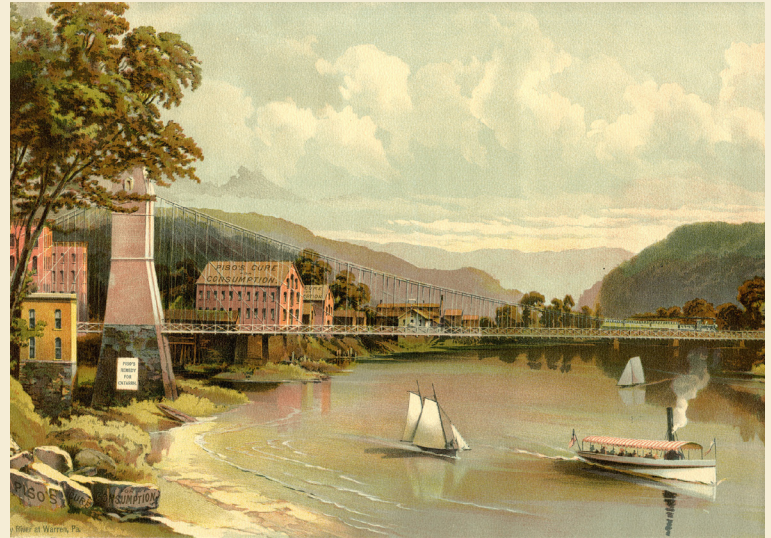


# ALMANAC

## Jay Last Secures Innovation at AAS with Landmark Gift

With a transformational gift of \$8 million—the largest in the Society’s history—philanthropist and collector Jay Last has secured the future of innovation at the American Antiquarian Society by creating a permanent fund for new initiatives. Last, a Society member based in Los Angeles, has been a supporter of AAS for more than thirty years.

Previous gifts to the Society from Last and his wife, Deborah, seeded the Last Initiatives, which support significant efforts to expand the Society’s capacity to carry out its mission, including activities that fall outside of the Society’s current financial resources. The Last Initiatives include expanding the use of new technology, extending the Society’s national reach, and improving access to the collections through new approaches to cataloging, as well as a range of special projects. Jay Last continues to give AAS wide latitude to choose how to spend these funds, reflecting his strong belief in the Society’s mission. He noted, “I’m delighted to make this gift, and hope that it may persuade others to follow in my footsteps and support the Society.”



*Allegheny River at Warren, Penn.*, chromolithograph (New York: Knapp & Co., ca. 1880). Gift of Jay Last.

*(continued on page 4)*

## A Long Goodbye: Dunlap’s Legacy at the Society



As Ellen S. Dunlap, the seventh president of AAS, prepares for retirement in October, she leaves behind a rich history of accomplishments. The first woman to hold the position in the more than two centuries since AAS was founded, Dunlap focused her tenure on making the Society and its collections more accessible, both to scholars and to the public. During her twenty-eight years of leadership, Dunlap developed a vision for the Society that allowed anyone interested in the early American story to explore the collections and engage with the AAS community, leading to the development of a strong digital presence, expanded programming, and myriad capital improvements.

Early in her presidency, Dunlap positioned AAS to take advantage of new digital technologies. “Digitization was the tsunami that arrived during my tenure,” she said. “In the early 1990s I was aware as a research librarian that it was an opportunity and a responsibility. I saw that the Society needed to be a leader if we wanted our vast collection to be accessible to everyone.”

*(continued on pages 2-4)*



*(A Long Goodbye . . . continued from page 1)*

To that end, Dunlap carved out dedicated staff time and forged partnerships to make AAS materials broadly available. As a result, nearly two hundred thousand images of collection material have been produced in-house and are freely accessible through links in the Society’s online catalog. Millions more images of collection material are available through subscription databases, which off-site users at subscribing institutions can access in full-text searchable form. Since 2005, licensing agreements with database publishers have earned more than \$15 million in revenue to support collection purchases, capital improvements, and staff initiatives.

Dunlap also concentrated on expanding AAS’s already strong cataloging efforts. Since her arrival, the number of records in the Society’s online catalog has more than tripled, making it easier for researchers to find material pertinent to their research. Other special cataloging projects—such as online inventories, checklists, and databases (including, most notably, Clarence, an issue-level listing of the more

than two million newspapers held by AAS)—have further facilitated research and revolutionized access to the Society’s collections.

Dunlap recognized the significance of the digital realm in reaching new constituencies and extended the Society’s online reach in a variety of ways. Her support of online exhibitions, illustrated inventories, blogs, and educational websites has given college and university faculty and K–12 educators a variety of resources to use with their students. The Society’s social media outlets have reached an even broader audience, including many who would not have known of the Society otherwise. “From quirky to compelling, our collections have something for everyone,” Dunlap said.

