Thursday, May 30-Saturday, June 1, 2019
(updated 11 Jan. 2019)

The entire Bicentennial Conference is open to the public for a nominal fee to partially offset reception and meal expenses. Online registration will open soon, likely at: umaine.edu/mhc/me-bicentennial/. Conference events that are completely free are marked in green and with a * below.

We seek students (at all grade levels from middle school to graduate school) and representatives of cultural organizations to present at the Maine History Festival (on the second afternoon of the Conference, just prior to the Keynote). For more information, please contact the Festival Committee Chair, Libby Bischof, at: elizabeth.bischof@maine.edu.

Lead funding has been provided by the Morton-Kelly Charitable Trust, the UMaine President’s Office, and the Clement and Linda McGillicuddy Humanities Center at the University of Maine.

For state bicentennial resources, please visit: digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/me200

For further inquiries about the Conference, please contact Professor Liam Riordan, Department of History, University of Maine at riordan@maine.edu

Anticipated Conference Schedule

Thursday, May 30 Opening day at (or adjacent to) the Collins Center for the Arts (CCA), UMaine, Orono

12:30-2:00 pm Maine-Wabanaki REACH will lead the interactive program “Exploring Maine Wabanaki History” prior to the formal start of the Conference, in the Bodwell Lounge of the CCA. This program is co-sponsored by the Friends (Quaker) Committee on Maine Public Policy and the Episcopal Committee on Indian Relations. In order to participate, please pre-register online at http://www.mainewabanakireach.org/events. No more than 40 can take part in this interactive program.*

2:00-3:00 pm Conference Registration, Collins Center for the Arts (CCA) lobby

2:00-5:00 pm Tour Wabanaki exhibits, Hudson Museum, CCA*

3:00-4:30 pm Panel #1: Maine Indians and the Maine State Constitution, Bodwell Lounge, CCA Accepted presenters: John Dieffenbacher-Krall (Episcopal Committee on Indian Relations), James Francis (Director, Penobscot Nation Cultural and Historic Preservation Department), Donna Loring, LHD (Penobscot Tribal Elder, Penobscot Tribal Council Member), Sherri Mitchell (Penobscot Nation Citizen, Indigenous Rights Attorney, Author, Teacher), and Darren Ranco (Univ. of Maine)
Thursday, May 30 (cont.)

4:30-5:30 pm  Reception in Miller’s Café, CCA*

5:30-6:45 pm  “Crosscurrents: The DaPonte String Quartet Explores the Mixed Musics of Early Maine,” performance in Hutchins Concert Hall, CCA. Unless you are an accepted Conference presenter, a ticket must be purchased separately from the Conference registration for this event. For tickets, please visit: https://www.collinscenterforthearts.com/event/daponte/

7:00 pm  Dinner for Conference participants in the 1833 barn of the Page Farm Museum.

Friday, May 31  University of Maine, Orono

8:00 am  Coffee and Light Pastries, Wells Conference Center

8:30-10:00 am  Panel #2: The Maine-Missouri Crisis and the Politics of Slavery, Wells Conference Center
Accepted presenters: Mary T. Freeman (Univ. of Maine), Matthew Mason (Brigham Young Univ.), Diane Mutti-Burke (Univ. of Missouri-Kansas City), Patrick Rael (Bowdoin), chair

10:00-10:30 am  Break

10:30 am-noon  Panel #3: Circulating Images: The Production, Distribution & Reception of Visual Culture During the Statehood Era, Wells Conference Center
Accepted presenters: Bernard Fishman (Maine State Museum), Martha McNamara (Wellesley), Kevin Murphy (Vanderbilt Univ.), Justin Wolff (Univ. of Maine)

12:00-1:00 pm  Lunch, Wells Conference Center

1:30-3:00 pm  Panel #4: The Madawaska Territory and the Aftermath of Statehood, Bodwell Lounge, Hudson Museum/CCA
Accepted presenters: Béatrice Craig (Univ. of Ottawa), Elizabeth Mancke (Univ. of New Brunswick), Lise Pelletier (Univ. of Maine Fort Kent), Lisa Lavoie (independent scholar, Aroostook County), Guy Dubay (independent scholar, Aroostook County)

2:30-4:30 pm  Maine History Festival and Reception, Hudson Museum/CCA*
Simultaneous book-exhibit style and poster presentations by cultural organizations and student research about Maine statehood, commemoration, and its broad legacy. Organized in partnership with the Osher Map Library, National History Day in Maine, and the Maine Historical Society.

