3,000 separate features and millions of visitors every year. New features are added virtually every day.

Qualla Arts and the Federal IACB Among Eastern Native Nations

Wednesday, November 10

Intertribal influences of the Eastern Cherokees' famous Qualla Arts and Crafts Mutual (est. 1946) are largely forgotten. During the 1960s–80s, however, their master craftspeople led Indian and Arts and Crafts Board workshops for other Nations in the East, sparking crafts revitalization in several. Dr. Betty Duggan, curator of ethnography and ethnology, discusses this revitalization.

Taking the Pulse of the Moving Animal Planet

Wednesday, November 17

The Earth is in constant motion through the daily patrols and yearly migrations of animals. Join Dr. Roland Kays, curator of mammals, in an around-the-world tour of discoveries made with the assistance of new technologies that allow tracking of bees through the forest, birds on cross-continental flights, and predators moving into your backyard.

programs

gallery talks

Catch the Brass Ring: The New York State Museum Carousel

Saturday, September 25 ■ 11 a.m. ■ Classroom 4, 1st Floor ■ Adults ■ FREE

John Scherer, Museum historian emeritus, shares the history of one of the Museum's most beloved exhibits: the carousel. *To reserve a space, e-mail psteinba@mail.nysed.gov or call Peggy Steinbach at 518-473-7154 by September 21.*

Citizen Soldier: New York's National Guard in the American Century

Saturday, November 13 ■ 1 p.m. ■ Adults and Teens ■ FREE ■ Meet at South Hall Lobby

Two staff members who were instrumental in developing *Citizen Soldier* take visitors behind the scenes. Aaron Noble, a history collections technician and the curator of the exhibition, discusses the artifacts and images and shares stories about the New York State Army National Guard. Craig Gravina, the graphic designer for the project, discusses the design and development of the exhibition.

children's programs

Furry Tales and Touchables

Saturdays: September 18, October 9 and 23, November 6 and 20 ■ Meet at Discovery Place at 11 a.m. ■ FREE ■ Recommended for children 4–6 years of age

A storybook reading comes to life as youngsters observe and touch real and replica Museum specimens that relate to the story.

Still-life Drawing

Saturdays: September 25 and October 2, 9, and 16 ■ 1:30–4 p.m. ■ South Hall ■ Tweens and Teens ■ FREE

Take a stroll through the *Focus on Nature* exhibit and be inspired to create a drawing of your own. No instructor provided. This program allows visitors to independently draw objects and a still-life setup from the Museum's teaching collection.

Story Art

Fridays: October 8 and November 5 ■ 11 a.m. ■ Kid's Cove ■ Toddlers and Preschoolers ■ FREE ■ Pick up tickets at the front desk

Enjoy the Museum by listening to a story, exploring objects from the teaching collection, and creating a fun art project. Themes will be announced on the day of the program.

family programs

Music Jam

Every Thursday ■ Noon–2 p.m. ■ 4th Floor ■ FREE

Take a lunch-time musical break or join the musicians as they play acoustic music inspired by the Celtic tradition of jigs, reels, waltzes, hornpipes, and marches, as well as occasional popular songs, jazz standards, and early music. All levels of skill on any acoustic instruments are welcome. Please bring several copies of sheet music for those who do not play by ear or for the tunes that are not commonly known. *For more information, e-mail pkernan@mail.nysed.gov or call 518-486-2024.*

Trash to Treasure

Sundays: September 12, October 3, and November 7 ■ 1–3 p.m. ■ 4th Floor ■ FREE

Trash to Treasures features an art project using manufacturing mistakes and materials destined for the landfill. Join Museum art instructor Peggy Steinbach for an interesting video and an Earth-friendly afternoon.

Family Fun Weekend

3rd weekend of the month ■ 1–4 p.m. ■ FREE

The Museum offers fun for the whole family with games, crafts, and theme-based activities.
Saturday, September 18: Abraham Lincoln
Saturday, October 16 & Sunday, October 17: Gems & Minerals
Saturday, November 20 & Sunday, November 21: Happy Birthday, NYS Museum Carousel

PROMOTIONAL SPONSOR:

family programs (cont.)

Creative Art Day

Saturdays: September 25, October 9, November 20 ■ 1–3 p.m. ■ Meet at location listed below ■ FREE

Families are welcome to join Museum art instructor Peggy Steinbach for a creative activity based on a Museum exhibition.
Saturday, September 25: *Not Just Another Pretty Place*, West Gallery
Saturday, October 9: Native People's Hall
Saturday, November 20: *Citizen Soldier*, South Hall Lobby
For more information and the featured art project, please call 518-473-7154 or e-mail psteinba@mail.nysed.gov.

Songs from the Piano Bench

Wednesdays: September 29, October 27, November 24 ■ Noon–2 p.m. ■ 4th Floor ■ FREE

Listen in while enjoying your lunch or lend your voice as singers perform a variety of songs, including popular folk, rock-and-roll, Victorian parlor, Civil War, Sesame Street, and more. Many selections are chosen from the more than 35,000 pieces of sheet music in the New York State Library Collection. Music and words are provided and instrumentalists are welcome. *For more information, e-mail pkernan@mail.nysed.gov or call 518-486-2024.*

Armenian Family Day

Saturday, October 2 ■ Noon–2 p.m. ■ Bird Hall ■ FREE

Celebrate Armenian culture by learning about the harvest in Armenia. There will be hands-on educational activities for children of all ages to enjoy.