And yet, when she arrived in Worcester in 1992 “not everyone at AAS had a computer and email was rudimentary,” Dunlap recalls. “I remember our first internet site; it was on the Gopher platform and had links to our catalog, information about the Society, and a link to the weather. Someone asked in jest if it was to present-day or nineteenth-century weather.”

Dunlap came to Worcester after working in rare book libraries in her native Texas and in Philadelphia. “Part of my interest in history is celebrating coincidences,” she said. During her early days at AAS, she experienced one of those coincidences for herself. While touring the stacks of bound newspapers in Antiquarian Hall, she wondered if the newspaper in her father’s hometown in Texas was part of the collection. Not only did AAS hold issues of the newspaper, but “the copy I happened upon contained the obituary of my great-grandfather,” Dunlap recalled, confirming her conviction that AAS was the right place for her.



The synergy Dunlap felt with the Society began as early as her interview with the presidential search committee. She struck a chord with them when she observed, “I don’t think an institution can hold itself aloof from a community and expect support from it. You have to have a relationship with the community.” From the beginning, she has made the Society’s relationship with Worcester a priority. Dunlap and her team expanded free programs for the general public and initiated collaborations with the Worcester Public Schools and other surrounding K–12 districts, providing services to an entirely new constituency for the Society. Those K–12 programs grew and AAS began to offer services

*Top:* Headshot of Ellen Dunlap from 1992 at the start of her presidency. *Right:* Dunlap leading the Society’s annual meeting in 2000. *Bottom:* Dunlap in December 1992 at a Worcester Chamber of Commerce breakfast.

to educators all over the country. Outside AAS, Dunlap cofounded the Worcester Cultural Coalition, a unique public-private partnership between City Hall and more than seventy cultural institutions; served as a board member and chair of Mass Humanities; and has been active in the Greater Worcester Community Foundation.

Dunlap has also made the Society a welcoming place for researchers. Before she joined the staff, undergraduates were



required to obtain a letter of introduction from a professor in order to use the library. Dunlap removed those barriers, opening the library to anyone working on a project that would benefit from using AAS's collections, regardless of their educational status.

Under her leadership, the fellowship program has also flourished. Funds were secured for many new fellowships, including the AAS-Mellon Distinguished Scholar in Residence, the Hench Post-Dissertation Fellowship, the Jay and Deborah Last Fellowships, and the Creative and Performing Artists and Writers Fellowships (see page 12). "Researchers at AAS have been able to learn so much from other researchers," Dunlap said. "Past fellows and readers alike



have created a community of support and intellectual exchange, rather like an alumni network."

In addition, a culture of service has become an AAS hallmark. "We consistently hear from people who are here to do research that in addition to our amazing collection, our staff is so generous with help and assistance," Dunlap said. Dunlap explained that her management style is "based on empowering staff and helping them define their own roles. I put my trust in our staff members, who are experts in areas that are not my expertise. They're experts in everything from curating and conservation to Instagram and Twitter."



The access that Dunlap has facilitated over the course of her tenure is writ large in the capital improvements that she has overseen

for the Society, raising more than \$35 million to advance critical components of the Society's mission. In 1994, the entrance to Antiquarian Hall was renovated to make it ADA accessible. A stack addition completed in 2002 doubled the Society's capacity for collection growth and improved working conditions for curatorial and cataloging staff. A 2008 renovation of the main fellows' residence, Reese House, significantly increased the Society's capacity to host visiting scholars, which was further augmented when a second historic house on Regent Street was acquired in 2016. The landscaped parking lot on Park Avenue was opened in 2015, reducing demand for on-street parking in the neighborhood.

The culmination of these capital improvements was the 2019 addition to Antiquarian Hall, which included the technology-enhanced Learning Lab to extend the Society's reach, an upgraded and expanded Conservation Studio, and a new building-wide, state-of-the-art HVAC system. "The big window in the center of our new addition opens the Society to the community, enabling people to see what's going on inside," Dunlap said.

*(continued on page 4)*



Top: Dunlap at the Society's semiannual meeting in 1996 in Boston with actor Neil Gustafson as Isaiah Thomas and Senator Harriette Chandler. Left, middle: Dunlap in 1993 with John Hench; Andrew Brown, director of humanities publishing at Cambridge University Press; and *History of the Book in America* general editor David Hall. Right, middle: Dunlap in 2001 with the "Stack D" dated cornerstone. Left: Dunlap in 2018 with stone date plate for the latest addition to Antiquarian Hall.

*(A Long Goodbye . . . continued from page 3)*

Among Dunlap's proudest moments was accepting the National Humanities Medal on behalf of the Society from President Barack Obama at the White House in 2014. The award—which had never before been given to an independent research library—honored the Society's efforts to “safeguard the American story” and engage the public with history. Dunlap also received honorary degrees from Worcester Polytechnic Institute in 2015 and the College of the Holy Cross in 2018; that same year she received the Massachusetts Governor's Award in the Humanities.

