



ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020
NICHOLS HOUSE MUSEUM





Augustus Saint-Gaudens, Robert Louis Stevenson, 1887-88
(this cast, ca. 1897). Bronze plaque in oak frame.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Nichols House Museum is a private, nonprofit 501(C)3 corporation with the following mission:

The Nichols House Museum preserves and interprets the 1804 Federal townhouse that was home to landscape gardener, suffragist and pacifist Rose Standish Nichols and her family. Their home and its original art and furnishings provide a glimpse into life on historic Beacon Hill from the mid-19th to mid-20th century. The Museum educates and inspires the public through innovative programs, and it continues the conversation on the social concerns the Nichols family embraced that are still relevant today.

Front cover image: Inside of pillowcase embroidered by Rose Standish Nichols showing original colors.



Delft vase, ca 1800.

All images in this report are from the Nichols House Museum Permanent Collection unless otherwise stated.

LEADERSHIP REPORT



The Nichols House Museum made a great leap forward beginning in the fall of 2019 with the installation of a new climate control system. The Museum received a \$125,000 matching Cultural Facilities Fund Capital Grant, a joint program from Mass Cultural Council & Mass Development, as a kick-off to its fundraising for the project. The replacement system includes heating, cooling, and dehumidification, all aimed at protecting and preserving the Museum's collection including the 1804 Bulfinch-attributed townhouse.

New interior storm windows have been installed, as well as windows restored on the north side of the building (west and south side windows had previously been restored), and insulation added for enhanced energy efficiency in the back ell that is used as staff and catering kitchen space. We are 95% complete and want to thank you for your support in making this critical project possible!

The Museum presented new research this year through the Linsdell Research Fellowship and through an onsite exhibition. This year's fellow, Astrid Tvetenstrand, took a closer look at European influences on Rose Standish Nichols' professional garden designs. The Museum's 2019 exhibition, *The Gardens of Rose Standish Nichols, 1890 – 1930*, presented research by Rosemary Foy with programming that included a lecture on Arts & Crafts Movement gardens by Judith Tankard, a panel of women working in landscape architecture today, and participation as a ribbon garden in the Beacon Hill Garden Club's annual Hidden Gardens of Beacon Hill tour. The Museum was delighted to welcome over 400 Hidden Gardens tour attendees to 55 Mount Vernon Street.

LEADERSHIP REPORT

One of the ways the Museum works towards increasing its visibility in the Greater Boston community is through its partnerships. For the second year in a row, the Museum was one of 100 museums across the Commonwealth to participate in Highland Street Foundation's Free Fun Friday. The Museum received a grant to offer free admission and an array of interactive activities for families on June 28th of 2019.

A programming favorite, the Nichols After Dark series, continued with sold out programs on 1920s fashion. Through our partnership with the National Society of the Colonial Dames of America, dress and textile historian, Elizabeth Weisblatt, shared outstanding examples of Jazz Age garments from the NSCDA costume collection at the William Hickling Prescott House on Beacon Street.

The Museum was thrilled that Brock Jobe, Professor Emeritus at Winterthur Museum, returned to offer part two of a lecture series on Thomas Chippendale, this time focusing on Chippendale's design book, the Gentleman and Cabinet Maker's Director. The final lecture for the year was on the Progressive Era artist, Harriet Coulter Joor of Newcomb Pottery and was held at Grogan & Company.

We want to thank all of our members and donors for your critical financial support of the Museum, as well as our many partners, local businesses, and volunteers. Thank you to our Board of Governors and committee members for all that you do to further the mission of the Museum. We are grateful to all.



