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Exhibits:

A Wide-Ranging and Successful Year By Carolyn Stetson

To address the changes at the Trenton City Museum over the last year, the trustees of the Trenton Museum Society convened an Exhibits Committee to schedule and curate exhibits in the first floor galleries at Ellarslie. All committee members are members of the Trenton Museum Society and most have exhibit or gallery experience. The committee selected exhibits for the year based on a number of criteria: commitments made by previous director Brian O. Hill; presenting our patrons with something new and interesting; supporting the local arts community; raising the visibility of the Trenton City Museum by bringing in new audiences; and, to support the increased financial obligations of the Trenton Museum Society, the potential for sales of art.

The first exhibit, *Trenton Makes: A Trenton/NYC Exhibit*, produced by the Trenton Artists Workshop Association, opened in June to much acclaim. It highlighted the works of local artists



Camera Work: Vases by Kristina Treguan

including Jon Naar, Mel Leipzig and Aubrey Kaufman.

The September/October exhibit, *Naturally; Man-Made, in Full View: The Art of le Corbeau*, was a retrospective featuring 53 sculptural items from the artist known as le Corbeau. Many of the pieces had never been shown before and encompassed sculpture, furniture and lighting, decorative objects, and jewelry in keeping with the tradition of artists exploring multiple materials and disciplines. Described as a "surrealist"

WHAT CAN YOU DO? Memberships are important to us. Members and lapsed-members, please renew your membership. If possible, increase your membership level. If you are not a member, please join. Invite friends to join. It's easy to do on our website. We will be having fundraisers throughout the year, so please think of us and give what you can. We have plans to keep the museum active and to develop it further, but we need your help.

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The Ellarslie Muse

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Designed and produced by
Jan Applebaum

The Trenton City Museum at Historic Ellarslie Mansion

Ellarslie Mansion, home of the Trenton City Museum, was originally conceived ca. 1848 as a summer residence for wealthy Philadelphia industrialist Henry McCall. Later in the century, the Italianate-style residence and over 100 acres surrounding it were purchased by the City of Trenton for a park. Noted landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted sculpted rolling hills and rural vistas for city residents to enjoy. Today visitors to the mansion also enjoy the museum's extensive collection of Trenton pottery and 19th century industrial artifacts as well as changing exhibits featuring regional artists and local history.

Mission of The Trenton Museum Society

Through its exhibits, collections, and community programs, the Trenton City Museum preserves and promotes the diverse history, art, and culture of Trenton and the greater Trenton area for the benefit of Trenton residents and visitors.

Vision of The Trenton Museum Society

The Trenton City Museum is a model museum working to keep the arts, culture, and history of the community alive and relevant and, as a result, helps redefine the perception of the city of Trenton.

We will attain our vision by being financially sustainable, effectively governed, diverse and collaborative.

Adopted February 2011

Trenton Museum Society © 2014



Support Your Museum

By Richard Willinger, President



Richard Willinger
President

This has been an amazing year. The Trenton Museum Society's Board of Trustees has been extremely active in putting on exhibits, events and fundraisers for you, our members, and the greater Trenton community.

There were groundbreaking (literally) historical exhibits about Trenton's 18th century pottery industry ("Trenton Makes Pottery: The Stoneware of James Rhodes, 1774-1784") and the city's early 20th century history of school segregation ("Trenton's Educational Legacy: The New Lincoln School").

The Society collaborated with Artists of Yardley to showcase their members' artwork, and held its annual (after skipping a year) renowned regional juried art show, the Ellarslie Open, now in its 30th year!

The summer art and theater camp for children was a resounding success, in collaboration with Trenton's Passage Theater, as were the after-school art-in-the-park classes.

Lectures were held on painting conservation and restoring pottery, and a walking tour was held at Trenton's Riverview Cemetery on a glorious Spring day.

Musical performances were given by Victoria James, Fred Miller, David Cohen and others.

Major events included our first Art and Artifact Adoption Party and the annual Antiques Appraisal Day.

We held two major fundraisers - the annual Holiday Shopping Boutique and the sold-out Ellarslie Wine and Dine Experience.

