EVERY GREAT STORY HAS A SETTING—a context in place and time that defines the potential for its future development.

Looking back over a fantastic year of exhibits, programs, and educational initiatives, I was struck by how often the stories we told began at a global or national level— the Holocaust (for Book of Joseph and Beyond Duty), the Iraqi Jewish experience (Discovery and Recovery), or American liberty (Amending America: The Bill of Rights) – but were so often viewed through the lens of one family, one hero, one survivor, or one event. The power of the way JMM tells stories is in the way we transform the “important” into the “personal.”

MY FAMILY STORY: My Family Story brings together multiple generations as they share family history and create new stories of their own. This year the Museum is thrilled to send two winners on to the international competition held at Beit Hatfutzot: The Museum of the Jewish People in Israel.

Don’t get me wrong. I am delighted by the aggregate measures of our success – a 24% increase in attendance in 2017 over 2016; 63 public programs including several “standing-room only” events; and meeting our targets for fundraising and a balanced budget.

However, I am even more proud of the way we have impacted the lives of individuals, especially the lives of children: the participants in the My Family Story project who turned their family histories into works of art (including our two international competition winners who were sent to Israel); the children of Asylee Women Enterprise to whom we sent gifts on Mitzvah Day; children who came from places like Syria and Eritrea who would “find themselves here” among the Voices of Lombard Street; and the young people of southwest Baltimore who learned through Morrell Park: Projected that they, too, had stories worth telling. This is the meaningful setting for evaluating our work.
“Anchored in the old immigrant neighborhood of East Baltimore, the museum remains the locus of Baltimore Jewish identity and offers a portal to the world where that identity took root”


This year we re-doubled our efforts at evaluation, not only through on-site visitor and teacher surveys, but also in terms of post-visit studies conducted with the help of The Associated. It comes as no surprise to those of us who are close to the work of the Museum that we not only get high marks for visitor satisfaction, but we are also producing evidence that visits to JMM inspire action — conversations, web searches, reading — long after the initial contact.

So I can’t help but be pleased with the results of FY ‘18, and I’m even more thrilled at our progress over my three years as president of JMM. I am cognizant of the fact that our success was built on the work of my predecessors and that while our book has at last been published, our story remains unfinished.

Duke Zimmerman

SHARING STORIES: Both onstage and off, JMM tells tales that connect and captivate; here a participant in Stoop Storytelling Presents: Just Married! Wedding Stories from Jewish Maryland entertains audience members in the Lloyd Street Synagogue.

AMENDING AMERICA: We love it that we are a destination for so many students from Baltimore City, Baltimore County, and beyond. This year’s exhibit Amending America: The Bill of Rights was especially popular for school field trips, like the one pictured here.
FISCAL YEAR 2018 WAS A GREAT YEAR for public programs at JMM! We welcomed more than 3500 visitors to 63 distinct events throughout the year. In effect, more than 30% of our annual visitors experience the museum through a public program. And our 2018 program calendar had something for everyone, with concerts and performances, lectures and book talks, arts and crafts, henna tattoo artists, and stilt walkers!

**JULY**
- July 9, 2017
  - From Iconic Ship to a Mythic Image: The Warfield/Exodus Peace Tapestry
  - Dr. Barry Lever shared the story of the creation and meaning of a unique needlepoint tapestry.

**AUGUST**
- August 14 – 16, 2017
  - Summer Teachers Institute
  - JMM Educators partnered with colleagues at the US Holocaust Memorial and Museum, Institute for Islamic, Christian & Jewish Studies and others to present the annual Summer Teachers Institute, helping classroom instructors develop and plan their curriculum relating to WWII and the Shoah.

**SEPTEMBER**
- September 17, 2017
  - Just Married! Wedding Stories from Jewish Maryland, The LIVE Show
  - Stoop Storytelling Series presented seven local storytellers who walked down the aisle and lived to tell the tale.

**OCTOBER**
- October 8, 2017
  - The Great Kugel Cook Off
  - Local celebrity judges and JMM visitors savored offerings from the region’s most accomplished amateur chefs. That’s using your noodle!
**NOVEMBER**

November 9, 2017  
**Glimpses of Gil Sandler**  
A celebration of Baltimore’s preeminent storyteller and his role in supporting the JMM and preserving Baltimore’s Jewish heritage.