Sandy Steele
President, Board of Governors



Linda Marshall
Executive Director

Opposite page: Detail of bed hangings embroidered by Rose Standish Nichols.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Julie Solz, Chair

The Building and Grounds Committee said goodbye to co-chair Bill Simmons and welcomed new members—Oliver Bouchier and Keeta Gilmore. In 2019, and the first part of 2020, the committee worked with the Executive Director to undertake the Collections Conservation Project (replacement of the Museum’s climate control system) which included new HVAC mechanicals, electrical upgrades, and building envelope improvements. Paul Kreitler from Landmark Facilities Group and Colleen Chapin from Building Conservation Associates were consultants on the project. The work began in the fall of 2019 and is nearly complete. Preservation Carpenter, Ford Ogden, has been restoring windows on the North façade. Improvements to the staff kitchen, including insulation and a new radiator, have had a big impact on the space. The committee looks forward to working with the staff on shutter restoration and belt course painting in the coming year.



Rose Standish Nichols outside 55 Mount Vernon Street, ca. 1940. Original source unknown.



Hiroshige, Scene of Yedo, Japan, ca. 1844-58. Woodblock print.

COLLECTIONS

Nonie Gadsden and Christine Root, Co-Chairs

In FY2020, the Collections Committee continued to execute best practices in collections care. Highlights of this foreshortened COVID-19 year included:

- Reviewed the progress of the HVAC project.
- Recommended the deaccession of seven mattresses, with documentation and partial archiving following the method used by Historic New England. **IN PROGRESS.**
- Recommended and advised on the conservation and permanent storage of three pillows embroidered by Rose Standish Nichols. **COMPLETED.**
- Recommended cleaning the portrait of Rose Standish Nichols by Polly Thayer. **COMPLETED.**
- Recommended cleaning the frame on the portrait of Rose Standish Nichols by Margarita Pumpelly. **COMPLETED.**
- Recommended the cleaning and conservation of bronze works by Augustus Saint-Gaudens, Paul Manship, and others in the collection. **COMPLETED.**



Paul Manship. Adam and Eve,
1922. Bronze.

COLLECTIONS PROJECTS



Polly Thayer (American, 1904-2006), *Rose Standish Nichols*, 1929.
Oil on canvas, cleaned in FY20.



Frame removed from portrait of *Rose Standish Nichols* by Margarita Pumpelly for conservation.

DEVELOPMENT

Beth Campanella and Kimberlea Jeffries, Co-Chairs

COLLECTIONS CONSERVATION PROJECT

The Museum board and staff solicited funds in the spring and summer of 2019 for the Collections Conservation Project, which addressed a full replacement and redesign of an outdated climate control system. Total funds raised were \$410,000 from 32 individual donations and matching grants. The project also included funds for addressing improvements in the energy efficiency of the building and optimal care of the Museum's collection through window restoration, new interior storm windows, and insulation improvements in the back ell and attic. The Museum would like to thank all who so generously contributed to this critical and time sensitive project.

ROSE STANDISH NICHOLS AWARD EVENT

In 2019, we launched a new fundraising event for the Nichols House Museum, the Rose Standish Nichols Award. Inspired by the exemplary community-minded spirit of our founder, Rose Standish Nichols, we have created an award to recognize individuals of outstanding achievement. Elizabeth Owens was the 2019 award recipient. Bidy is a long-time Beacon Hill resident and lifelong proponent of historic preservation. The event was a tremendous success, bringing in a net of approximately \$78,000 exceeding its budget goal by \$37,000 and a 116% increase over last year's Spring Fete net revenue. This new event was designed to be nimble in format, timing, location, and to focus on the interests of current and future Museum supporters, with the overall goal of increasing participation and net dollars raised. The Museum's mission, history, and scope of preservation were highlighted through all aspects of the event.

HOLIDAY HOUSE TOUR

We would like to thank Chair Paula Stookey and the entire Holiday House Tour Committee for organizing a wonderful Tour. In 2019, five magnificent homes decorated for the holidays were showcased, in addition to The Vincent Club. The Nichols House was also decorated and featured a pop-up exhibition, *Season's Greetings: Selections from the Rose Standish Nichols Postcard Collection*. Guests of the Tour joined us for a lively reception at the King's Chapel Parish House.

The Holiday House Tour netted just over \$50,000 for the Museum which is a 15% increase in revenue achievement over last year. We are tremendously grateful to the gracious homeowners who opened their homes for the Tour.

