

A LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends of the Lake Placid Olympic Museum

While searching for a message about spring that defines the work we are doing at the Lake Placid Olympic Museum, I stumbled upon the quote: "Spring is the time of plans and projects." – Leo Tolstoy, 1878. Much like the season, the Museum is experiencing new growth and experiences.

With the start of our fiscal year on April 1st, we celebrate the culmination of a successful year by sharing the [Museum's 2023-2024 annual report](#). This comprehensive document is not just a record of our key accomplishments in collections activities, educational programming, visitor data, and digital outreach metrics. It is a testament to the collective efforts and achievements of the Museum board, staff, and partners. I invite everyone to explore this report, and I eagerly anticipate the exciting possibilities and growth this next year will bring.

As quoted above, "Spring is the time of plans and projects," and what is more synonymous with that than entering into a strategic planning process? In February, the LPOM was selected to receive Strategic Planning Assistance through the Documentary Heritage and Preservation Services for New York (DHPSNY). This statewide program supports archival repositories that safeguard New York's historical records of significant value and operates programs to preserve and make those records accessible. Through this grant, we are working with a facilitator from the New York Council of Nonprofits (NYCON) to assess the organization and help us outline future goals and objectives.

As we embark on strategic planning and new projects, we remain steadfast in our recognition of the vital role our community plays. Our relationships with schools, athletes, and organizations are the foundation of our success, and we are committed to nurturing and expanding these connections as we progress. I warmly invite you to join us at one of our upcoming events. Your presence would be greatly appreciated, and please introduce yourself if you see me around the Museum.

With gratitude



COURTNEY BASTIAN, DIRECTOR
Lake Placid Olympic Museum

CURATOR CORNER



PRESERVATION MONTH

More than 95,000 properties across the United States have been listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and two properties operated by the Olympic Regional Development Authority (ORDA) are featured on the list: The Olympic Bobsled Track at Mount Van Hoevenberg and the Whiteface Memorial Highway.

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WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

March is Women's History Month, which highlights the contributions of women to events in history and contemporary society.

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BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Bobsledding is one winter sport that has helped create opportunities for African Americans at the Winter Games. Starting at the 1980 Olympic Winter Games, Team USA has seen several athletes transition from track and field to bobsled.

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UPCOMING EVENTS



TOUCH-A-TORCH

WEEKLY TUE & FRI | 2pm - 3:30pm

Every Tuesday and Friday between 2 pm - 3:30 pm, you can have the opportunity to hold a 1980 Olympic Winter torch and learn more about its amazing history and the origins of the torch relay.

The dates of this program are subject to change. Please call 518-302-5310 to confirm the schedules of daily programming.

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IGNITING DREAMS CRAFT ACTIVITY

JUN 15 | 11am - 3pm

Visitors of all ages are invited to create their own torch while learning about design and the Games. Two torches from the LPOM collection will be on display for visitors to hold and learn about the significance of the torch relay and Olympic flame.

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OLYMPIC DAY

JUN 23 | 11am - 3pm

Museum invites you to the Olympic Day Friendship Bracelets craft activity. This program blends sport with culture and education to teach visitors of all ages about the three Olympic values: Excellence, Respect, and Friendship. Make an Olympic-inspired friendship bracelet while learning ways you can contribute to building a peaceful and better world starting in your community.

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MUSEUM ROUND TABLE



MANY: Giving Voice to Value

The 2024 MANY Annual Conference encouraged all participants to start looking at new ways to communicate our institution's value to stakeholders, funders, legislators, visitors, and the community, and the live VFT program at the LPOM does just that.

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The Winter Sports Capital of the World

This past winter was the warmest recorded in Adirondack history. The winter season is treasured in this region, and Lake Placid, in particular, has a strong sports history. Because of this, local communities and visitors alike appreciate the cultural value of protecting such a beautiful season.

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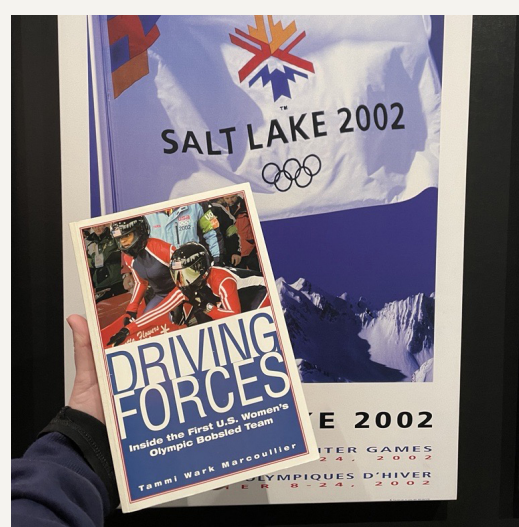
STAFF PICK: *Driving Forces: Inside the First US Women's Olympic Bobsled Team*

Despite working at the Lake Placid Olympic Museum, I didn't know much about the first women's Olympic bobsled team. When I came across *Driving Forces*, I knew I wanted to read it. This story follows the formation of the first-ever Women's Olympic Bobsled Team, and the two sliders who became the first American bobsledders to win gold in 46 years.

Jill Bakken and Vonetta Flowers made history at the 2002 Salt Lake City Winter Olympic Games by becoming the first female bobsledders to win a gold Olympic medal. Vonetta Flowers also made history at this event, becoming the first Black person—from any country—to win a gold medal at the Winter Olympics.

The author does an excellent job of setting up the reader to understand the significance of this event.

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VISITOR'S SURVEY

Did you enjoy your recent visit to the museum? Could something have been better? We want to hear from YOU. Please consider taking our 2-minute visitor survey to help us improve future experiences. Thank you!

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Lake Placid Olympic Museum
Olympic Center
2634 Main Street, Lake Placid, NY 12946

(518) 302-5310

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