5:00 pm  Keynote Event, 100 DP Corbett Hall*
Alan Taylor, Thomas Jefferson Foundation Chair, Univ. of Virginia
Laurel Thatcher Ulrich, 300th Anniversary Univ. Professor, Harvard Univ.

7:15 pm  Dinner for Conference and Maine History Festival presenters
Saturday, June 1  Wells Conference Center, University of Maine, Orono

8:00 am  Continental Breakfast

8:30-10:00 am  Panel #5: The Maine Centennial in 1920: Commemoration and Remembrance through Photography
Accepted presenters: Kevin Johnson (Penobscot Marine Museum), Micah Pawling (UMaine), Earle G. Shettleworth, Jr. (Maine State Historian)

10:00-10:30 am  Break

10:30 am-12:30 pm  Panel #6: Pine Tree Songscape: Historic Music of the Folk of Maine
Accepted presenters: Laura Artesani (UMaine), James Moreira (Univ. of Maine at Machias), chair, Kristopher Paprocki (Pembroke, Charlotte & Perry Schools), Stephen N. Sanfilippo (Maine Maritime Academy, ret.)

12:30 pm  Lunch

1:30-3:30 pm  Panel #7: Public Ownership vs. Private Rights in Maine’s Public Reserved Lots
Accepted presenters: Gerald Amero (Pierce Atwood, ret.), Richard Barringer (Maine Bureau of Public Lands and Muskie School of Public Service, ret.), Thomas Urquhart (Maine Audubon Society, ret.), chair; Martin Wilk (Maine Attorney General’s Office, ret.)

3:30 pm  Coffee and light snack

4:00 pm  Concert by the Bangor Band, Wells Conference Center*
The Bangor Band had its inaugural performance in 1859 and is one of the oldest continuously operating community bands in the United States.

Bicentennial Conference Committee:
Liam Riordan (History, Univ. of Maine), chair
Robert Bernheim (History, Univ. of Maine Augusta)
Libby Bischof (Osher Map Library, Univ. of Southern Maine)
Paul Buck (Education and History, Univ. of Maine Fort Kent)
Barbara Harrity (Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, Univ. of Maine)
Allison Hepler (History, Univ. of Maine Farmington)
Margo Lukens (English and McGillicuddy Humanities Center, Univ. of Maine)
Kim Sebold (History, Univ. of Maine, Presque Isle)
Christopher Strople (Education, Univ. of Maine Farmington)

Maine History Festival Committee:
Libby Bischof (Osher Map Library, Univ. of Southern Maine), chair
Kreg T. Ettenger (Maine Folklife Center, Maine Studies Program, and Anthropology, UMaine)
Mary T. Freeman (History, Univ. of Maine)
Jamie Rice (Maine Historical Society)
Christopher Strople (Education, Univ. of Maine Farmington)
John Taylor (State Coordinator, National History Day in Maine and Margaret Chase Smith Library)

Institutional Partners (as of January 2019):

  Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes, University of Maine Fort Kent
  Center for Research on Sustainable Forests, University of Maine
  Cohen Institute for Leadership & Public Service, University of Maine
  College of Education and Human Development, University of Maine
  College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, University of Maine
  Department of Community Studies, University of Maine at Machias
  Department of History at the University of Maine, University of Maine at Augusta,
    University of Maine Farmington, and University of Southern Maine
  Maine Folklife Center, University of Maine
  Maine Historical Society
  Maine Humanities Council
  Maine State Museum, Augusta
  Margaret Chase Smith Library, Skowhegan
  Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, University of Maine
  McGillicuddy Humanities Center, University of Maine
  Morton-Kelly Charitable Trust
  Native American Programs, University of Maine
  Osher Map Library, University of Southern Maine
  Page Farm and Home Museum, University of Maine
  President’s Office, University of Maine
  Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions, University of Maine
  School of Forest Resources, University of Maine