DEVELOPMENT

Beth Campanella and Kimberlea Jeffries, Co-Chairs

ANNUAL APPEAL

The Annual Appeal supports the Museum's on-going operations and programming. Since this fund is unrestricted it also helps with the preservation work needed to maintain the 1804 townhouse. In FY20 we raised approximately \$33,000. Fifty-one households donated. We wish to thank our friends and the communities of Beacon Hill and beyond for their ongoing support.

MEMBERSHIP

The month of March was Membership Month at the Museum during which discounted memberships were offered to new members. The Museum's general membership program which includes individual, family, friend, and sponsor levels, involved 94 member households in FY20. General membership renewals continue on a monthly rolling basis. Members enjoy reduced rates on admission to Nichols House programs and special events, as well as discounts on gift shop items. A new benefit for members at the friend and sponsor level is North American Reciprocal Membership (NARM) which offers free admission and shop discounts at over 1,000 institutions across North America.

PATRON MEMBERSHIP

Through the generous support of our Patron member households, the Museum is able to continue its important work preserving both the building and collection to the highest standard. During November of 2019, our Patrons enjoyed the opportunity to tour the exhibition, *Women Take the Floor* at the Museum of Fine Arts with Nonie Gadsden, Katharine Lane Weems Senior Curator of American Decorative Arts and Sculpture. In February of 2020, Patron members had a unique look behind the scenes of the Poorvu Family Conservation Center at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum with objects conservator, Jessica Chloros.

Patron membership is on a rolling basis as with general membership. The Museum continues to develop special opportunities for our Patron members and to promote cultivation of new members in this critical Museum membership program. Patron membership also now includes North American Reciprocal Membership (NARM) benefits.



Mahogany mirror, early 19th century.

GOVERNANCE

Kate Enroth, Chair

The Governance Committee worked conscientiously to confirm the Nichols House Museum's slate of officers for 2020-2021 and identified promising candidates to fill an open position on the Museum's Board of Governors. With the help of the Executive Director, the Governance Committee identified the needs of the Museum and developed a list of potential Governors to cultivate over the coming year. The Committee also extended an invitation to Brigid Williams to join the Board of Governors and thanked Mona Sadler for her service as she stepped off of the board. The Board of Governors voted on and approved the slate at a special meeting held on June 2, 2020.

INVESTMENT

Mark Rickabaugh, Chair

Financial markets have definitely experienced greater volatility in the last fiscal year (4/1/19-3/31/20), first on the positive side all through 2019 as the Federal Reserve first stopped increasing interest rates in January and started decreasing them later. A huge new jump in volatility to the "downside" (-35%) in later February and March 2020 resulted from the economic shutdown worldwide relative to controlling the Coronavirus. Happily, today the NHM endowment is recovering, although still slightly in negative territory year to date. The outlook is bright, with vaccines and therapeutics likely available within six months, and there is extraordinary liquidity in financial markets. The recovery of the economy and financial markets may take time (until 2022), but productivity improvements and profit gains will likely be stronger than expected resulting in higher equity prices during this period.



FINANCE

James R. Bordewick, Chair

OVERVIEW

The Nichols House Museum's operations and activities produced another financially strong year in FY 2020 (April 1, 2019 to March 31, 2020). These results were driven by continued fiscal discipline by our staff, favorable fundraising results from the annual Holiday House Tour and the new Rose S. Nichols Award event and from the generosity of our many friends and supporters whose contributions to the critical Collections Conservation Project made it possible to complete this important infrastructure project. These strong results occurred despite the impact of dramatic volatility in the equity markets on the value of our endowment and the start of the COVID-19 pandemic on the operations of the Museum.

Measured on the basis of its net assets, the Museum's net assets decreased by approximately \$92,000 to approximately \$2.7 million as of the year-end March 31, 2020. This modest decrease is largely attributable to higher cash positions offset against the diminution in the value of the Museum's endowment (net of the annual draw of approximately \$99,000 made against the endowment to support the operations of the museum as discussed below).

