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Highlights from July 1, 2020–June 30, 2021





OUR MISSION

The Emily Dickinson Museum's mission is to spark the imagination by amplifying Emily Dickinson's revolutionary poetic voice from the place she called home.

ON THE COVER (top left to bottom right) Inkwell with monogrammed "D" on lid; Fireplace bellows; Ceramic vase; Plaster bust of Edward Austin "Ned" Dickinson, Emily's nephew, Decorative urn; Ceramic rabbit figurine; Washbasin with image of the Erie Canal; Pewter teapot with hinged lid

Winter under cultivation Is as arable as Spring F1720

During this last year and a half – a winter of unexpected challenge on many fronts – Emily Dickinson's words have echoed around the world, offering comfort and courage in equal measure. Here at the Museum, our time of closure has, paradoxically, been an exhilarating period of cultivation and growth – in connecting with virtual audiences, completing plans for the Museum's interpretive priorities, undertaking a spectacular restoration effort, and charting a long-range course into a luminous future.



To be sure, recognition of Emily Dickinson in the collective cultural consciousness has been on the rise, and the Museum has happily found itself at the center of the

buzz. Her revolutionary poetic voice has resonated globally and loudly. We've met and engaged thousands of virtual program attendees from scores of countries around the world and have been awed and inspired by their generous reflections on the power of Dickinson's enduring voice.

The digital and global communities brought into being by the pandemic found special resonance with the 2020 Tell It Slant Poetry Festival. Featuring Pulitzer Prize winner Jericho Brown and award-winning poet Ada Limón, the Festival had over 5,700 registrants from 49 states and 60 countries.

As our digital outreach expanded, we advanced our restoration and visitor experience goals by embarking on a substantial restoration of the Homestead interior – a silver lining in the pandemic, indeed. Relying on the restricted bequest from the late William McC. Vickery, we began to put back in place the interior architectural features, finishes, and furnishings of the Homestead as they appeared in Emily Dickinson's lifetime. At the same time, the Museum continued a grant-funded project to catalogue the nearly 10,000 individual items in our collection. Both projects will make the greatest and highest use of the Museum's historic character and add critical details to the understanding of Dickinson's daily life.

In the following pages, you'll see some of our recent accomplishments and, more importantly, the strategic and visionary goals that, in Emily Dickinson's words, are 'Twice as Bold'! The ambitious projects of the last year and our thoughtful plan for the future ensure that the Emily Dickinson Museum is well-positioned to engage greater participation than ever before. As you'll see later in this report, being 'twice as bold' will drive the Museum's continued growth in programs, outreach, education, restoration, and our physical campus. As we approach the 20th anniversary of the Museum in 2023, we are confident that this plan will propel our growth over the next decades. We invite you to be a part of the vision of the Emily Dickinson Museum as the premier center for study, celebration, and creative energy around the poet's life and work!

As ever, your steadfast support is the engine that powers the Museum. As we emerge from a winter under cultivation, we look forward to you joining us when we reopen in our arable spring.

am Wald

JANE H. WALD | EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

What does it mean to spark the imagination during a global pandemic?

During this extraordinary year the Museum learned just how far Emily Dickinson's legacy has travelled, and the ways in which our new virtual world can bring us closer together. In just a year, the Museum went from having never produced virtual programs before, to engaging over 10,000 people with live virtual events alone. Here are a few highlights:





A SECRET TOLD: AN EVENING WITH ALENA SMITH AND MARTHA ACKMANN

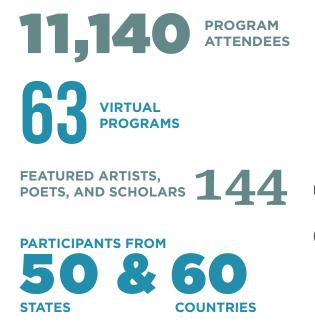
Dickinson biographer Ackmann and Apple TV hit show 'Dickinson' creator Smith sat down for cocktails and intimate conversation at the Homestead with Museum director Jane Wald in June.



EMILY DICKINSON POETRY DISCUSSION GROUP A monthly virtual discussion series met from September to May for close readings and lively conversation. Guest facilitators led explorations on a range of topics including the poet's musical life, fascination with bees, geological understandings, and experience of the Civil War.

THE ANNUAL BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION AND MY EMILY DICKINSON PROJECT

For the poet's 190th birthday celebration in December, 1,200 people from around the world attended a virtual celebration that featured music and messages from the 'My Emily Dickinson Project'. Contributors sent in short videos describing what Dickinson means to them and these unique and poignant stories form a gallery that is available for viewing on the Museum's webpage.



2021 virtual programs

At the Museum, we work to build community with other Dickinsonand poetry-lovers each day.

This community is global, diverse, and deeply passionate. Providing a platform for contemporary creativity is one of the most important ways we celebrate Dickinson's own revolutionary poetic voice at her home and online!

THE ANNUAL POETRY WALK This year's virtual poetry walk commemorated the 135th anniversary of the poet's death on May 15, 1886. Across six stops along the virtual walk, we explored places of significance to the poet in Amherst where volunteer readers shared Dickinson poems and contemporary poets shared Dickinson-inspired works.

