

BANKENOTES

STRAWBERRY BANKE MUSEUM

ISSUE 5 2020

Chairman's Letter

A S I WATCHED THE SKATING RINK go up for another season at Labrie Family Skate at Puddle Dock Pond, I felt a moment of hope — as if “normal” were returning to one small part of life in our community. We are all well aware that even outdoor skating this winter will have its own set of protocols and precautions, but for a moment, as our Vintage Christmas in Portsmouth partners are saying, we can “let the magic shine through.”

Letting the magic shine through is what we try to do daily at Strawberry Banke.

Since March, we've shifted this nationally recognized history museum into “virtual” mode wherever we can. We got a head start by creating the Virtual Classroom almost ten years ago, thanks to the very generous gift from a former board member. Other donors and sponsors made it possible for the museum to open to daily visitors all summer. Now they're doing their part to bring Candlelight Stroll back for its 41st year, “Under the Stars,” with a new emphasis on outdoor lights, handmade decorations, and costumed roleplayers. The same is true for the rink.

But the magic isn't possible if not everyone believes. Now, more than ever, it “takes a village” to keep Strawberry Banke “shining through.” The world of museums, the resources available to support arts, culture, and history, are entering a precarious season as we move into winter and another surge of the pandemic. We need your help and hope we can depend on you — the friends and family who believe in the vision, who can afford to make a year-end gift.

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CANDLELIGHT STROLL UNDER THE STARS

Stroll General Event Info

Friday, Dec. 11 & 18, 4–8 PM; Saturday, Dec. 12 & 19, 4–8 PM;
Sunday, Dec. 13 & 20, 4–8 PM

strawberrybanke.org/events.cfm

An outdoor-only experience. One-hour, self-guided tours departing every 30 minutes. The last self-guided tour departs at 7 PM. For more information, including COVID-19 precautions, visit strawberrybanke.org.

Admission: Museum members free. Nonmembers: Adults \$15; Children (ages 5-17) \$10. **All tickets must be purchased in advance (including member tickets).** No ticket sales at the door.

Every year since 1979, Candlelight Stroll at Strawberry Banke has captured 350 years of seasonal and holiday traditions against the backdrop of the museum’s historic houses. This year, due to the pandemic, Strawberry Banke presents “Candlelight Stroll Under the Stars,” focusing on the lights, wreaths, roleplayers, and holiday magic on the exteriors of the museum’s historic buildings.

The museum grounds glow with hundreds of lighted candle lanterns, and house doors and railings are adorned with handmade decorations crafted from live greens and dried flowers and herbs collected from the museum gardens. Visitors stroll along candlelit pathways and are greeted along the way by costumed roleplayers and performers who recreate the traditions of times past.

Please note: tickets for Labrie Family Skate at Puddle Dock Pond are NOT included with the main Candlelight Stroll Under the Stars event tickets. To comply with physical-distancing guidelines, skating tickets must be purchased at the TYCO Visitors Center are first-come, first-served.

Members Only Preview Night

SOLD OUT

Thursday, Dec. 10, 5:30-8:30 PM

Free for Strawberry Banke members — preregistration required
strawberrybanke.org/join.cfm

An outdoor-only experience. One-hour, self-guided tours departing every 30 minutes. The last self-guided tour departs at 7:30 PM.

Members receive complimentary tickets to the Members-Only Preview Night & the main Candlelight Stroll Under the Stars event based on membership level.

In compliance with physical-distancing guidelines, a limited number of timed tickets are available for each time slot on a first-come, first-served basis. All tickets must be reserved in advance. Prior to reserving tickets and visiting the museum, please review Strawberry Banke’s COVID-19 precautions.

Members are invited to experience “Candlelight Stroll Under the Stars” one night before the event opens to the general public. In addition to a first look and complimentary admission, members enjoy three performances by Ice Dance International’s Currier & Ives Vintage Christmas Skaters at 6:30, 7:15, and 8 PM; complimentary admission tickets and skate rentals to Labrie Family Skate at Puddle Dock Pond, which is closed to the general public; a commemorative member gift; and an entry to win a gift basket.

Please note: Labrie Family Skate at Puddle Dock Pond has a limited capacity for each skating session, first-come, first-served. Members should check-in to the front desk in the TYCO Visitors Center for complimentary admission and skates. The skating session on the Members-Only Preview Night of Candlelight Stroll runs 5:30–8:30 PM.

STRAWBERRY BANKE FUND

LIKE MANY ORGANIZATIONS, Strawberry Banke Museum is challenged by the economic impacts associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. Due to safety precautions, the museum cancelled or postponed many signature events, and moved educational and summer camps to a virtual platform. The museum's historic homes remained closed to the public for the 2020 season and the visitors' experience was re-imagined with outdoor-only tours focusing on the historic gardens, landscapes, and exteriors of historic houses.



To address the strain on teachers, parents, and school-aged children facing remote-learning or hybrid models for the academic year, Strawberry Banke pivoted to developing and implementing numerous history and civics courses. All programs are aligned with the Common Core State Standards and the C3 Framework for Social Studies.

