

Nevada Museums Association
Annual Meeting and Conference
Hitting the Lode!: Museums Collaborating
Tonopah, NV | October 15 - 18

Tuesday, October 15					
Time	Title	Description	Presenters	Venue	Room
11:30 AM	Pre-Conference Workshop Check-In			Tonopah Convention Center	Lobby
12:00 - 4:00 PM	Pre-Conference Workshop: Archives 101 for Museum Professionals	In 2023, the Nevada State Historical Records Advisory Board (SHRAB) conducted a statewide needs assessment survey. The majority of survey respondents were individuals working with archival materials in museum settings. To meet some of the needs most frequently expressed by survey respondents, SHRAB will provide a free workshop, "Archives 101 for Museum Professionals," to introduce best practices and standards for caring for paper-based archival materials. The workshop will focus on the fundamentals of archival collection management and basic archival arrangement and description. The workshop will offer some comparison of how approaches to managing objects/artifacts might differ from managing archival collections. The workshop will be structured to allow for instruction, hands-on exercises, and time for participants to brainstorm with instructors on solutions specific to their own environments. The workshop will be presented at no cost to participants. No supplies or previous experience are required. *Pre-registration required - limited to 25 participants*	Workshop Lead: Emily Fellmer , The Neon Museum Workshop Instructors: Maggie Gaspar , The Neon Museum Sarah Patton , Nevada Historical Society Cyndi Shein , Nevada State Archives	Tonopah Convention Center	Main
All Day (9:00 AM - 9:00 PM)	Tonopah Historic Mining Park Visitation Available All Day	The Tonopah Historic Mining Park is located on the site of the original mining claims that started the rush to Tonopah, making it "Queen of the Silver Camps". Jim and Belle Butler's strike in 1900 brought the United States into the 20th Century, and many of the mining processing techniques developed during that time are still being used today. The park encompasses portions of four of the original major mining companies and covers more than 100 acres. This rich history is brought to life through preserved and restored equipment and buildings, historic exhibits, video presentations (in our on-site theater), and a self-guided tour.		Tonopah Historic Mining Park, 110 Burro Avenue, Tonopah, NV 89049 Phone: (775) 482-9274	
After Hours Events					
6:00 - 9:00 PM	Meet & Greet: Pay Your Own Way	Meet-up with fellow conference attendees for nibbles and drinks at this pay-your-own-way pre-conference gathering. Food and drink available for purchase.		Tonopah Liquor Company, 133 N Main St, Tonopah, NV 89049 Phone: (775) 482-8773	
6:00 - 9:00 PM	Stargazing at the Tonopah Historic Mining Park	Nationally recognized as one of the nation's foremost dark skies destinations, Tonopah provides incredible stargazing opportunities with thousands of stars, planets and constellations visible to the naked eye. The Town of Tonopah at have generously offered to sponsor telescopes, binoculars and ipads for even more amazing views.	Representative from Town of Tonopah	Tonopah Historic Mining Park, 110 Burro Avenue, Tonopah, NV 89049 Phone: (775) 482-9274	
Wednesday, October 16					
8:30 AM - 4:30 PM	Registration Open			Tonopah Convention Center	Lobby
9:00 - 9:50 AM	Welcome Breakfast	Provided by Nevada Museums Association	Jennifer Kleven , President, Nevada Museums Association	Tonopah Convention Center	Main
10:00 - 10:50 AM	KEYNOTE SESSION A Bright IDEA in Balboa Park: Building Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility into the Park's DNA	Kristen Martinez Mihalko is the Deputy Director of Operations for the Balboa Park Cultural Partnership, where she manages internal operations and oversees several collaborative programs, including the Balboa Park Explorer program, Parkwide IDEA (inclusion, diversity, equity, and accessibility) Working Group, and the Balboa Park Experience Plan implementation. An advocate for career development and personal growth, she currently serves on the board of Balboa Art Conservation Center, California Association of Museums, and Western Museums Association. Past service includes: Treasurer and Secretary, Rising Arts Leaders San Diego; President, San Diego Emerging Museums Professionals; and Secretary, National Emerging Museum Professionals Network. She has a Master's Degree in Strategic Communications from National University and a certificate in Arts and Culture Leadership from University of San Diego.	Kristin Mihalko Martinez , Deputy Director of Operations, Balboa Park Cultural Partnership	Tonopah Convention Center	Main
