

2024 AGM
OMA BOARD NOMINATIONS 2024-2025

The Nominations Committee, composed of former OMA Past President, Cathy Molloy (Chair), OMA Vice-President, Michael Rikley-Lancaster (Mississippi Valley Textile Museum), and OMA Treasurer, Joe Corrigan, is pleased to bring forward the following slate of OMA Board nominations for election by the membership at the 2024 Annual General Meeting, October 1, 2024 on an online meeting platform.

The responsibility to select candidates best suited to lead the Association requires thoughtful planning and attention to skills and areas of expertise currently required by the Association; therefore, the OMA adheres to the practice of not accepting nominations from the floor at the Annual General Meeting.

OMA BOARD 2024-2025



CHERYL BLACKMAN
PRESIDENT; CHAIR, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Second Year of a First Two-Year Term

Cheryl Blackman has served as Director, Museums and Heritage Services at the City of Toronto, responsible for the ten city-owned and operated historical museums, the City collection of historical objects, archaeological specimens, moveable fine art and an extensive portfolio of heritage buildings. Cheryl also served as the Assistant Vice-President of Audience Development at the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM). Cheryl holds a Bachelor of Social Work (BSW), and a Master of Business Administration (MBA), and is a Fellow of Inclusion and Philanthropy from the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP). She is the Past Chair of the Board at the Robert McLaughlin Gallery.

"Museums are essential parts of Ontario's culture. It is this belief that grounds me in my commitment to fulfilling the mission, vision, and values of the OMA. I have seen how the work of the OMA is strengthening the voices of museum professionals across Ontario, and I look forward to supporting OMA members and the OMA in continued efforts to make museums vital and vibrant in Ontario."



MICHAEL RIKLEY-LANCASTER
VICE-PRESIDENT; CHAIR, FUND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
Second Year of a First Two-Year Term

Born and raised in Chatham, Ontario, Michael Rikley-Lancaster has been Executive Director/Curator of the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum since July 1, 2007. He studied Fine Arts at Fanshawe College in London, Ontario, before receiving a diploma in Applied Museum Studies from Algonquin College in Ottawa. He was the Assistant Curator at Diefenbunker: Canada's Cold War Museum, and Program Coordinator for Young Canada Works in Heritage Organizations with the Canadian Museums Association. Paving the way for safe museum spaces, Michael has empowered the MVTM to

become Canada's first Rainbow Registered Museum and strives to create a more diverse and inclusive museum sector. With this goal in mind, he has served on numerous boards, committees, and councils across the tourism and heritage sectors, currently sitting on the Heritage Advisory Committee for the Municipality of Mississippi Mills, the Lanark County Museum Network, and the Ontario Historical Society's Museums Advisory Committee. As a Cultural Achievement Award recipient within the Municipality of Mississippi Mills, Michael has been consistently improving the Museum and enriching the local community by advocating for funding, inclusion, and partnership. Viewing museums as forums for learning and unlearning, Michael is working towards a sector that is sustainable, equitable, and relevant to the communities it serves. Michael is a proud member of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community.

"With over 20 years of experience working in the field, mostly in a small-town museum setting, I would like to provide insight into the challenges of small museums, and how they can be advocates, cultural hubs, and safe spaces for their communities. Funding and capacity-building are foundational to sustainable museums, while diverse and truthful storytelling are essential to relevant museums, which is why advocacy both for and within the museum sector is key to a progressive field. I am excited to explore a renewed definition and direction of museums at the OMA and support our members in growing with the sector."



JOE CORRIGAN
TREASURER; CHAIR, BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE
Second Year of a First Two-Year Term

Joe Corrigan holds a Hons. B.A. in Economics and History from Glendon College of York University, a post diploma certificate in Museum Management and Curatorship from Fleming College and a certificate in Managing and Leading in a Municipal Environment from Loyalist College. Trained as a business systems analyst, Joe had a 24 year career in Branch, Regional and Head Office Management appointments with the National Trust Company and Scotiabank. Joe served as Museum Manager of Lang Pioneer Village Museum from 2003 to 2018. During his time at Lang, Joe also served as Board Chair of both the Kawarthas Northumberland Regional Tourism Organization (RTO8) and the Peterborough and the Kawarthas Economic Development Corporation's Tourism Advisory Committee.

"I have worked in a variety of roles in the private, public and not-for-profit sectors over my 40-plus-year career. Many of the most rewarding experiences I've had have come since I joined the museum profession as Manager of Lang Pioneer Village Museum. I have had the opportunity to be involved in a number of rewarding initiatives which have had a lasting impact on the community, and this has inspired me to continue to take an active role in supporting the museum profession. I look forward to, once again, working with my colleagues on the OMA Board to support the industry in recovering from the challenges of the current pandemic."



