



# NATIONAL LIGHTHOUSE MUSEUM NEWS



200 The Promenade at Lighthouse Point  
Staten Island, NY 10301  
718-390-0040

#### MUSEUM ADMISSION

Adults: \$7

Seniors/Military/Veterans/Students: \$5

Museums for All Rate: \$3

Members: FREE

Children under 12: FREE

#### HOURS

Thursday- Sunday

11:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Closed Major Holidays

*Call to Arrange Group/Class Tours.*

[www.lighthousemuseum.org](http://www.lighthousemuseum.org)

 [www.FB.com/NationalLighthouseMuseum](https://www.FB.com/NationalLighthouseMuseum)

 @nationallighthousemuseum

 @NLMSINY

## A Great American Scientist Dedicated to: Liberté, égalité, fraternité

Loved to Work at U.S. Lighthouse Depot,  
site of National Lighthouse Museum

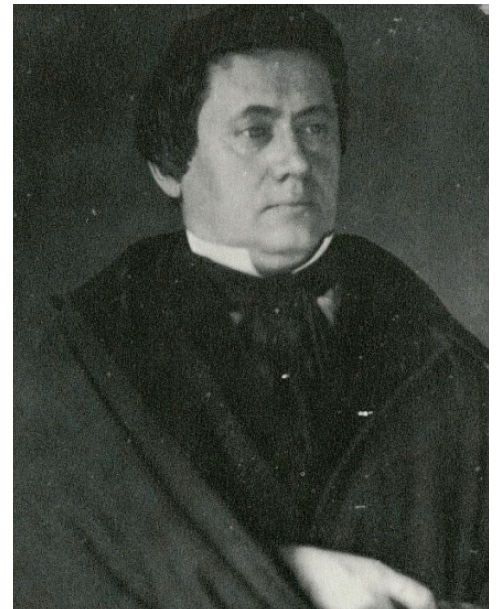
*Dr. Robert L. Marraccino*

*Contributing researcher and author:*

*Dr. Michael Vigorito*

At the U.S. National Lighthouse Museum(NLM), we honored the legacy of American scientist Joseph Henry. Scientist Henry was a pioneer, along with the esteemed British scientist: Michael Faraday, in the discovery of the phenomenon of: electromagnetic induction.

Henry's work paved the way for modern innovations which included: microwaves, electric motors, generators, transformers and even the charging of cell phones and watches, shaping the foundation of the electronic age in the 21st century.



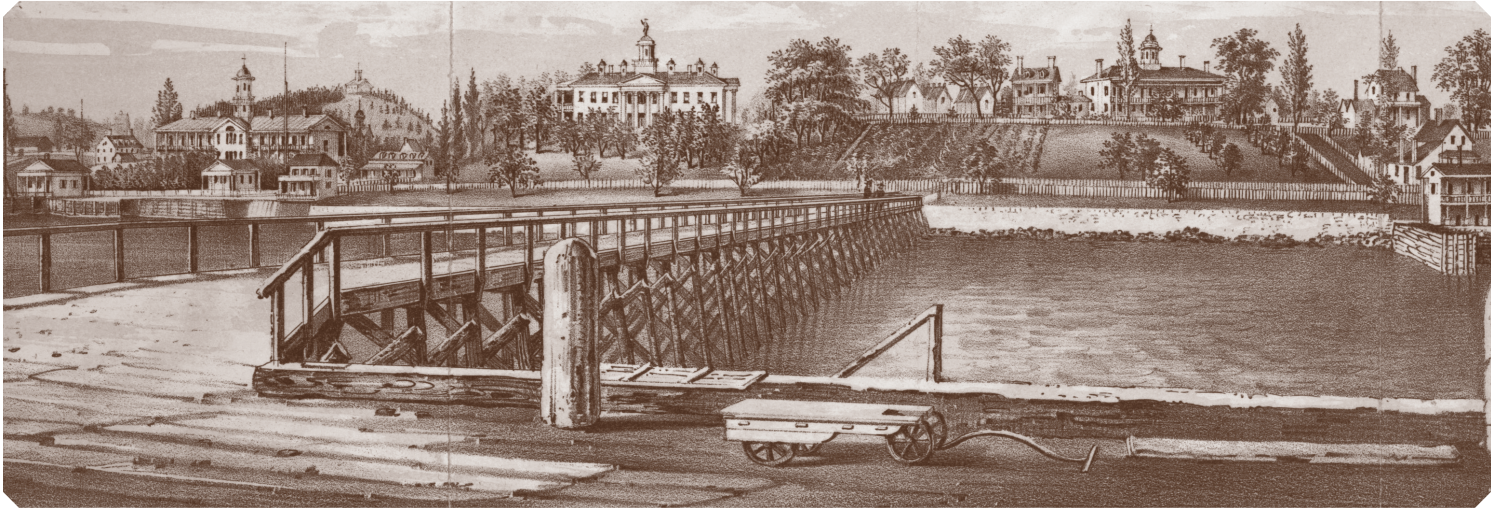
From his original scientific journals, Henry wrote:

