

TO: Cultural Education Committee

FROM: Jeffrey Cannell

SUBJECT: Archives Month Activities in New York State

**DATE:** October 11, 2013

AUTHORIZATION(S):

## Issue for Discussion

October is National Archives Month and is celebrated by archives and archivists in every state. In New York, archives and historical records repositories are offering exhibits, programs, events and other opportunities for the public to learn about the importance of archives and the significance of historical records in their lives.

## **Proposed Handling**

Christine Ward, New York State Archivist, will provide the Regents with an overview of Archives Month activities held across the state. Attached is a short list of events around New York; a comprehensive list will be shared at the Regents meeting.

## **Background Information**

During October, hundreds of archival organizations across New York State celebrate Archives Month. These organizations join thousands more across the country to host exhibits, lectures, open houses, tours, workshops and information fairs to introduce the public to archives and historical records. In New York, the observance began in the 1980s when groups of archivists in various regions of the state decided to hold special events and activities to increase public awareness of the relevance of archives to modern life. Over the past several years, many archives, historical societies, libraries, local governments and museums in New York State have celebrated Archives Month in a variety of ways, ranging from small exhibits to more elaborate celebrations such as banquets, award presentations and family history days. Archives Month in New York is supported and encouraged by the New York State Archives and the New York State Historical Records Advisory Board, but all events are developed and funded at the local level.

## **Archives Month Activities in New York State**

Friday, October 4, 2013

18th Annual Archives Month Conference: The People of Long Island
Sponsored by Long Island Library Resource Council, the New York State Archives –
Documentary Heritage Program Advisory Committee, Nassau County Library
Association, Suffolk County Library Association, Brookhaven Science Associates, and
Huntington Town Clerk's Archives
Bethpage, NY

Wednesday, October 9, 2013

The Eighteenth Annual Capital Region Archives Dinner Sponsored by Capital Area Archivists of New York (CAANY) in co-operation with the NYS Archives Partnership Trust Troy, NY

Wednesday, October 9, 2013
Madison County During World War II: Harold Wood and Madison County Historian
Matthew Urtz
Reception and Talk
Exhibit, October 7 – October 12
New Woodstock, NY

Thursday, October 10, 2013
The British Soldier of Burgoyne's Army – A Living History Presentation
Brown Bag Lecture
Sponsored by Saratoga Springs Heritage Area Visitor Center and Saratoga Springs
Public Library
Saratoga Springs, NY

Saturday, October 12, 2013, World Premier: Shoulders to Stand On Documentary Film Sponsored by the Gay Alliance of the Genesee Valley Rochester, NY

Saturday, October 12, 2013 Voices of the Past: Readings from Two Centuries Guided Candlelight Tours Sponsored by the Montgomery County Historical Society Fort Johnson, NY

Saturday, October 12, 2013 Specters, Strange Sights and Visions Storytelling Sponsored by Schuyler Mansion State Historic Site Albany, NY