Contemplating her legacy, Dunlap reflected that one of her biggest challenges has been that “this institution and I both have bigger ambitions than our resources allow,” adding, “I wouldn't want to be involved with an organization that was satisfied with things as they are.” As to what qualities she'd like to see in her successor, Dunlap concluded, “The Society needs someone who can build on what we've accomplished, but can lead the Society to even more success and a wider appreciation for all that we have to offer.”



*Right: Dunlap with the late Bill Reese (elected 1981), Michelle and Barack Obama, and former Council Chair Sid Lapidus (elected 1996) in 2014 at the National Humanities Medal award ceremony.*

*(Jay Last Secures Innovation . . . continued from page 1)*

Much of the Lasts' early giving was directed toward the graphic arts collections at AAS, directly related to Jay Last's personal collecting interests in ephemera and nineteenth-century American lithography. In 2006, the Lasts funded the Jay and Deborah Last Fellowships for scholars studying American art and visual culture, which continue to this day. The Lasts also contributed toward the construction of Antiquarian Hall's most recent stack addition, Stack D, opened in 2002 to house the Society's rarest materials. The Lasts also made a critical contribution to help establish a secure foundation for the Center for Historical American Visual Culture, or CHAViC, at AAS.

In recognition of his sustained support for the Society, Jay Last was awarded the Christopher Columbus Baldwin Award, the Society's greatest honor, in 2012. The Baldwin Award, named for Christopher Columbus Baldwin (1800–35), who succeeded founder Isaiah Thomas and served as librarian of the Society from 1827 to 1835, is presented by the Council from time to time to recognize certain individuals who have given exemplary service to the Society. In his brief life Baldwin made significant contributions to building and organizing the library's collections.



Trained as a physicist at the University of Rochester and at MIT, Last was a founder of Fairchild Semiconductor Corp., where he directed the group that produced the first diffused silicon integrated circuit chip. Along with his colleagues at Fairchild, he is considered one of the founders of Silicon Valley. Last was elected to membership in the Society in 1987, honored as a collector of ephemera. He is the author of *The Color Explosion: Nineteenth-Century American Lithography* (2005).

*Left: Abigail Rorer demonstrating printmaking for participants at the 2011 CHAViC Summer Seminar; the seminar was funded by Jay Last.*

## Meet the Society's New Council Chair: Jock Herron

At the 2019 annual meeting, John “Jock” Herron Jr. of Cambridge, Massachusetts, was elected chairman of the Council, the Society’s governing board, succeeding Sid Lapidus (elected 1996). Herron was elected a member of the Society in 1989 and has served on the Council in various capacities since the early 1990s, becoming vice chairman in 2008. He noted, “There is no ‘replacing’ Sid, but it’s a great honor to help the Council and Ellen bridge into a new generation of leadership. Our mission remains robust, with new technologies, new users, and fresh questions about our nation’s past to enrich our role in the crafting of history.”

Herron was a member of the first entering class of Hampshire College, where he received a B.A. in philosophy in 1974. After receiving an M.B.A. in econometrics and finance from the University of Chicago, he joined Bankers Trust Company, where he eventually served as senior managing director and partner. Pivoting in midlife, he received a master’s and a doctorate from the Harvard Graduate School of Design, where he currently teaches in the design engineering program. He also cofounded TidePool Press with AAS member Ingrid Jeppson Mach (elected 2008) and comanages Herron Farms LLC in southern Ohio. As a volunteer, Herron has chaired the boards of the Worcester Foundation for Biomedical Research and the Cambridge Center for Adult Education and was a vice president of the Worcester Art Museum.

A seventh-generation member of AAS, Herron became actively involved in the Society as a teenager, working one summer on the Salisbury Family Papers for his aunt, AAS member Louisa Dresser (elected 1964), and another summer as a volunteer in the bindery. After college, he received a bicentennial grant from a New York foundation to spend a year doing further research and writing about the Salisburys.

Herron and his siblings, Frank F. Herron (elected 2007) and Josephine R. L. Truesdell (elected 2014), trace their AAS ancestry through their late mother, Frances Merrick Dresser Herron. Frannie Herron’s great-great-grandfather was Levi Lincoln Sr., one of the founding members of AAS in 1812; he served as attorney general under President Thomas Jefferson. Levi Lincoln Sr. and his son Levi Lincoln Jr. (also elected to AAS in 1812) both served in the U.S. House of Representatives and as governor of Massachusetts.

Levi Lincoln Jr.’s son Daniel Waldo Lincoln (elected 1869) served as president of the Boston and Albany Railroad and as Worcester’s mayor during the Civil War. His son Waldo Lincoln (elected 1898) was AAS president during a transformational period in AAS history. Waldo Lincoln’s daughter, Josephine Rose Lincoln Dresser, and her husband, attorney Frank F. Dresser (elected 1909), were Frannie Herron’s parents. Jock’s father, John Herron Sr. (elected 1998), was a modernist architect who helped found Preservation Worcester.

