Greetings to all our National Lighthouse Museum supporters...

This summer has flown quickly, proving to be a very busy visitor season and leaving us more enlightened and enthusiastic in seeing a steady growth of our programs and special events. Our tourist season expanded, warranting the addition of another pin map to continue to track our visitation...

Our Keeper’s Gala continues to bring more supporters into the fold and will need a bigger Gala boat next year...

In addition, the Lighthouse Point Fest has tripled its participants this season and our Lighthouse Boat Tours sold out.

Our class trips and senior visits are growing as our beacon of light continues to guide them toward our hidden water-front haven...We are watching on a daily basis as steel rises all around us and the St. George area grows steadily with four hotels slated to arrive—one right next door to the Museum along with a 270 car parking garage. We are also proud to be involved with two public art projects—one sponsored by the DOT Art - Community Commission and the other entitled Reflections and launched by the Richmond County Bank Foundation.

I truly wish all our Lighthouse friends worldwide a brilliant holiday season ahead!

Sincerely,

Linda Dianto, Executive Director
Tourists visiting the National Lighthouse Museum are asked if they would like to pinpoint their country on our map showing visitors to the Museum from all over the world. Here are some of the quotes they left for us:

“Awesome little museum! So interesting and so full of stories. Thank you for the tour.”
E&J from Finland.

“Very educational and eye-opening. May the light be forever lit!”
The Lin Family for China

“Beautiful collection of lighthouses and a lovely summary of the history of lighthouses! Much love from Ireland!”
Aidan

“All the way from South Africa. Thank you for being so friendly, kind, and making my visit interesting!”
Inge

“Great little collection, with a magnificent future.”
Tom

Photos from our friends!

Liane & Jay Seffern
Elbow Cay, Abaco Island off the coast of Miami Beach, Florida

Friends Juliana Romeo and Ariana Ranieri at Lighthouse Point Fest visiting the Billion Oyster Project exhibit.
Another Successful Boat Tour Season

Our boat tour season has come to a close. This season we offered six monthly tours starting with Circumnavigation of the Isle of Staten in May. We repeated this popular tour again in July.

Our two Signature Tours featured our beautiful New York harbor and we saw 10 lighthouses each time. The Sunset Signature tour in June gave us a chance to see lighthouses illuminated and to hear fog horns.

September featured our tour of the East River and Long Island Sound. This tour provided views of Manhattan rarely seen by the average New Yorker or visitor. Experts familiar with the points of interest, provided an informative narrative along the way.

The season ended with our Hudson River tour that took as far as the Tarrytown Light. The Palisades are magnificent when viewed from the water! The 2018 Lighthouse Boat tour season will start in May and tickets will be available late Winter/early Spring. Check your email or our website for upcoming schedule.

www.lighthousemuseum.org
Eleanor Dugan has been with the National Lighthouse Museum since 2015. She volunteers her time as a docent at least once a week on Wednesday mornings. As a retired teacher, Eleanor also runs several of the Museum’s educational programs for children throughout New York City. Serving on the Museum’s event committees, she was instrumental in organizing the Silent Auction at our recent Light Keeper’s Gala. She also enjoys jewelry making and has created and donated many pieces of lighthouse-oriented jewelry for the Museum gift shop. The National Lighthouse Museum staff are very lucky to have Eleanor as a dedicated member of our family.

Janet Hellmann submitted these photos from her recent European vacation. Thanks for sharing, Janet!
**J**uly 23, 2017—The Introduction of the Fresnel Lens into the USLHE – James Risk, PhD, discussed the introduction of the Fresnel lens into the United States and compared its introduction in other countries.

**O**ctober 22 2107—Dr. Robert Marraccino and Dr. Michael Vigorito returned to the Museum to speak to us about the aftermath of the burning of the Quarantine. They spoke to us a year ago about the Quarantine which stood on the present site of the National Lighthouse Museum.