VIRTUAL POETRY READINGS



THE TELL IT SLANT POETRY FESTIVAL 2020

The marquee event in the Museum's program calendar, the Poetry Festival, truly found a global audience when it went virtual in September of 2020. Approximately 6,000 people registered for the Festival from 60 countries and 49 states, and turned up in virtual droves to attend 20 programs across the event week. Headlining the Festival were Ada Limón and Jericho Brown, and the Emily Dickinson Poetry Marathon participants read all 1,789 Dickinson poems across 14 hours!



JULY: MICHAEL MERCURIO, HANNAH LARRABEE, NATHAN MCCLAIN AUGUST: REBECCA HART OLANDER. LEAH UMANSKY, OMOTARA JAMES SEPTEMBER: KATHRYN HOLZMAN, CHERYL J. FISH, EILEEN P. KENNEDY **OCTOBER:** RAGE HEZEKIAH, BRIONNE JANAE, TAYLOR JOHNSON **NOVEMBER:** ADALBERTO MÜLLER AND MARCEL RIERA WITH THE TRANSLATION CENTER AT UMASS AMHERST DECEMBER: STUDENTS OF THE LITERACY PROJECT

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MARCH: TERI ELLEN CROSS DAVIS, AMY DRYANSKY, W. TODD KANEKO **APRIL:** JENNIFER FRANKLIN, PHILIP F. CLARK, FRED MARCHANT, **MERVYN TAYLOR** MAY: MELISSA RANGE, **ERICA CHARIS-MOLLING** JUNE: GAIL THOMAS, NICOLE M. YOUNG, AMINA JORDAN-MENDEZ

FROM THE PLACE SHE CALLED HOME

Restoration

WE'VE EMBARKED ON THE NEXT PHASE OF HISTORIC RESTORATION,

which will restore the National Historic Landmark home of one of America's greatest poets to its period of historic significance. The project addresses the interior architectural features, finishes, and furnishings of the Homestead, as well as long-term stabilization with the introduction of new environmental regulating systems in both the Homestead and the Evergreens.

Beginning with grant-funded investigations of the Homestead's architectural and decorative history, the Museum retained preservation architecture firm Mesick Cohen Wilson Baker and decorative arts consultant Marylou Davis, Inc. to develop recommendations and plans for reinstating features of the principal portion of the Homestead built by the poet's grandfather in 1813. Restoration work commenced June 2021 and is expected to be complete in spring 2022.

We are committed to providing visitors with an increasingly authentic experience of the homes and grounds inhabited by the Dickinson family, and this restoration will have a profound impact on that experience. It will not only significantly increase the amount of restored space in the Homestead accessible to guests, but will also add critical details to their understandings of Dickinson's daily life and reshape the image of her most treasured environment.



AS PART OF THIS RESTORATION, the door that welcomed visitors to the Homestead in the mid-19th century is being returned to its proper place! When the main door opening was altered in 1916, the original front door was retained and tucked away in storage. The earlier door will be restored and reinstalled—but only after faithful reproduction of its original etched glass panels.









COLLECTIONS





PROGRESS CONTINUES

on the three-year collections documentation project funded by the Institute for Museum and Library Services. The Museum hired its first Collections Manager and Collections Assistant to carry out the project. At the end of the project, a database will be published on the Museum's website for the public to browse, research and enjoy. So far, more than 3,000 items have been cataloged, including works on paper and household objects.

Objects found in the collection include the wallet belonging to the poet's father Edward, her brother Austin's luggage tag, niece Martha Dickinson Bianchi's perfumes, photographs of the Evergreens from the 1930s, an array of various glass stereographs, and a banjo belonging to the poet's nephew Ned.

ETAPICE 35

I took my Power in my Hand -And went against the World -'Twas not so much as David - had -But I - was twice as bold -

excerpt from F660

"We envision the **Emily Dickinson** Museum as the premier center of innovative approaches to Emily Dickinson's genius – a creative place that fosters curiosity, stimulates personal expression, and celebrates the enduring power of the poet's life and legacy."

JANE WALD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Informed by its recently-completed long range planning process, the Emily Dickinson Museum has embarked on a new chapter of growth aimed at fulfilling its role as a site of unparalleled cultural significance and educational promise. Our plan for the Emily Dickinson Museum boldly prioritizes:

- An expanded, fully restored, and accessible campus
- Leading-edge teaching and learning programs and resources
- Singular visitor experiences both onsite and online
- Increased operational capacity for long-term sustainability

This work is grounded in the essential principles of the Museum's mission:

Spark the Imagination

Inspire new generations of poets, writers, artists, and thinkers to dive deeply into the life of the mind, the power of creativity, and the world around us as Emily Dickinson did, thus bringing her revolutionary poetic voice to life in perpetuity.

KEY PROJECTS INCLUDE:

Developing leading-edge Educational Programs and Resources for K-12, college-level, and lifelong learning

Amplify Emily Dickinson's Revolutionary Poetic Voice

Connect the programs and resources of the Emily Dickinson Museum with scholars, students, and enthusiasts both around the corner and across the globe.