DANIELLE MARSHALL
SECRETARY; CHAIR, GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE
First Year of a First Two-Year Term

With over 10 years of experience in the cultural heritage sector, Danielle has worked in various roles, including previously at the Fort Frances Museum & Cultural Centre as a Museum Curator. Danielle specializes in digitization, collections management, exhibit development, community collaboration and grant writing. Danielle holds a BA (Honours) in Classical Studies and a MA in Museum Studies.

"I am interested in becoming an OMA Board member for a variety of reasons. I believe that museums are a vital part of our communities. Collaboration has been a main theme in my professional practice. I believe that being a Board member will allow me to collaborate with a wider range of sector colleagues. I believe that the Board has an opportunity to foster innovative, sustainable and dynamic solutions to the challenges that face the museum sector emerging from the realities of COVID-19. I am interested in promoting inclusivity and diversity within museums, ensuring that exhibits and programs reflect a broader range of perspectives and cultures. I believe strongly that people should be able to see themselves in museums."



KRYSTA LONGBOAT
DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE
Second Year of a First Two-Year Term

"Sge:no! My name is Krysta Longboat, I am Mohawk Nation, Wolf Clan from Six Nations of the Grand River Territory. I am the Manager of Education at the Woodland Cultural Centre. I graduated from Wilfrid Laurier University and Nipissing University in the Concurrent Education program and have worked in the museum education sector for 7 years and within the last year have moved over to the Woodland Cultural Centre to manage the education department."



DENIS LONGCHAMPS
DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE
Second Year of a First Two-Year Term

Denis Longchamps is the Executive Director & Chief Curator at the Canadian Clay & Glass Gallery. From 2013 to 2018, he was the Artistic Director and Chief Curator at the Art Gallery of Burlington. He received his PhD in art history in 2009 from Concordia University, where he was the administrator of the Jarislowsky Institute for Studies in Canadian Art from 2006 to 2011. Longchamps also taught art and craft history at Concordia University, York University and at Dawson College. He has contributed essays, articles and reviews to magazines and journals such as Espace-Sculpture, Ceramics Monthly, and Ceramics Art and Perception. Recent curatorial projects include *The Decorated Surface* (2023), *Voices* (2022) and *Confined* (2022). He is the co-founder of the Canadian Craft Biennial (2017) that included four exhibitions, two residencies, workshops and an international symposium. He was the publisher and managing editor of *Cahiers métiers d'art: Craft*

Journal (2006-2016). In 2020, Denis was the recipient of the Craft Ontario John and Barbara Mather Award for Lifetime Achievement. In 2023, Denis received the Barbara A. Tyler Award in Museum Leadership from The Canadian Museum Association.

"My interest in joining the Board of the OMA stems from my experience here at the Canadian Clay & Glass Gallery navigating through staff changes and a pandemic to initiate and implement a new vision and mission that put its community at the core of its programming. I want to share my experiences with colleagues, and contribute actively, in continuing the OMA's mission of strengthening capacity among institutions and individuals in Ontario's museum sector, facilitating excellence and best practices, and improving the communication and collaboration of its membership. As a college and university teacher, and a mentor for ArtsBuild Ontario, among others, I quickly realized that many institutions do not have capacity, both in human resources and financially, or the tools to adopt new inclusive strategies, and to grow as an institution. Too often the daily operations take all the resources available. Yet, change is necessary, sometimes rapidly, to address the many contemporary social and cultural issues for museums to remain relevant. I sincerely think I can contribute to make this happen."



AMLEET MANGAT
DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE
Second Year of a First Two-Year Term

Amleet Mangat has over 15 years of project management experience at the ROM and has recently joined the City of Toronto, Museums and Heritage Services as a Senior Project Manager. Amleet holds a Bachelor of Near Eastern Archaeology (BA), Master of Museum Studies (MMST) and Project Management Professional certification (PMP).

"My first paid museum job as an archaeology student was in Chatham, Ontario working at the Chatham Kent Museum/Milner Heritage House. I entered that role with a lot of excitement and quickly realized how I didn't fit within the museum culture as a young South Asian woman. We were asked to dress in period historic clothing as we provided tours of the home and on one occasion I was asked by a visitor if I was representing the "help" or "maid" because of my brown skin. I have never forgotten this moment. In the early years of my career at ROM, I participated in OMA tradeshows at the annual conference promoting our outreach and travelling exhibitions programs and I also felt like I didn't fully belong at this conference that was predominantly attended by white colleagues. My hope and goal by becoming an OMA Board member is to create space for other young BIPOC professionals in OMA programming and conferences and provide relevant training/support for OMA members. OMA has an integral role in leading and sharing best museum practices and I look forward to contributing to what I hope is a period of change to better serve our communities."



