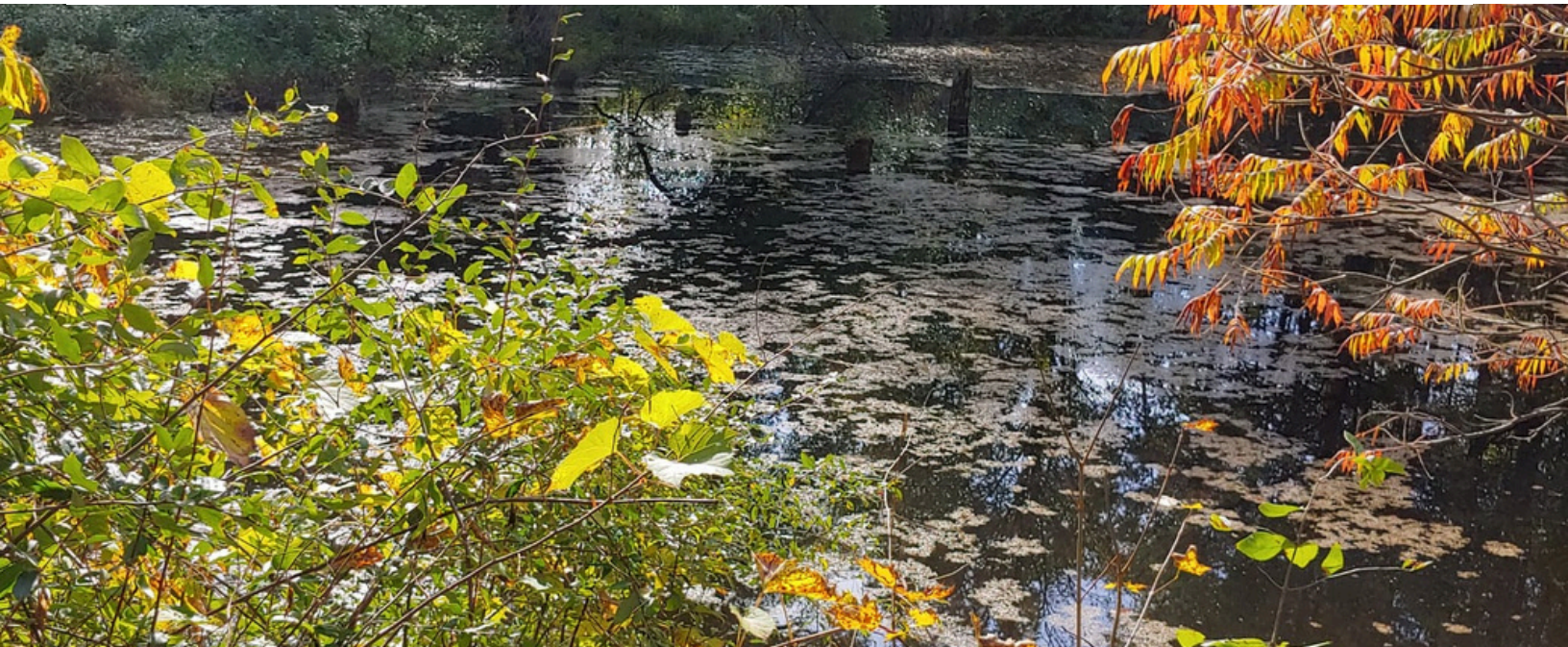


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# CITY NEWSLETTER

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OCTOBER EDITION-2024



## FALL IS HERE!

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Fall is finally here, bringing many exciting events to the City! Be sure to stay updated by checking our Facebook pages and the City website. With school back in session, we also remind everyone to remain cautious and mindful of school buses on the road.

315.363.4800 109 N. Main St. Oneida  
[www.oneidacityny.gov](http://www.oneidacityny.gov)

## CITY MANAGER SEARCH COMMITTEE

We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to the members of the City Manager Search Committee for their time, dedication, and effort in assisting with the selection of a new City Manager. Special thanks to Mayor Rick Rossi, Deputy Mayor and Ward 2 Councilor Steve Laureti, Chairman Peter Hedglon, Vice Chairman Jim Coulthart, Secretary Mike Kaiser, Dan Jones, and Ariel Bero. Your commitment to this important process is deeply appreciated, and we are grateful for all that you have done for the City.

