

## Virtual Field Trips from Mystic Seaport Museum

Our virtual programs keep students engaged and make the Museum come alive, and are delivered via Zoom and other video conferencing software based on what the school uses. Our virtual programs always include an educator and a moderator to facilitate the discussion over the chat. In addition to all the virtual programs we delivered last spring, we have new virtual programs available as well this year. These new programs use a combination of behind-the-scenes pre-recorded footage and videos, up close and personal artifact analysis, and live footage from the vessels and exhibits on the Museum grounds. While of course nothing beats students actually being able to come to the Museum, our virtual programs are the next best thing and actually allow students to experience never-before-seen footage that we have not been able to incorporate into our in-person programming in the past. Please note that up to 100% financial aid is available.

To register email [reservations@mysticseaport.org](mailto:reservations@mysticseaport.org) or call 860-572-5331. For questions about the content of the programs contact Sarah Cahill at [sarah.cahill@mysticseaport.org](mailto:sarah.cahill@mysticseaport.org) or 860-324-3989. See program descriptions below.

### Logistical details for school programs

- Programs cost \$225 per program; financial aid is available up to 100% if needed.
- Programs are 45-75 minutes depending on the program (time is noted next to each program description).
- We use Zoom for our programs with a capacity of 500, but we recommend no more than 100 participants per program. We can use Google Meet or other platforms if needed.
- When possible, participants are encouraged to have their videos on, and we have participants muted unless it is a small group. A staff moderator will field questions from the chat throughout the program—interactivity through questions and comments related to the content of the program via the chat is encouraged!
- At least two days before your program, our staff will send you a personalized Zoom link that you can then share with your students if they are doing the program from home.

### Maritime History and Artifact Investigations

#### **Life in a Seaport Town (grades 3-12) 75 minutes (can be scaled down to 60 minutes if needed)**

Students will learn about what life was like in a coastal town in the 1800s. Using a combination of brief videos, artifact analysis, and live tours of vessels and exhibits from the grounds of Mystic Seaport Museum, students will have the opportunity to learn about what it was like to go to school, work in a trade, and participate in domestic life in a maritime community.



#### **19th Century Whaling and the Charles W. Morgan (grades 3-12) 75 minutes (can be scaled down to 60 minutes if needed)**

This program explores the history of 19th century whaling through the lens of the last wooden whaleship in the world, and one of the star artifacts at Mystic Seaport Museum, the Charles W. Morgan. Learn how and why Americans went to sea for more than a century, in search of the great leviathans; learn about the true tale that inspired Herman Melville to write Moby-Dick; and see rare artifacts from the Museum's collection that connect to American whaling history. This program uses a combination of brief videos, artifact analysis, and live tours of vessels and exhibits from the grounds of the Museum.



#### **Conversations in 1876: Meet a Mystic Seaport Museum Roleplayer! (grades 2-12) 45-60 minutes**

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to speak with someone from the past? With the roleplayers of Mystic Seaport Museum, we invite you to do just that! Through the art of first-person interpretation, our roleplayers blend historical research, historical perspective, and emotional connection to bring the past to life. Based in our country's centennial year of 1876, each presentation includes a composite character that shares their personal accounts through storytelling and audience interaction, creating a unique education experience that

can broaden your students' understanding of history at the local, national, and international levels. Several themed programs are available including immigration, whaling, and life ashore.



### **Music of the Sea (grades 3-12) 45-60 minutes**

Sing along with one of the Museum's renowned musician educators. Our chantey staff can make sailors' work come alive with stories told through music. Students are invited to become crew members as they join in a chorus, picture the events in a ballad or use a chantey as a tool to help accomplish hard work like raising sail from their home or classroom. Students will learn about the history of sea chanteys and their use, and participate in interactive songs with a live musician.



### **From Corsets to Coopers: Primary Sources from 19th Century Whaling (grades 4-12) 45-60 minutes**

Using artifacts from our collection, reproductions, historic images, and video footage, students will gain a deeper understanding of New England whaling in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. Students will learn about our collection, why Museums collect things, the what and why of whaling, and discuss what can be learned from primary sources.



### **The Story of the *Gerda III*: Rescuing Jews During WWII (grades 4-12) 75 minutes (can be scaled down to 60 minutes if needed)**

This program uses the resources of several institutions to tell the story of the boat *Gerda III*, a Danish lighthouse tender that played a critical role in carrying Jews to safety in Sweden during October of 1943. Students will experience survivor accounts, oral histories, and behind the scenes footage on the vessel. Specific connections to the book *Number the Stars* can be made for classes that are reading that book. This program is a partnership between The Museum of Jewish Heritage: A Living Memorial to the Holocaust, the Holocaust Center of Pittsburgh, and Mystic Seaport Museum.



### **The Story of the *Amistad* (grades 4-12) 60 minutes**

This new joint program of Mystic Seaport Museum and Discovering Amistad tells the story of the *Amistad* and how it serves as an example of how citizens and communities, working together, can bring about landmark change. Using the legacy of the 1839 *Amistad* Uprising, the program bridges history and the challenges of that time to present-day issues of inequity. The program features behind the scenes footage from the vessel itself, and a special Planetarium show that showcases changes in the night sky as seen by the *Amistad* Africans on their return trip to Sierra Leone, and the role that celestial navigation played in this local story.



