



TO: Cultural Education Committee

FROM: Jeffrey Cannell

SUBJECT: New York State History Month

DATE: November 8, 2013

AUTHORIZATION(S):

SUMMARY

Issue for Discussion

November is New York State History Month. This is a time to celebrate New York State history and New York's state and local historians.

Reason(s) for Consideration

Arts and Cultural Affairs Law, Section 57.02, designates November as New York State History Month as a celebration of state history and contributions of state and local historians. The law authorizes the Education Department to undertake projects to recognize the month. Robert Weible, New York State Historian and Chief History Curator of the New York State Museum, will provide the committee with an overview of History Month activities across the state.

Background Information

The Office of Cultural Education's Office of State History coordinates statewide activities in November and throughout the year with the state's various museums, historical organizations and the network of officially designated municipal historians. The list below reviews activities in the capital district region organized to recognize New York State History Day.

New York State History Month Activities (Albany)

November 1-3: Capital Region Civil War Round Table holds its annual meeting at the Cultural Education Center

November 6: David Hochfelder of the University at Albany presents *The Communications Revolutions in New York* in the Huxley Auditorium

November 6: Jennifer Lemak, Senior Historian at the New York State Museum presents a tour of the Museum's history collections

November 7: James McPherson, Pulitzer Prize-winning author, accepts the 2013 Empire State Archives and History Award at the Egg

November 9: Annie Wright (Russel Wright's daughter) and co-curators Donald Albrecht and Dianne Pierce present a conversation on the State Museum's exhibition *Russel Wright: The Nature of Design* in the Huxley Auditorium

Nov. 14-15: "Researching New York: Perspectives on Empire State History" holds its annual meeting at the University at Albany

November 16: Film presentation *Thirst: A Civil War Story* in the Huxley Auditorium

November 17: Dean Failey of Christie's presents *From Frontier to Metropolis: New York Furniture, 1650-1790* in the Huxley Auditorium

November 24: Peter Kenny of the Metropolitan Museum of Art presents *Duncan Phyfe and the Rise of the New York School of Cabinetmaking* in the Huxley Auditorium