# UPCOMING MEETINGS SCHEDULE

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**01**

OCTOBER

**COMMON COUNCIL MEETING-6:30 P.M.**  
**COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**08**

OCTOBER

**WATER BOARD-3:30 P.M.**  
**WATER DEPT.**  
**PANNING BOARD/ZBA-6:00 P.M.**  
**COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**15**

OCTOBER

**TRAFFIC SAFETY BOARD-2:00 P.M.**  
**COMMON COUNCIL-6:30 P.M.**  
**COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

[www.oneidacityny.gov/meetings](http://www.oneidacityny.gov/meetings)

**CITY OF ONEIDA**  
**WE ARE**  
**HIRING**

**OPEN POSITIONS**



**Planning Director**



**Deputy City Comptroller**



**Water Superintendent**



**Senior Account Clerk-PD**

**Send your resume to:**

**[jkaiser@oneidacityny.gov](mailto:jkaiser@oneidacityny.gov)**



# TOM SIMCHIK



## WARD 6 COUNCILOR



**CONTACT**



**315-247-3367**

**[TSIMCHIK@ONEIDACITYNY.GOV](mailto:TSIMCHIK@ONEIDACITYNY.GOV)**





# GETTING TO KNOW COUNCILOR SIMCHIK



## ABOUT ME

I have been a member of the Common Council for 13 years and was Deputy Mayor for two years (2020-2021). I have 3 children and 3 grandchildren, Spencer, age 2; AJ, one and a half; and Charlie who is 2 months old. I enjoy travelling, especially to Cape Cod and work full-time for the family business-Simchik Hauling.



## MY GOALS

I would like to expand the water district to the rest of Ward 6, as there is a great deal of that district that has poor wells. For the short-term, I am looking forward to the hiring of a City Manager and seeing the vacant positions within City government filled. I also would like to continue assisting residents when I can, which is what I enjoy about this position.



## VISION FOR ONEIDA

Continued growth-We have begun to see more small businesses emerging downtown and throughout the city. Once the projects within the DRI are completed, this growth should accelerate, fostering even more development.





# CITY ATTORNEY

## NADINE C. BELL

## COSTELLO, COONEY & FEARON PLLC

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Nadine Bell is a Partner at Costello Cooney & Fearon PLLC and has been the City Attorney since 2012.

Throughout her career, Nadine has accrued a wealth of experience in representing both municipal and private clients in a variety of representation roles.

As a Municipal Attorney, she focuses on land use and zoning issues, with an emphasis on regulatory interpretation and compliance, highway and public thoroughfare issues, legislation, labor concerns, as well as energy and environmental law matters.

In addition to her municipal representation, Nadine has a great deal of experience with Article 78 Special Proceedings, challenging and defending agency actions, as well as in civil litigation, criminal prosecution, assistance in land-use approvals, and permitting and development sitting processes.



# 9-11 Remembrance Day



Thank you to all who attended and participated in our ceremony. We will never forget.



# CITY NEWS

**"There is no power for change greater than a community discovering what it cares about."**



## MARRIAGE LICENSES

- By appointment only
- Both applicants must be present
- 24 Hour waiting period
- \$40 Application Fee
- Proper ID required
- Good in NYS only
- License good for 60 days
- Proper documentation as required by NYS

## CITY MANAGER

The process of finding and hiring a City Manager is in the final stages. The top three candidates met with City Department Heads, members of the Common Council and members of the public in a series of special meetings, where they were able to offer a presentation and answer questions. The Committee will give a final presentation to Council on September 24th, along with their recommendation.



## VETERANS SERVICE AGENCY

"Madison County's Veterans Service Agency celebrated the grand opening of the new Madison County Mission First Veterans Community Center, at 1065 Northside Plaza, with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Thursday. The center, which had a "soft" opening earlier this year is designed to be a welcoming space for veterans and their families to connect, receive support, and thrive.

The center was made possible with funding from the Gorman Foundation and the New York State PFC Joseph P. Dwyer Peer Support Program."

Courtesy: Rome Sentinel

# **October Fire Prevention Newsletter:**

## **Ignite Awareness**

**Dear Residents of Oneida,**

As we embrace the beauty of autumn, let's also take a moment to ensure our homes and loved ones are safe. Here are some fire prevention tips to keep in mind this October:

### **1. Candle Safety:**

- With shorter days, candles may be tempting for ambiance. Remember to keep them at least 12 inches away from anything flammable and never leave them unattended.