OPERATING RESULTS

From an operating perspective, the Museum's total revenue and support, inclusive of all investment income and contributions, equaled just over \$335,000 versus \$329,000 in FY 2019. This income largely reflects the realized income and gains from the endowment, higher net revenues from key fundraising events and admissions, and a reduction in membership and contributions revenues and investment income. The Museum's operating expenses decreased from \$279,000 in FY 2019 to \$268,000 in FY2020, mostly as a result of lower personnel and program-related expenses and management and administration expenses.

Members and friends of the Museum continue actively to support its fundraising events, pay dues as general members or as Patrons, fulfill pledges to the Collections Conservation Project, contribute to the annual appeal and attend its various events and programs scheduled throughout the year.

From a budgeting perspective, operating revenues during the year

FINANCE

James R. Bordewick, Chair

exceeded our initial budget by about 9%, largely due to success in exceeding fundraising goals. Total expenses were reduced against budget and managed carefully and came in at \$268,000 in FY 2020 versus \$279,000 in FY 2019. Expenses during the year were below the FY2019 budget of \$305,000 by almost 12%, the result of careful financial stewardship. Net operating income of approximately \$67,000 exceeded the budget by almost \$63,000.

NON-OPERATING RESULTS

This year's non-operating results include the significant one-time revenues (contributions) and expenses (HVAC equipment and installation, interior storm windows, window restoration, and insulation) relating to the \$408,000 Climate Control Project. Looking at non-operating results against budget, non-operating income of \$275,000 was below our budget of \$502,000 by almost \$227,000, largely attributable to the impact of unrealized losses in the endowment portfolio. Non-operating expenses of \$434,000 were favorable to the budget of \$515,000 by \$81,000, driven mostly by the positive impact of fundraising efforts for the Collection Conservation Project.

Taking the various operating and non-operating items of revenue and expenses into account, the Museum completed its FY 2020 year generating a deficit of \$92,000 versus a budgeted deficit of \$9,000, again largely driven by approximately \$442,000 in unrealized gains in our endowment portfolio at the fiscal year end.

ENDOWMENT AND OTHER MATTERS

Turning to the endowment, the market value of the Museum's investments decreased from \$2.3 million at March 31, 2019 to \$2.0 million at March 31, 2020. The reduction in the net value of the endowment reflects both the impact of lower market values at the fiscal year end driven largely by COVID-19 and the draw down, in accordance with a board-approved formula, approximately \$99,000 during the recent fiscal year to support its operations. Investment income from the endowment, budgeted at 4.65% of the average endowment balance over the prior three years based on the monthly ending endowment value, finances a portion of annual operating and capital expenses. The Museum expects its endowment over the long term to grow at an average of one percent annually above the current

FINANCE

James R. Bordewick, Chair

spending policy. This is consistent with the objective to maintain the purchasing power of the endowment assets held in perpetuity or for a specified term as well as to provide additional growth through new gifts and investment return.

We would like to thank Mark Rickabaugh, our very talented and devoted Chair of the Investment Committee, for his continuing service as the Chair of this important committee and for continuing to steer our endowment through changing and novel market and economic conditions and producing consistently strong returns based on our risk tolerance and profile.

The Museum's endowment is held at Fidelity Investments and its operating account is held at the Cambridge Trust Company.

The Museum's accountants for the last three fiscal years have been Bacall and Conniff, which completed a review of the financials for this past fiscal year and issued an unqualified review report.

As we look ahead to FY21, the Finance Committee will continue to address the impact of COVID-19 on the Museum's operations and financial condition. We will continue to work closely with various other committees of the Board as follows:

- The Development Committee to help meet our shared objective of carrying out successful fundraising events meeting our budget projections during an unprecedented period of uncertainty and physical distancing. This "new-normal" period may result in a shift to new fundraising activities and events because our traditional fundraising events are not feasible to hold in the current public health environment and
- The Development, Collections and Building and Grounds Committees to ensure we have the resources to meet the needs of repairs and improvements to the physical plant of the museum.