I would like to thank our Board members and volunteers for their tremendous dedication of time and effort to plan and run these events.

This brings us to funding. The Museum Society has taken on a huge new financial responsibility to pay for a part-time Director and docent who is at the museum five days a week (thank you James Strobel for the wonderful job you do). The city maintains the building but does not fund staff at the museum.

This past year we received a major contribution from one individual and I would like to thank Luther Travis for his very generous contribution.

However, our new expenses exceeded our income in the fiscal year. We are pursuing grants, but did you know that on average 75% of funding for non-profit organizations comes from individuals (in our case it's even higher)?

The Museum Society cannot survive without your financial support. Please consider upgrading your membership to Patron or Contributor or higher. Give to the Annual Appeal. Bring in new members. Put the Museum Society in your Will. Donate securities or artwork that we can sell. Buy art from our exhibits. Show your passion for the museum by giving your financial support.

It is a pleasure and a challenge to head up the Museum Society. It is gratifying to work with so many dedicated and talented people, both Board members and volunteers, who give both their time and money. But we also rely on your support, the members and friends of the museum and of Trenton history and the arts community, to enable us to continue putting on all of these wonderful events for your benefit.

Thank you.

The Ellarslie Muse

Art and Artifact Adoption Party

New Life for Older Works

On October 5, 2012, the Trenton Museum Society held a new and very successful fundraiser to support its collection of antiquarian books, porcelain and historic and contemporary art, the "Art and Artifact Adoption Party." Members and friends of the museum had the opportunity to view art and artifacts that have seldom if ever been put on display because of their condition, and then given the opportunity to "adopt" an item by paying for its repair or restoration. Twenty-one items were adopted, covering the \$3,147 cost of repair and restoration.

The books that were adopted and the individuals who adopted them are:

J. H. Lant & Co.,

The Trenton City Directory for 1868-69, Jamie Kamph

Boyd's Trenton City Directory May 1873, Jamie Kamph

Boyd's Trenton City Directory, 1874, Brian O. Hill

Boyd's Trenton City Directory, 1875, Dr. & Mrs. Michael A. Newman

Boyd's Trenton City Directory 1876-1877, Alexander B. Bartlett

Historical Pub. Co., American Industries: New Jersey - Trenton, Princeton, ... and Hopewell, 1882, Jamie Kamph

The porcelain figurines that were adopted and the individuals who adopted them are:

Boehm, *Crested Titmouse*
William C. Mitchell

Boehm, *Magnolia Grandiflora*
William C. Mitchell

Boehm, *Hummingbird*, Ellen Hochman in memory of Sylvia Rosenthal

Boehm, *Lily Pad*, Karen Cole

Boehm, *Least Tern*,
Marlene Barnhart

Cybis, *Lady Macbeth*,
Carolyn P. Stetson

Cybis, *Alaskan Native American Woman*, Bobbie Shelingoski

Lenox, *Nautilus Shell Vase*
Brenda and Eric Springsted

The artwork by Trenton artists or showing Trenton scenes that were adopted and the individuals who adopted them are:

Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, painting, by Thomas Malloy, Richard Willinger
McKinley Hospital, linoleum print, by Dr. A. Ross Pittman
Susan Parris in honor of Louise Engelke Connolly

Franklin at the Court of Saint James, London, 1774, engraving,
Judy and Kevin Moriarty

Broncicator, Farmer's Tan, painting, by Dennis Michael Normile, Carolyn P. Stetson



A porcelain figurine that was adopted and restored

S. E. View of State House, Trenton, N.J., lithograph, by T. Sinclair, Karl Flesch

Stacy Park, photograph, Sally Lane

A View of Park-Row at Trenton, N.J., lithograph, by P. S. Duval, Jean Shaddow

In addition, \$810 was contributed towards the \$4,100 cost of restoring the rare *1849 Map of the City of Trenton* by Philadelphia publisher M. Dripps. Contributors included Richard and Nancy Hunter, John Hatch and David Henderson, and Luis and Aubrey Mollinedo.

The books, figurines, paintings, prints and photograph were displayed in the fall and winter of 2013.