**DECEMBER**

December 3, 2017  
**Talmud to Tik: Iraqi Jewish Heritage Day**  
A multi-sensory exploration of a fascinating culture, this all-day event welcomed more than 200 visitors of all ages to Lloyd Street.

**JANUARY**

January 21, 2018  
**YIVO and the Lost Jewish Library of Vilna**  
Sadie B. Feldman Family Lecture  
The CEO of YIVO Institute for Jewish Research told the harrowing tale of the rescue and recent re-discovery of more than 170,000 pages saved from the Nazis.

**FEBRUARY**

February 15, 2018  
**Bombshell: The Hedy Lamarr Story**  
This film delighted a sold-out crowd (twice!) with the story of the Hollywood star whose film career overshadows her status as an ingenious inventor and communications pioneer.

**MARCH**

March 8, 2018  
**My Family Story**  
March 22, 2018  
**Morrell Park: PROJECTED**  
For these two student-centered events, JMM shared storytelling techniques with young people – and young people’s stories with the world.

**APRIL**

April 10, 2018  
**Life on the Border: The Role of Place in Shaping the Baltimore Jewish Experience**  
In the official launch of *On Middle Ground: A History of the Jews of Baltimore*, author Deb Weiner presented the story of Jewish Baltimore with a book talk punctuated by images from the JMM collections.

**MAY**

May 17, 2018  
**Ruth Bader Ginsburg: Across the Generations**  
JMM 2018 Annual Meeting  
Authors Mary Hartnett and Debbie Levy enlivened the Museum’s annual meeting with their conversation about the incomparable Supreme Court Justice.

**JUNE**

June 24, 2018  
**The Magic of Jonestown Festival**  
The JMM’s original exhibit, *Inescapable: The Life and Legacy of Harry Houdini*, opened to much fanfare in the midst of a neighborhood festival that saw spectacular feats, fascinating acts, engaging experiences, and good old-fashioned fun.
Character Development
A few real stories of people impacted by the work of the JMM

THE TEACHER:
HERR MANFRED BRÖSAMLE-LAMBRECHT
In 1938, the Nazis confiscated Leonhard Banemann’s drivers license. It was a part of a countrywide measure to deprive Jews of civil rights in Bavaria. Fast forward eight decades. Leonhard’s license, along with those of 12 other Jews from the town of Lichtenfels, is found in an envelope in the bottom of a filing cabinet at the town’s District Administration office. Herr Brösamle-Lambrecht, a history teacher at the local high school, decided to assign his students the task of creating an exhibit, based on these 13 licenses, for the annual Holocaust commemoration in Lichtenfels.

As the students started researching, they found that Mr. Banemann escaped Europe, changed his name to Leo Baneman, and settled in Randallstown. He was featured in JMM’s Lives Lost, Lives Found exhibition, book, and CD. An email from Brösamle-Lambrecht to our own Joanna Church began a collaboration that saw our materials and holdings enriching the work of students a world away, but also saw those students volunteering to translate some of our archival materials that currently exist only in German. Of the material his students received from our holdings, Brösamle-Lambrecht wrote “what a pleasure - and what a treasure! Thank you so much for the materials. This all opens a new door for us and seeing the personal lives behind names deepens consternation and grief about the crimes we have to deal with.”

THE ARTIST:
CALLIE FEY
Sixth-grader Callie Fey has heard many stories from her Mima, Janet Desmon, about what it was like growing up in Puerto Rico and New York. She particularly enjoyed her grandmother’s stories about her great-grandfather’s career in textiles because Callie loves to sew. When Callie’s Sunday school teacher, Morah Gigi, introduced her students to the My Family Story project, Callie decided to create a quilt to tell her family’s story.

