From the Executive Director

Our year exploring "Who Are Cambridge Women?" is off to a great start.

If you missed our Opening Conversation and Annual meeting, you can read about my thoughts on our upcoming year here on our website. There's also a recap of the evening below, including the President’s Report to the Membership.

I'm also excited to introduce our call for submissions asking "How Have Women Shaped Cambridge?" If you know a special, visionary Cambridge woman we'd like to hear about them! Short essays will be included on our website and shared on social media. Details are below.

And mark your calendars for our first History Café of the year on April 22 and our Spring Benefit on May 1 & 2. We'll be discussing women in medicine as well as the formidable pioneering architect Lois Lilley Howe. You won't want to miss them.

See you there!

Marieke Van Damme
Executive Director

History Café 1: How Have Women Cured Cambridge?

Date: Wednesday, April 22, 6-8 PM  
Cost: $15 non-members; $10 members  
Location: Cambridge Public Library, Valente Branch, 826 Cambridge Street

In conjunction with the Cambridge Science Festival, our first History Café of the year will be a discussion of women in the city’s medical field. From tending to the sick at home, to their presence on the battlefields as nurses, to their challenge to the barriers of a male-dominated medical profession, Cambridge women have always been at the center of the healing arts.

Speaking are Jeanette Clough, President of Mount Auburn Hospital, and Dr. Ellen
S. More, Professor of Psychiatry and Historian of Medicine, to discuss the history of health and medicine in Cambridge and, in particular, the unique role that women have played in caring for the city’s ill and infirm.

Register here

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**Annual Spring Fundraiser**

**Date:** May 1-2, 2020  
**Cost:** $75-$300  
**Location:** 11 Coolidge Hill, 15 Raymond Street, and 4 Gray Garden West

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**A Home of Her Own: The Architecture of Lois Lilley Howe**

**A Spring Benefit for The Cambridge Historical Society**

May 1-2, 2020

**Lois Lilley Howe** (1864-1964), born and bred in Cambridge, was one of the first women to graduate from Massachusetts Institute of Technology's architectural program, the organizer of the only all-woman architectural firm in Boston in the early twentieth century, and the first woman elected as a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects. With partners Eleanor Manning and Mary Almy, the firm of Howe, Manning & Almy, Inc. completed more than 500 projects over 43 years of practice. Many of these buildings are still standing today, including in Cambridge.

Howe retired from architecture at age seventy-three, but remained active in Cambridge through the Cambridge Plant Club, the Old Cambridge Shakespeare Association, and as a Vice President of the Cambridge Historical Society.

Join us for two events this spring celebrating the life and architecture of Lois Lilley Howe. All ticket proceeds will benefit the Society.

Read more

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**How Have Women Shaped Cambridge? A Call for Submissions**

We need your help collecting the stories of Cambridge women!

Tell us about a woman who has left her mark on the city of Cambridge. She may
be a part of your family, a neighbor, a member of your church, or someone you have heard about in some other way. She can be of any age, living today or during an earlier time. Regardless of her life circumstances, she was—or is—a remarkable person who has touched the lives of many.

**We want to know about her.** How did she live, what did she believe in, who was important in her life and helped her achieve her goals? How did she leave her mark on the city of Cambridge?

**Share her story in a short essay.** We’re looking for short articles (500-1,000 words) about female Cambridge history-makers, both famous and not-so-famous, to post on our blog and share with our readers. Please note that not all submissions will be published, and authors are not compensated for their submissions. We have a rolling submission deadline through December 31, 2020.

[Read more](#)

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**Recap: 2020 Opening Conversation and Annual Meeting**

On February 25, we hosted our 2020 Opening Conversation: “Who Are Cambridge Women?” Eva Martin-Blythe, Executive Director of the Cambridge YWCA, was joined by the Society’s Doing History Curator, Diana Lempel, for a discussion of the history, mission, and legacy of the YWCA.

[Read more](#)

Immediately following the speakers, Cambridge Historical Society Council President Christina DeYoung updated the membership on another successful year at the Annual Meeting.

[Read the President’s Report](#)

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**CONGRATULATIONS, VISIONARIES!**

The Cambridge Community Foundation has named 20 exceptional artists and creators as Cambridge Cultural Visionaries.
We extend a special congratulations to Frank Kramer, longtime Society Council Member, as well as these Society members, supporters, and collaborators: Elsa Dorfman, Phyllis Bretholtz, Tunney Lee, Yo-Yo Ma, and Betsy Siggins.

SPECIAL THANKS

We applaud the following businesses who have generously sponsored our work.

Thank you for your support!

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Where else do you get meaningful events like ours in Cambridge?

Support our work by giving today!

Not sure if your membership is up to date? Email us!