### **History Detectives: Primary Source Inquiry (grades 5-12) 45-60 minutes**

Broadcast live from our Museum Studios into your classroom, a Museum Educator will guide students through the analysis of primary source documents and artifacts from the Museum's collection to help develop their historical thinking skills. Themes include "Whaling" and "Life in a Seaport Town."



### **In the Footsteps of Charlotte Doyle (grades 5-12) 75 minutes (can be scaled down to 60 minutes if needed)**

In this program, students will explore parallels between *The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle* by Avi and the resources, artifacts, and ships of Mystic Seaport Museum, including the *Charles W. Morgan*.



### **Sailor's Sea Chest (grades K-5) 45-60 minutes**

In this virtual version of one of our most beloved school outreach programs, students will explore the items that a sailor would have packed for a long journey at sea. Students will analyze each of the objects and learn about the adventures on board 19th-century ships.



### **Scrimshaw: The Sailor's Art (grades 4-12) 60 minutes**

Learn about the sailor's art of scrimshaw in this interactive program and create a piece of modern scrimshaw alongside a Museum Educator! Please book at least three (3) weeks in advance in order to ship materials.



### **The Cabinet of Curiosities: A Peek into the Unusual at Mystic Seaport Museum (grades 4-12) 45-60 minutes**

Every year, thousands of people visit Mystic Seaport Museum to explore the world-class exhibits, climb aboard tall ships, and learn about life on sea and shore. But many people are unaware of the vast collections of artifacts, documents, photography, rare books, boats, ship's plans and film and video at the Museum! This program will take you on an adventure behind locked doors into the "vault" that stores the Museum collections. Within the collection are many unusual and surprising artifacts. Virtual visitors will have a chance to see everything from unusual animal parts and strange furniture, to a curious secret ingredient used in some perfumes.



### **Astronomy and Navigation**

#### **Zoo in the Sky - A Program for Little Ones from the Treworgy Planetarium (grades K-3) 45-60 minutes**

This program will unlock your child's imagination to see animal shapes in the stars! After sharing a story about one of the animal constellations, we will "connect the dots" together as we tour the "zoo" in the sky. We will end with a short craft activity where we can turn your favorite animals into constellations.



### **Design A Mission (grades 4-8) 45-60 minutes**

This program introduces students to the engineering process behind space exploration missions. After establishing how technology has enabled us to reach further and further into space, students will recognize that some missions have been successful while others have not. Students will then be assigned into teams and given the chance to design their own spacecraft and mission. The success of each team's mission will be dependent on a series of carefully-considered choices. After designing their spacecraft, we will view a customized simulation of each team's mission.



### **In the Footsteps of Galileo (grades 5-12) 45-60 minutes**

An important aspect of critical thinking in the science world is the ability to use observations and data collection to make predictions about the future. This program challenges students to take on the role of the famous astronomer Galileo Galilei, and to see exactly what he saw centuries ago as he sought to explain the mysteries of outer space. In this workshop, we will take Galileo's observations of the four large moons around Jupiter, and provide historical context into the magnitude of his findings. We will then take a small sample of data, make precise predictions about what will happen next, and evaluate the results.



### **Navigation through the Famous Explorers (grades 4-12) 45-60 minutes**

Join us to learn about navigation through the lens of famous explorers. We will examine the instruments and tools used by Columbus, Magellan, and other famous navigators. Ultimately, we will make a connection between technological improvements and safer, more precise movement around the globe. We will finish the program by using some common household supplies to build a simple navigation tool that you can try out yourself!



### **Night Sky Update from the Treworgy Planetarium at Mystic Seaport Museum (all ages) 45-60 minutes**

Join us to explore the current night sky! We will share information about the moon, visible planets, and the constellations that are visible this time of year – where they are and how to find them in the sky. By the end of our program, you'll have everything you need for some backyard stargazing.



### **Patterns of Change (grades K-5) 45-60 minutes**

This program explores the very first concepts of Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) Earth and Space Science covered in early elementary grades. Our dynamic world is always moving, and always changing, and after centuries of people observing patterns in the world around us, we have a greater understanding of the organization of our solar system, galaxy, and universe.



### **Phases of the Moon: A Program from Mystic Seaport Museum's Treworgy Planetarium (grades 4-8) 45-60 minutes**

Using hands-on activities and real-world math problems, students will learn about the phases of the moon and its relationship to Earth. We'll talk about scale models, tides, eclipses, and much more.



### **Scaling the Solar System: A Program from Mystic Seaport Museum's Treworgy Planetarium (grades 4-12) 45-60 minutes**

Some concepts in Astronomy are difficult to convey simply due to the vastness of outer space, or the fact that some objects in our universe are massively larger than Earth. However, small-scale models are a powerful way to overcome these hurdles.

In this session, we will use a variety of models and methods to devise fun ways to express astronomical distances, and also to compare the different sizes of celestial bodies.



### **The Morgan's Guiding Stars (grades 4-12) 45-60 minutes**

Our Planetarium Supervisor will do a live virtual version of this program using software called Stellarium. The program explores what the night sky looked like to whalers aboard the whaling vessel the Charles W. Morgan, using excerpts from the vessel's logbooks to display the night sky views at various times, dates, latitudes and longitude of the Morgan's voyages.

