





TO: Cultural Education Committee

FROM: Mark Schaming 

SUBJECT: The New York State Museum: Why We Collect – Collections that Represent 13,000 Years of Human History

DATE: September 2, 2021

AUTHORIZATION(S): 

SUMMARY

Issue for Discussion

Deputy Commissioner of Cultural Education Mark Schaming and New York State Museum curatorial staff will present examples from the Museum’s collections that trace human history from 13,000 years ago to today. The objects in the Museum’s collections are used to research, exhibit, publish and educate the public from pre-school to lifelong learners, experts, and novices alike.

Reason(s) for Consideration

For information.

Proposed Handling

This item is before the Cultural Education Committee for discussion.

Procedural History

Not applicable.

Background Information

The New York State Museum, established in 1836, holds over 20 million artifacts in history, anthropology, geology, paleontology and biology including objects and specimens documenting the natural and diverse human history of the state. As a major research, educational and lending institution, the Museum’s curators work with

scholars and curators across the state, nation, and world. These collections are used to conduct research, educate the public through educational programs, develop exhibitions, loan to other museums, and create new knowledge about the peopling and cultural history of New York State.

Related Regents Items

Not applicable.

Recommendation

This item is for discussion only. There is no action required.

Timetable for Implementation

Not applicable.