Herron’s principal collecting interest is hand-crafted twentieth-century letterpress books, an interest he attributes to his summer volunteering in the AAS bindery five decades ago. “Extraordinary as the AAS collections are,” Herron said, “I learned firsthand that the AAS staff is every bit as special, and I look forward to working with them in this new capacity.”

*Top:* Herron welcoming guests at the ribbon-cutting ceremony in the Learning Lab in May 2019. *Left:* Herron (*center, in rear*) touring the new addition to Antiquarian Hall in 2018 with local members of the St. Wulstan Society.



# Spring Public Programs

All held and planned public programs are listed here for reference, but those that were canceled as of press date due to COVID-19 have been marked as such. Please check the AAS website regularly for the most up-to-date information on cancellations and changes to the schedule.

## **“First Martyr of Liberty: Crispus Attucks in American Memory”**

**Tuesday, March 10, 7 p.m.**

by *Mitch Kachun*

Available online

IN COLLABORATION WITH THE EXHIBITION *BEYOND MIDNIGHT:*

*PAUL REVERE*

Kachun explores the different ways over the past 250 years that Crispus Attucks—a mixed-race man who was killed in the 1770 Boston Massacre—has been either made a part of or excluded from Americans’ understanding of the story of the American Revolution and the story of the nation.

## **“This Land Is Their Land”**

**Tuesday, March 17, 7 p.m. CANCELED**

by *David Silverman* ◇

COSPONSORED BY THE FRANKLIN M. LOEW LECTURE SERIES AT BECKER COLLEGE

Silverman takes a transformative new look at the Plymouth colony’s founding events, putting Wampanoag voices, personal stories, and oral history and tradition at the center of the story for the first time, complicating and deepening the narrative of the first Thanksgiving.

## **“Patriot, Artisan, Entrepreneur, and Industrialist: Paul Revere’s Ride to Rolling Copper”**

**Tuesday, April 7, 7 p.m. CANCELED**

by *Robert Martello*

IN COLLABORATION WITH THE EXHIBITION *BEYOND MIDNIGHT:*

*PAUL REVERE*

Martello explores how Paul Revere’s greatest role in building the new nation took place in workshops and manufactories via a lifetime of groundbreaking metallurgical work that enabled America to close the technological gap with England, advance its economic strength, and transition into the industrial age.

## **“Isaiah Thomas’s Apprenticeship: The Labor and Value of Children’s Literature”**

**Thursday, May 7, 7 p.m. CANCELED**

by *Karen Sánchez-Eppler* ◇

Linking AAS founder and printer Isaiah Thomas’s apprenticeship, his juvenile publishing, and his memorializing and collecting practices, Sánchez-Eppler asserts the importance of children’s labor and ideas of childhood to our understanding of history.

## **“Pocahontas and the English Boys”**

**Thursday, May 21, 7 p.m. CANCELED**

by *Karen Ordahl Kupperman* ◇

Kupperman explores how both the Jamestown leaders and the Chesapeake Algonquians deployed kids to learn the language and culture of the other. When hostilities loomed, these children were caught in the middle, and leaders on both sides came to doubt their loyalty with disastrous consequences.

## **“Images in the Women’s Suffrage Movement”**

**Thursday, June 4, 7 p.m.**

by *Allison Lange* ◇◇

Lange talks about the popular pictures that mocked female reformers and the ways that women’s rights supporters responded to them by developing a national visual campaign that used images to win voting rights and change ideas about gender.

◇ AAS member

◇◇ AAS fellow



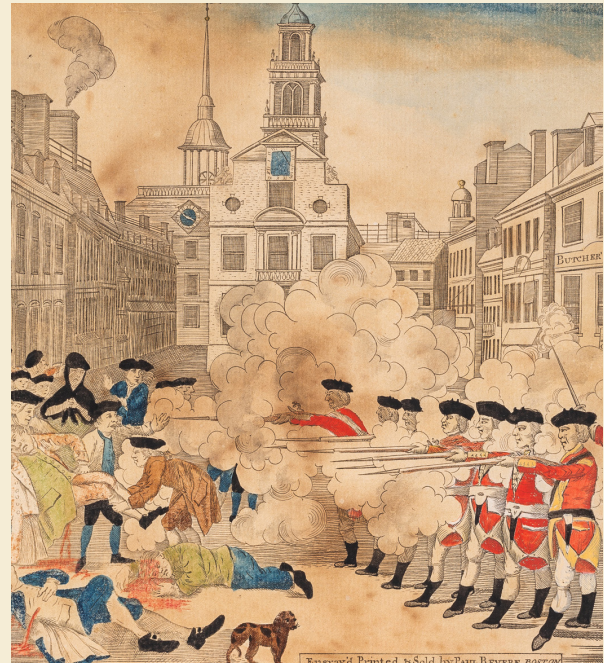
# Beyond Midnight: Paul Revere Exhibition Comes to Massachusetts