*"By magnetic attraction and repulsion & continual reversal of polarity by an electromagnet", Henry applied the scientific, Laws of Induction, and able to create"electronically controlled machines or philosophical toys" for engineers to subsequently play with, patent, redesign & profit from his basic research.*

*Continued on next page*



## Feature



*View of the Quarantine grounds and buildings, May 1858*

Towards the end of his life, Joseph Henry was a volunteer on the Board to establish the U.S. Lighthouse Depot in Staten Island/NYC. He loved to work at the Depot, which is currently at the site of the NLM. The Depot was built in 1864 at the former site encompassing the Municipal Hospital, Quarantine (1799-1858), and federal, U.S. Customs Service/U.S. Cutter Service Tariff and Customs Administration. The Tariff and Custom Administration was the main source of income for the new American nation, providing a significant revenue for the U.S. Treasury, before the implementation of the federal, Income Tax in 1913.

The U.S. Lighthouse Depot was a site of: manufacturing and assembly of the Fresnel lens of the light assembly for U.S. lighthouses, oil storage for illumination, distribution center for the U.S. Lighthouse Service, machine shop and foundry.

Our National Lighthouse Museum and surrounding complex of historic buildings is now located at the site of the former Depot, adjacent to the State Island Ferry terminal on the Promenade at Pier 1. The Lighthouse Depot was the national headquarters for the U.S. Lighthouse Service until 1939.



*Staten Island Depot, 1868*



### **Rise to Prominence Uplifted the Status of American Science Instrumental in Establishing the Smithsonian Institute**

Joseph Henry's collaboration with President Lincoln to establish the most prominent, scientific societies marked a pivotal moment in history.

These organizations, driven by scientific experts and federal, Civil Service members, focused on reviewing and publishing new discoveries, promoting STEM education, and upholding the ethical standards of scientific research. The guiding light from these Societies illuminated the pathway and preeminence of the United States and the 20th Century be know as the American Century in science and industry.


Throughout his career, Henry held key leadership positions, including serving as the 1st Secretary of the Smithsonian Institute (1846), 2nd President of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS, 1849), and a volunteer, Board Member of the U.S. Lighthouse Service (1858).

His efforts laid the groundwork for significant advancements in science and technology that reshaped American society during the Industrial Age and beyond.

### **Bucolic Life on Staten Island**

Henry loved to summer along the coast of Staten Island/ NYC and experimented with methodology which improved the Lighthouse operations throughout the world. Joseph Henry conducted experiments at the current site of historic buildings, constituting the U.S. National Lighthouse Museum until his death.

By advocating for collaborative efforts among scientists, policymakers, and government entities, Joseph Henry championed the pursuit of truth through rigorous scientific methods and ethical governance. His commitment to basic research in various institutions underscores the importance of fostering a culture of scientific integrity and innovation for the betterment of society.

Joseph Henry's enduring legacy serves as a reminder of the transformative power of scientific exploration and its potential to shape a brighter future. Joseph Henry pursued basic research in nonprofit, academic & governmentally funded agencies: Smithsonian Institute, Princeton University, & U.S. Lighthouse Service Depot. Joseph Henry remind us of "all that once was good and could be again", He embodies an Ideal of a government public, Civil Servant. 



## Upcoming Events

### The Melting Age Art Show

March 15 - June 1

Opening Reception March 15, 2025 at 2p.m.

The Melting Age Art Show by Alfons Rodriguez and Fatma Kadir at the National Lighthouse Museum will open on March 15th and run until June 1, 2025.



Join photographer Alfons Rodriguez and award-winning oil artist Fatma Kadir at the NLM for their joint art show, "The Melting Age." This exhibition beautifully captures the grandeur of glacial landscapes and the global significance of melting water flow. Coinciding with World Water Day on March 22, 2025, the show also marks the inaugural "Glacier Day," focusing on the theme of "Glacier Preservation."

Witness the artists' portrayal of the breathtaking glacial landscapes and the profound impact of melting water flow.

### Billion Oyster Project

Sunday, March 23, 2025 at 2p.m.