### **2. Check Your Smoke Alarms:**

- October is a great time to test your smoke alarms. Press the test button to ensure they work and replace batteries if needed. If your alarms are over 10 years old, consider replacing them.

### **3. Practice Safe Cooking:**

- As we head into holiday cooking, stay attentive in the kitchen. Keep flammable items like dish towels and paper products away from the stovetop, and never leave cooking food unattended.

### **4. Fire Pit Precautions:**

- If you enjoy outdoor fire pits, ensure they are at least 10 feet away from structures and overhanging branches. Have a bucket of water or a fire extinguisher nearby just in case.

### **5. Stay Warm Safely:**

- As temperatures drop, space heaters can be a cozy option. Ensure they are placed on flat surfaces, away from flammable materials, and never leave them running while you sleep.

### **6. Halloween Safety:**

- When decorating for Halloween, opt for LED lights instead of candles in jack-o'-lanterns. Keep pathways clear and well-lit to avoid accidents.

### **7. Plan Your Escape:**

- Make sure your family has a fire escape plan. Practice it regularly, and ensure everyone knows two ways out of every room.

### **8. Keep Fire Extinguishers Handy:**

- Ensure that you have at least one fire extinguisher in your home, especially in the kitchen. Familiarize yourself with how to use it!

**Remember: Fire safety is a year-round commitment, but October serves as a great reminder to reinforce these practices in our daily lives.**