National Chemistry Day

Sunday, October 17 ■ 9 a.m.–3 p.m. ■ 4th Floor and Clark Auditorium ■ Children and Adults ■ FREE ■ Chemistry Magic Show ■ *Time to be announced on day of event*

Co-sponsored by the Eastern New York Section of the American Chemical Society, National Chemistry Day at the Museum provides an opportunity to experience the amazing chemistry that occurs around us every day. Join us for hands-on activities presented by local industries and colleges, and a sensational magic show that is sure to amaze kids of all ages.

The Haunted Museum of Unnatural History 9

Saturday, October 23 & Sunday, October 24 ■ 11 a.m –4:30 p.m. ■ Saturday, October 30 ■ 11 a.m.–4:30 p.m. and 6–10 p.m. ■ Sunday, October 31 ■ 11 a.m.–4:30 p.m. ■ FEE: $8/person

If you dare, come in for the fright of your life! This year's terrifying event brings you classic horror. Make no mistake, guests will be greeted by zombies, werewolves, vampires, and many more classic creatures. For safety, costumes are NOT allowed. This attraction has strobe lights and is too intense for children age 10 and under. *All proceeds benefit the Museum's after-school programs for Albany city youth.*

Monster Mash and Bash

Saturday, October 23 & Sunday, October 24 ■ Noon–4 p.m. ■ Saturday, October 30 & Sunday, October 31 ■ Noon–4 p.m. ■ 4th Floor ■ FEE: $3/child ■ Children of all ages

Toddlers to 10-year-olds can enjoy a celebration of costumes, crafts, face painting, and carefree fun at the New York State Museum's 7th annual Halloween festival for kids. Don't forget to wear your costume for a spirited Halloween parade (weekends at 1 p.m.) through the halls of the Museum! *All proceeds benefit the Museum's after-school programs for Albany city youth.*

Sesame Street Celebration

Saturday, November 27 ■ 1–4 p.m. Sunday, November 28 ■ 1–4 p.m. Student Center ■ FREE

Visit the Sesame Street exhibit and celebrate the Sesame Street Workshop's 40th anniversary. Activities include making fun crafts, joining a parade throughout the Museum, and much more.

programs

workshops

Home Spun Holiday: Gift-Making Workshop

Saturday, November 13 ■ 1–4 p.m. ■ 4th Floor ■ Individual FEE: $20/member and $25/non-member ■ Family FEE (up to 4): $45/members and $55/non-members ■ For ages 8 to adult

Create some thoughtful holiday gifts from the heart and home. Friends and family will enjoy receiving the homemade soaps, beeswax candles, bath bundles, bath teas, body scrubs, and herbal sachets that you've made yourself. Pretty packaging to make is included! Each participant will make 8 to 10 items and receive recipes for making more gifts at home. *Limited to 24 participants. Pre-registration required by November 5. Call 518-473-7154 or e-mail psteinba@mail.nysed.gov.*

holiday happenings

Chocolate Expo & Holiday Gift Market

Sunday, December 5 ■ 11 a.m.–4 p.m. ■ 1st Floor Exhibition Halls ■ FREE

Begin the holiday season at the New York State Museum! Enjoy the finest chocolates, desserts, specialty foods, and holiday gifts the region has to offer. You'll find something special for everyone on your shopping list with a selection of handmade bath products, beautiful jewelry, painted works of art, and much more. Be sure to treat yourself and enjoy seasonal music while strolling through the galleries.

Holiday Break at the Museum

Monday, December 27–Thursday, December 30 ■ 1–4 p.m. ■ Various locations ■ FREE

Join in on fun, exciting activities scheduled each day. Explore the Museum's unique exhibits and learn more about the world around you.

trip

Enjoy Six Days at a Tuscan Villa!

The New York State Museum presents a trip to Tuscany on March 4–10, 2011. You'll enjoy a six-day stay at the wonderful Villa Casagrande in Figline Valdarno, located just 30 minutes by train to Florence. The trip includes round-trip air from JFK, deluxe motor coach transportation with airport transfers in Italy, two dinners at the villa (one welcome and one farewell) and breakfast every day except day of arrival. The cost of the trip is $1,198 per person, based on double occupancy. There are exciting optional tours for exploring, learning about, and experiencing the Tuscan Region of Italy, or you may choose your own adventure.

To find out more details and sign up for this trip, stop by the State Museum's Main Lobby Desk to pick up a flier or download information at www.nysm.nysed.gov/programs/themuseumtrip/. The sign-up deadline is November 19. Space is limited, and these trips fill up fast, so make your reservation today.

Find us on Facebook

For complete and up-to-date information about exhibitions, programs, and events, visit the online calendar at **www.nysm.nysed.gov/calendar**.

The New York State Museum is on Madison Avenue, in the Cultural Education Center, Albany, N.Y.

Museum open daily, 9:30 a.m.–5 p.m.
Carousel and Discovery Place open daily, 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
(Closed Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day)
Suggested donation $2/person, $5/family

General Information: 518-474-5877
Group Reservations and Information: 518-474-5843
Information on Museum Programs: 518-474-0575