



## Welcome Aboard



With excitement we announce that Erin Fink will be joining the SHPO team today!

Erin obtained a Bachelor of Arts in Secondary Education, History and Social Science from Eastern Connecticut State University and a Master of Arts in Public History from Central Connecticut State University, with a focus in historic preservation. Erin worked in several of Connecticut's history museums before becoming Communications and Advocacy Manager at the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation in 2013. For the past six years, Erin has coordinated the Trust's public outreach and advocacy at the State capitol. She also manages two maintenance and repair grant programs in partnership with the 1772 Foundation and the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office. Erin lives in Plainville, Connecticut with her husband, Justin and enjoys working on their 1920's Sear's kit house.

In her new position, Erin will be managing the Historic Homes Rehabilitation Tax Credit and the Historic Restoration Fund Grant. Join us in giving Erin a warm welcome!

## Hurricane Sandy Program Update

By the end of the year, the Hurricane Sandy Program will be officially closed. The SHPO would like to thank Doug Royalty for his service and dedication to the program. We wish him all the best in his future endeavors and hope our paths cross again soon.

During Doug's administration of the program, almost \$2 million in grants were awarded for repairs to historic properties along the shoreline, ranging from a Victorian Gothic mansion in New Haven to a lighthouse in Bridgeport to a repurposed chapel in Stamford. But that was only part of SHPO's disaster relief and recovery program. Over the past four and a half years, architectural historians and archaeologists surveyed more than 4,000 historic buildings, dams, archaeological sites, and shipwrecks in the state's coastal counties—and have listed more than 1,100 of them in the National Register of Historic Places. At the same time, consultants digitized SHPO's paper documents, mapped historic properties vulnerable to flooding from storms and sea level rise, developed historic context reports, and worked with towns to integrate

historic preservation into their plans for hazard mitigation and conservation and development, among other projects.

The SHPO is working to get as much of this information as possible onto its [web site](#) and we will be adding more information to the site in the coming weeks.

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## Upcoming Events

The Hurricane Sandy Program is closed, but the SHPO remains committed to finding ways to protect historic resources from the effects of climate change. We are pleased to support UCONN's The Center for Energy and Environmental Law's upcoming event, **Historic and Green: A New Climate Agenda** on January 24, 2020. The day-long conference aims to craft a statewide policy agenda that recognizes historic preservation as a fundamental environmental value.

For more information and to register visit the program's website, [here](#).

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Also, this spring the SHPO will host the **National Preservation Institute** for a week-long training session on Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. The training will be geared for practitioners and non-practitioners alike. Stay tuned for more information.

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## News from the Museums



### Prudence Crandall Museum

The museum celebrated closing for upcoming renovations with speakers, a Peace Pole dedication, candle-lighting and bell-ringing ceremony to remember the students and supporters of the school, followed by a reception inside the Museum. Speakers included Museum Curator Joanie DiMartino, President of the Friends of the Prudence Crandall Museum Drew Crandall, Director of the Arts, SHPO, and Museums Liz Shapiro, Canterbury First Selectman Chris Lippke, Iran Nazario, President of the Peace Center of CT, James Dugan, World Peace Center Manager, and keynote Dr. Jennifer Rycenga, Crandall biographer and Professor at San Jose State University.

The well-attended event wrapped up with the audience singing "Life Every Voice and Sing," and visitors were welcomed into the Museum for a final viewing before exhibits were removed for renovations prep and to enjoy refreshments. A re-opening date has not yet been set, as construction on the Prudence Crandall Museum will begin shortly.



photos from left: 1) seasonal Worker Erica Ciallela rings a school bell 17 times, one for each month Crandall's school was open for African American young women and 2) the newly-installed Peace Pole at the Prudence Crandall Museum (temporarily removed for renovations).

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**From the SHPO family to yours, may your holidays be filled with love, peace, and warmth.**

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Department of Economic and  
Community Development  
State Historic Preservation Office