11:00 - 11:50 AM	Convening Community	Community-centered museums are catalysts for collaboration. In this session, panelists will present strategies for approaching partnerships, building relationships, and uniting in the spirit of collective impact. Participants will gain actionable insights for advancing generative partnerships that amplify shared goals and values.	Presenters: Tina Tetter , Director of Learning Experiences, DISCOVERY Children's Museum Chris Lucas , Science and Nature Manager, DISCOVERY Children's Museum Laura Christian , Vice President of Learning Experiences, DISCOVERY Children's Museum	Tonopah Convention Center	Main

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	I Get By With a Little Help From My Friends	Working as an archivist in a museum setting calls for regular collaboration with internal and external colleagues throughout the lifecycle of a collection, particularly given limited resources. Learn about successful and ongoing partnerships, and the tools involved, that are helping to improve access to collections at the Nevada Historical Society.	Presenter: Sarah Patton , Archivist, Nevada Historical Society	Tonopah Convention Center	Buckboard
12:00 - 1:20 PM	Lunch	Generously sponsored by Black Rock Gold Corporation		Tonopah Convention Center	Main
1:30 - 2:20 PM	TOPIC TABLES: Museum Education Social Media Integrated Pest Management Best Practices on a Budget	Come share challenges, successes, and exchange new ideas with your colleagues! Table topic facilitators are knowledgeable in their topic area and prepared to guide roundtable conversations that inspire thoughtful discussions.	Presenters: D'ette Mawson , Education Coordinator, Northeastern Nevada Museum Samantha Szesciorka , Public Affairs Specialist, Bureau of Land Management, Nevada Melanie Coffee , Principal, Melanie Coffee Consulting Garrett Barmore , Mackay School of Mines Endowed Curator, W. M. Keck Earth Science and Mineral Engineering Museum	Tonopah Convention Center	Main
2:30 - 3:20 PM	Collaborating with Local, State, and Federal Organizations	This work is hard! What makes it easier? Building and maintaining partnerships. Shari Davis, Director of Rural Economic and Community Development for the Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED), Nevada Main Street State Coordinator, self-professed history lover and friend of the Nevada Museums Association discusses the various local, State, and Federal programs and agencies available to collaborate with, how to contact them, and how to get to "yes" when asking for what you need.	Presenter: Shari Davis , Director, Rural Economic and Community Development, Governor's Office of Economic Development	Tonopah Convention Center	Main
3:30 - 4:30 PM	Hitting the Lode for the Guest Experience - Connecting Story and Place	With abundant stories to tell and limited funding to tell them, museums must focus on impactful projects that highlight the essential elements of their narratives and create multi-sensory ways to engage visitors. This presentation will explore strategies for curating the most meaningful content and integrating it into building design to maximize the guest experience. We will discuss how architectural elements can enhance storytelling, ensuring that your efforts are both engaging and cost-effective.	Moderator: Craig Galati , Principal, LGA Architecture Presenters: Jason Jorjorian , Principal, LGA Architecture Robin Anderson , Content Director, AldrichPears Associates	Tonopah Convention Center	Main
	Workshop: Off The Hanger! Caring For Our Fashionable Past	This workshop will cover the basics of archival storage and care of costumes and why they need a different level of care. We will discuss the best materials and procedures to ensure your historical costume collection will survive for future research and display. This workshop will include an informational packet to take with you and hands-on opportunities. Sponsored by the Nevada State Museum, Las Vegas. *Pre-registration required - limited to 15 participants*	Presenter: Heather Roark , Nevada State Museum Intern, UNLV Public History	Tonopah Convention Center	Blue Room
After Hours Events					
6:00 - 9:00 PM	Dinner on Your Own	Head out and explore the dining options Tonopah has to offer!		Various	
