

May is Labor History Month!

Our 2023 labor history calendar is dedicated to Jane LaTour, who died April 3rd. Jane devoted her life to union democracy, expanding opportunities for women in trade unions, and building a better world.



Jane LaTour, photo by Jon Bloom

Fri, **May 19**, 4 pm

Clara Lemlich Awards for Social Activism



Awards Ceremony & online exhibit celebrate the lives of five incredible women whose many decades of brilliant activism made real & lasting change in the world. Founded in 2011, the Awards honor the legacy of Clara Lemlich, who organized demands for the reforms that were enacted in the wake of the 1911 Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire, & spent a lifetime working hard for the greater good. Host: **LaborArts & Remember the Triangle Fire Coalition**. Free. **Museum of the City of NY**, Fifth Ave. @ 103 St., NYC. RSVP required: info@LaborArts.org

Mon, **May 22**, 5:45pm

Newsies



Film: Disney musical about the 1899 strike of New York newsboys. Starring Christian Bale, Ann-Margret. Free popcorn -- as library resources on labor history, workers' rights, & unions for those who would like to learn more. Free. Brooklyn (Central) Public Library. Business & Career Center Event Room, 10 Grand Army Plaza, Brooklyn. (718) 230-2100. <https://www.bklynlibrary.org/calendar/labor-film-series-blue-central-library-business-20230515>

Tu, **May 30**, 6:30-7:30 pm

LatinoLand



Discussion: In 1960, one out of every 25 people in the United States was of Latino heritage. In 2023, it is one out of five. In 2050, it will be one in three. Latinos are our largest, oldest, most undercounted, fastest growing, & least understood minority. *Marie Arana*, inaugural literary director of the Library of Congress & author of *LatinoLand* (to be published in 2024), explains who they are & what they have meant to America. David M Rubenstein will be moderator. \$35. \$30 livestream. **New-York Historical Society**, 170 Central Park West, NYC. (212) 485-9268. nyhistory.org **photo:** c/o N-YHS

Sat, **June 10**, 10:30-2 pm

Erie Canal and Museum Walk



Walking Tour: Begins at **Aqueduct Park**, 31 Route-31, Palmyra, NY. Learn the purpose of the aqueduct, powerhouse, Lock 29 & its role in the Erie Canal -- maybe even catch a boat or two -- then take a nature walk. Tour ends at Market St., where you're invited to tour the old Erie Canal Depot & Historic Palmyra museums (free with the \$10 walking tour admission). (315) 597-6981. historicpalmyrany.com **image:** courtesy of Historic Palmyra, 5 Museums-1 Destination

Sat, **June 10**, 4-7 pm

GRAND OPENING: The Kate Mullany National Historic Site



Grand Opening Ceremony: Remarks by National Park Service officials, capital region labor leaders, elected officials, & a small army of trade union volunteers who have restored the home of Kate Mullany, the founder & leader of America's first bona fide all-female union, the Troy Collar Laundry Union. Irish music by Triskele. Seating is limited. Reservations required: email your name & affiliation to KMNHS@yahoo.com or call (518) 331-4474. Donations to the American Labor Studies Center for interpretation, operation & maintenance of the Kate Mullany House are encouraged: labor-studies.org
The Kate Mullany National Historic Site, 350 8th St, Troy, NY.

Thurs, **June 15**, 7 pm

Rising Worker Power in Troy and Cohoes



Lecture & Discussion: lithographer/feminist/sociologist Carole Turbin, Ph.D., author, *Collar City, Gender, Class, and Community, in Troy, New York, 1864-86* (the definitive work on Kate Mullany and the Troy Collar Laundry Union) & historian Daniel J. "Danny" Walkowitz, Ph.D., author, *Worker City, Company Town: Iron and Cotton-Worker Protest in Troy and Cohoes, New York, 1855-84*, Project Director, "Molders of Troy" (PBS, 1980). Sponsored by the Kate Mullany National Historic Site. **\$10.** **Celtic Hall**, 430 Karner Rd., Albany, NY. (518) 331-4474.

Sat, **June 17**, 2 pm & 7 pm

Don't Iron While The Strike Is Hot!



