
MUSEUMS & DEMOCRACY

ELEVATING CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

CONFERENCE AGENDA

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TUESDAY, MAY 14, 2024

AT THE CAPITAL JEWISH MUSEUM, IN DC

9:00 AM	MUSEUM OPENS	For Viewing, Conference Registration, and Coffee
9:40 AM		Gallery Explorations with Curatorial Staff
10:25 AM	WELCOMES	From CAJM, A More Perfect Union, and the Capital Jewish Museum
10:30 AM	PLENARY	<i>What's at Stake: Democracy & Museums</i> Speakers: Ivy Barsky (Capital Jewish Museum) and Kevin Gover (Smithsonian Institution)
11:30 AM	PLENARY	<i>How Jewish Wisdom Can Point Us to Productive Dialogue</i> Speakers: Aaron Dorfman (A More Perfect Union), Rabbi Rachel Gartner (Georgetown U.), Manu Meel (BridgeUSA), Colin Weil (Independent)
12:30 PM	TALKING CIRCLES	Facilitated Conversations on a Range of Topics
1:30 PM	LUNCH	With Continuing Talking Circles
2:45 PM	2 CONCURRENT SESSIONS	
		<i>Holocaust Denial and Contemporary Conspiracy Theories</i> Speakers: Laura B. Cohen (Kupferberg Holocaust Center), Rebecca Frank (Jewish Museum), Edna Friedberg (United States Holocaust Memorial Museum), Jordanna Gessler (Holocaust Museum LA), David A. Weinberg (Protect Democracy)
		<i>National Partners in Strengthening A Healthy Democracy</i> Speakers: Marsha Semmel (Independent), Helen J. Wechsler (IMLS), David Weinstein (NEH)
3:45 PM	2 CONCURRENT SESSIONS	
		<i>Landscapes of Democracy</i> Speakers: Omar Eaton-Martínez (National Trust for Historic Preservation), Erin Mast (Lincoln Presidential Foundation), Alyssa Baltrus (National Mall and Memorial Parks, National Park Service)
		<i>How Jewish Museums Can Promote Free, Fair, Safe, and Accessible Elections</i> Speakers: Aaron Dorfman and Jeremy Bennett (A More Perfect Union)
4:45 PM	EVENING REMARKS	
5:15 PM	HAPPY HOUR	Drinks and Snacks on the Museum Terrace

CONFERENCE AGENDA

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 2024

MORNING AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES, IN DC

9:00 AM	ARRIVALS	To the National Archives
9:20 AM	WELCOMES	In the William G. McGowan Theater
9:35 AM	PLENARY	<i>Museums Navigating Partisan Divides</i> Speakers: Devon M. Akmon (MSU Museum), Rachel Perić (Welcoming America), Jorge Zamanillo (National Museum of the American Latino)
10:35 AM	2 CONCURRENT SESSIONS	
		<i>Listening and Leading in Times of Polarization</i> Speakers: Susan Bronson (Yiddish Book Center), Judith Rosenbaum (Jewish Women's Archive), James S. Snyder (Jewish Museum)
		<i>Understanding More, Understanding Better: Audience Complexities</i> Speakers: Ruth Bergman (Zekelman Holocaust Center), Randi Korn (Independent), Mark Mulder (Zekelman Holocaust Center), Hannah Weisman (Magnes Collection)
11:45 AM	SESSION	<i>Curating in Crises: Lessons from International Museums</i> Speakers: Juliana Ochs Dweck (Princeton University Art Museum), Orit Shaham Gover (ANU), Iuliia Skubytska (formerly of the War Childhood Museum, Kyiv)
	TALKING CIRCLE	<i>Community Engagement Techniques</i>
12:45 PM	4 BREAK OPTIONS	
		Viewing of Exhibitions at the National Archives Outdoor Lunch with Talking Circles / Walking Circles on a Range of Topics Lunch on Your Own Viewing of Exhibitions at the National Museum of American History

CONFERENCE AGENDA

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 2024

AFTERNOON AT THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN HISTORY, IN DC

2:10 PM	ARRIVALS	To the National Museum of American History
2:20 PM	WELCOMES	In the Warner Bros. Theater
2:30 PM	PLENARY	<i>Collecting Now, For the Future of Democracy</i> Speakers: Jonathan Edelman (Capital Jewish Museum) and Jon Grinspan, Claire Jerry, Modupe Labode, and Peter Manseau (National Museum of American History)
3:30 PM	REMARKS	Honoring Grace Grossman z"l
4:00 PM	PLENARY	<i>Let's Talk: Building and Rebuilding Trust Between Communities</i> Speakers: Fraidy Aber (Contemporary Jewish Museum), Theo Gonzalves (National Museum of American History), Judith Margles (Independent), Edward Tepporn (Angel Island Immigration Station), Lance Wheeler (National Center for Civil and Human Rights), Rabbi Amelia Wolf (Congregation Etz Hayim)

Museum Closes at 5:30 PM

CONFERENCE AGENDA

THURSDAY, MAY 16, 2024

MORNING AT PLANET WORD, IN DC

9:00 AM	ARRIVALS	Coffee and First Floor Open for Viewing
9:20 AM		Galleries Open for Viewing
10:20 AM	WELCOMES	In the Friedman Family Auditorium
10:25 AM	PLENARY	<i>Words Matter for Democracy</i>
11:20 AM	3 BREAK OPTIONS	
		Q&A with Planet Word Staff Galleries Open for Viewing Lunch on Your Own at Immigrant Foods Cafe
11:45 AM	BUS TRANSPORT	Bus to Baltimore Departs (by Pre-Registration)

AFTERNOON WORKSHOP AT MADISON HOUSE IN BALTIMORE

1:00 PM	ARRIVALS	Lunch and Tours Available
1:30 PM	PLENARY	<i>In Conversation: Long-form Storytelling</i> With Sarah Koenig (<i>Serial</i> podcast)
2:00 PM		Breakout Art Activities and Conversations With Artists: Steve Marcus, Hillel Smith, and Chalk Riot
3:15 PM	PLENARY	<i>Where We've Been / Where We're Going: Art Exhibits in Jewish Museums</i> Speakers: Sheri Bernstein (Skirball Museum), Sol Davis (Jewish Museum of Maryland), Laura Mandel (Jewish Arts Collaborative), Heidi Rabben (Contemporary Jewish Museum)
4:15 PM		Wine and Cheese in the Garden
5:00 PM	FAREWELL	