



MUSEUM NOTES

324 Caverns Road, Howes Cave, NY 12092 • (518) 296-8949 • www.iroquoismuseum.org

MISSION STATEMENT

The Iroquois Indian Museum is an educational institution dedicated to fostering understanding of Iroquois culture using Iroquois art as a window to that culture. The Museum is a venue for promoting Iroquois art and artists, and a meeting place for all peoples to celebrate Iroquois culture and diversity. As an anthropological institution, it is informed by research on archaeology, history, and the common creative spirit of modern artists and craftspeople.

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THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT IN 2018...

Large or small, your contributions are an essential part of our success! As a show of appreciation we're including a 2019 Calendar of Events magnet with your newsletter. Once again we have reason to celebrate. Museum visitation continues to increase, with 2018 attendance slightly higher than 2017.

NEW ACQUISITIONS CASE...

When we open the doors in April you'll have the opportunity to enjoy some of the breathtaking work that has been added to the IIM collection. On display will be vintage beadwork, a clay pot by the late Ada Jacques, antler carvings by Hayden Haynes and Trevor Brant, and more.



2018 Steve Smith pot donated by the artist.



Onondaga potter, Jennifer Stevens from Wisconsin will be guest speaker at the exhibit opening reception on May 4.

2019 FEATURED EXHIBIT...

“Treasured Traditions: A Statement of Place” introduces five Iroquois communities and showcases five actively practiced visual art forms that define, express, and reinforce their distinct community and cultural identities. Featured are traditional Iroquois pottery, raised beadwork, stone carving, quilting, ash splint basketry and selected audio clips. Artist representatives from each community helped to craft the story and select the work.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED...

There are many different jobs at the IIM that need an extra set of hands. Before you know it we will have a busy schedule with school groups and need volunteers to assist students in making cornhusk dolls, beading a necklace, or creating miniature clay pots. Once spring is here we will need volunteers to help in our Nature Park spreading wood chips on paths, building walkways and viewing sites, and putting out signage. Volunteers also help us with preparing materials for hands on experiences in the Children's Museum, stuffing envelopes for mailings, or painting walls for new exhibits. We need someone who is very tech savvy and can help with our online Museum shop. Special events, such as our annual Festival, depend on volunteers to ensure a safe and enjoyable visit for all. We have a small but active group of volunteers but we need many more people to make it all work. If you are interested, please email Christina Hanks at iroquoismuseumchanks@gmail.com She will get back to you and sign you up.

ONLINE COLLECTION...

With funding from the Institute of Museum & Library Services we have photographed nearly the entire ethnographic collection and created an online database. The collection is now available to view online at: iroquoismuseum.pastperfectonline.com. A link can also be found on our website www.iroquoismuseum.org under the "Museum" tab. We have received a second 2 year grant from IMLS to complete the project.



Little Boy has been sharing his expertise as photographer's assistant for the online collection project.



BEHIND THE SCENES & ON THE ROAD!...

- In December and January IIM staff served as technical advisor for an upcoming episode of *Billions* on the television network Showtime.
- IIM collaborated with the Old Stone Fort and Palatine House to produce The Schoharie County Heritage Experience, a bus tour that includes all 3 sites. In February, Chris Hanks traveled to the 2019 Brown Coach /Upstate Travel Show to promote this new venture.
- IIM assisted with content and loaned artwork to the NYS Office of General Services for their new exhibit in the NYS Capital Building.
- Marketing Coordinator Alicia Burnett updated our website, adding links to our most recent past exhibits with more to come.
- Volunteer Yvaine Melito and Cultural Interpreter Brenda LaForme joined in the fun at the 8th Annual Snow Festival on Saturday, February 9 at the Blenheim-Gilboa Visitors Center with a booth distributing information about the Museum and an activity for young visitors.
- Curator of Exhibitions, Colette Lemmon traveled to the new Seneca-Iroquois National Museum at Allegany on Feb 23 to serve as a judge for an art exhibit showcasing the work of Haudenosaunee youth ages 15 – 24.
- IIM partnered with Greene County Council on the Arts, serving Greene, Columbia, and Schoharie Counties to offer reciprocal membership discounts to members of either organization and promote the Museum more broadly.
- Brenda LaForme travelled to the Park School in Brookline, MA on March 8 to present a program to their 3rd grade class.
- Brenda will also share her stories and cultural knowledge on April 4th at a Unitarian Universalist Women's Alliance luncheon in Scotia.
- Brenda & Colette will attend a Museum Association of NY Conference in Cooperstown on April 7 and present a roundtable discussion on the quandary of stereotypes in museum environments.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2018

The Iroquois Indian Museum is a not-for-profit 501(c)3 corporation. Funding comes from individual & business contributions, memberships, grants, foundations, admissions, shop sales, benefits and events, and investment income.