*After a very successful opening run at the New-York Historical Society this past fall—during which almost fifty thousand people visited the exhibition—Beyond Midnight: Paul Revere opened in Massachusetts in two parts this spring: at the Worcester Art Museum and the Concord Museum. The show is slated to remain in Massachusetts until June 7, and the Society had plans to sponsor an exciting series of events for a range of audiences. Due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, however, several of these events have been necessarily curtailed. The text below indicates our planned activities, but please check the AAS website at [americanantiquarian.org](http://americanantiquarian.org) for the most up-to-date information on cancellations and changes to the schedule.*

The spring public program series (see page 6) began on March 10 with a lecture by Mitch Kachun on the shifting role Crispus Attucks—the mixed-race man who was the first to die in the Boston Massacre—has played in the stories told about the American Revolution over time. That program was to be followed with a lecture by Robert Martello on Paul Revere’s work as an artisan, entrepreneur, and industrialist, as well as a patriot, which has been canceled.

The Center for Historic American Visual Culture (CHAViC) at AAS planned to hold an academic symposium in April to consider new perspectives on Revere’s versatile roles as an artisan, ranging from colonial silversmith to maker of propaganda prints to postwar manufacturer. “Revere in Perspective: Artisanry, Labor, and Luxury” was to feature invited speakers from various disciplines presenting on topics exploring labor practices and the sourcing of raw materials associated with Revere’s many products, from silver luxury goods to copper for the new nation’s naval vessels. This event has been postponed to a date yet to be determined.

AAS, with the Salisbury Cultural District and other institutional partners, also planned to present a community day called “Rebels to Robots” to pay tribute to Revere’s multifaceted life and career as a revolutionary, entrepreneur, and artisan. Taking place at various venues within the Salisbury Cultural District and its environs, the event was to feature both historic and contemporary artisans; robotics demonstrations; Revolutionary War reenactors; and theatrical performances portraying Rachel Revere, Isaiah Thomas, and John Hancock. A highlight of the day was to be the firing of a Revere-made cannon by the Artillery Company of Newport. Entrance to the exhibition at the Worcester Art Museum was to be free as part of the event. This event has been postponed to a date yet to be determined.



In addition to these events, with generous support provided by the Massachusetts Society of the Cincinnati, AAS is developing a series of long-distance learning resources for K–12 teachers based on the exhibition. These resources will include short videos, illustrated lectures, and lesson plans exploring Revere’s prints, his business networks, and the creation of the legend around his midnight ride. Due to COVID-19, these resources will be available at a crucial time, as teachers and families look for remote learning opportunities more than ever. Please check the website for updates on these resources.

Top: *The Bloody Massacre*, engraving by Paul Revere (Boston, 1770). Left: *View of the Obelisk*, engraving by Paul Revere (Boston, 1766).

## Recent Acquisition: Hannah Smith Draper Papers, 1804–1825

Twenty years ago, AAS President Ellen Dunlap sat down at her desk one evening to look through reference files on researchers who had recently visited the library when she noticed that one of those researchers was working on the family of Hannah Smith Draper (1793–1825). Spotting that name, Dunlap nearly fell off her chair—and immediately reached out to the researcher, Walter McClennen. As Dunlap explained to McClennen, her own ancestor, Sally Smith Mason (1795–1877), was Hannah Smith Draper’s sister. McClennen told Dunlap that his wife, Carol, was Draper’s descendant, thereby making Dunlap and Carol McClennen cousins.

Walter McClennen was researching Draper because he and his wife possessed, among other family correspondence, thirty-five letters written by Mason to Draper. Many of the letters relate to the straw bonnet industry, in which Draper was involved before moving to Boston with her husband in 1817. Mason, by far the most prolific correspondent in the collection, discusses family life and various family members’ illnesses, including that of their sister Drusilla, who died in 1821. The collection provides wonderful insight into the straw bonnet industry as well as family life in New England in the 1810s and 1820s.

After discovering the family connection and learning about the collection, Dunlap invited the McClennens to her home for tea, and the three hit it off. In 2019, the McClennens remembered their first phone call and visit with Dunlap and her excitement about their family letters. Given the collection’s details about the everyday life of a nineteenth-century New Englander, the McClennens were convinced that the papers were a natural fit with the rest of the manuscript collections at AAS. They donated the entire collection of about one hundred letters and other papers to AAS last June. As Dunlap’s retirement approaches, it is gratifying to know that an intimate, handwritten piece of her family history has become a permanent part of the AAS collections.