**Stay safe and warm, Oneida! Together, we can keep our community protected from the unexpected.**

**Yours in safety, Timothy Hartley, Fire Prevention Officer**





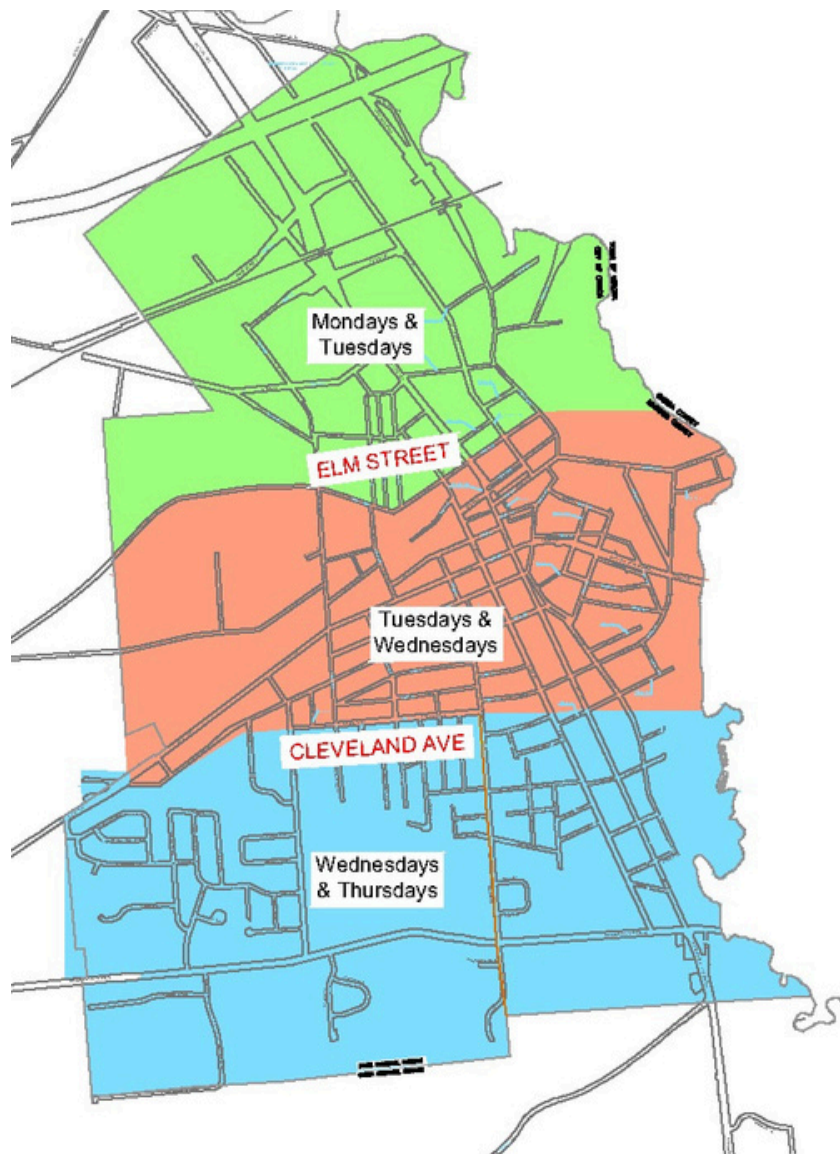
# CITY OF ONEIDA

## 2024 City-wide Fall Cleanup

The City of Oneida, Department of Public Works will begin the annual ***City-wide Fall Cleanup*** on **Monday, October 21st, 2024**, and shall continue while weather permits. Below you will find a map depicting cleanup areas and a general schedule, along with requirements of the Cleanup. Please note that this will be the **last** green waste pickup for 2024.

**NOTICE: THIS IS NOT A SET SCHEDULE.** DPW Staff may reach areas earlier or later in the week depending on weather conditions and the quantity of materials encountered. DPW Staff will start in the Northern section of the City and work their way south as the week progresses.

### 1. Schedule Map





## **2. Fall Cleanup 101**

- **Place loose leaf piles between the sidewalk and street for pickup. Do not place leaves in the roadway.** Leaves in the road can become a traffic hazard and clog storm drains causing flooding.
- **Place only leaves in loose piles for pickup.** Branches and non-yard waste material in piles could damage the leaf vacuum and injure crew members.
- **Do not place leaves around utility poles, trees or hydrants.** Leaf piles located around above-ground structures slows down the crews. Leaves covering hydrants create an emergency response hazard and may cause injury to crews operating equipment.
- **Place Bags or Branches/Brush in separate pile from loose leaves.**
- **“Inside District” residents do not need to call DPW or submit request for pickup.** Schedule Map above dictates pickup dates, and individual requests will not be accepted.
- **“Outside District” residents need to call 315-363-7222 to request their green waste pickup. DPW will be doing a pickup of “Outside District” by November 11th.**
- **The City offers self-drop-off if residents do not want to wait for pick-up.** Residents can drop-off green waste at our site off of Route 5 (entrance next to Oneida Creek bridge) between the hours of 8:30AM-3PM Mon-Thurs, and 8:30AM – 10AM Fri. No commercial green waste is allowed.
- **Additional Comments/Questions?** Call the Public Works office at 315.363.7222.

*Thank you for your cooperation in keeping our City clean!*

# MADISON COUNTY News



## RABIES CLINIC

The last rabies clinic of this year will be held on October 26th from 10:00 to 1:00 at the Madison County Highway Garage, 139 N. Court St. in Wampsville.

Call: 315-366- 2526, or visit [healthymadisoncounty.org](http://healthymadisoncounty.org) for more information and to schedule an appointment. This is free to Madison County residents, although a \$7 donation is appreciated!



## Mary Egger-Board of Elections Commissioner

Madison County Board of Elections Commissioner, Mary Egger, was recently sworn in as President of the New York State Election Commissioners Association. The ECA represents New York's election professionals working at boards of elections in sixty two rural and urban counties. We are very proud of this great designation and wish her well in her new role!



## NYSAC CONFERENCE

Supervisors Matt Roberts, Mary Cavanagh and Michelle Kinville attended the NYSAC Fall Conference Sept. 9-11 in Monticello at the Resorts World Catskills.

Uniting local government with one voice at the historic site of the 1969 Woodstock Festival, participants were able to attend meetings and workshops and connect with other municipal leaders to share ideas, mingle with sponsors and exhibitors and learn new ways to turn challenges into opportunities and successful solutions.





# NYSAC FALL CONFERENCE

A big thank you to Sullivan County for  
hosting and to NYSAC for pushing our  
conversations and communities forward!