	<u>Jan - Dec 18</u>
Support & Revenue	
Admissions	\$42,000.00
Contributions	\$79,300.00
Festivals	\$14,800.00
Grants	\$48,300.00
Membership	\$20,200.00
Shop	\$37,100.00
Other	\$2,800.00
TOTAL SUPPORT & REVENUE	\$244,500.00
Operating Expense	
Artist Honorarium & Travel	\$16,000.00
Interest on Mortgages	\$16,100.00
Principal on Mortgages	\$12,350.00
Payroll	\$113,300.00
Utilities/Repairs/Maintenance	\$15,650.00
Shop	\$21,100.00
Insurance	\$11,500.00
Public Relations	\$10,300.00
Contractual Services	\$13,000.00
Other	\$13,300.00
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	\$242,775.00



We want to share with our members our annual financial statement. Forty percent of income comes from memberships and contributions, twenty percent from competitive state and federal grants, and the remaining from earned income such as admissions, shop sales and special events. As you can see our members are an important source of financial support for the Museum through their contributions, membership fees and other expenditures.

We receive no annual commitment of support from the county, state or federal government. Our Endowment at the end of 2018 was valued at \$317,500. Should it be necessary to cover expenses we can draw up to 5% in a particular year of its appreciated value. We did not draw monies from the Endowment in 2018.

Forty seven percent of our expense is for payroll. We have a staff of nine, five of whom work three days a week. Four are seasonal workers. Twelve percent of our expense is the principle and interest for our mortgage. The remaining forty-one percent pays for visiting artists, researching and mounting yearly exhibitions, promotion, insurance, utilities and maintenance, etc.

The trustees are very appreciative of a staff that is dedicated to educating the public and promoting Iroquois creativity. Trustees work with the staff to assist in projects and fund-raising. The yearly exhibitions and public programs are all professionally conceived and presented.

Volunteers are essential to the Museum and allow us to have a productive archeology department and busy education programs for school children. We are currently attempting to increase the number of volunteers to assist the Museum in many areas of our operation. If you are interested in learning more about the Museum’s finances, please contact Steph Shultes at info@iroquoismuseum.org.

WE INVITE YOU TO PARTICIPATE IN A TRADITION OF GIVING

Make a Gift: Make a donation to the Annual Appeal or give online through our website.

Matching Gift Program: If you work at a company that has a matching gift program, ask your employer for a matching gift form and send it in with your contribution.

Give Appreciated Securities: By donating directly to the Museum appreciated stocks or other securities held for at least one year, as a general rule you can avoid the federal capital gains tax that would be incurred if you sold the securities and you can obtain a charitable deduction equal to the fair market value of the securities.

Include the Museum in Your Will: Bequests can help transform the future of the Museum and the process is simple. You may specify a portion of your estate or a specific dollar amount for the Museum. We urge you to consult your attorney for appropriate bequest language to carry out your charitable goals. The following sample language may help in the preparation of your will:

I give and devise to the Iroquois Indian Museum, located in Howes Cave, New York, the sum of \$ _____ (or percentage of your estate) as an unrestricted gift to be applied to the Museum's general uses and purposes (or for the support of a specified fund or purpose).

Type of Gift or Bequest: An unrestricted gift or bequest allows the Museum to determine the best use of your donation at the time the Museum receives it. An earmarked gift or bequest allows you to support the program of your choice. Earmarked donations are welcomed for the following established funds and purposes: Iroquois Indian Museum Endowment Fund; William N. Fenton Research Fund; Staff Support; Public Program Support; and Long Term Debt Reduction (mortgage).

To discuss your proposed gift or bequest, please contact us at: Iroquois Indian Museum, P. O. Box 7, Howes Cave, NY 12092 or at info@iroquoismuseum.org or call us directly at 518-296-8949. Ask for our Director, Stephanie Shultes

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SIGN UP FOR ELECTRONIC MUSEUM NOTES

In an effort to reduce our ecological footprint, we are offering members the choice of receiving future Museum Notes in digital rather than print form. **Better yet the digital form features full color photos!**

If you prefer to have Notes e-mailed to you in pdf format, please send us an e-mail at: info@iroquoismuseum.org

BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2018

President - Christina Hanks

Treasurer - Fred Stevens

Secretary - Lisa Anderson

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Perry Ground

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MUSEUM STAFF

Stephanie Shultes - Director

Colette Lemmon - Curator of Exhibitions

Kanaka Urbano - Bookkeeper

Alicia Burnett - Marketing Manager

Mike Tarbell - Educator

Brenda LaForme - Cultural Interpreter

Ralph Castro - Maintenance