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2013**

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Sunday Lecture Series

The Sunday Lecture Series was started during the bleak period when the Museum's director was laid off due to a municipal budget crunch and the walls were bare of art. The lecture series was intended to provide value to TMS members during this period. Even though the museum is now up and running, the presentations have been so popular that the series continues. On several occasions every seat in the downstairs double-gallery has been filled and people were standing in the back of the room.

The lectures presented during the 2013 fiscal year were:

October 2012 - *Stranger, Stop and Cast an Eye: New Jersey's Historic Cemeteries*, by Mark Nomesried, historic site Director of Exhibits and Programs, Middlesex County Cultural & Heritage Commission.

November 2012 - *Good Art? Bad Art? And the Contemporary Scene*, by Carol Cruickshanks, independent appraiser and fine art specialist.

January 2013 - *Painting Conservation*, by Christyl Cusworth, owner of Christyl Cusworth Paintings Conservator LLC, Lambertville, NJ,



Example of painting conservation efforts

and Professional Associate, The American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works.

April 2013 - *The Art of Restoring Pottery and Other Precious Objects*, by Ron and Judy Aiello, owners of Antique Restorations, Burlington, NJ.

May 2013 - *Riverview Cemetery: Out and About the City of Trenton*, a historic walking tour, led by Richard A. Sauers, cemetery historian, Riverview Cemetery, Trenton.

June 2013 - *Infantry Bugle Calls of the American Civil War*, by George Rabbai, professional trumpet player, Civil War Reenactor, and author of "Infantry Bugle Calls of the American Civil War."



Trenton's Educational Legacy: **The New Lincoln School**

By Richard Willinger

In Spring 2013, the Trenton Museum Society presented an exhibit on an important aspect of Trenton's African-American history, the fact that African-American children were required to attend segregated schools through the ninth grade until the Hodgepeth-Williams court decision in 1944 outlawed segregation in the city's schools, which integrated in 1946.

The last school built for African-American children, in 1923, was the New Lincoln School on North Montgomery Street. After desegregation, the junior high school was renamed Junior High School No. 5, and then Rivera School.

The exhibit examined the relationship between New Lincoln School and the city's black community, especially Lincoln Homes, which were built next to the school in 1940 for African-American families. It highlighted the teachers, principals, curriculum, sports and health services of the school, photos of graduation classes, leaders of various professions who visited the school, and achievements of alumni.

Many graduates of New Lincoln School went on to distinguished careers in fields such as education, law, public service, medicine, sports, business and the fine and performing arts.

The Museum Society was extremely fortunate in having an alumnus of New Lincoln School, Elizabeth Carter Lacy,



New Lincoln School

guest curate and loan her collection of articles, artifacts and photographs to the exhibit. She is a graduate of Cheyney State Teacher's College (now Cheyney University) and taught in the Trenton Public School system for many years. She is also the curator of the Geraldine Carter-Bethel Library Museum at Shiloh Baptist Church in Trenton.

Many current and former residents of Trenton who attended the school from

1924 – 1946 when it was segregated, came to the exhibit, and brought their children and grandchildren.

Large crowds attended both the Opening Reception and Closing Ceremony, and the panel of former students who spoke at Mrs. Lacy's talk about the school faced a Standing Room Only crowd. Noted local artist Howard Crossland performed at the Closing.

Antiques Appraisal Day: **Another Successful Year**

The Fourth Annual Antiques Appraisal Day was held on February 24, 2013 at Ellarslie. Antique experts who donated their time for this event included Eugene Pascucci from A-A Empire Antiques in Hightstown, Thomas and Donna Rago from American and European Antiques

at the Tomato Factory antique center in Hopewell, and Trenton Museum Society trustees Robert Cunningham and Chris Casarona. This popular event raises funds for the Collections Management Committee. Thanks to our appraisers and attendees for making this another successful year!