KEY PROJECTS INCLUDE: Building digital engagement capacity, including for Virtual Program Hosting and Conferencing

From the Place She Called Home

Preserve and care for the material legacy of the Dickinson family buildings, grounds, gardens, collections—to enliven and enhance the experience offered to the public and create an environment that accurately reflects the poet in her times.

KEY PROJECTS INCLUDE:

Rebuilding the Evergreens Carriage House and Homestead Barn







Join us. Be a part of the Emily Dickinson Museum's journey by supporting its next steps, celebrating its 20th Anniversary, and securing its bright future.

Visit emilydickinsonmuseum.org/TwiceAsBold for details and more information or contact Nora Maroulis at 413-542-5072. "The Emily Dickinson Museum is a valuable legacy, and it is my privilege to have a small part in its ongoing success." DONALD, NEW MEXICO

"Thank you very much for being a boost to me in London, during a difficult time in life. Lovely to hold on to dear Emily."

ELIZABETH, UNITED KINGDOM

"Dickinson's poetry has been one of the things that have helped me survive some of the sickest times of my life... just as it has - no doubt - helped so many in their lives, and especially during the isolation of this global pandemic! Thank you so much for making your events "attendable" by those of us who cannot travel!" K.D., FLORIDA "I LOVED THIS YEAR'S POETRY MARATHON. WHAT A GIFT TO HEAR DICKINSON'S POEMS READ IN SEQUENCE IN SO MANY VOICES. THANK YOU FOR PUTTING TOGETHER THIS GREAT PROGRAM!" BRUCE MASSACHUSETS

"I love all of the programming that the Emily Dickinson Museum has been producing, both during the pandemic and before! Free and accessible programs are so important, and I want to support more like this in the future."

ANNE, MICHIGAN

Donors to the Emily Dickinson Museum

We are heartened by the extraordinary volume of gifts received from donors between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021. Due to space limitations, we are only able to list donors of \$250 or more in this report. We are extremely grateful to everyone who made gifts of all sizes in support of the Museum's programming, operations, and special projects. Thank you for your generosity.

CUPOLA

\$20,000+

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Marion Roach Smith and Rex Smith in honor of the librarians at the Robert Frost Library

Karen J. Sánchez-Eppler and Benigno R. Sánchez-Eppler including a gift made in honor of Joyce Eppler We met as Sparks - Diverging Flints Sent various - scattered ways -We parted as the Central Flint Were cloven with an Adze -Subsisting on the Light We bore Before We felt the Dark -We knew by change between itself And that etherial Spark. F918

David F. Sheldon in honor of Polly Longsworth

Mary A. Smith including a gift made in memory of Meredith Brook Hiroko Uno

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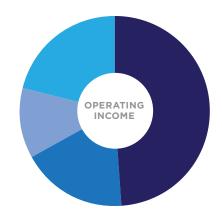
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The Emily Dickinson Museum is grateful for your support. We have made every effort to ensure the accuracy of this information. Please notify the Museum of any errors by contacting development@*EmilyDickinsonMuseum.org or* 413-542-5084.

"THE WAY HOPE BUILDS HIS HOUSE"

Like so many other cultural organizations, the Emily Dickinson Museum experienced a severe downturn in earned revenue from tours, programs, and shop sales during Fiscal Year 2021. At the same time, participation in virtual programming buoyed contributed income during a difficult period with 1,126 unique donors, nearly double the previous year. The Museum emerged from Fiscal Year 2021 in better condition than some peer organizations due to prudent monitoring of expenses during a period of severe challenge and the added security afforded by the William McC. Vickery bequest.

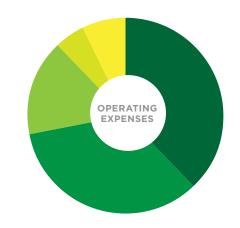


OPERATING INCOME

CONTRIBUTED INCOME	\$372,021	49%	
EARNED INCOME	132,040	18%	
AMHERST COLLEGE	89,000	12%	
INVESTMENT INCOME	156,124	21%	
TOTAL OPERATING FUNDS	\$749,185		

RESTRICTED FUNDS	\$369,833			
RESERVE FUNDS	\$902,607			
ENDOWED FUNDS*				
MARTHA DICKINSON BIANCHI FUND	\$1,086,955			
WILLIAM McC. VICKERY '57 EMILY DICKINSON FUNDS	21,099,634			
GILBERT H. MONTAGUE FUND	536,978			
DAVID T. PORTER FUND	35,098			
TOTAL ENDOWED FUNDS	\$22,758,665			
* Values as of FY20 year-end (June 30, 2020).				

FY21 year-end values pending.



OPERATING EXPENSES

MUSEUM PROGRAM	\$271,131	38%	
GENERAL & ADMINISTRATIVE	246,667	34%	
FUNDRAISING	114,325	16%	
COST OF SHOP SALES	33,217	5%	
PHYSICAL PLANT	51,343	7%	•
TOTAL OPERATING FUNDS	\$716,683		

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EMILY DICKINSON MUSEUM

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