SHARING IDEAS

20  
24





# JOIN US! FALL FEST



**SATURDAY**  
**OCTOBER 5, 2024**  
**11:00-4:00 P.M.**  
**MOTT STREET**

A day of Family Fun for All





**CITY OF  
ONEIDA**



# **HALLOWEEN**

## **LIGHT FIGHT**

**REGISTER YOUR HOME  
FOR YOUR CHANCE TO  
WIN A PRIZE!**

Submit your address by:  
**OCTOBER 23, 2024**

*Send your entries to*  
**ONEIDA'S ANNUAL HALLOWEEN  
LIGHT FIGHT**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

**[WWW.ONEIDACITYNY.GOV/RU/PAGE/HALLOWEEN-LIGHT-FIGHT](http://WWW.ONEIDACITYNY.GOV/RU/PAGE/HALLOWEEN-LIGHT-FIGHT)**

**ONEIDA RESIDENTS ONLY PLEASE!**



# Attention: Road Closure

CLEVELAND AVENUE

On Halloween, Thursday, October 31st, Cleveland Ave. will be closed from Seneca Street to Oxford Street from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm for trick-or-treating.

As this street is a popular location for families and children to enjoy trick-or-treating, we believe that closing the road partially during this time will greatly reduce the risk of accidents and provide a safer environment for everyone involved. We would like to do something fun for families this year in Oneida, and deem Cleveland Ave "Trick or Treat Street". Not only would it be safer, but it would be a fun gathering for the community.







**CHILDREN'S  
ADVOCACY  
CENTER**

MADISON COUNTY, NY

**PREVENT. PROTECT. EMPOWER.**

# **5K RUN/WALK**

**Lace Up for Fun and to Help  
End Child Abuse.**

**SATURDAY**

**► OCTOBER 5, 2024**

**8:30AM**



Location:

**Wilson Street, Oneida, NY**



Registration



Pay or Donate



**Can be done virtually or in person.  
For more information go to [www.madisoncounty.ny.gov](http://www.madisoncounty.ny.gov)**

## **Prevent. Protect. Empower. 5K Run/Walk**

You can make a difference and support the Madison County Children's Advocacy Center as they work to end child abuse and provide children in crisis with free support, services and hope for the future. The Friends of Madison County Children's Advocacy Center INC. is hosting a 5K run/walk on October 5, 2024.

Sign up to walk or run 3.1 miles (5K) on October 5, or just donate to help prevent, protect and empower our children. Registration starts at 8:30 AM, the walk begins at 9:00 AM and the Run begins at 9:30 AM. Everything kicks off on Wilson Street in the City of Oneida. It only costs \$35 to take part, and the price includes a t-shirt. Join with family, friends, your canine running buddy, by yourself, or with a team. You can even take part virtually. With your help, can reach the goal of \$2,000 and continue the work we've set out to do in this campaign.

Here in Madison County, the Madison County Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) facilitates a collaborative and trauma-sensitive system response to the county's most serious child abuse reports. The goal is to reduce child trauma, hold offenders accountable and offer services to begin the healing process. In 2023, the CAC served 178 children. Also last year, the CAC became a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, the Friends of Madison County Child Advocacy Center, to assist with fundraising.

The Madison County CAC takes the role to coordinate, integrate and facilitate a multidisciplinary team of professionals and provides the physical space where cases of child sexual and physical abuse, whenever possible and practical, are investigated, evaluated and treated. The CAC began as a multidisciplinary team, known as the MDT, in 2003. It grew to a CAC in 2008 and just last year became a non-profit organization. Each staff member at the Madison County CAC has the primary goal of providing the best services possible to children and families who are afflicted by sexual and physical abuse.

Remember one child is one too many. To report abuse contact the NYS Child Abuse Hotline at 1-800-342-3720.

Registration: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/prevent-protect-empower-5k-runwalk-tickets-1000297726427?aff=oddttdtcreator>

Pay Registration Fee or Donate: [https://www.paypal.com/donate?campaign\\_id=SKUHVW7WTN4H6](https://www.paypal.com/donate?campaign_id=SKUHVW7WTN4H6)



Please join us for



# Hall of Fame

## INDUCTION WEEKEND

To celebrate and honor the inductees for their contributions and develop pride in the rich athletic traditions. These inductees are role models exemplifying Oneida's commitment to academics, community and athletic excellence.

## HONORING

**Lee Pisacano 1991** **Kelli Rigabar 1994**  
**Boys Volleyball team 2014** **Boys Wrestling team 1986**  
**Joe Rigabar 1997** **Tyler Havener 2014**

## FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2024

6:00pm- Private Reception (Fariel Gym) for inductees, their family, and nominators. Reception and viewing of Touch Screen Kiosk.

