Debunk'd: History Myths & Mysteries

Offering Fresh Perspectives on Age-Old Issues

CLHO
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2018 CLHO ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Debunk’d! History Myths & Mysteries
Offering Fresh Perspectives on Age-Old Issues

In today’s climate of unrelenting media, questions of what’s fake news or real news, the cloaking clutter of internet trolls, as well as the “unvetted information on demand” internet generation, our history organizations provide a grounding of reality for our visitors with truth as conveyed by our facts and artifacts. But...do we?

What is the role that history organizations play in getting the “truth” out there, and preserving today’s truths for the future? Do your labels, docents, AND programs offer truth to your audience, and, whose truth is it? Have you ever come across an unbreakable mystery – or myth – in your organization? Did it hold you or your organization back? What assumptions do you have about your visitors, your board, your finances, or your collections that close doors on new opportunities? Do you have a history mystery, professional skill, or trick of the trade that you’d like to share?

Get ready to debunk some of the issues and challenges of the past – and jumpstart your future! With insight from our colleagues, we hope to turn “can’t do,” “won’t work,” “why try” - into “can do,” “will work,” and “let’s go” practices.

KEYNOTE

Debunk’d: History, Memory, and Healing

“History is written by the victors.” - Winston Churchill

Please join CLHO for our annual conference keynote, facilitated by Jamal Jimerson of the Minority Inclusion Project, with panelists Lorén Spears (Tomaquag Museum), Matthew Warshauer (Professor of History, Central Connecticut State University), and Braden Paynter (International Coalition of Sites of Conscience), for an intriguing discussion about the practice of history and preserving memories, and how opening doors can open minds to stronger community connections.

In today’s contemporary times of heightened anxiety and the increase of the “with us or against us” mentality, the people and places that practice and present history (historians, historical societies, and museums) are spending valuable time considering what to preserve, what to say, and how to present it.

Can history help heal our divisions? Or will our perceptions and memories of historic events further the divide? How can our field, with our interests, skills, and authentic experiences, help bring relief to our communities?

Exhibitors Open from 9am-4pm

Don’t forget to buy your raffle tickets!

9am—4pm SOCIAL SCIENCES BUILDING LOBBY
At-A-Glance CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

8:30am  Registration Opens  |  SOCIAL SCIENCES BUILDING
        LOBBY  Coffee and Continental Breakfast
        Sponsored by the CT Digital Archive

9-9:45  CLHO Annual Meeting  |  SOCIAL SCIENCES BUILDING
        ROOM 106  Exhibitors Open

10-11  BREAKOUT SESSION 1  |  SOCIAL SCIENCES BUILDING

ROOM 105  What and How are Adult Visitors Learning at History Museums:
        In Their Own Words
        Lisa Marcinkowski June, UConn

ROOM 109  Where I Live: Connecticut’s Grade 3 Curriculum
        Elizabeth Normen, Connecticut Explored

ROOM 111  Museums & Social Media: A Legal Perspective
        Betsy Golden Kellem; Aetna, The Barnum Museum

ROOM 125  Myth: The Record must be Perfect! Fact: Just Do It! Cataloguing in CT Collections
        Diane Lee, Fairfield Museum and History Center

ROOM 106  Shared Resources: How Can We Collaborate to Save Money and Be More Effective?
        Dan Yaeger, New England Museum Association

11:15-1:15  LUNCH & KEYNOTE  |  CONSTITUTION ROOM, MEMORIAL HALL
        Sponsored by Connecticut Explored

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#CLHO2018
1:30-2:30pm **BREAKOUT SESSION 2**  |  SOCIAL SCIENCES BUILDING

*Sponsored by The Donohue Group, Inc.*

**ROOM 105**  
*Seeing Change: Using Art to Teach History—Florence Griswold Museum’s SEE/change Project*  
David D.J. Rau, Florence Griswold Museum; Leslie Evans, Avery-Copp House Museum; Karen Wizevich, Ph.D., Johns Hopkins University

**ROOM 109**  
*Debunking Collections Mysteries and Myths*  
Beth Burgess; Harriet Beecher Stowe Center; Molly Woods & Tasha Caswell; Connecticut Historical Society; Sophie Huget, Noah Webster House & West Hartford Historical Society / The Mark Twain House; and Anastasia Thibeault

**ROOM 111**  
*Debunking Myths about Refugees and Immigrants*  
Elizabeth Rose, Fairfield Museum and History Center  
Jessica Suarez, Connecticut Institute for Refugees and Immigrants

**ROOM 125**  
*Storytelling and Truth: Journalism in the Museum*  
Christine Pittsley, Connecticut State Library; Cindy Simoneau, Southern Connecticut State University; Jodie Mozder Gil, Southern Connecticut State University; Christina Nhean, Wethersfield Historical Society

**ROOM 106**  
*Where’s the Funding?*  
Scott Wands, Connecticut Humanities; Mary Dunne, State Historic Preservation Office; Renee Tribert, CT Trust for Historic Preservation

2:30-3  
**Coffee & Cookies Break**  
SOCIAL SCIENCES BUILDING  
*Sponsored by J. Baldwin Conservation, LLC*

3-4pm **BREAKOUT SESSION 3**  |  SOCIAL SCIENCES BUILDING

*Sponsored by Fallon & Wilkinson, LLC*

**ROOM 105**  
*National Mythology Through a Native Lens: Thanksgiving From Another Perspective*  
Christopher Newell (Passamaquoddy), Akomawt Educational Initiative
ROOM 109  *StEPs Forward: Keeping Momentum in Your StEPs Site or Learning About Becoming One*
Melissa Josefiak, StEPs-CT Mentor, Stacey Danielson, StEPs-CT Organization; and Scott Wands, CT Humanities

ROOM 111  *Dark Stewardship: When Ghosts Become Part of the Collection*
Joanie DiMartino, Smith-Harris House; Leslie Evans, Avery-Copp House; Elizabeth Wood, Stonington Historical Society; and Jeff Belanger, Emmy-nominated host, writer, and producer of PBS *New England Legends*

ROOM 125  *Ban History Mysteries*
Sophie Huget, Jennifer DiCola Matos
Noah Webster House & West Hartford Historical Society

ROOM 106  *Having Faith in the Process: Building Internal & External Trust to Create Organizational Change*
Shannon Burke, Beth Burgess, Katie Burton
Harriet Beecher Stowe Center

4:15-4:30  WRAP-UP & RAFFLE  CONSTITUTION ROOM, MEMORIAL HALL

5-7pm  AWARDS OF MERIT RECEPTION & NETWORKING  CONSTITUTION ROOM, MEMORIAL HALL
Sponsored by RedFin

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Our Mission
The Connecticut League of History Organizations builds connections among those who preserve and share the stories and objects of our past.

What We Do
For nearly 70 years, CLHO has strengthened and sustained our members by sharing knowledge and experience, and promoting best practices among museums, historical societies and all who steward Connecticut’s heritage collections.

How We Do It
Sharing best practices and contemporary trends that affect historical societies, museums, and libraries. Serving as a communication hub facilitating peer-to-peer networking. Supporting current generations of those who promote and safeguard Connecticut’s cultural heritage with five decades of experience. Offering a flexible and responsive array of programs and publications.

Connecticut League of History Organizations
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CLHO ANNUAL CONFERENCE MAP
CENTRAL CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY
Keynote, Lunch & Awards: Memorial Hall
Registration, Sessions & Exhibitors: Social Sciences Building