OPERATIONAL ANALYSIS

Nichols House Museum, Inc.
Statements of Financial Position
March 31, 2020 and 2019

	<u>Assets</u>	
	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
<u>Current Assets</u>		
Cash and cash equivalents	281,867	88,567
Grants and pledges receivable	15,000	15,000
Inventory	21,572	22,655
Total current assets	<u>318,439</u>	<u>126,222</u>
<u>Investments</u>	<u>2,065,514</u>	<u>2,303,823</u>
<u>Property and Equipment</u>		
Land	160,000	160,000
Buildings	587,195	587,195
Building improvements	557,327	557,327
Furniture & fixtures	18,000	18,000
Office equipment	14,036	14,036
Subtotal	<u>1,336,558</u>	<u>1,336,558</u>
Accumulated depreciation	(1,000,213)	(980,135)
Total property and equipment	<u>336,345</u>	<u>356,423</u>
<u>Total Assets</u>	<u>2,720,298</u>	<u>2,786,468</u>
<u>Liabilities and Net Assets</u>		
<u>Current Liabilities</u>		
Accounts payable	28,071	2,058
Total current liabilities	<u>28,071</u>	<u>2,058</u>
<u>Net Assets</u>		
Without donor restrictions	2,438,220	2,737,312
With donor restrictions	254,007	47,098
Total net assets	<u>2,692,227</u>	<u>2,784,410</u>
<u>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</u>	<u>2,720,298</u>	<u>2,786,468</u>

OPERATIONAL ANALYSIS

Nichols House Museum, Inc.
Statements of Activities
 For the Year Ended March 31, 2020 with
 Comparative Information for the Year Ended March 31, 2019

	Without Donor Restrictions:	With Donor Restrictions:	Total 2020	Total 2019
<u>Revenues and Support:</u>				
Contributions	34,814	483,994	518,808	38,452
Special events revenue, net of expenses	126,401		126,401	82,031
Membership dues	31,206		31,206	34,615
Admissions	13,371		13,371	19,951
Grants	-	2,500	2,500	7,000
Other income	4,917		4,917	7,172
Investment income	86,860		86,860	85,534
Realized/unrealized gains/(losses) on investments	(332,108)		(332,108)	54,210
Net assets released from restrictions	279,585	(279,585)	-	-
Total Revenues and Support	245,046	206,909	451,955	328,965
<u>Expenses:</u>				
Program	399,888		399,888	189,729
Management and general	106,569		106,569	108,245
Fundraising and development	37,681		37,681	39,229
Total Expenses	544,138	-	544,138	337,203
Change in Net Assets	(299,092)	206,909	(92,183)	(8,238)
Net Assets, Beginning	2,737,312	47,098	2,784,410	2,792,648
Net Assets, Ending	2,438,220	254,007	2,692,227	2,784,410

The Nichols House Museum adopted the financial reporting standards of its peers in fiscal year 2012. The Museum will no longer capitalize its permanent collection in its financial statements.

These represent final financial statements submitted by Bacall and Conniff, P.C. and are available at the Nichols House Museum.



Margaret Nichols reading on the porch at Aspet, the Saint-Gaudens family summer estate, ca. 1900.

MUSEUM PATRONS 2019-2020

The Nichols House Museum would like to thank the following generous donors

DIANA LEVEL

Mr. and Mrs. Alastair Adam
Mr. David Beck and Mr. Gregory Van
Boven
Ms. Elizabeth M. Campanella
Ms. Carol Deane
Ms. Kate Enroth and Mr. Dana
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Mrs. Sonja Yates

