

MUSEUMS ADVOCACY DAY 2009

WASHINGTON, DC
FEBRUARY 23-24, 2009

The CWAM Board is pleased to announce that CWAM has joined with AAM as a Partnering Organization for Museums Advocacy Day.

What is "Museums Advocacy Day"? Museums Advocacy Day is an opportunity to bring our message of the value of museums to Capitol Hill, and to advocate for policy issues that affect our field. It is important that Members of Congress and their staff hear a unified message from the field on issues that matter to museums, such as: federal funding for agencies that support museums, reauthorization of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), education policy (including the impact of No Child Left Behind on museums), nonprofit tax-exempt status, intellectual property, charitable giving, historical preservation and repatriation among others. ***We will be most successful when we speak with one voice for a common agenda.***

Museums Advocacy Day is also an opportunity to learn the most effective ways to engage those who represent you in Washington, DC on a regular basis. You will learn how to use facts and figures to make the case for federal funding for museums, how to handle visits with elected officials, how to work with your legislators' state, district and Capitol Hill offices, how to include your Members of Congress in your museums' programs and how your museum can participate in civic activities in your community.

What does it mean for CWAM to be a Partnering Organization?

- CWAM will be featured prominently in Museums Advocacy Day materials
- CWAM will have a chance to contribute to AAM's legislative agenda and advocacy day program
- CWAM's participating representative is Jenny Hankinson, 2008-09 CWAM Chair

Want to attend? CWAM Members are invited to join Jenny in Washington DC. There is strength in numbers, and **all** are welcome for this event, so staff, trustees, students, and volunteers are encouraged to participate.

Sunday, February 22 will feature optional VIP afternoon tours of local museums

Monday, February 23 will include a full day of advocacy training and issue briefings at the [Washington Marriott](#). This will include an overview of the legislative agenda, insights from political insiders, a representative from the new Obama administration (invited) to discuss the political landscape and how museums can work with the new administration, practical information and tips on having successful meetings on Capitol Hill, and training on how to be a year-round advocate.

Tuesday, February 24 will begin on Capitol Hill with a Congressional Breakfast where Members of Congress will be invited to stop by and make brief remarks. Then we will begin our coordinated meetings on Capitol Hill. AAM will be arranging all meetings for participants in advance, matching each participant with their elected Members of Congress.

Can't attend, but want to participate? Contact Jenny about topics, ideas, projects, and issues related to museums in the Colorado and Wyoming region.

Already attending? Let's brainstorm and see how CWAM can help advocate for you!

Contact:

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For more information, or to register, visit:

www.speakupformuseums.org

Or call: 202-218-7703