Ellen Dunlap (right) with Carol and Walter McClennen.

## NEH Summer Institute for K–12 Educators:

“The News Media and the Making of America, 1730–1800”

*Postponed to July 26–31, 2021*

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Summer Institute for K–12 Educators planned for this coming summer has been postponed to the summer of 2021. During this institute, twenty-five K–12 educators from all over the U.S. will come to the Society for a week of intensive work with scholars and the collections, as well as collaboration with one another. These NEH summer institutes are prime opportunities for teachers to expand their knowledge, inspire their teaching, and grow both personally and professionally. The institute will be led by James David Moran, AAS vice president for programs and outreach, and AAS member David Paul Nord (elected 1992), professor emeritus of journalism and adjunct professor of history and American studies at Indiana University. The institute will explore how media was used during the age of the American Revolution—a critical era of change in the American news milieu, in media use, and in business, politics, and community life. Participants will work extensively with the AAS collections, studying sermons, books, pamphlets, newspapers, engravings, broadsides, manuscripts, and more. For further information and updates about postponement, please visit the AAS website at [americanantiquarian.org/neh-2020-summer-institute](http://americanantiquarian.org/neh-2020-summer-institute).



*Left: Detail of the title page from the Royal American Magazine (Boston: Printed by Isaiah Thomas, 1774).*



# News from Members, Fellows & Staff

## Members

CHRISTINE DeLUCIA (elected 2018) was awarded the 2019 Peter J. Gomes Memorial Book Prize from the Massachusetts Historical Society for her book *Memory Lands: King Philip's War and the Place of Violence in the Northeast* (2018).

THOMAS KNOLES (elected 2003), who was an AAS staff member for almost twenty-nine years and the Marcus A. McCorison Librarian for twelve years, was named librarian emeritus.

The Bibliographical Society of America awarded honorable mentions for the 2020 St. Louis Mercantile Library Prize to JOSEPH M. ADELMAN (elected 2019) for *Revolutionary Networks: The Business and Politics of Printing the News, 1763–1789* (2019) and the late WILLIAM S. REESE (elected 1981) for *Collectors, Booksellers, and Libraries: Essays on Americanists and the Rare Book Market* (2018).

## Fellows

LISA BIELAWA's (Hearst, 2018) new violin concerto, *Sanctuary*, written expressly for violinist Jennifer Koh and derived from research conducted during her fellowship, received its world premiere in January at the Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra.

The Bibliographical Society of America awarded the 2020 St. Louis Mercantile Library Prize to LINDSAY DiCUIRCI

(Botein, 2013–14) for *Colonial Revivals: The Nineteenth-Century Lives of Early American Books* (2018) and DERRICK R. SPIRES (Peterson, 2008–9) for *The Practice of Citizenship: Black Politics and Print Culture in the Early United States* (2019).

AMY SOPCAK-JOSEPH (Last, 2015–16) won the 2019 *Book History* essay prize from the Society for the History of Authorship, Reading & Publishing (SHARP) for her essay "Reconstructing and Gendering the Distribution Networks of *Godey's Lady's Book* in the Nineteenth Century."

## Staff

We were happy to welcome GABRIELLA GRILLA to the staff as advancement coordinator in October and BRIANNE BARRETT as library and program assistant in December.

Congratulations to those staff members who reached significant milestones in their tenures at AAS with the close of 2019: ALAN DEGUTIS, forty-five years; BABBETTE GEHNRIKH, thirty years; JAMES DAVID MORAN, twenty-five years; LAURA OXLEY, twenty years; ELIZABETH POPE and JACLYN PENNY, fifteen years; KIMBERLY TONEY, ten years; and DAVID COHEN, LISA SUTTER, and WILLIAM HARRITY, five years.

Samuel Anderson Architects received a 2019 Design Award from the American Institute of Architects Central Massachusetts for the expansion and renovation of Antiquarian Hall.

## CHAViC Summer Seminar:

### "On Stage: Spectacle in Nineteenth-Century America"

*Postponed to June 13–18, 2021*

The Center for Historic American Visual Culture (CHAViC) Summer Seminar that was planned for this coming summer has been postponed to the summer of 2021. The program will focus on visual and material cultures of theater and related histories of spectacle and spectatorship across the cultural landscape of the nineteenth-century United States. Seminar participants will explore theater as a lens for understanding larger practices and ideas of performance and related subjects, including labor, technology, race, and print culture. Through the collections at AAS, participants will examine the spaces, sites, and mechanics of theatrical spectacle, including playhouses, museums, panoramas, public streets, optical technologies, set design, costume design, historical reenactments, and tableaux vivants. The seminar's leader will be Wendy Bellion, professor and Sewell C. Biggs Chair of American Art History at the University of Delaware. She is the author of the award-winning *Citizen Spectator: Art, Illusion, and Visual Perception in Early National America* (2011). For further information and updates about postponement, please visit the AAS website at [americanantiquarian.org/2021-chavic-summer-seminar](http://americanantiquarian.org/2021-chavic-summer-seminar).