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Mr. and Mrs. Jon M. Baker	Ms. Ann Merrifield and Mr. Wayne Davis
Mr. and Mrs. John Besser	Mr. and Mrs. Robert I. Owens
Mr. Oliver Bouchier	Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Pfannenstiehl
Ms. Greer Candler	Mr. and Mrs. David Root
Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Clagett	Mr. and Mrs. William Sherden
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Clarke	Ms. Sandra C. Steele and Mr. Paul S. Greenfield
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Mr. and Mrs. David Finley	Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Winthrop
Ms. Keeta Gilmore	
Ms. Diane Gipson	
Ms. Elizabeth H. Heide	

COLLECTIONS CONSERVATION PROJECT

The Nichols House Museum would like to thank the following generous donors

Anonymous
Meghan and Brian Awe
Sarah Biller and Dean Gekas
Oliver Bouchier
Elizabeth M. Campanella
Andrea and Gordon Clagett
Molly Clark and William Simmons
Anne V. Conner
Carol Deane
Sarah and Walter Donovan
Kate Enroth and Dana Schmaltz
Kimberlea and Stephen Jeffries
Jean Lawrence and Peter Petri
Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Fund (Mass Cultural Council &
MassDevelopment)
Martha McNamara and Jim Bordewick
Maureen and Jim Mellowes
Meghan Melvin
Ann Merrifield and Wayne Davis
Therese Minton
Parthenon Capital Foundation
Julia and Fred Pfannenstiehl
Lynne and Mark Rickabaugh
Christine and David Root
Amy E. Ryan and Harold Carroll
Molly and William Sherden
Julie Solz
Sandra C. Steele and Paul S. Greenfield
Uncle Larry's Fund
Meghan Weeks
Emi and William Winterer
Georgina Winthrop

ROSE STANDISH NICHOLS AWARD SPONSORS

The Nichols House Museum would like to thank the following generous donors

David Beck & Gregory Van Boven
Meredith & Eugene Clapp
Barbara & Amos Hostetter
Beth Johnson
The Owens Family

Carol Deane
Kate Enroth & Dana Schmaltz
Kimberlea & Stephen Jeffries
Lillie & Ned Johnson
Sandra Steele & Paul Greenfield

In Honor of Elizabeth Owens
Naomi Aberly, The Lebowitz Aberly Family Foundation
Leslie Singleton Adam
Ruth S. Bell
Suzanne & John Besser
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Wendy Shattuck & Sam Plimpton
Judy & Normand Reed Smith
Julie Sprague
Lee T Sprague
Charlotte & David Thibodeau

ANNUAL FUND

The Nichols House Museum would like to thank the following generous donors

Anonymous
Rodney Armstrong
Meryl Beckingham
Suzanne and John Besser
Elizabeth M. Campanella
Anne V. Conner
Linda Cox
Carol Deane
Karin and Charles Dumbaugh
Kate Enroth and Dana Schmaltz
William Finch
Hilary and Christopher Gabrieli
Steven Gaskin
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Susan Schenck & Steve Goodwin
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Lise and Myles Striar
Mary Thomsen and Harold Weintraub
Elizabeth Townsend
Kristin and Paul Trautman
Sarah Treco
Nancy Tye
Laurie and Alexander Webb
Constance White

MUSEUM COMMITTEES 2019-2020

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Mona Sadler

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Georgina Winthrop

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Linda Marshall, *ex officio*

INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

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William Winterer

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Mona Sadler
William Sherden
Julie Solz
Paula Stookey
David Thibodeau
Meghan Weeks
Georgina Winthrop

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We appreciate the work of the staff, interns, and volunteers who are indispensable to the effective running of the

Museum. Here we would like to give special recognition to the wonderful people who help us make our visitors' experience at the Museum the best possible.