In the 1850’s there was imagined infectious clouds (miasmas) of disease billowing over the walls of the Quarantine, and murdering nearby residents. This fixed in Staten Island residents’ minds that the government was imposing a death sentence without due process.

Frustration with the State Legislature led prominent Staten Islanders to lead a riot, and burn the Quarantine in 1858, but not solve the problem. As the Irish immigration from Europe swelled to become 25% of the total NYC population and commerce with the new country exploded, outbreaks did not go away.

Drs. Marraccino and Vigorito’s extensive research in this subject provided an engrossing insight into this turbulent time.

**A**ugust 5, 2017—As part of Lighthouse Weekend celebration, there were presentations, panel discussions, free tours and public events at the Museum site. Wayne Wheeler, President of the United States Lighthouse Society spoke on “Saving America’s Light Stations: A 30 Year Retrospective.”
National Lighthouse Museum Events

Annual Lighthouse Weekend was celebrated August 4-6 commencing with our Seventh Annual Light Keeper’s Gala aboard the luxury dinner yacht, Cornucopia Destiny.

We were treated to a spectacular sunset water display by the FDNY Marine fire boat. Everyone enjoyed cocktails, buffet, and dancing in the moonlight.

The following awards were presented:

Wind in Our Sails Award
Triangle Equities

Modern Day Light Keeper Award
Bill and Kristen Golden, Lightship Owners WLV 612 and WLV 613

Preservation Keeper Award
Michael N. Vogel, Buffalo Main Light 1833

Community Lamp Lighter Award
Dr. Louis DeLuca, CEO United Activities Unlimited UAU

First Order Fresnel Lens Volunteer Awards
Robert Eisele and John Vokral

Second Annual Lighthouse Point Fest - Held on Sept. 23, more than 750 people enjoyed sunny skies, panoramic waterfront views, live bands and maritime vendors. Flagship Brewery, City Boy BBQ Catering and Pier 76 provided food and drinks. Children had their faces painted, climbed NYPD’s rock wall and were entertained by balloon sculpting and maritime arts and crafts.

Clam chowder contest winner Adrienne Ferretti took home the People's Choice Award as she served her prized chowder to festival goers. Deejay Chris of Cicerosity provided musical entertainment throughout the day as did live stage performances from bands Big Frank Mirra, Vincent Vok, Sooz-a-Matic and Zoe over Zero.

More than 30 separate exhibitors, corporate vendors, food, and chowder purveyors, not for profit organizations, arts and craft vendors filled the promenade and pier displaying goods and services for the public.

The festival would not have been possible without the support of event sponsors: Northfield Bank Foundation, Office of the Borough President James Oddo, Con Edison, Creative Photographers’ Guild, Staten Island Creative Community, NYC & Company, Home Advisor, Vivid Seats, Destination St. George, Triangle Equities, Transportation Alternatives and The New York City Police Department.
More National Lighthouse Museum Events!

Beacon of Hope – Rocktober 15th was the day of the Beacon Hope Festival, a public service drug abuse awareness event celebrating sobriety. This annual music festival featured more than twelve live bands.

Upcoming Lecture:

Our next lecture December 7th, will feature our own Captain Joseph Ahlstrom, NLM 1st Vice President and SUNY Maritime Professor, who will speak to us about ships and their problems and what went wrong. We will also commemorate Pearl Harbor. (click on flyer for more information and to register)

Fright House 2017 – It was a full house for our annual Fright House on October 28 with approximately 70 people in attendance.
NLM Welcomes New Board Members

Peter Lisi—Managing Partner, SI Paramount Theatre.

Glen Mancuso—Owner, Allstate Insurance Agency, St. George.

Joseph Tirone, Jr.—Real estate broker, Community Home Brokerage, LLC.

Christopher Williams, OD—Owner, Williams Eye Works

Joseph Zolfo,—Co-Executive Producer, NCIS New Orleans.

PS 10 Students Visit the Museum!

Curator Tina Cuadrado discusses lighthouse history with the students from PS 10.