



Gender
Equity in
Museums
Movement

NEWS: September 2019

The Gender Equity in Museums Movement ([GEMM](#)) is a coalition of individuals and organizations committed to raising awareness, affecting change, and championing transparency about gender equity in the museum workplace. Read the [full statement here](#).

- **GEMM News:** At the recent American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) conference GEMM was recognized in several sessions focusing on women, leadership, and the gender gap in the history museum field. One participant announced that the GEMM website is her go-to place for information, citing our “5 Things You Need to Know” tipsheets a resources for her workplace. When conference partner, the International Coalition of Sites of Conscience, announced a new campaign – [Women of Conscience](#) – designed to amplify women’s voices, support women’s projects, and bolster women’s capacity to lead through local, national and international platforms, GEMM members indicated interest in participating in this initiative. We hope to share more about that in future newsletters.
- **Acquire new skills.** Sexual harassment is a type of sex-based discrimination that can range from sexual jokes or comments about a person’s body to unwelcome sexual advances or requests for sexual favors. A harasser can be an employer, supervisor, board member, or coworker. In 2018, 55-percent of museum employees reported experiencing sexual harassment. Read GEMM’s [5 Things on Sexual Harassment in the Workplace](#) and view more resources on our: <https://www.genderequitymuseums.com/5thingsyouneedtoknow>
- **Where to connect with GEMM in the field:**
 - October 2-5: [Association of Midwest Museums/Michigan Museums Association joint conference](#), introduce yourself to steering committee member Ashley Ross while you are there!
 - October 8–10: [Communicating the Arts Conference](#) in Montreal, *Visit GEMM Steering Committee member Katie Reynolds, Agecroft Hall & Gardens, Richmond, VA, during this conference.*
 - November 6-8: [New England Museum Association Conference](#)
 - **Working Together Equitably: Reframing our Thinking from “What’s in it for Me?” to “What’s in it for Us?”** *Join GEMM co-founder Anne Ackerson will be presenting along with Elise Couture-Stone, Independent Museum Professional, MA; Wyona Lynch-McWhite, Vice President, Arts Consulting Group, MA (NEMA Board); Erin Wederbrook-Yuskaitis, CoDirector of Education, Old North Church and Historic Site, MA.*
 - *You can join a **Drinking About Museums with a focus on Women’s Issues** on the Thursday evening of conference, this meet-up will be organized by GEMM co-founder Marieke Van Damme and steering member Scarlett Hoey.*
- **Don’t miss this talk at SEMC:**

October 21: [Southeastern Museums Conference](#) in Charleston, SC:

 - **Women on the Rise: Truths and Myths Revisited** (*Moderator/Presenter: Heather Nowak, Preschool Director, Destiny Worship Center, Miramar Beach, FL**Presenters: Lisa Littlefield, Director, Center for Career Development and Experiential Education, Hood College, Frederick, MD; Lucy Allen, Museum Division Director, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson, MS; Cheryl Call, Deputy General Counsel, Blackbaud, Charleston, SC*)
- **From the Blogs:** Get a sneak peak of the Association of Midwest Museums/Michigan Museums Association joint conference October 2-5, 2019. The theme for the conference is “Changing Expectations” and how timely. From the pre-conference workshops to the keynotes and everything in between, equity and social justice seem to be taking a lead at this year’s conference. <https://www.genderequitymuseums.com/single-post/2019/GEMM-at-AMM/MMA>
- **Explore a GEMM Facebook Find.** Read this recent New York Times interview, [Judy Chicago on Rescuing Women From Art History’s Sidelines](#). Ms. Chicago has new shows in Los Angeles and Washington, and talks about pioneering female painters.

<p>... COMMUNICATING THE ARTS 23 MONTREAL 8-10 OCTOBER 2019 ...</p>	<p>Communicating the Arts Conference: October 8–10 in Montreal; GEMM is a conference partner for the 23rd Communicating the Arts Conference, whose theme is: <i>Inclusivity, Empathy and Well-Being</i>. GEMM members get a preferred rate, email us at gemmuseums [at] gmail.com, for details. Learn more about the conference online here.</p> <p>And, don't miss out on hearing From Awareness to Action: #5WomenArtists Campaign for Gender Equity case study presented by Amy Mannarino.</p>
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- **Join the conversation.** Discuss issues and post articles related to gender equity in museums on GEMM's [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#) pages.
- **ICYMI.** The Atlantic recently shared an article on [The Quirk of Collecting That Skews Museum Specimens Male](#). The article mentioned "a new study, published last week in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, [which] pointed out one more way that mammal collections, in particular, don't quite match the catalog of life on Earth: Most of the animals in them are male."
- **Write for AAM.** AAM's Magazine will focus on Gender Issues in its March/April 2020 issue. You can pitch an article here: <https://form.jotform.com/82606598629169>
- **Tell colleagues and friends about GEMM.** Please feel free to share this newsletter!

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