VOLUNTEER DOCENTS
Anna Audycki
Veena Damodar
Kathryn Fields
Nadine Kirby
Frances McNamara
Steven O'Donnell
Kara Wasilauski
Evan Wenner

INTERNS
Alexandra Steed
Rosanna Wright

RESEARCH
Rosemary Foy

2019 JULIE LINSDELL
AND GEORGIA
LINSDELL ENDERS
RESEARCH FELLOW
Astrid Tvetenstrand

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Monika Z. Pauli,
Pauli & Uribe Architects

WINDOW BOX DESIGN & GARDEN MAINTENANCE
Donated by Wisteria & Rose

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Linda Marshall
Executive Director

Laura Cunningham
Curator of Collections & Education

Charlotte Wittmann
Development & Communications Coordinator

Stephanie Hall
Visitors Services Representative

Liz Weisblatt
Visitor Services Representative

Kara Wasilauski
Temporary Administrative Assistant

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT

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www.nicholshousemuseum.org

ROSE STANDISH NICHOLS AWARD



Lizzie Owens, Honoree Bidy Owens, Maggie Moran



Wayne Davis, NHM Board President
Sandy Steele, Ann Merrifield



Sharon Malt, NHM Governor Christine Root

ROSE STANDISH NICHOLS AWARD



Award Reception at the Union Club



Sally Hinkle, Roger Servison, Meg Lilly

ROSE STANDISH NICHOLS AWARD



Lynn Neligan, Co-Chair Beth Campanella, Nancy Grogan, David Neligan



Honoree Biddy Owens, Meredith Clapp

ROSE STANDISH NICHOLS AWARD



Co-Chair Kimberlea Jeffries, Barbara Hostetter



Greg Van Boven, David Beck



Leslie Adam, Kim Stockwell, Dana Schmalz

PATRONS' PROGRAM



Patrons' private tour of the exhibition "Women Take the Floor" at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, November 2019.



Detail from *Self Portrait: The Algerian Tunic* by Polly Thayer, 1927. On view in the exhibition "Women Take the Floor" at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.

PATRONS' PROGRAM



Patrons' private tour of the Poorvu Family Conservation Center at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, February 2020.



PROGRAMS



Nichols House Museum Curator of Collections and Education, Laura Cunningham shows a dress from the National Society of Colonial Dames of America costume collection to attendees during the program Nichols after Dark: 1920s Fashion. The program was led by dress and textile historian and Nichols House Museum Visitor Services Representative Elizabeth Weisblatt (pictured below), January 2020.





Museum members tour the Longfellow House & Gardens in Cambridge, June 2019.



Panel discussion on women working in landscape architecture today as part of exhibition programming for The Gardens of Rose Standish Nichols: 1890-1930.

PROGRAMS



Nichols House staff member Kara Wasilauski helps Free Fun Friday visitors make a paper flower inspired by Rose Standish Nichols' gardens, June 2019.



The Design Your Own Garden coloring station was a Free Fun Friday hit!
Also the stickers...

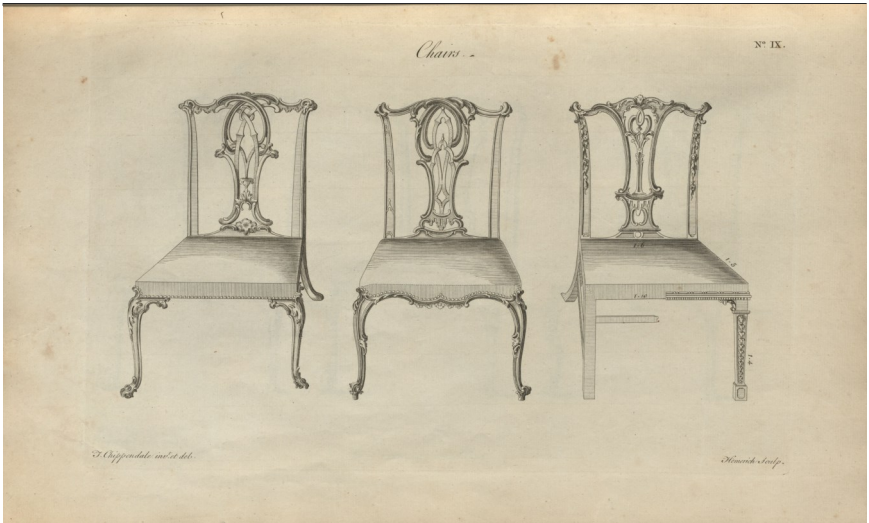


Furniture maker Ellen Kaspfern demonstrates wood inlay to Free Fun Friday visitors, June 2019.