Musical: Kate Mullany & the Troy Collar Laundry Union's 1864 strike -- told through storytelling & traditional Irish music. Courageous young Irish American women won the strike with determination (plus the support of the local Iron Molders Union). Troy's striking laundry workers set an example for women workers across the nation -- to improve their wages & working conditions. \$15 - \$25. Presented by The Kate Mullany National Historic Site. **Cohoes Music Hall**, 58 Remsen St, Cohoes, NY. (518) 434-0776. playhousetagecompany.org

2023 Exhibitions:

A Movement in Every Direction: Legacies of the Great Migration



Brooklyn Museum of Art

200 Eastern Parkway, Brooklyn, NY

Wed-Sun 11-6

Through June 25

Twelve contemporary artists re-conceptualize the Great Migration (1915-1970) through stories of self-possession, self-determination, & self-examination. While the South did lose generations of courageous, creative, & productive Black Americans due to racial & social inequities, exhibition expands the narrative by introducing people who stayed in, or returned to, the region during this time. \$16; Srs, Students, \$10; under 19 free. (718) 638-5000. brooklynmuseum.org

image: *This Water Runs Deep* by **Jamea Richmond-Edwards**, photo: Jonathan Dorado

Mary Enoch Elizabeth Baxter: "Ain't I a Woman"

Brooklyn Museum of Art

200 Eastern Parkway, Brooklyn, NY

Wed-Sun 11-6

Through August 13

Mary Baxter's film links her prison experience of giving birth in shackles to an expanded fight for reproductive rights centered on the vulnerabilities of -- & violence against -- Black women, who were historically denied the right to decide whether, when, & how to safely have children.

Climate in Crisis: Environmental Change in the Indigenous Americas

Brooklyn Museum of Art

200 Eastern Parkway, Brooklyn, NY

Wed-Sun 11-6

Through November 19

From the northern Arctic to the southern Amazon, 60 artifacts/works of art, spanning 2,800 years, reveal Indigenous understandings of the natural world & address the threat climate change poses to Indigenous livelihoods & survival - glacial melt, droughts, wildfires, overexploitation of resources, displacement, & extreme violence, as well as the work being done by Indigenous communities & activists to counter the climate crisis & protect the planet.

Still Family Saga: Seeking Freedom



American Labor Museum/Botto House National Landmark

83 Norwood St., Haledon, NJ

Wed-Sat 1-4

Through August 26

Mark Priest's drawings focus on the Underground Railroad, e.g. Sydney Still -- forced by her owner to choose between saving from enslavement either her two young sons or her two little daughters. \$5. (973) 595-7953. labormuseum.net

image: *Chattel* by **Mark Priest** (copyright 2022, markapriest.org)

Crafting Freedom: The Life and Legacy of Free Black Potter Thomas W. Commeraw



New-York Historical Society

170 Central Park West, NYC

Tu-Thurs 11-5, Fri 11-8, Sat-Sun 11-5

Through May 28

Born enslaved, Commeraw rose to prominence as a free Black entrepreneur, owning & operating a successful pottery. Over a period of two decades, Commeraw amassed property, engaged in debates over state & national politics and participated in the life of New York City's free Black community. \$22; \$17 Educators, Military, Srs; \$13 Students; \$6 Kids 5-13; Under 5 free. (212) 873.3400. nyhistory.org **photo:** c/o N-YHS

Kara Walker: Harper's Pictorial History of the Civil War (Annotated)



New-York Historical Society

Through June 11

Weaves together imagery from the antebellum South, the brutality of slavery, & racist stereotypes. To create her prints, Kara Walker enlarged select illustrations & then overlaid them with large stenciled figures. Exhibit comments on the omission of African Americans from this narrative & urges viewers to consider the persistence of violent caricature & stereotype today. (212) 873.3400; nyhistory.org **image:** *Alabama Loyalists Greeting the Federal Gun-Boats* by **Kara Walker** from portfolio Harper's Pictorial History of the Civil War (Annotated), 2005. Smithsonian American Art Museum

Nature, Crisis, Consequence



New-York Historical Society

Through July 16

Art exhibition: social-cultural impact of the environmental crisis on different communities across America -- from the proto-environmentalism of the Hudson River School to the razing of homes & churches to clear land for Central Park, environmental & human tolls of the transcontinental railroad, & Indigenous artists' calls to environmental action. **image:** *Resilience: Living in a Pandemic since 1492* (2021) by **Osceola Red Shirt** (Oglala Lakota) & **Genevieve Red Shirt** (Rosebud Sioux, Chickasaw, Taíno). Collection: Agnes Hsu-Tang, Ph.D. & Oscar Tang. photo: @twogunsleather

Utica Shoes



Oneida County History Center

1608 Genesee Street, Utica, NY

Tu-Sat 10-4

Utica once produced 2,000 pairs of shoes per day! The shoe industry was one of Utica's chief industries in the late 1800s, employing 1000s of workers. Exhibition features photos, tools, ads, & shoes! \$5. (315) 735-3642. preynolds@oneidacountyhistory.org **photo:** courtesy of Oneida County History Center