She put three months of hard work into the creation of her family tree quilt, pairing rich fabrics with family photos for a mosaic effect that is as beautiful as it is meaningful. Callie’s quilt was on display at the Jewish Museum of Maryland with dozens of other students’ art in March of 2018. About the exhibit, Callie says, “It felt awesome to see it displayed [at JMM] because I know a lot of people got to see it! It was really cool to have my name on the wall next to it – just like all of the other museum art.” Callie will have the chance to see it displayed again when, as one of two Baltimore winners, she travels to Tel Aviv to see worldwide winners displayed at Beit Hatfutsot: Museum of the Jewish People in Tel Aviv.
THE FILMMAKER: ANGEL CORTEZ

When the eighth-graders at Morrell Park Elementary/Middle School were introduced to the idea of Morrell Park: PROJECTED, a documentary film-making assignment in partnership with the Jewish Museum of Maryland, Angel Cortez was skeptical. He didn’t believe he was capable of the filmmaking and wasn’t sure he had a story worth sharing with the world. As Angel reluctantly worked with storyteller Scott Fuqua and film students from Johns Hopkins, Angel began to realize that there is a great deal about his life to tell.

He enjoyed learning his peers’ stories, and becoming familiar with the technology, but Angel's big takeaway from the project was just how much he matters and just how deep his potential runs: “I learned that so many people and my family depend on me that I could be a huge boss of a company with a lot of responsibilities.”

View Angel’s film (and all of the Morrell Park: PROJECTED films) at https://tinyurl.com/MPProjected

THE VOLUNTEER: WENDY DAVIS

Wendy Davis’ tours of the historic synagogues have been favorites of JMM visitors and staff since she began as a docent in 2012. Wendy helps make history real for her visitors by learning about their histories and connecting them to the history documented by the JMM. She also entertains visitors by taking on the persona of the historical figures she describes. She herself is deeply connected to the Museum, not only through her regular volunteerism, but through the donations of her parents’ and her own possessions to the Museum collections, like her mother’s wedding dress that was on display in Just Married! Wedding Stories of Jewish Maryland.

In 2017, Wendy's JMM repertoire expanded to include volunteer coordinator. Through all of her many connections to the Museum, the people—whether present or past—remain Wendy's favorite part. Not only does she identify staff and volunteers as the most special aspect of the Museum, she writes “I have learned to value the stories of individuals and families that are documented at the JMM and incorporate some of them into my tours. To think that someone in the future may use my donated material to enhance their tours or to reference them in their writings is awesome.”
Statement of Financial Position

Year Ended June 30, 2017

Statement of Financial Activities

ASSETS 2017

Cash 244,920
Investments 6,007,147
Accounts Receivable 19,775
Contributions and Grants Receivable 65,722
Museum Shop Inventory 47,955
Deposit 38,480
Due from The Associated 16,939
Property & Equipment 3,315,487

9,756,425

Liabilities and Net Assets

Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses 129,417
Notes Payable 13,383
Deferred Revenue 10,175
Net Assets 9,603,450

9,756,425

Statement of Financial Activities

Revenue 2017

Associated Allocation 285,017
Membership Dues 70,013
Draw on Investment Income 373,860
Gifts & Grants - Unrestricted 525,476
Earned Income & Other 399,291
Total Revenue 1,653,657

Revenue by Type

- The Associated Allocation
- Membership
- Rental Property Income
- Program and Admission Fees
- Museum Shop
- Endowment Draw for Operations
- Private Gifts and Grants
Expenses
Public Interpretation & Exhibitions 594,013
Education & Community Services 452,458
Collections, Sites & Research 128,273
Fundraising 171,228
Administration 286,682
Museum Shop 32,701
Total Expenses 1,665,355

Operating Results
Before Depreciation (11,698)
Depreciation (buildings + equipment) (248,104)
Results including depreciation (259,802)
Investment Income 685,977
Change in Board Designated and Temporarily Restricted (451,181)
Change in Net Assets (25,006)
Acknowledgements

Contributors 2017 – 2018

$50,000+
The Associated: Jewish Community Federation of Baltimore
The Herbert Bearman Foundation
Institute for Museum and Library Services

$25,000 – 49,999
The Jacob and Hilda Blaustein Fund
For The Enrichment Of Jewish Education
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The Joseph & Harvey Meyerhoff Family Charitable Funds

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Hand-painted advertising sign for Jake Balk, Jeweler.
Gift of Shirley Balk Snyder and Martha Balk Glasner,
JMM 2018.1.1

NEW TO THE COLLECTION!
Workman’s Circle group, c. 1930. Gift of Michael G. Hendler,
JMM 2017.30.1
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Angela Wells-Sims and Brian Sims
Miriam Winder
The Wolmans
David Zee

SCRAP YARD
Innovators of Recycling
Oct 2019 – May 2020

The story of scrap metal is one of smarts, grit, and
amazing transformations:
Trash became raw materials. Immigrants became
peddlers. Who became businessmen and women. Who
became pillars of their communities.

