



Fall 2013 Update

Museum Renovations

We are experiencing a Renaissance! This rebirth was prompted by the needs of the Museum building for major capital repairs: replacement of the slate roof, painting and repair of the exterior wooden trim, renovation to bring the building up to ADA (the Americans with Disabilities Act) requirements and collection care needs. As we are meeting each of these goals, we become stronger organizationally.

Today, the roof has been replaced and the building interior is drier. The window, door, and trim restoration project was completed on schedule last June. In August, we received a major gift of \$85,000 from the Wallace Foundation toward the ADA renovation work and we are hard at work raising matching contributions from our members, friends and community supporters. Stephen Mackey, our Vice President, has agreed to lead our capital campaign efforts and our capital campaign committee is now meeting weekly. This development is essential for our growth into a Museum for the 21st century.

Programming

On the programmatic side, we have just begun our 25th year hosting the incredibly talented early music duo, *Duo Maresienne and Special Friends*. They continue to bring accolades to the Museum. Historic Somerville will be celebrating its 10th year anniversary next year and has the Museum to thank for hosting their annual Local History Lecture Series. We will again be holding the Artist Choice Exhibition of Somerville Open Studios in May and we are now working with Susan Berstler of the Nave Gallery on participation in the 2014 City-wide Toy Camera Festival. Several members of our newly formed Advisory Board are artists and are bringing their perspective to bear on the Museum's visual arts exhibitions. Stay-tuned for more and diverse art exhibitions.

Collection Conservation

Many members are unaware that the Museum houses a collection of historic documents and objects that were assembled over years by its membership. The last formal cataloguing of this collection was in 1986 and the Trustees and Board of Advisors have agreed to work on updating this catalogue in 2014. Volunteers will be inventorying the pieces, photographing them and entering the curatorial information into a database. In addition to cataloguing, the goal will be to upgrade collection care and lay the groundwork necessary to place information about the collection online.

More Information/Volunteering

If you would like more information about the Museum, visit our website. If you would like to volunteer, contact us via phone or email. All addresses are listed below.

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