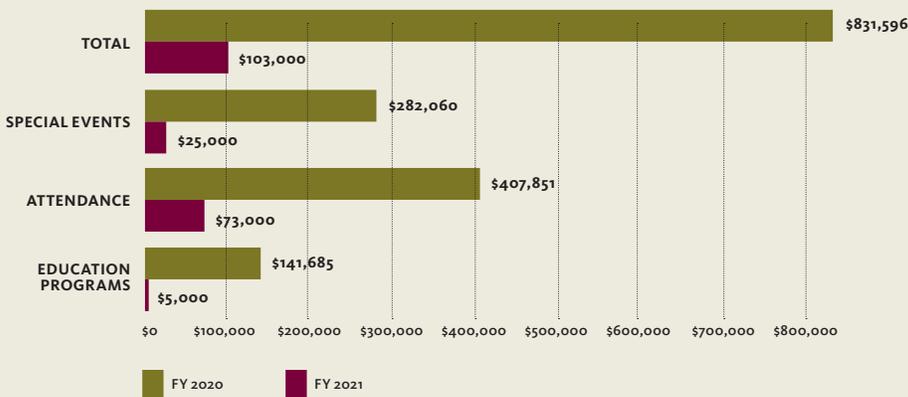
Smaller attendance to events, programs, and visitors to the museum reduced the operating budget by just over \$1 Million. This places an enormous strain on the museum's ability to deliver on its mission to promote understanding of the lives of individuals and the value of community through encounters with the history and ongoing preservation of a New England waterfront neighborhood.

To continue to provide resources for school-aged children, life-long learners, and armchair travelers, Strawberry Banke Museum needs your financial support.

The goal is to raise \$130,000 before December 31, 2020. Please consider making a gift to the Strawberry Banke Fund to help subsidize the cost of providing educational resources to the community.

With your support, together we can continue our commitment to educating our community. To make a gift to the Strawberry Banke Fund, use the enclosed envelope or visit strawberrybanke.org/donate.cfm.

Revenue Comparison: Fiscal Year 2020 & Fiscal Year 2021



Funding the Future with a Planned Gift

A planned gift is a way to show support and appreciation for Strawberry Banke Museum and its mission while accommodating personal, financial, estate-planning, and philanthropic goals. In addition to potentially reducing the tax burden on your heirs, help ensure that Strawberry Banke has the financial support needed to thrive in the future.



There are many ways to make a planned gift; the simplest is through a bequest or trust. By naming Strawberry Banke Museum as a beneficiary of a will or trust, you make a commitment for the future without affecting current finances. Additionally, including Strawberry Banke in estate plans helps the museum diversify its base of support — especially in times of uncertainty like the COVID-19 pandemic.

The commitment of a planned gift qualifies you for membership in the Puddle Dock Society, a group of generous supporters and friends of the museum who committed to including Strawberry Banke in wills and estate plans.

To learn more about the Puddle Dock Society and how to make a planned gift, contact Joe April at JApril@sbmuseum.org or strawberrybanke.org/give.cfm.

NEW! Reciprocal Membership Benefits for Strawberry Banke Members

Present a Strawberry Banke Museum membership card and be treated to the membership privileges observed by participating museums. Strawberry Banke Museum reciprocal privileges are extended to all levels of memberships. Participating museums include **Mystic Seaport, Old Sturbridge Village, Plimoth Patuxet** (formerly Plimoth Plantation), and more.



NEW! Virtual Members-Only Programs

Join Strawberry Banke Museum staff as they share their passion and expertise on a variety of topics. Each program is hosted via Zoom, and preregistration is required. Zoom has a capacity of 100 attendees for each event and registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. Each virtual program will be recorded and sent to museum members in future member emails/e-newsletters or upon request.



GETTING DRESSY: HOW TO WEAR HISTORIC CLOTHING

Tuesday, December 8, 2020, 3-4 pm

Learn about the many, many layers of a working woman's 18th-century outfit, from undergarments to accessories, with Maddie Beihl, Roleplaying Coordinator.

OBJECTS OF MOURNING

Tuesday, January 12, 2021, 12-1 pm

Discover several objects of mourning from the Strawberry Banke Museum collection with Elizabeth Farish, Chief Curator.



KEEPING HISTORY ABOVE WATER

Monday, January 20, 2021, 12-1 pm

Join Rodney Rowland, Director of Special Projects and Properties, to learn about the impacts of surface flooding and groundwater flooding, solutions, and how to help protect your property from this threat.

OPPRESSION AND FREEDOM: SLAVERY IN 18TH-CENTURY PORTSMOUTH

Tuesday, February 16, 2021, 12-1 PM

Bethany Allen, Education Coordinator, shares how historians uncover the lives of enslaved and free black people in unconventional ways.

Receiving weekly member emails?

To ensure you receive weekly member emails and get the latest information on programming, member discounts, and more, please add mmcnutt@sbmuseum.org to your Safe Senders or Contacts list. To update an email address or troubleshoot, contact the Membership office via membership@sbmuseum.org or 603.770.0257.