BLAIR NEWBY
DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE
Second Year of a First Two-Year Term

Currently the Coordinator of Museum Programs for the Municipal Museums of Chatham-Kent, Blair Newby holds a Master of Museum Studies degree from the University of Toronto as well as an Honours BA in History from the University of Waterloo. To say that history has played an integral part in

Newby's life would be an understatement. In fact, she has chosen to live by the nine words that her mother, the late Alice Newby, taught her, "WHEN YOU KNOW YOUR HISTORY, YOU KNOW YOUR GREATNESS". It was this passion for history that led Newby to work at the Buxton National Historic Site and Museum as a Historical Interpreter for six years. From 2010-2015 Newby was the Executive Director of the Chatham-Kent Black Mecca Museum. Following that, Newby worked in the Special Events Department at Black Creek Pioneer Village in Toronto for several years before returning to the Chatham-Kent area. As custodians of the intellectual and cultural treasures left by our ancestors, Newby firmly believes that we have an obligation to safeguard our heritage and share it with the public.

"My goal through joining the Ontario Museum Association Board is to further my commitment to this while also having opportunity to provide a voice for smaller communities, smaller institutions as well as IBPOC museum workers. I look forward to learning from my colleagues and hopefully helping to further advocate for the importance of museums in our communities. Because I believe if I had that "A-HAH" moment regarding museums at such a young age, that through engagement and advocacy more and more youth can too. Which in turn will create museumgoers all over the province."



AMY PRILIKA
DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE
First Year of a First Two-Year Term

As the Deputy Director & CFO of the Bata Shoe Museum (BSM), Amy Prilika plays a key role at one of Canada's most esteemed educational and cultural institutions, overseeing both its financial and operational aspects. With a deep appreciation for the impact of cultural organizations, Amy is committed to shaping and enriching Canada's cultural landscape throughout her career.

A seasoned finance professional and a member of CPA Ontario, Amy brings over 15 years of expertise in performance management, financial planning, and corporate governance. Prior to joining the BSM, she served as Director of Finance and Administration at the Canadian Music Centre, where she successfully led finance teams across six regional offices.

In addition to her professional achievements, Amy is dedicated to community service. She serves on the Board of the Toronto Bach Festival and volunteers at the Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Centre, further exemplifying her commitment to making a positive impact both inside and outside the workplace.



EVAN RANKIN
DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE
First Year of a First Two-Year Term

Evan is a partner in the Commercial Litigation group at Singleton Reynolds LLP. He specializes in professional liability and has extensive experience defending directors and officers of both for-profit and not-for-profit corporations, including a major national sports association. He has also served as counsel to the Litigation Management Committee of the Robinson Huron

Treaty Litigation Fund. Evan has a deep affection for museums, having ‘starred’ in a McLean’s magazine article about the Royal Ontario Museum at age 4. Evan is very interested in governance and, as a proud member of the LGBTQ2S+ community, having previously served on the governance committee of Pride Toronto.



SHARIFA RILEY
DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE
First Year of a First Two-Year Term

Sharifa Riley (she/her) is a seasoned Museum and Culture specialist with a wealth of experience that has shaped her into a dynamic professional. Over the years, she has honed a diverse skill set, starting with the development of educational programming for youth, children, and families, and expanding into collection management and independent curatorial projects. Sharifa has curated exhibitions for BAND (Black Artists' Network In Dialogue) Gallery, the Erland Lee (Museum) Home, and York University, showcasing her deep commitment to cultural enrichment.

Currently, Sharifa is embracing a new challenge as the Community Engagement and Marketing Coordinator at Glanbrook Community Services (GCS). This role has allowed her to further expand her abilities, taking on responsibilities such as planning GCS's two major fundraisers, leading marketing initiatives, and managing a team of volunteers and interns. She has seamlessly integrated her educational background into this position, creating fun and engaging bus trips, workshops, and programs that resonate with the community.

Sharifa’s passion for the museum and culture sector continues to inspire those around her. She is a determined and creative individual, eager to help people discover the richness their community has to offer. Sharifa is a graduate of the University of Ottawa (B.A.), Sir Sandford Fleming College (Post Graduate), and York University (M.A.). She is excited about the future and looks forward to many more years of impactful work in the community and cultural sectors.