Scrap Yard: Innovators of Recycling is an original exhibit
being developed here at JMM, but with a national scope.
After opening in Baltimore in October 2019, the exhibit
will travel across the country. Fusing both history and
science into a hands-on, fully experiential exhibit,
Scrap Yard is designed for audiences young and old. It is
perfect for families, school children, and anyone with a
sense of curiosity.

Scrap Yard will take visitors on a journey through the
experience of a small group of immigrants (most of them
Jewish) whose vision and ingenuity made possible the
transition from junk to scrap to recycling. Along the way,
you’ll also encounter shredders that can swallow a school
bus whole, shears that can break an I-beam in two, balers
that can turn a mountain of old tin cans into a tiny cube.

Scrap Yard has already been awarded a number of
grants, including a significant grant from the Institute
of Museum and Library Services as well as generous
private funding, but we’re only partway there. Exhibits
of this scope and magnitude are a major undertaking,
but well worth the effort.
A brand new JewishMuseumMD.org!
The unofficial mission of JMM is “to connect Jewish Maryland to its roots and the rest of Baltimore and its visitors to the Jewish experience.” A well-developed and well-used website is an essential tool to accomplishing our mission. That’s why we’ve committed to re-imagining our web presence at JewishMuseumMD.org.

A new website will make our (your!) stories easier to access from around the corner or around the globe. It will allow local and out-of-town tourists to more effectively plan their visit to the Museum and its environs, whether for a visit to our exhibit halls, our historic synagogues, or a public program (or all three!).

And let’s not forget the teachers and educators of the more than 5,000 students we serve each year. The new web presence we envision will enhance not only their field trips to the Museum but their classroom experiences well beyond a single visit.

Stay tuned for a visually-appealing, intuitive, mobile-friendly website that will serve as your window to the fascinating characters, plot twists, and story arcs that we protect and preserve here at JMM.

We are excited to embark on this project and determined to do it right. We’re working to raise $75,000 through grants and private donations – it’s a big project, but we’re an ambitious bunch!

$500 – 999
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NEW TO THE COLLECTION!
World War I-era “War-Alerte” gas rattle, given to air raid wardens. Louis J. Miller of Baltimore was responsible for using it in his area of Baltimore if there was a need. Unlike a whistle, it could be used when wearing a respirator. Gift of Louis J. Miller’s family, Carol Miller Fradkin and Adele S. Taube, JMM 2018.8.1

NEW TO THE COLLECTION!
Bris gown, worn by Sylvan Eckhaus of Baltimore (b. 1897) and photo of baby Sylvan. Gift of Sigmund and Betty Eckhaus, JMM 2017.61
Support the JMM

Like most cultural organizations the Jewish Museum of Maryland relies on the generosity of our members, friends, and the larger community to support our programs, activities, and operations. We need your help to grow and sustain our calendar of exhibitions, public programs, educational resources, and community projects. Contributions are welcome at any level.

**BECOME A MEMBER**
Membership is a wonderful way to become involved with and support JMM. Join our community of members today.

**VOLUNTEER**
We rely on our dedicated staff of enthusiastic, outgoing and hard-working volunteers to support the Museum mission and programming.

**ANNUAL GIVING**
Annual contributions are vital to sustain our mission of interpreting the American Jewish experience for diverse audiences, fostering cross-cultural understanding, and promoting public discourse about issues in Jewish and American life. Tribute donations are a wonderful way to remember special occasions and events, celebrate a birthday, or honor someone’s memory.

**CORPORATE GIVING**
Corporate sponsors and patrons receive broad recognition and benefits for employees and their families.

**CREATE A LEGACY**
Remember the JMM in your estate plans through a direct bequest or another planned financial vehicle arranged during your lifetime.