*Right: Detail from McLoughlin Brothers' Robinson Crusoe (New York, 1893).*

# New Members

The following individuals were elected to membership at the annual meeting on October 25, 2019.

## Joseph Adelman

Framingham, Massachusetts

Joe Adelman, associate professor of history at Framingham State University in Framingham, Massachusetts, is a historian of media, communication, and politics in the Atlantic world. His book, *Revolutionary Networks: The Business and Politics of Printing the News, 1763–1789*, was published in 2019. He was a Botein Fellow at AAS in 2007–8 and an AAS-NEH Fellow in 2011–12.

## Colleen Boggs

Hanover, New Hampshire

Colleen Boggs is a professor of English and of women's and gender studies at Dartmouth College. She specializes in the American Civil War, transatlantic studies, literary theory, and gender studies. Her books are *Animalia Americana: Animal Representations and Biopolitical Subjectivity* (2013) and *Transnationalism and American Literature: Literary Translation, 1773–1892* (2007). Boggs was an AAS-NEH Fellow in 2015–16.

## Ruah Donnelly

Conway, Massachusetts

Ruah Donnelly, a nature writer and retired attorney, wrote *The Adventurous Gardener: Where to Buy the Best Plants in New England* (2000). She is a trustee of the New England Wildflower Society and of the Museum of Russian Icons in Clinton, Massachusetts, as well as a former trustee of Tower Hill Botanic Garden. She practiced law for twenty-five years in Washington, D.C., and Boston before retiring to become a garden writer.

## Paul Erickson

Ann Arbor, Michigan

Paul Erickson assumed the position of Randolph G. Adams Director of the William L. Clements Library at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, in January 2020, after serving as the program director for arts, humanities, and culture and American institutions, society, and the public good at the American Academy of Arts & Sciences. He was formerly director of academic programs at AAS.

## Gretchen Gerzina

Northampton, Massachusetts

Gretchen Gerzina is dean of the Commonwealth Honors College at the University of Massachusetts Amherst and Paul Murray Kendall Chair in

Biography. Her books include *Britain's Black Past* (forthcoming 2020) and *Mr. and Mrs. Prince: How an Extraordinary Eighteenth-Century Family Moved Out of Slavery and into Legend* (2008).

## Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham

Cambridge, Massachusetts

Evelyn Higginbotham is the Victor S. Thomas Professor of History and of African and African American Studies at Harvard University. She is the author of *Righteous Discontent: The Women's Movement in the Black Baptist Church, 1880–1920* (1993), which has won prizes from the American Historical Association, the American Academy of Religion, the Association of Black Women Historians, and the Association for Research on Non-Profit and Voluntary Organizations.

## Lewis K. Jaffe

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Lewis Jaffe, a retired pharmaceutical salesman, is a passionate and longtime collector of American bookplates who moderates the blog *Bookplate Junkie*. Jaffe has amassed a significant collection of eighteenth-century American bookplates. He is a longtime member of the Bookplate Society and a member of the American Society of Bookplate Collectors and Designers.

## James B. Kenary IV

Boston, Massachusetts

Jim Kenary is a senior vice president at the Kenary Group, part of Morgan Stanley, which he joined in 2006. He is president of the Estate and Business Planning Council of Worcester County and an overseer of Old Sturbridge Village.

## Dana Levenson

Worcester, Massachusetts

Dana Levenson is president and CEO of Southgate at Shrewsbury. He previously served as chief financial officer of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation, and before that as chief financial officer of the city of Chicago.

## Lin-Manuel Miranda

New York, New York

Lin-Manuel Miranda is a composer, lyricist, playwright, singer, and actor, and the creator of the hit Broadway musical *Hamilton*, based on Ron Chernow's biography of the Founding Father. His awards include

a Pulitzer Prize, three Tony Awards, three Grammy Awards, an Emmy Award, a MacArthur Fellowship, and a Kennedy Center Honor in 2018.

**Michael A. Refolo**

Worcester, Massachusetts

Michael Refolo is an attorney in Worcester and a partner in the business group at Mirick O'Connell. He is past president of Mechanics Hall and the former chairman of the Lawyers Campaign Against Hunger.

**Russell Shorto**

Cumberland, Maryland

Russell Shorto is an author, journalist, and historian who is best known for his book *Island at the Center of the World* (2004), as well as *Revolution Song: A Story of American Freedom* (2017). He is a contributing writer to the *New York Times Magazine* and served as the director of the John Adams Institute in Amsterdam from 2008 to 2013.

