



# Maine Statehood and Bicentennial Conference

**Maine History Festival • May 31, 2019**

(updated 25 Oct. 2018)

A Maine History Festival with presentations by students (at all grade levels) and by cultural organizations is being planned as a central part of a scholarly conference about the Maine State Bicentennial to be held at the University of Maine in Orono from May 30 to June 1, 2019. The entire conference is open to the public for a nominal fee, and varied events (including the Festival, its reception, and the Keynote event with two Pulitzer-Prize winning historians, all on May 31) will all be open to the public at no charge. For more conference information and state bicentennial resources, please visit: [digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/me200](http://digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/me200)

## What is the Maine History Festival?

This part of the conference will have concurrent poster-session style presentations by students, scholars, and community groups in the large lobby and gallery space of the Collins Center for the Arts at the University of Maine. Informal one-on-one exchanges at the Festival aim to foster collaboration across boundaries, stimulate new thinking about the statehood process and state commemoration, and encourage revision and further development for presenters to share their understanding of the Maine statehood era and Maine history more broadly in the 2020 bicentennial year.

### Draft Festival Schedule for Friday, May 31

- 3:00-4:30 pm Maine History Festival and Reception, Collins Center for the Arts, UMaine Orono
- 5:00 pm Keynote Event, [DP Corbett 100, UMaine Orono, anticipated]  
Alan Taylor, Thomas Jefferson Foundation Chair, Univ. of Virginia  
Laurel Thatcher Ulrich, 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary University Professor, Harvard Univ.
- 7:15 pm Dinner for Conference and Maine History Festival presenters  
[McIntire Room, Buchanan Alumni House, UMaine Orono, anticipated]

To present at the Maine History Festival, please contact the Festival Committee Chair Libby Bischof, at: [elizabeth.bischof@maine.edu](mailto:elizabeth.bischof@maine.edu)

### Possible Financial Support for Maine History Festival Presenters

Conference organizers have applied for grants to support accepted presenters at the Festival. We hope to be able to host at least 15 students (plus a parent or teacher each) as well as at least 30 representatives from 15 cultural organizations who participate in the Festival to the conference dinner after the keynote event on May 31. In addition, we hope to be able to provide a modest travel stipend to those who live over an hour away from Orono. Financial support is contingent on success with pending grant applications. Festival presenters are encouraged, of course, to attend the entire conference from May 30 to June 1, 2019.

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