With many thanks to Strawberry Banke's 2020 Corporate Partners:

The Aland Realty Group	Lynch Pellet Stove Services
Ambit Engineering	Partners Bank
Berwick Academy	People's United Bank
Bottomline Technologies	Piscataqua Savings Bank
Cambridge Trust	Portsmouth Rotary Club
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Denise Poulos	Proulx Oil and Propane
Exeter Hospital	Rink Services Group
Fidelity Investments	R.M. Davis
Harbour Women's Health	Sunrise Rotary
Jo Lamprey	Xfinity
Kennebunk Savings	



*History tells us, when you're ready
Strawberry Banke will be here.*

Give the gift of Membership to keep history alive.

Learn more at strawberrybanke.org/join.cfm
14 Hancock Street, Portsmouth NH



ONLINE LEARNING WINTER GUIDE

For more information and to register for these programs, visit strawberybankemuseum.wordpress.com

HISTORY AT HOME

Programs for Homeschoolers and Remote Learners

History at Home, geared toward students aged 8-14, are four-week online programs that help remote learners explore important moments in American history. Members \$30; Nonmembers \$40. Register for multiple classes and receive \$5 off each session.

- Exploring Colonial Life, January 5-24, 2021
- 18th-century Life and Liberty, January 5-24, 2021
- 19th-century Innovation, February 3-23, 2021
- The Rise of a Nation, February 3-23, 2021
- Fighting for Freedom, March 2-23, 2021

HOMESCHOOL DAYS

Homeschool Days virtual programs take place the third Thursday of every month from 2:30 to 3 PM. Members: \$8 per individual / \$16 per family; Nonmembers: \$10 per individual / \$20 per family.

- Hearth Cooking Bake Along, December 17, 2020
- Visit Mr. Stavers, Colonial Tavern Keeper, January 21, 2021
- Victorian Tea with Mrs. Goodwin, February 18, 2021

VIRTUAL LIVING HISTORY CLUB

Join like-minded teens to learn about what life was like in the past. Members meet biweekly via Zoom to try historical crafts, recipes, and activities; talk about history; learn research methods; and connect with peers. Ages 12-17 or grades 6-12. Members \$30; Nonmembers \$40.

- Session II: February 1 – May 3, 2020

WELL-BEHAVED WOMEN

A Virtual Program

In October, Strawberry Banke Museum and the NH Theatre Project launched a virtual workshop in honor of the centennial of the ratification of the 19th Amendment, which gave U.S. women the right to vote. Virtual staged readings of Jes Marbacher's play *Well-Behaved Women* and corresponding civics curriculum are available to the public through the 2020-2021 schoolyear in the Virtual Classroom. *Well-Behaved Women, A Virtual Program* is free to the public thanks to sponsors Denise Poulos, Esq., and the League of Women Voters of New Hampshire.

PUDDLE DOCK PACKS: Colonial Life Pack

Make Great Gifts! Shipping available

Puddle Dock Packs help kids exercise their imaginations, practice fine motor skills, and explore the past through a variety of hands-on projects such as weaving potholders on a handheld loom, making marbles and ring-toss games, and writing with a quill pen. A subscribers-only webpage offers additional historical activities,

book recommendations, and access to videos of museum roleplayers and house tours to enhance learning. Members \$20; Nonmembers \$25.



CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

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Now more than ever, your gifts help sustain this historic neighborhood and the stories it keeps alive, generation to generation. Without Strawberry Banke — without your help — those stories, including the one about what we're going through now, are lost.

There's no time like the present. Please use the enclosed reply envelope or make your tax-deductible donation to the Strawberry Banke Fund at StrawberyBanke.org/donate.cfm

In thanks for your continued support, the museum is giving back to you. Members receive complimentary tickets to "Candlelight Stroll Under the Stars," and I look forward to greeting you, at a

safe distance, at the special Members Preview Night on Thursday, December 10, from 5:30 to 8:30 PM. During the Member Preview, we're presenting three performances by the Ice Dance International Currier & Ives Vintage Skaters that evening at 6:30, 7:15, and 8 PM and offering complimentary skating and rentals.

Don't forget, memberships make great gifts, too! Your year-end donations and renewed memberships are crucial to the museum's day-to-day operations, virtual programming, and ability to reopen Labrie Family Skate at Puddle Dock Pond for the season.

Thank you. And happy holidays!

Zach Slater
Chair, Board of Trustees



**STRAWBERRY
BANKE** PORTSMOUTH
NEW HAMPSHIRE

14 Hancock Street
Portsmouth, NH 03801



Visit strawberybanke.org
for updated schedules
and event details



Outdoor ice-skating at Labrie Family Skate at Puddle Dock Pond

DECEMBER – MARCH

- Daily public skating
- Private parties
- Skating lessons
- Adaptive ice time



Like and follow Labrie Family Skate at Puddle Dock Pond
for the most-up-to date schedule, closings, and changes.

2020 ADMISSION RATES

- Members (ages 5+): \$6
- Rentals: \$6
- Nonmembers (ages 5+): \$12
- Sharpening: \$7



LEARN TO SKATE REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

Visit StrawberyBanke.org/skate.cfm



LABRIE FAMILY SKATE
AT PUDDLE DOCK POND
STRAWBERRY BANKE MUSEUM