**Will Slauter**

Paris, France

Will Slauter is an associate professor at Université Paris Diderot and a member of the Institut Universitaire de France. His research interests include the history of authorship and publishing, the history of journalism, and the history of copyright law. Slauter was an AAS-NEH Fellow in 2014–15 and is the author of *Who Owns the News? A History of Copyright* (2019).

**William N. Thorndike**

Westwood, Massachusetts

Will Thorndike founded Housatonic Partners in Boston in 1994 and has been managing director since that time. He is president of David R. Godine, Publisher, and has assumed majority control of the Boston-based literary press. Thorndike is board chair of College of the Atlantic and a former trustee of the Boston Athenæum and of Groton School. His book, *The Outsiders: Eight Unconventional CEOs and Their Radically Rational Blueprint for Success*, was published in 2012.

**Kyla Wazana Tompkins**

Claremont, California

Kyla Tompkins chairs the Gender and Women's Studies Program at Pomona College, where she is associate professor of English and gender and

women's studies. Her book, *Racial Indigestion: Eating Bodies in the Nineteenth Century* (2012), won the Lora Romero Award for best first book in American studies from the American Studies Association.

**Michael Vinson**

Santa Fe, New Mexico

A dealer specializing in Western Americana since 1992, Michael Vinson first worked as a curator in the Western Americana collection of Southern Methodist University in Dallas. Vinson is the author of *Edward Eberstadt & Sons: Rare Booksellers of Western Americana* (2016). His book *Bluffing Texas Style: The Arsons, Forgeries, and High-Stakes Poker Capers of Rare Book Dealer Johnny Jenkins* will be published this spring.

**Wendy Warren**

Princeton, New Jersey

Wendy Warren is associate professor of history at Princeton University, where she specializes in the history of colonial North America and the early modern Atlantic world. She is the author of *New England Bound: Slavery and Colonization in Early America* (2016), which was a finalist for the 2017 Pulitzer Prize.

**Nazera Sadiq Wright**

Lexington, Kentucky

Nazera Wright is an associate professor of African American and Africana studies and of English at the University of Kentucky. Her first book, *Black Girlhood in the Nineteenth Century* (2016), won the 2018 Children's Literature Association's Honor Book Award. Her second book, *Literary Legacies: Early African American Women Writers and Their Libraries*, is in progress. Wright was a Ford Fellow at AAS in 2013–14.





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ISSN #1098-7878

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Worcester, MA  
Permit No. 416



*The American Antiquarian Society is funded in part by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency that supports public programs in the arts, humanities, and sciences.*

## AAS Heritage: Artist Fellowship Program Turns 25

In autumn 1994, the Society began what was then a unique program among research libraries: fellowships intended for visual artists, writers, musicians, theater artists, filmmakers, and other creators working to reach nonacademic audiences. These Creative and Performing Artists and Writers Fellowships were initially supported by a grant from the Lila Wallace–Reader’s Digest Fund, and when that funding ended in 1997, Charlotte and Robert C. Baron and the William Randolph Hearst Foundation each endowed two fellowships. In 2007, Deborah and Jay Last added a fifth fellowship dedicated to the visual arts.

The projects undertaken by creative artist fellows at AAS over the last twenty-five years are as varied as the artists who created them, including a novel about an itinerant woman artist in 1840s New England; a play about the actors performing in Ford’s Theater when President Abraham Lincoln was assassinated; a stone sculpture of a sofa; a collection of clothes illustrated with feminist images and texts created with a cyanotype process; a biography of Mercy Otis Warren; a book about bird extinctions; and a concert of nineteenth-century American music. This brief list only hints at the vibrant work produced through these fellowships.

The AAS community has been greatly enriched by the presence of artists among the scholars. The artist fellows’ unique perspectives encourage the academic fellows in residence and the AAS staff to see the collections in new ways. “AAS is known for its informal scholarly conversations among readers,” said James David Moran, vice president for programs and outreach. “The artists frequently enrich these conversations by providing insights into how to engage audiences and strengthen storytelling techniques, while the academics often provide artists with research methodologies and insights into understanding the past.”

For many artists, the fellowship experience is a transformative one. Maureen Cummins (Hearst, 2000), who specializes in creating artists’ books, spoke for many when she said, “My time at AAS came at a pivotal moment in my career and was truly life-changing. It was the first time that I was on a funded fellowship and having that support was tremendous in terms of my confidence and taking my work seriously.”



*Right: A 2013 performance of Sockdology, written by Jeffrey Hatcher (Artist, 1995), at the Hanover Theater in Worcester; Maureen Cummins (Hearst, 2000) giving the lecture “Salem Lessons” in 2015; detail of Carol Flueckiger’s (Last, 2009) cyanotypes of women’s writings on fabric; musician Lisa Bielawa (Hearst, 2018), photo by Paul Karoda (see page 9).*