2021 Awards Luncheon
April 28, 2021

The GAM Awards program recognizes outstanding achievements of people and organizations that make up the museum community across Georgia. The opportunity for GAM member-institutions to highlight the good work of their employees, volunteers, and supporters also draws attention to the important role that museums, galleries, and other cultural institutions play in our communities. Additionally, the awards program allows GAM to achieve its goals to:

- Encourage growth and improve professional practices of museums and non-profit galleries throughout the state;
- Stimulate public interest, support, and understanding of museums and non-profit galleries of all disciplines;
- Increase general understanding of the roles of museums and non-profit galleries as community resources for improving the quality of life and continued learning for all citizens of the state;
- Maintain and develop relations among institutions and staffs for the interchange of information and development of cooperative efforts to achieve these objectives;
- Maintain relations with various governmental agencies; and
- Promote research to foster understanding of cultural and natural resources of the community and state.

Patron
Recognizes an individual or group who has worked closely with a museum (or museums) demonstrating leadership and providing assistance. This person/group is a major promoter of the museum(s) in his/her/their local area or statewide and in the past year has made a significant contribution and will continue to be a supporter in the future.

Winner: Robert "Bob" Wheeler Hagan, Friends of Bulloch
        Nominated by: City of Roswell, Recreation, Parks, Historic & Cultural Affairs

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Student Project
Recognizes contributions of student work to the field of museums and galleries. An individual or student group is eligible for this award. Projects show professional guidance of student effort, but clearly demonstrate meaningful work by students in the design, implementation, and promotion of the nominated project. Projects might include, but are not limited to, an education or outreach program, a digital history project, an oral history project, or an exhibition.

Winner: Mystery Science Museum 3000
        Shyrisse Ramos and Jordan Spires
        Nominated by: The Columbus Museum

Education
Recognizes an on-site or outreach program that has as its primary purpose the education of student and/or adult audiences. This program extends the organization's mission and demonstrates scholarship and originality contributing to the cultural and education fabric of the organization's community and the state and is an example of excellence in theory, planning, and implementation. An educational component of a larger exhibition or special project can be nominated for this award if the intention is to focus solely on the educational aspects of the larger project.

Winner: Tellus Science Museum
        For the program: Madd Scientists

Creativity in Crisis
Recognizes creative ways individuals and departments in institutions have had to adapt during the COVID-19 pandemic. These can include projects, programming, or activities that were only produced in response to this worldwide crisis.

Winner of Community Impact: Georgia Museum of Art
        For the program: Art at Home
Winner of Fundraising Innovation: Thomasville History Center
        For the program: Crate to Plate
Winner of "Throw a Dog a Bone" Award: T.R.R. Cobb House and Social Media Assistant Henry the Dog

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Multimedia
Recognizes projects that are intended to be primarily experienced using visual or audio media. Examples include podcasts, interactive kiosks, social media campaigns, videos, and virtual interactions (webinars, virtual field trips, etc.). Multimedia projects have extended the organization's audience and demonstrate creative solutions without sacrificing good scholarship and professional best practices.

Winner: Museum of History and Holocaust Education at KSU
        For the project: The Tragedy of the St. Louis Traveling Exhibit

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Museum Exhibition
Recognizes an art, historical, or science exhibition of note that demonstrates scholarship and originality contributing to the cultural fabric of the state. The exhibition is an example of excellence in theory, planning, and implementation and has effectively reached and broadened the museum or gallery audience. Exhibitions that include multimedia elements but are primarily designed to be experienced as a traditional exhibit should be included in this category.

Winner (Category #2, $1,001-$25,000): Georgia Museum of Art and Lyndon House Art Center
        For the exhibition: Cut and Paste: Works of Paper

Winner (Category #4, >$100,000): Cobb Landmarks
        For the exhibition: William Root House

Honorable Mention (Category #2): The Gallery of the Georgia Museum of Agriculture & Historic Village
        For the exhibition: The Discovery of the Mysterious Middleton Collection

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Special Project
Recognizes a project or program of note, often with multiple component parts, that does not more closely fit the criteria for other categories such as exhibition, education, or multimedia. This category can also be used for multi-part projects when all aspects of the project should be evaluated as a whole. These projects demonstrate scholarship and originality contributing to the cultural fabric of the state and provide examples of excellence in planning and implementation while expanding the museum or gallery audience.

Winner (Category #1, Under $1,000): The Augusta Museum of History
  For the project: Juneteenth Live: An Online Celebration
Winner (Category #2, $1,001-$25,000): Special Projects Unit, Department of Museums, Archives and Rare Books, KSU
  For the project: "Our Side of the Tracks" & Historic Black Acworth Image Collection
Winner (Category #4, >$100,000): Georgia Southern University
  For the project: Uncharted Worlds and Charting Georgia's Coastal Plain

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Museum Volunteer
Recognizes an individual who does not receive payment or specific educational credit from an organization but has contributed significant time and effort in developing that organization's programs and exhibitions in an outstanding way. This person has enlisted the aid of other volunteers in supporting Georgia museums and galleries and has served as an advocate of Georgia museums and galleries.

  Winner: Bill Montante
    Nominated by: Tellus Science Museum

Museum Professional
Recognizes an active museum or gallery employee working in the state of Georgia. This individual is involved professionally on the local, state, and national level and has demonstrated leadership in the profession; has worked to promote the goals of GAM; and has been a member of GAM for at least one year.

Winner: Polly Huff
Nominated by: Georgia Museum of Agriculture & Historic Village & GAM Board

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Emerging Museum Professional
Recognizes the contributions of an individual who has been working full or part time in the field for less than 10 years. Considerations include how the recipient has contributed to their organization and may include recommendations from multiple museums, recognizing that the career path for EMPs has many different routes and experiences.

Winner: Lynnette Torres Ivey
Nominated by: Booth Western Art Museum

Institution
Recognizes GAM institutional members (nonprofit museums, historic sites, and galleries) for leadership at the local and statewide level. This organization has been a leading institution in Georgia with a past record of accomplishment and acts as an important cultural resource in its community; has taken an active role in promoting communication and cooperation among Georgia museums and galleries; and has provided an on-site or outreach program that extended the museum's mission while educating student and adult audiences.

Winner: Department of Museums, Archives & Rare Books, Kennesaw State University
Nominated by: Catherine Lewis

Lifetime Achievement
An individual in any category who has consistently and selflessly worked over multiple decades to improve the state of museums and galleries in their community and/or across the state during their lifetime; this person's collective accomplishments exemplify commitment, dedication and excellence; and has had a far-reaching impact in their field.

> **Winner: David Moore**
> Nominated by: Historic Oakland Foundation