Billion Oyster Project is a New York City-based nonprofit organization on a mission to restore 1 billion oysters to NYC's Harbor by 2035 through restoration and education initiatives. Oysters provide a number of beneficial effects for the ecosystem including filtering water via filter feeding, increasing habitat for other animals, and protecting shorelines from storm surges. Learn about the state of the harbor from Billion Oyster Project staff, and how you can get involved in restoration efforts in your area.



### Safety Boating Course

Tuesday, April 22 & Wednesday, April 23

5:00pm-10:00pm • \$125.00

Boat Handling • Boat Handling Under Adverse Conditions • Required Equipment • Aids to Navigation • Docking & Undocking • Fueling and Safety • Navigation Rules

Effective January 1, 2025, All Boaters on NY Waters Must Take a Safe Boating Course, per NY Legislation. **MUST** attend both parts to receive Boat Safety Training Certificate. Covers NY State and US Certification. NJ License will not be covered.



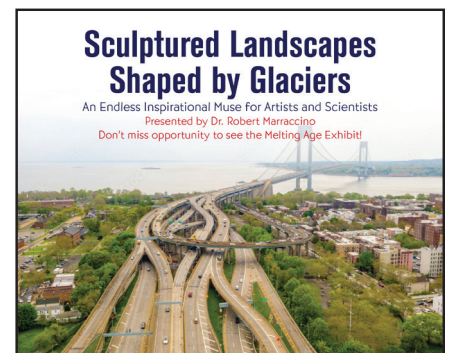
Course includes Cake and Coffee and the *Official Guide Book – America's Boating Course* by the United States Power Squadron.

### Sculptured Landscapes Shaped by Glaciers Presentation

April 27 @ 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

An Endless Inspirational Muse for Artists and Scientists  
Presented by Dr. Robert Marraccino

Dr. Robert Marraccino explores the impact of the last glacial age, which shaped Staten Island's landscape. Around 25,000 years ago, melting glaciers carved features like the Staten Island Expressway's route, flat terrains, and kettle lakes in Clove Lakes Park and Brady's Pond. Delve into Staten Island's 250-million-year geological history and the ongoing cycles of glacial change, hinting at potential disruptions today.





## Annual Golf Outing

May 2 @ 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Individual Golfer: \$175

Foursome: \$600

Sponsorships Available!

Grand Oaks Country Club

Set amid rolling hills on the south shore of Staten Island, the newly re-constructed tee-to-green cart paths, extensive fairway drainage and countless turf improvements

have vaulted this course to the top of the local's

"Best Places to Play" list in Staten Island. *Includes:*

*Bagels and Coffee, 18 Holes, Luncheon, Special Prizes, Amazing Raffles and 50/50*



## Save the Dates!

Lighthouse Hunt - May 18, 2025

Annual Lighthouse Gala - August 1, 2025

FY 2025

## Cultural Development Fund

# GRANTEE

**NYC** Cultural Affairs

### Exciting news:

we've been awarded a grant through @NYCulture's FY25 Cultural Development Fund!! As one of 1,078 groups across the city to receive a CDF grant, we're proud to deliver arts programming that engages NYers and contributes to NYC's extraordinary cultural landscape.

## The Historic Districts Council (HDC) is pleased to announce its Six to Celebrate, our annual listing of historic New York City neighborhoods that merit preservation attention.

HDC has also assisted in leveraging over \$150,000 in private and public grants for these community-driven projects. Neighborhoods selected also benefit from professionally designed websites, illustrated walking tour brochures, press attention, growing audiences and new contacts in the field.

Throughout 2025, HDC will work with these neighborhood partners to set and reach preservation goals through strategic planning, advocacy, outreach, programs, and building public awareness.

### Stapleton Waterfront/Lighthouse District

HDC will help the Preservation League of Staten and The National Lighthouse Museum advocate for the preservation and full adaptive reactivation of the former Third District US Lighthouse Depot site, a historic waterfront complex of numerous buildings including the lamp shops, barracks, oil vaults, and administration buildings which are at risk of demolition by neglect.





## Lighthouses are for Lovers and Friends Recap

A night to savor! Our event was a delightful evening held at Francesco's Supper Club in Staten Island, attended by 40 guests. The intimate gathering featured wonderful entertainment, raffles, warm conversation, and a cozy ambiance that perfectly complemented the theme of lighthouses and love. Attendees enjoyed the opportunity to connect, share stories, and savor the culinary experience together.



## Museum Visit

Approximately 20 members of the Central Park Sketchers Club visited the Museum. Steve Dasgupta, visiting from India, donated his completed drawing to the Museum, truly a work of art, completed in just a three hour visit ...

*Thank you, Steve!*