Molly Merlino **1925-2013**

Quiet and unassuming, Molly Merlino was a leading advocate for the arts in the greater Trenton area for many years. As an early member of the Trenton Museum Society, she established and was the manager of the TMS gift shop that since has been named "Molly's, the Shop at Ellarslie" in her honor. She has left her footprint on many arts organizations including the New Jersey State Museum and the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, to name a few. Those of us who knew her remember her passion and the impact she had on the Arts in Trenton.



Antiques Appraisal Day: Antique owners prepare to meet with appraisers



Antique Appraisal Day: An item up for appraisal





Educational Programs: **Fun for Children and Adults**

By Judy Sears

The Trenton Museum Society and Passage Theater collaborated again this year to present our annual Art and Drama camp during the first two weeks of August. Once again, drama instructor Deena Jiles-Shuaib and art instructor Claudia Luongo helped nine students bring their creations to life. Fourteen teen counselors were helpers with all aspects of the program, as were volunteers from the TMS board. We plan to continue

the tradition this coming summer, and we'll once again need volunteers to help our instructors make this the best camp ever!

This year we coordinated with Artworks on Saturday winter workshops for children. All of the projects followed a theme – Winter in the Park during February and famous artists' birthdays in March.

We also continued our successful after school program, this year taught by Jim Bongartz, an art teacher with over 20 years teaching experience. We had eight very happy children who were busy filling our classroom with colorful robots and wreaths.

For adults, Cie Stroud held a photography workshop, and Judy Sears hosted a two-day workshop on stained glass techniques.

Ellarslie Volunteers **2012 – 2013**

Exhibits:

Carol Hill
Jack Koepfel
Joseph Longino
Nancy Hunter
Elise Mannella

Lighting—

Kieran Magee

Ellarslie Open 30—

Winifred Howard
Khalilah Sabree

AOY and Crafts Exhibit—

Joyce Inderbitzin

Office:

Angela Robbins

Docent:

Collette Breen

Garden:

Carol Hill
Bob Heil
Bill Hogan
Angela Robbins

Development:

Fundraising Events—

Carol Hill
Milee Medina
Dallas Piotrowski

Grants—

Shan Holt

Membership—

Brian Murphy

Events:

Maria Richardson
George Dabrowski

Store:

Carol Hill
Mary Kay Girmscheid
Joyce Inderbitzin
Susan Bishop

Collections Management:

Brian Murphy
Jack Koepfel
Alex Bartlett
Michael Palac
Terry Jones

Antiques Appraisal Day—

Gene Pascucci
Tom Rago
Donna Rago

Guest Curators –

Barbara Ross
Nancy Hunter

Rebecca White
Elizabeth Carter Lacy
Wanda Lacy McNeill
Susan Lacy
Howard Crossland

Lecturers—

Linda Barth
Gary Saretsky
Clifford Zink
Mark Nonesteid
Carol Cruickshanks
Christyl Cusworth
Ron and Judy Aiello
Richard Savers

Marketing:

Tanji Gilliam
Gail Szenes
Pat Rodeawald



Exhibits: A Wide-Ranging and Successful Year (continued from page 1)



More Than a Rug: Textiles and More from Around the World:
Rug by Armando Sosa

artist, most of le Corbeau's works reflect his interest in assembling existing components to create visual allegories using his favorite method and material: the exploration of artistic ideas in metal.

The early winter show, *Over the River*, was juried by Bruce Rigby and featured the Artists of Yardley. From nearly 200 entries submitted by 150 artists, Rigby, Professor of Fine Art at the College of New Jersey, selected 70 works representing a range of styles and media

including oil, watercolor, photography, ceramics and jewelry. The gallery talk by the exhibit's award-winning artists was well attended, informative and fascinating.

In January *In My View* opened, displaying selected works by local artists William Hogan, Florence Moonan and Stephen Smith. The work of each artist was displayed in a separate gallery, creating an exhibit that at once highlighted the very different styles of each artist and the vibrant color palettes they shared.