AUDREY ROCHETTE
DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE
Second Year of a First Two-Year Term

Audrey Rochette is Anishinaabe from Waabadowgang-Whitesand First Nation. She is Associate Vice President, Indigenous Engagement and Education External, at Sheridan College’s Office of Inclusive Communities. In her previous role as Director, Indigenous Initiatives, she led George Brown College’s efforts to implement the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s (TRC) Calls to Action and oversaw Indigenization measures as part of the college’s Vision 2030/Strategy 2022 initiative. In 2019 and 2020, she worked with the college to develop recommendations and a reconciliation framework in response to the TRC Calls to Action, as well as frameworks for anti-racism initiatives.

Prior to her current role, Audrey worked with the City of Toronto as a Business Analyst where she provided critical evaluations to inform programming and measure success, secured Indigenous

partnerships to advance the city's commitment to reconciliation, and produced a report that addressed the spiritual care of ancestral objects in collections management. Audrey also worked at the University of Toronto as an Indigenous Partnerships and Relations Specialist at Woodsworth College, where she advanced partnerships that facilitated the reciprocal exchange of knowledge. Audrey's passion for Indigenous relations was cultivated through her roles in the Indigenous community as the Senior Development Officer with Indspire, an Indigenous-led registered charity that invests in the education of Indigenous people, and with imagineNATIVE, the largest Indigenous film festival in the world. She currently sits on several committees in different sectors committed to reconciliation work. She is the daughter of a residential school survivor.

Audrey holds a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Political Science, Aboriginal Studies and Religion, and a Master of Arts with research focused on decolonizing museums, as well as Indigenous voices, language and ceremonies in museums, both from the University of Toronto.



EMILY STOVEL
DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE
Second Year of a First Two-Year Term

After a career as an archaeologist with a specialization in the South-Central Andean region, I left academe to serve as a museum administrator in Chile and New Mexico. I have now returned home to Canada, excited to take on a newly created position as Curator and Manager of Culture just west of Ottawa. I am committed to rethinking

how museums can change how then function inside and out to foster more community involvement and share decision-making.

"After leadership positions in the state museum association of New Mexico, I am interested in connecting with the pressing issues in the Ontario heritage sector. I have experiences elsewhere which might be helpful, while open to the unique important issues here in Ontario. There are so many changes through and post-COVID that we can only resolve together. I am particularly interested in working toward alternative financial models ... Rebuilding institutional budgets are key to this work, and that of seeking more diverse community connections, such as paid internships and co-directorships. I am also interested in regional collections management. There are so many similar collections in our province that it would be worthwhile to encourage the development of living history collections that spark more community connections and plan this work across regions. This will create space for new collections and new exhibit initiatives for community members as leadership diversifies. Finally, I am interested in sustaining and supporting the valuable work OMA already does to create collaborative training spaces for museum sector workers. This is more important post COVID during which we saw such a significant restructuring of employment in our sector."



DEANNA WAY
DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE
First Year of a First Two-Year Term

Deanna Way, serving as the Executive Director of the Quinte Museum of Natural History (QMNH) since July 2022, is an accomplished leader in the cultural and natural heritage sectors. With a Master of Library and Information Science from Robert Gordon University and a robust background in museum administration, Way brings a diverse and interdisciplinary approach to her role. Her expertise spans strategic planning, financial management, exhibit curation, and project management, underscored by a passion for community engagement and creating inclusive spaces.

Under Way's leadership, QMNH successfully executed a significant project funded by the FedDev Ontario Tourism Relief Fund, leading to the development of the "Diving Deep: A Tale of Whales Through Time" exhibit. This project not only elevated the museum's profile but also demonstrated Way's exceptional skills in leveraging funding opportunities, curating engaging content, and enhancing educational impact. Her efforts were recognized with the Ontario Museum Association's 2023 Promising Leadership Award of Excellence, highlighting her potential and contributions to the museum sector. Moving into 2024, the QMNH secured additional project funding from the FedDev Tourism Growth Program to develop an all new exhibit exploring climate change in the Canadian High Arctic.

Prior to her current role, Way contributed her skills to various institutions, including the Canadian Research Knowledge Network and Research Casting International, where she was involved in digital services coordination and fossil conservation, respectively. These experiences have equipped her with a comprehensive skill set, including heritage conservation, strategic leadership, interpretive planning, and exhibit development, making her an invaluable asset to QMNH and its mission to inspire discovery and stewardship of natural heritage.

Way's commitment to the museum's growth and sustainability is evident in her strategic vision and the successful management of key projects, positioning QMNH for continued success and community engagement.