7:00pm - Open to the public (football field), Halftime presentation

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2024

12:00 pm - Awards Ceremony (OHS Auditorium)

\$25 per person\* At the conclusion of the Awards Ceremony, a luncheon will be served in the Cafeteria.

\*Complimentary tickets are reserved for Inductees and OHS students are admitted free of charge.

## \*RSVP\* AWARDS CEREMONY

Please purchase tickets by October 18.

Please follow link at [www.oneidaathletichof.com/events](http://www.oneidaathletichof.com/events) to register.

Feel free to email [info@oneidaathletichof.com](mailto:info@oneidaathletichof.com) with any questions.



## Bicentennial Research Project

**Overview** In partnership with historical organizations, colleges, and universities across New York, the Erie Canal Museum is excited to announce a public call for new research on the Erie Canal. This initiative aims to produce original, transformative research papers that enhance our understanding of the Erie Canal and contribute to a forthcoming publication. Scholars will have the freedom to choose their research topics, with special consideration given to scholars who explore the Erie Canal Museum's bicentennial theme of *(R)Evolution*s, work towards the Museum's objectives of broadening Canal narratives, or focus their research on place-based history.

The Erie Canal Museum's theme for 2025 will be *(R)Evolution*s as described below: Throughout its history, the Erie Canal has been an agent of change and transformation, both gradual and abrupt. The Canal has been revolutionary in its own right while simultaneously being shaped by and influencing other revolutions of its day. It has been a continually evolving waterway, adapting throughout its history to meet the needs and demands of the communities it flowed through and connected. These changes echo into the present in both positive and negative ways that we continue to grapple with historically. As we commemorate the bicentennial of the Erie Canal's completion in 2025, the Erie Canal Museum aims to examine these diverse, transformative impacts on peoples and places in the past, present, and future. Submissions will be judged by a panel of canal experts, with top papers being awarded prizes and/or being reproduced in a publication produced by the Museum.

**Purpose** The bicentennial of the Erie Canal (2017-2025) has sparked increased interest and investment. We hope to use this historic anniversary period and moment of increased interest to address the lack of modern, multi-dimensional, diverse narratives in Erie Canal scholarship. This project seeks to address this gap by encouraging scholars to develop original research that provides a more inclusive, holistic perspective of the Erie Canal. Our goal is to foster scholarly work that broadens interpretations of the Canal and preserves recent insights through a published collection, benefiting both the academic community and the Erie Canal Museum's sustainability.





## Bicentennial Research Project

### Timeline

- **Fall 2024:** Initial call for research
- **June 30, 2025:** Submission deadline for final research papers
- **Summer 2025:** Judging period for submissions
- **September 2025:** Announcement of awards by Labor Day and presentation of awards at the Buffalo World Canals Conference in late September
- **End of 2025:** Publication of selected research, timed for October 26, the bicentennial of the Canal's opening

### Eligibility

This call is open to all, including students and faculty from history departments, as well as independent researchers. There are no restrictions on the number of papers a single individual may submit.

### Submission Guidelines:

Submit your final research papers by June 30, 2025. These should be well-researched, adhere to academic standards, and align with the project's bicentennial theme.

Special consideration will be given to research focusing on marginalized communities, unique aspects of Canal history, and place-based history that could inform Pomeroy Foundation historic markers throughout New York State. We encourage you to visit local archives near you. You may wish to refer to the

### Erie Canal Museum's finding aids

(<https://www.empireadlc.org/search/repositories/nysyecm>)

or the **New York States Archives' Guide to Canal Records**

([https://www.archives.nysed.gov/sites/archives/files/res\\_topics\\_trans\\_canal.pdf](https://www.archives.nysed.gov/sites/archives/files/res_topics_trans_canal.pdf)).

The maximum word limit for final papers is 15,000 words, though this is flexible. All citations must conform to the Chicago Manual of Style. Include a short bio in your submission package (less than 200 words). Ensure the final submission package is in PDF format.

### Contact

For more information and to submit final papers, please contact the Erie Canal Museum at [research@eriecanalmuseum.org](mailto:research@eriecanalmuseum.org)

We look forward to your contributions to this pivotal exploration of Erie Canal history and its enduring legacy.