Native New York



National Museum of the American Indian

Alexander Hamilton U.S. Custom House, One Bowling Green, NYC

Mon-Fri 10-5

“What makes New York a Native place?” 12 places in present-day NY, introducing visitors to the Native nations that call the region home. Stretching from Long Island to NYC & to Niagara Falls, exhibition covers pre-Revolutionary War exchanges through contemporary events, from Haudenosaunee (Iroquois) ironworkers who helped build Manhattan's iconic skyscrapers to Lenape (Delaware) teens visiting their ancestral home, stories of Native New Yorkers provide an expanded understanding of the region's history & reveal that NY is, & always has been, a Native place. Free. (212) 514-3705. americanindian.si.edu **photo:** sites.si.edu

Responses: Asian American Voices Resisting the Tides of Racism



Museum of Chinese in the Americas

215 Centre St, NYC

Sat 10-6

Through May 31

A monumental **Timeline of Anti-Asian Racism in America** lines the perimeter walls with historic lowlights in the treatment of Asians & Asian Americans. Chronicles events related to American imperialism in Asia, early race riots that uprooted established immigrant communities, discriminatory laws & policies that reinforced Asian American marginalization, intimidation campaigns during the communist Red Scare & Islamophobia after 9/11. \$12; \$8 Srs, Students, Military, Educators, Kids **photo** by **Mengyu Dong**, courtesy of MOCA.

Activist New York



Museum of the City of NY

1220 Fifth Av. @103 St, NYC

Fri-Mon 10-5; Thurs 10-9

New Yorkers band together on civil rights, wages, sexual orientation & religious freedom. Activism in the five boroughs past & present. Passions & conflicts that underlie the city's history of agitation. \$20; \$14 Srs, Students; Under 20 free. (212) 534-1672. info@mcny.org **photo:** courtesy of the Museum of the City of NY

100 Years Apart



The Tenement Museum

103 Orchard St., NYC

Daily 10-6; building tours noon-5

Explore how immigrant women coped with economic hardship through the stories of Natalie Gumpertz & Mrs. Wong, living a century apart, sharing similar struggles, hopes, & survival strategies as they made new lives. \$30. (877) 975-3786. tenement.org **photos:** courtesy of The Tenement Museum

Fighting Fascism: Visual Culture of the Spanish Civil War



NYU's Kimmel Windows

13-window exhibition: LaGuardia Place & West 3rd St, NYC

Through September 15

Examines the use of posters, postcards, advertisements, and other visual materials to influence public opinion and rally support for the Spanish Civil War, (1936-1939) Exhibition also spotlights stories of some of the 2,800 U.S. volunteers, including 22 NYU students, who served. Free. (212) 998-6829. **image:** Tamiment Library/NYU's Abraham Lincoln Brigade Archives

Steel, Stone & Backbone: Building New York's Subways



New York Transit Museum

99 Schermerhorn St., Brooklyn, NY (a decommissioned subway station)

Thurs-Sun 11-4

Steel, Stone & Backbone shows construction methods & provides insight into the work lives of 30,000 laborers who built NYC's 1st subway line, 1900–1904. \$10; \$5 Srs; Age 2-17 free. (646) 252-2475
nytransitmuseum.org **photo:** NY Transit Museum

Slate Quarrying



Slate Valley Museum

17 Water St., Granville, NY

Tu–Fri 12-4; Sat 10-4

May 20 – Dec 10

History & culture of the slate quarrying community established along the NY-Vermont border in the 1800s. Open for reserved, timed visits. \$5; \$3 Srs; Under 12 & Slate Workers free. (518) 642-1417.
slatevalleymuseum.org **image:** WPA mural by **Martha Levy** featured at the Slate Valley Museum

New York Labor History Association

NYLHA was founded in 1976. To join NYLHA send a \$20 check, payable to NYLHA to: Peter Filardo, 340 W. 28 St., #18A, New York, NY 10001-4765

NYLHA Officers: Irwin Yellowitz, President; George Altomare, Vice-President; Peter Filardo, Treasurer; Abbe Nosoff & Regina Olf, Secretaries

Calendar Committee: George Altomare, Rachel Bernstein, Martha Foley, Kyle Friend, Deborah Green, Arieh Lebowitz, Gail Malmgreen, Claude Scales, Robert Wechsler, Susan Wilson, Joe Doyle (Chair)