

2021 HIGHLIGHTS



MASONIC BUILDING

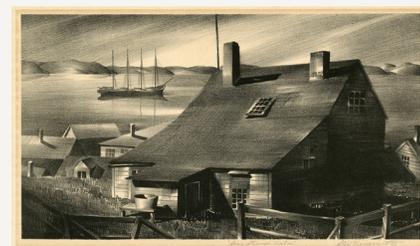
We continue to forge ahead on our Masonic Building project with work beginning on the next step of restoring the second and third stories of the brick masonry front wall. When that is completed by next spring, a replica copper cornice will be installed on the front of the building. This past summer, we were able to arrange limited events in the ground floor space, and in early August, held two highly successful pop-up dinners to test the concept of developing a local foods eatery as part of the building's future offerings. Plans also include a new entrance lobby, elevator and stair access to the second floor's expanded exhibition space and collection storage space in what is now the rear warehouse.



EXHIBITIONS

We had a record-setting number of visitors to the main gallery of the museum in July of this year and overall attendance equaled the busiest seasons in the past 10 years. The featured exhibition presented 20 original lithograph prints of the area from our collections that were completed in 1931 and 1932 by artist, Stow Wengenroth, of New York City.

StudioWorks alumni artist, Julia Sinelnikova, of Brooklyn, New York, returned to create an intricate large-scale installation, *Crystal Veil I*, at our North Church Project Space, which included sound and projected video elements during its showings.



STUDIOWORKS ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE

In 2021, we brought eleven artists to live and work in the community and region through the StudioWorks Residency Program. The StudioWorks Program will enter its 10th year in 2022 and we anticipate again accepting artists from around the world, depending on prevailing pandemic guidelines. We had a 40 percent increase in applications to the program in 2021. StudioWorks outreach followed safe operating guidelines and included limited in-person art workshops, school and summer camp visits, community engagement and artist talks, both in person and online. Drop-in art making days were offered on a number of occasions, with take-home art kits and/or on-site activities.



TURNING THE TIDES

COLLECTIONS

We spent the first nearly 20 years of TIMA's existence working aggressively to rebuild some of the cultural legacy of this region. We have accomplished the first phase of this task with our now comprehensive collections, but many gaps remain that need to be filled in the future. We can now turn more of our attention to organizing, conserving and sharing these collections. Expanded exhibition and collection storage space in our Masonic Building project will help reach these goals. So, too, will our new collections software program, CatalogIt, that shares our collections online: <https://hub.catalogit.app/4682>.



GAR MURAL RESTORATION

The first half of the restoration of the Civil War-era stenciled and hand painted mural was completed this past summer. The rediscovered mural, the only one of its kind in Maine, dates to the 1880s and is on the upper walls of our GAR (Grand Army of the Republic) veterans hall building. Mural preservationist Tony Castro of New Gloucester, Maine completed this phase of work by extensive and time consuming hand cleaning using a small stiff artist brush and restorative in-painting. To finish the project next year will be much more costly as extensive plaster repair must be completed first.

NEW DEVELOPMENTS

We are grateful to Donald Soctomah, Passamaquoddy historic preservation director, for adding Passamaquoddy place names for our 2022 Artsipelago cultural map and guide to the region, which will be available both online and in print. The new map will include both English and Passamaquoddy place names for locations throughout the region and the printed map will also be available for sale. This year TIMA also continued its partnership with the region's LGBTQ+ organization, Downeast Rainbow Alliance, on a year-round identity-affirming art workshops series for youth on Zoom, which reaches an underserved population across a wide geographic area.