6:00 - 9:00 PM	Ticketed Event Goldfield Hotel Tour	After being boarded up and closed off to the public for decades, the Historic Goldfield Hotel has recently reopened its doors for historic property tours. It is also important to note that the Goldfield Hotel offers limited lighting, and encourages visitors to bring their own flash lights. The historic hotel does not have heating or air conditioning, there is no working elevator (and five flights of stairs), and there are no on-site amenities or restrooms available, so please plan accordingly. *Pre-registration required - \$15.00 per person*	Tour Guide: Heather Ingalls	Goldfield Hotel, 69 Columbia Avenue Goldfield, NV 89013	
Thursday, October 17					
8:30 AM - 4:30 PM	Registration Open			Tonopah Convention Center	Lobby
9:00 - 9:50 AM	Breakfast	Provided by Nevada Museums Association		Tonopah Convention Center	Main
10:00 - 10:50 AM	Many Voices: A discussion with Native leaders about how museums can better serve the Native community	Museums in the US have struggled and in many cases failed to provide support to Native communities while situated on Native land. This panel will provide insight on consultation and collaboration which not only meets federal mandates but encourages meaningful partnership development with Tribal nations with exhibition, interpretation, and collection care with Tribal cultural sensitivity as the foundation.	Moderator: Garrett Barmore , Mackay School of Mines Endowed Curator, W. M. Keck Earth Science and Mineral Engineering Museum Presenters: Rochanne Downs , NAGPRA Liaison, Office of Indigenous Relations, University of Nevada, Reno Josh Bonde , Director, Nevada State Museum, Carson City Michon Eben , Cultural Resource Manager, Reno-Sparks Indian Colony	Tonopah Convention Center	Main
11:00 - 11:50 AM	Museum Advocacy Day	This session will discuss the events at the AAM Museum Advocacy Day and how NMA has been involved in advocating for Nevada's museums. We will also discuss the various ways that everyone can become involved in advocating for their museum.	Presenter: D'ette Mawson , Education Coordinator and NMA Secretary, Northeastern Nevada Museum	Tonopah Convention Center	Main

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	Going All In: A Student Collaboration	March 2024 Clark County Museum opened, "Going All In: Fashion and Performance in Las Vegas" a collaboration between UNLV's Reid Public History Institute, its students and the Clark County Museum. Going All In explored the intersections between fashion and performance in the Vegas Valley. Join us as we discuss the benefits, challenges and lessons learned from the perspective of a student, curator, professor, and administrator.	Moderator: Amber Colbert , Clark County Museum Administrator, Clark County Museum Presenters: Amber Colbert , Clark County Museum Administrator, Clark County Museum Deirdre Clemente , Professor UNLV Public History, University of Nevada, Las Vegas Heather Roark , Student Curator, University of Nevada, Las Vegas Leonard Lanier , Curator of Exhibits, Clark County Museum	Tonopah Convention Center	Buckboard
12:00 - 1:20 PM	Lunch	Provided by Nevada Museums Association		Tonopah Convention Center	Main
1:30 - 2:20 PM	Museum Disasters Large and Small, including 13 Creative Ways to Respond with Limited Resources	Real-world museum disaster case studies are used to illustrate general principles of fire and water recovery and to inspire and educate museum teams with probable challenges and potential solutions. We will also cover thirteen low-cost tips for beginning the recovery process and limiting further damage to objects and documents when financial resources are limited.	Presenter: Brian Foote , National Account Manager and Museums Segment Leader, BELFOR Property Restoration	Tonopah Convention Center	Main
	And One Thing...Leads To Another	Learn ways to extend yourself & your museum to a wider audience - and widen your own knowledge base and/or skills through the development of unexpected opportunities and sources. This session will present how to use these unexpected opportunities and & sources that present themselves as a platform for creating new connections, as well as how to use them to promote your institution as a resource that others can use.	Presenter: Ann Pinzl , Former Curator of Natural History, Nevada State Museum, Carson City	Tonopah Convention Center	Blue Room
2:30 - 3:30 PM	Making A Collaborative Exhibition Out Of A Grant	Using the Burlesque Hall of Fame's recent exhibition "Let's Get Loud: The Latin Heritage of Burlesque" as a case study, this session walks through the process of funding, building, and programming for an exhibition conceived from the beginning as a collaboration.	Presenter: Dustin M. Wax , Executive Director, Burlesque Hall of Fame	Tonopah Convention Center	Main
