



ACCURATE AS OF JANUARY 22, 2026. SUBJECT TO CHANGE

CAMM Annual Conference Program

Mystic Seaport Museum, Mystic, Connecticut
Sessions at the Delamar Hotel, on the Museum grounds
April 22–24, 2026

Tuesday, April 21, 2026

10:00am–5:00pm CAMM attendees welcome to visit Mystic Seaport Museum
3:00pm-5:00pm Registration at Mystic Seaport Museum
Thompson Exhibition Building, North Entrance
5:00pm–8:00pm Meet up at [Taquerio](#), Downtown Mystic

Wednesday, April 22, 2026

8:00-8:45am Registration and coffee, [Delamar Hotel Ballroom](#)
8:45–9:00am Welcome and announcements: Pete Lesher, CAMM president, and Shannon McKenzie, Mystic Seaport Museum
9:00–9:50 Session 1: Mystic Seaport Museum
Welcome and Collaboration
Chris Freeman, Mystic Seaport Museum
Creating Visitor Experience Impact with Research
Margaret Milnes, Mystic Seaport Museum
9:55–10:45 Session 2: Mystic cont'd
Cross Promotion of Maritime Museums
Sophia Matsas, Mystic Seaport Museum
Rewrite and Refund the National Maritime Heritage Grant Program
Chris Fisher, Spinnaker Consulting
10:45–11:00 Break
11:00–11:50 Session 3: Historic Ships (panel)
Falls of Clyde: An Example of Seeking a Best Practices Approach at the End of a Museum Ship's Life
Kirsten Kvam, San Francisco Maritime NHP
Joshua Payne, San Francisco Maritime NHP
James Delgado, Ocean Foundation
Sarah Winner, SEARCH

11:50am–1:10pm	Lunch Wells Boat Hall - tours during lunch
1:10–1:25	Update <i>Strengthening National Connectivity: The NMHS Affiliate Membership Program</i> Cathy Green, National Maritime Historical Society
1:25–1:50	Session 4: Major Projects <i>Integrating Preservation, Interpretation, and Workforce Development: The USS Constellation Rigging Project</i> Steven Bountress, Historic Ships in Baltimore
1:55–2:45	Session 5: Major Projects (panel) <i>Connecting Community, Place, and Content: Designing the Cohesive Museum Campus Visitor Experience</i> Bruce Jones, Columbia River Maritime Museum Alec Holser, Opsis Architecture Gwen Sparks, Sparks & Sullivan Ryan Sullivan, Sparks & Sullivan
2:45–3:15	Break
3:15–5:15	Activities. Space limited, sign-up required. <i>Sabino</i> rides, tours of the Henry B. du Pont Preservation Shipyard, planetarium show.
5:15–7:00	Happy hour at the Shipyard. Dinner on your own.

Thursday, April 23, 2026

8:45–9:00am	Welcome
9:00–9:50	Session 1: Exhibitions <i>Opening the Cabinet: Contemporary Perspectives on a Historic Collection</i> Dan Finamore, Peabody Essex Museum George Schwartz, Peabody Essex Museum <i>Lessons learned about Resilience and Relevance through the crucible of Indigenous exhibits</i> Jeff Smith, Columbia River Maritime Museum
9:55–10:45	Session 2: Exhibitions (panel) <i>Investment, Impact, and Identity: Temporary Exhibitions as Tools for Institutional Strategy</i> Sara Zarrelli, Museum Insights Sarah Watkins, USS Constitution Museum Martina Caruso, South Street Seaport Museum
10:45–11:00	Break

11:00–11:50	Session 3: Exhibitions <i>Navigating Memory and History: The Heungnam Evacuation, 1950</i> Joshua Smith, U.S. Merchant Marine Academy
	<i>Current and Future Challenges Facing the Pigeon Forge Titanic Maritime Museum</i> Presley Roush, State University of New York Maritime College
11:50am–1:15pm	Lunch: Wells Boat Hall
1:15–1:40	Session 4: Exhibitions <i>A Great Lakes Pirate</i> Carrie Sowden, National Museum of the Great Lakes Sam Perlman, Door County Maritime Museum
1:45–2:35	Session 5: Collections (panel) <i>Digitizing Collections: Initiatives and Experiences from Across the Field</i> Gina Bardi, San Francisco Maritime NHP Gabriella Cantelmo, Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum Leah Prescott, Mystic Seaport Museum Shannon McKenzie, Mystic Seaport Museum Michael Harrison, Nantucket Historical Association
2:40–3:30	Session 6: Collections (panel) <i>A Call for Collaboration: What Can We Learn from Biological Treasures in Maritime Museum Collections?</i> Krystal Rose, Mystic Seaport Museum James T. Carlton, Williams College Kate Katin, Mystic Seaport Museum Lili Kane, Mystic Seaport Museum Tom Van Winkle, Williams-Mystic Program
3:30–4:30	Visits to Williams-Mystic Science Center, Collections Research Center
4:30–6:00	<i>Sabino</i> rides, planetarium show, time to visit Museum
6:30–8:30	Dinner at <u>Rio Salado</u> Mystic

Friday, April 24, 2026

8:45–9:00am	Welcome
9:00–9:50	Session 1: Community <i>Hoʻi ke Kai: Returning Historic Canoes to the Ocean</i> Sarah Kuaiwa, Bishop Museum <i>Finding Balance: Community Connections Spanning Three Decades</i> Molly Voth, Antique Boat Museum Rebecca Hopfinger, Antique Boat Museum
9:55–10:45	Session 2: Community <i>Hauling Back: A Multigenerational Fishing Family Project</i> Joe Ritter, New Bedford Fishing Heritage Center <i>Celebrating International Connections: Where the Ship Meets the World</i> Sarah Watkins, USS Constitution Museum
10:45–11:00	Break
11:00–11:50	Session 3: Resilience <i>Resilience of Maritime Museums: Strategies from Coastal Cities</i> Richard Burroughs, University of Rhode Island <i>Preserving Maritime New York City: Engaging Public History in New York Harbor</i> Johnathan Thayer, Queens College, CUNY
11:50am–1:05pm	Lunch
1:05–1:55	Session 4: Education <i>HOPE 101: Reframing Museum Value with an Evidence-Based Strategy for Social Impact</i> Jill Ferris, Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum <i>Building Skills, Forging Connections: MAP Youth at Mystic Seaport Museum</i> Kate Reichert, Mystic Seaport Museum
2:00–2:50	Session 5: Education <i>Beyond History: Maritime Museums in Other Classrooms</i> Jeana Ganskop, Penobscot Marine Museum <i>Creative Ways to Include Your Collection in Programming</i> Julia Triezenberg, Columbia River Maritime Museum Meg Glazier-Anderson, Columbia River Maritime Museum
2:50–3:10	Break
3:15–4:15	CAMM annual meeting
4:30pm	Meet up at Jealous Monk , Olde Mystic Village