For the exhibit *More Than a Rug: Textiles and More from Around the World*, trustee David Bosted contributed textiles and artifacts from his collection of African textiles. The woven tapestries of Guatemala-born artist Armando Sosa were paired with the large steel sculptures of John McDevitt, and the traditional Chinese scroll paintings by the late artist I-Hsiang Ju with the contemporary stone sculptures of Japan-born artist Ayumi Aoyama. The sculptural works perfectly complemented the

two-dimensional works, making the entire exhibit a pleasing, sensual experience exemplifying the international aesthetic found in the simplicity of pattern and texture. Two well-attended gallery talks accompanied this exhibit: David Bosted discussed textiles and Grace Ju demonstrated the art of Chinese brush painting.

Over 250 artists from New Jersey, Pennsylvania and New York submitted more than 450 works to the 30th Ellarslie Open, which was juried by Mary Kate O'Hare, Curator of American Art at the Newark Museum. O'Hare selected 119 captivating works in a variety of styles and media produced by 95 talented artists.

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In My View: Desert by William Hogan



Exhibits: A Wide-Ranging and Successful Year (continued from page 8)



Crafts Invitational: Basket by Karen Wychock

The resulting exhibit displayed the range of work and depth of talent in the greater Trenton area. The Trenton Museum Society's Collections Management Committee purchased two works from the show – Judith Rosenthal's *Round Forest Bowl* and Kevin Hogan's iPhone photograph *Capitol Fog*, which received the Ben Whitmire Purchase Award for Young and Emerging Artists.

The summer 2013 exhibits included *Memories of Warsaw*, the works of Kyle Hamilton, and the *Delaware Valley Fine Crafts Invitational*. The opening for both exhibits was enthusiastically received as

were the demonstrations by several crafts people in July. Many of the works were sold during the exhibit.

The August exhibit, *Camera Work*, was comprised of work created by Ellanlie Open 30 photographers. In September, *Artists of Woodstock: Creative Collaborative*, featured works from Woodstock, NY, artists in the collection of Ted Boyer and Jane Rohlf, and Bob and Alison Boyer

Ericksen. The exhibit also included works by twelve contemporary artists from the Woodstock Artists Association and Museum in Woodstock, New York.

On view November through January, *Paper Work: The Many Ways Artists Use Paper in Their Work*, included artists' talks and a spoken word event.

The Exhibits Committee is pleased to report that it has met its goals for the past year by bringing in interesting and engaging exhibits that not only support the local artist community, but expand the reach of the museum to both new artists and new audiences alike. Art sales have contributed to the overall financial health of the Trenton Museum Society. And, with the *Artists of Woodstock* exhibit, we will have fulfilled all commitments made by the previous director. We look forward to another year of great exhibits that will continue to increase the value of the Trenton City Museum to the local community and visitors.



Paper Work: TimeLines #1 by Marilyn MacGregor

Fundraising: **A Multi-Pronged Approach**

By Carolyn Stetson

Last summer the Fundraising Committee of the Trenton Museum Society Board of Trustees developed a plan for a multi-pronged effort. In addition to traditional revenue streams from membership, art sales, and store sales, the Gala Committee raised money at two events; a new Grants Committee was established, and a group of trustees led by the Director started to compile a package of information to use with potential corporate funders.

A VIP opening reception and the program book for the Ellarslie Open 30 raised over \$1,200.

The Annual Appeal, which ran from November 2012 through January 2013, brought in \$7,900.

The annual Ellarslie Holiday Boutique held in December 2012 raised \$9,500.

The big fundraising event of the year was the Ellarslie Wine and Dine Experience, which brought in \$14,000. Patrons enjoyed a sumptuous dinner created by French Culinary Institute-trained chef David Fiscarelli, and sipped wines while learning about pairing food and wine from Keith Wallace of the Philadelphia Wine School. The Silent Auction spotlighted twenty unique offerings provided by TMS Trustees and their friends. Highlights of the evening included a



Table Setting from the Wine and Dine Fundraiser

live demonstration by Mark Schreiber as he painted a portrait of Ellarslie using the wine that guests were drinking as his medium.

The Grants Committee received \$3,500 from the Mercer County Cultural and Heritage Commission for General Operating Support. For the next fiscal year the committee has applied for grants from three different organizations.