**CONTRIBUTE TODAY!**
For more information about how to make a one-time donation, recurring gift, or a planned future gift contact Tracey Dorfmann 443.873.5165 or tdorfmann@jewishmuseummd.org

**Esther’s Place:**
**The JMM Shop**
It is a story’s details that make it truly memorable. At Esther’s Place, we’ve been working to create new details that will help you remember your time here. We’ve been developing bespoke merchandise around our exhibits, our beloved Lloyd Street Synagogue, and expressing the unique intersection of Jewish and Maryland culture (Shalom, Hon!).

Stop in and say ‘hi,’ next time you’re at JMM and pick up a new detail for the story of JMM and you.

**CONTACT US**
Phone: 410.732.6400
Email: info@jewishmuseummd.org
Donate: donate@jewishmuseummd.org
jewishmuseummd.org
Thanks to the generosity of our members and friends, the JMM has some wonderful new materials in the artifact, archival, photograph, and reference collections.

We received archival collections from the National Council of Jewish Women – Annapolis Section, Judge Solomon Liss of Baltimore, and The Associated (the latter being particularly important, as we gear up for the celebration of the Associated’s centennial in 2020).

Oil portrait of the three children of Judge Solomon and Gertrude “Gert” Liss (nee Naditch), by Cantor Henry Cooper. Gift of Debbie Tyrangiel, JMM 2017.47.4

Other highlights from the past year include 1930s dresses worn by a young woman from Millington, Maryland; memoirs and history books from local people and organizations; photos, documents, and textiles from a family on Tilghman Island; and several issues of Niles Weekly Register, an early 19th century national newspaper published in Baltimore, with coverage of the struggle to pass the “Jew Bill” through the Maryland Legislature. All told, our archival and photo collections increased by several linear feet, and our total artifact count is now over 11,700.

To view a list of all new donors to the JMM collections in the past year, please visit our website at jewishmuseummd.org/collections-research/new-in-collections/.

Niles Weekly Register, October 14, 1826. Gift of Stephen A. Goldman, JMM 2018.12.1

1930s chiffon dress. Gift of Janet A. Davis, JMM 2018.19.1

The Jules family vacationing in Pen-Mar, 1922. Gift of Peggy Pearlstein, JMM 2017.27.35
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Saralynn Glass
Robert Keehn
Nancy Kutler
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Donald “Duke” Zimmerman

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THE MUSEUM IS SO MUCH MORE THAN EXHIBITS. Did you know we create special activities for individuals and groups that teach through experience? Here, volunteers help test (and therefore learn) the hands-on activities designed to illuminate the concepts of Discovery and Recovery: Preserving Iraqi Jewish Heritage.

Mark Smolarz
John Sondheim
Peggy Wolf
Harvey Zeiger

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Dr. Ernie Silversmith
Marjorie Simon
Helene Waranch
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*deceased

PEOPLE VOLUNTEER WITH THE JEWISH MUSEUM OF MARYLAND BECAUSE they love history and storytelling.
This year, they combined those passions offsite with field trips to other museums, including the Baltimore Museum of Industry.

Ira Malis
Robert Manekin
Judy Pachino
Lee Rosenberg
Stuart Rosenzwoog
Robyn Schaffer
Rochelle “Rikki” Spector
Claire Tesh
Angela Wells-Sims

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Joanna Church
  Director of Collections and Exhibits
Irene Dackman-Alon
  Director of Learning and Visitor Experience
Lindsey Davis
  Interim Program and Administrative Assistant
Wendy Davis
  Volunteer Coordinator
Tracey E. Dorfmann
  Director of Development

Sue Foard
  Membership and Volunteer Coordinator
Rachel Kassman
  Development and Marketing Manager
Jessica Konigsberg
  Office Manager and Shop Assistant
Jeanette Parmagiani
  Director of Holocaust Programs
Paige Woodhouse
  Visitor Services Coordinator
Alex Malishostak
  Museum Educator

OUR UNOFFICIAL MISSION IS TO CONNECT JEWISH MARYLAND TO ITS ROOTS AND THE REST OF BALTIMORE AND ITS VISITORS TO THE JEWISH EXPERIENCE.
Docents Lois Fekete and Phil Sagal work to make those connections with a tour of the Lloyd Street Synagogue for students from Krieger Schechter Day School, and an Introduction to Judaism session with students from Vanguard Collegiate Middle School.
Sequels

With all of our accomplishments this year, there was still one more task we could not neglect: preparing for the future. When it comes to the story of the Jewish Museum of Maryland, we always want the sequel to be better than the original.