	Old Blog, New Clicks: A Collaborative Approach to Improving Web Content	In an evolving virtual landscape, delivering fresh content through websites, blogs and social media allows us to engage with guests beyond the physical confines of our museums. This session will explore what has worked well and what can be improved for Nevada museums when it comes to producing web content.	Presenter: Zach Jensen , Education Specialist, The Mob Museum	Tonopah Convention Center	Buckboard
3:30 - 4:30 PM	Tour: Central Nevada Museum & Research Library	Tour the Central Nevada Museum featuring exhibits that chronical the history of Central Nevada from prehistoric to present. Outdoor exhibits include an Old West Town with miner's cabins, a saloon, blacksmith shop, railroad yard, early mining equipment, and WWII artifacts. The research library rivals that of universities.	Presenter: Alan Metscher	Central Nevada Museum 1900 Logan Field Rd, Tonopah, NV 89049	
After Hours Events					
6:00 - 9:00 PM	Dinner and Fireside Chat	Enjoy dinner with your colleagues and a fireside chat by Stanley Paher! Stanley W. Paher is the author of several books about the Southwestern United States. His <i>Nevada Ghost Towns & Mining Camps</i> published in 1970 earned for him the Award of Merit from the American Association of State and Local History. Next came <i>Northwestern Arizona Ghost Towns</i> which was followed by <i>Las Vegas, As It Began, As It Grew, a definitive history of the formation of Las Vegas</i> . Thereafter came other ghost town guides and town histories on Death Valley, central Arizona, Tonopah and Goldfield, Nevada and finally the definitive Nevada Annotated Bibliography, a compilation of 2,544 books on the Silver State. In the 1980s author Paher has published more than 75 books for other authors and operates Nevada Publications as a publishing and book distribution service throughout the desert Southwest.	Presenter: Stanley Paher	TBD	
9:00 PM	Karaoke - optional event	Wrap up two full days of conferencing on a high note at this historic Tonopah saloon, established in 1906. Conveniently located across the street from the Mizpah Hotel.		Tonopah Liquor Company	
Friday, October 18					
9:00 - 9:50 AM	Breakfast	Provided by Nevada Museums Association		Tonopah Convention Center	Main
10:00 - 10:50 AM	Nevada Museums Association Annual Meeting	Join the board of the Nevada Museums Association for the annual all-membership meeting. We will review the association's active membership count, provide a financial report, announce the next slate of officers and board members (as a result of the ballot) and open up the floor for public comment. This is your chance to talk to the board and contribute ideas that foster dialogue and development of Nevada museum professionals.	Presenters: Nevada Museums Association Board Members	Tonopah Convention Center	Main

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11:00 - 11:50 AM	Oh @#%&! , Mistakes Were Made	Are you brave enough to admit when you've messed up? Rid yourself of shame (or ego) by revealing your biggest professional mistake to your fellow museum professionals! In this cathartic and light-hearted group session, we'll laugh together in the spirit of shared museum trauma... and then vote for one lucky person to win the Biggest Professional Mistake 2024 award, complete with fantastic prizes!	Moderators: Samantha Szesciorka , Public Affairs Specialist, Bureau of Land Management, Nevada Garrett Barmore , Mackay School of Mines Endowed Curator, W. M. Keck Earth Science and Mineral Engineering Museum Presenters: You!	Tonopah Convention Center	Main
12:00 - 12:30 PM	Roundtable: Shares Updates	Now's the time to toot your horn! What did your museum accomplish in the last year? Nevada museums are doing some incredible work that deserves to be acknowledged and applauded. This is a great opportunity for you to talk about a new program, exhibition or give some general love to your organization.		Tonopah Convention Center	Main
12:30 - 1:00 PM	Raffle	We will finish up the conference by pulling winning raffle tickets. All proceeds from the raffle go towards the Art Wolf Scholarship for Emerging Museum Professionals. Your raffle ticket purchases enable to next generation to attend the state conference. Thank you for your generosity. *Must be present to win or make arrangements for someone who is present to pick up your prize for you.		Tonopah Convention Center	Main