The Board of Trustees is most grateful to the friends and family

of Grete Lamb, longtime TMS member and supporter, for making memorial contributions in her name to the Trenton Museum Society. Their generous support added \$1,000 to our coffers.

Despite the best efforts of the Fundraising Committee, the Trenton Museum Society will finish the year in the red. We recognize that we must do better and to that end are redoubling our membership efforts, launching a corporate fundraising campaign, and applying for grants.

Special Thanks to These 2013 Members and Donors

\$5,000 and Above

Luther Travis
Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation
New Jersey Historical Commission

\$1,000 - \$4,999

Christopher Brashler
Richard & Nancy Hunter
Michael A. Newman
Carolyn P. Stetson
Richard Teft
Henry G. Tutek
Mercer County Cultural and
Heritage Commission
I Am Trenton Foundation
Alexander Michael Dodson
Memorial Scholarship Fund

\$500 - \$999

Marlene Barnhart
Robert & Noreen Cunningham
Karl Flesch
John Lamb
Douglas Palmer
Susan C. Parris
Tom Phillips
Catherine Pike
Judy Sears
Jean Shaddow
Chuck & Bobbie Shellingoski
Stacy A. Stockton
Raul Valcarcel
Richard Willinger

\$250 - \$499

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J. Jay Smith & Mark Williams
Eric & Brenda Springsted
Charles F. Tarr & Roy Ziegler

\$100 - \$249

Anonymous
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Carleen Bailey
Randy Baum
Janet Bickal
Nancy Bojko
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Danny Brandt
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Dallas Piotrowski
Bruce Rigby
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Jacquelin Saba
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Robert Wolski & Maggie
Zullinger
Doreen Wright & Robert Beck
Brann & Ellen Wry
Peter & Elizabeth Yull

Benefits of Membership

Individual \$45; Family \$65

- ◆ Invitations to all opening receptions, gallery walks, lectures and musical events
- ◆ Members Only Preview Hour at opening receptions
- ◆ Member discount at special events and workshops
- ◆ 2 Complimentary Guest Passes to Museum events
- ◆ *Ellarslie Muse*, the Society newsletter
- ◆ 10% discount in the Museum Store

Ellarslie Patron \$125

- ◆ All of the above
- ◆ Name listed in *Ellarslie Muse*
- ◆ 4 Complimentary Guest Passes to Museum events
- ◆ 15% discount in the Museum Store

Ellarslie Contributor \$250

- ◆ All of the above
- ◆ 6 Complimentary Guest Passes to Museum events

Ellarslie Donor \$500

Ellarslie Benefactor \$1000

- ◆ All of the above
- ◆ 8 Complimentary Guest Passes to Museum events
- ◆ 20% discount in the Museum Store

Please consider
including the
Trenton Museum
Society in your
Estate plans.

Visit www.ellarslie.org or
join online.



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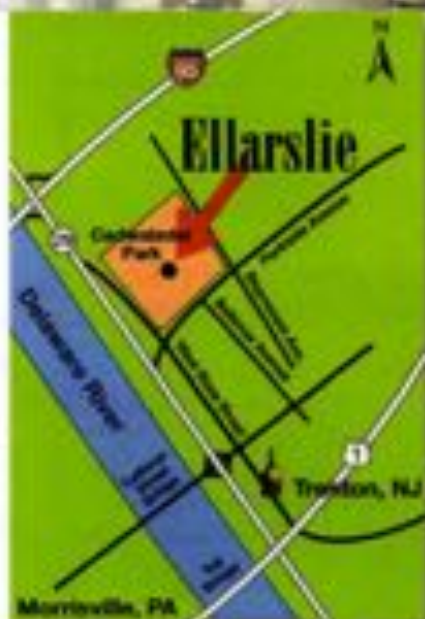
Museum Hours

Tuesday - Saturday 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Sunday 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Closed Mondays and Municipal Holidays

Visit www.ellarslie.org for more
information and directions or
609-989-1191.

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All programs and additional support provided by
The Trenton Museum Society, 609-989-1191



THE
TRENTON
CITY
MUSEUM
at Ellarslie

PO Box 1034
Trenton, NJ 08606

The Ellarslie Muse