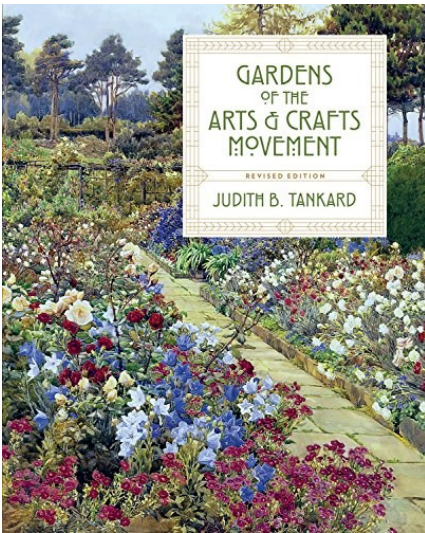


A small Free Fun Friday visitor considers the Federal case clock, June 2019.

LECTURES



Brock Jobe, *In Search of Good Design: The Impact of British Design Books on 18th-Century American Furniture*. September 2019. Image courtesy of Winterthur Museum, Garden, and Libraries.



Judith Tankard, *Gardens of the Arts and Crafts Movement*. May 2019.



Maggie Dimock, *Harriet Joor*, Newcomb Pottery, and the Arts and Crafts Movement. February 2020.

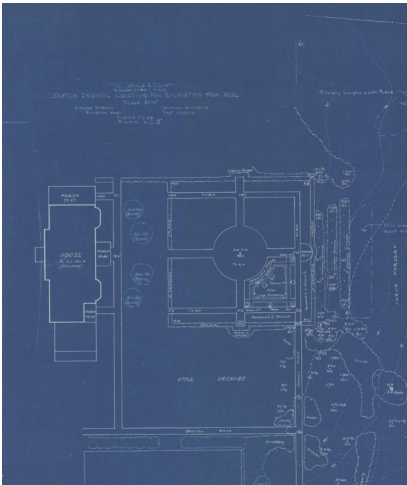
JULIE LINDELL AND GEORGIA LINDELL ENDERS RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP LECTURE



Astrid Tvetenstrand, *Abroad Inspirations, American Realities: European Influences on Rose Standish Nichols's American Garden Landscape Designs*. Image: Sculptures at Havenwood, Courtesy of the Lake Forest College Library Special Collections.

EXHIBITIONS

The Gardens of Rose Standish Nichols: 1890-1930



Olmstead Firm 1922 blueprint and photographs of the existing gardens at Green Meadow Farm in Williamstown, MA designed by Rose Standish Nichols.

NEIGHBORHOOD OPEN HOUSE

Rose Standish Nichols's 148th Birthday, January 2020



GROUP VISITS



The Nichols House Museum hosted numerous group visits throughout the year. Above left: Arrowstreet Architecture and Design, Below left: Our school-age friends at Boston Explorers visited the Nichols House Museum twice this year.



HOLIDAYS AT THE MUSEUM



Our holiday decorations took inspiration from late Victorian Christmas celebrations and our all-faith Votes for Women tree and parlor decorations recognized the suffrage centennial.



COLLECTIONS CONSERVATION PROJECT



Scaffolding on north façade, fall 2019.

Air-cooled condensing units for 4th floor.



COLLECTIONS CONSERVATION PROJECT



Upgraded air-cooled condensing unit for floors one through three of the Museum.



Weil-McLain cast iron boiler installed in basement.



One of two side-stream dehumidifier units, this one in the attic servicing the archive and collections storage area.

THANK YOU, WISTERIA & ROSE!



Wiseria & Rose donated their time, materials and creative vision to bring beauty and a new irrigation system to the front garden at 55 Mount Vernon Street.



Nichols House Museum team field trip to Cornish, New Hampshire.
August 2019.