Highlights of next year’s “book” include four new exhibits beginning with *Inescapable: The Life and Legacy of Harry Houdini* which opened on June 24th and will run through January 21st, 2019. The exhibit allows visitors to experience the transformation of Ehrich Weiss from poor immigrant to international superstar. It will be accompanied by our new living history character of Harry Houdini, especially tailored to meet the needs of school audiences as well as a great schedule of public programs for adults, not only covering magic, escape and séances but also Houdini’s contemporaries in the world of entertainment.

From February 3rd to March 11th we will feature a panel exhibit that comes to us from China. *Jewish Refugees and Shanghai* tells the little-known story of the 20,000 Jews who found sanctuary from the Holocaust in this international city so distant from their homes in Europe.

On April 7th, we’ll open a pair of exhibits as part of Baltimore’s Year of Fashion. *Stitching History from the Holocaust* features the designs of Hedy Strnad, who attempted to use her talents in couture to escape from Nazi-occupied Prague. The Strnads perished when they failed to get permission to join relatives in Wisconsin. More than 60 years after

PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE IS MORE THAN EXHIBIT SCHEDULES AND PLANNING FIELD TRIPS.

Every summer the Museum hosts a special group of students – our interns. Spread across Museum departments from Education to Collections to Exhibits, these young adults hail from near and far. We believe mentoring the next generation of museum professionals is an important part of our mission, and every year we learn just as much from our interns as they learn from us. Our 2017 intern class (pictured here) installed exhibits, designed school group activities, and planned a special trivia night program for interns across the city – we can’t wait to see what our 2018 intern class brings to the Museum.

CLOTHES MAKE THE MAN?

Samuel Sakols was president of the Aitz Chaim Congregation at the Eden Street Synagogue. Wearing a fine 3-piece suit with tails and this beaver top hat for Shabbat and the High Holidays were a way to show both individual status and respect for the institution and religious ceremonies. *Fashion Statement* will explore the choices we make when getting dressed. Photo: JMM 1987.49.1, Hat: Gift of Blanche Sakols Schimmel, JMM 1987.39.4.

What began as an historical society in 1960, emerged as a museum in 1984, grew and became a fully accredited member of the American Alliance of Museums in 2003. Where next?

she died the Jewish Museum of Milwaukee made Hedy’s designs real and created this powerful exhibit about the loss of a creative talent.

Side-by-side with *Stitching History*, JMM is creating its own *Fashion Statement*. This exhibit explores the messages embedded (and sometimes even embroidered) into the clothing collections of our museum. Visitors will be asked to think about the relationship of people who make clothes to the clothing choices we make. Visitors will also investigate the ways what we wear expresses social status or religious expression and telegraphs identity and affiliation—from club jackets to political T-shirts to military or civilian uniforms.

In addition to exhibits, we are looking at new innovations in our family programs, the revamping of our website and continued expansion of our offerings to school groups, both on-site and in the classroom. Even as we prepare for these ambitious projects, we are looking ahead toward the next stage of development of our organization.

Over a span of nearly sixty years JMM has evolved: What began as an historical society in 1960, emerged as a museum in 1984, grew and became a fully accredited member of the American Alliance of Museums in 2003. Where next? In 2012, we laid out a vision of becoming a destination, a place of discourse and discovery, a site that not only documented the history of Jewish Maryland but also connected contemporary audiences with our heritage. To fulfill that vision, we have plans in the works to turn our museum into a true center for experience and engagement over the next five years. What’s “in the works”? That’s the cliffhanger. Stay tuned for next year’s Annual Report.

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**LOCAL MAGICIAN AND ENTERTAINER DAVID LONDON SERVED AS GUEST CURATOR FOR INESCAPABLE: THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF HARRY HOUDINI.** Starting in the Summer of 2018, David will truly bring Harry Houdini to life with our newest living history character. These first-person performances are incredibly popular, not only with our school groups but with everyone who sees and interacts with these characters. This is going to be a truly magical experience for all!