



USS  
Constitution  
Museum

CONSTITUTION CHRONICLE  
2019



*“The sight of that historic frigate, with its tall spars and black guns, stirred my imagination and made American history come alive for me. I know that a visit to Old Ironsides has done the same for many thousands of young Americans.”*

- JOHN F. KENNEDY  
35<sup>th</sup> PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

## CHARLESTOWN NAVY YARD PARTNERS

*We collaborate closely with our partners to imagine exciting new ways to activate the Navy Yard. For 40 years we have worked together to educate, engage, and empower all who visit. Thank you to the U.S. Navy, National Park Service, and Naval History & Heritage Command Detachment Boston; our partnership has never been stronger!*



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USS Constitution Museum  
Building 22  
Charlestown Navy Yard  
Boston, MA 02129

Cover Photo: Michael Blanchard

## President's Message

Dear Friends,

These are exciting times in the Charlestown Navy Yard! Colorful banners and new signage now greet our guests on our waterfront patio. We have bold plans for the future, reaching beyond our walls to make a more exciting visitor experience in the Navy Yard. Our partnership with the U.S. Navy and National Park Service is stronger than ever, and the results of our collaborative efforts are reflected on the pages of this *Constitution Chronicle*.

So many dreams of activating the Navy Yard and creating a more compelling visitor experience are becoming reality. In our *Family Firepower* program, participants work together to pass powder from the Ship's magazine – deep in the hold – up to the gun deck; the teamwork continues as they "load" a 5,800-pound long gun. Sound like fun? Head to [usscm.org](http://usscm.org) for more information on upcoming programs since they fill up quickly! Navy sailors and Museum teachers are making lifetime memories for the students and families who participate in our *All Aboard* programs.

Have you tried your hand building a tin-foil frigate and racing it down the water track? Our *Ship Design Challenge* program is fun for all ages. We have run this program with students, with millennials at the Museum of Science, with our Board of Trustees, and guests of all ages. One visitor commented, "My thanks to all of you. You managed to keep two octogenarians and three teenage boys thoroughly engaged. No mean feat in either case!" Come to the Museum and experience it firsthand.

The Museum is realizing our strategic mission to engage all ages in the stories of "Old Ironsides," naval service, maritime heritage, and the American experience. And we are doing this through hands-on experiences that encourage conversation and collaboration. For more than a decade this Museum has been researching effective techniques to make hands-on history inclusive. We are recognized as a national leader in this realm, and each year our staff presents proven strategies at conferences nationwide. The 350,000 annual visitors to the Museum get to experience this in person, laughing and learning in our galleries.

If you live far from the Museum, and cannot easily visit, we offer new online resources as well. Over 300,000 people visit our website each year and find the Museum's resources presented in innovative ways. We have created interactive maps from the Ship's 1812 logs to link the navigation, history, and artifacts of the War of 1812. You can enjoy an armchair adventure, hearing the words of *Constitution's* sailors as you relive the finest moments of her 1812 cruises.

At the USS Constitution Museum, our goal is to bring history to life for all guests. Whether you live near or far, I invite you to explore all that the Museum has to offer. We draw inspiration from the crew of *Constitution* who are featured in our *Today's Crew* exhibit. The sailors who greet you on "Old Ironsides" demonstrate that the tradition of naval service is strong. We look forward to welcoming you at the Museum again soon!

See you in the Navy Yard!

*Anne Grimes Raud*





## New School and Family Programs Receive Rave Reviews

### SHIP DESIGN CHALLENGE

While it has been nearly 70 years since the last ships were built in the Boston Naval Shipyard, many new mini boats are being constructed by students at the USS Constitution Museum. In the Museum's school program, *Ship Design Challenge*, students learn about the engineering design process and how it applies to *USS Constitution's* design and construction. The challenge? Use household materials to build a ship that can sail the length of an 8-foot water tank while carrying 25 pennies (to simulate the weight of cannons). Led by a *USS Constitution* sailor and a Museum teacher, students visit three decks of the Ship to assess what characteristics they might apply to their own designs, all while learning about the Ship's history.

The interdisciplinary nature of this program is appealing to educators. As one Boston teacher who

prototyped the program shared, "The engineering process integrated with the history of the Ship" makes for an "exceptional program." Museum programs like *Ship Design Challenge*, which include time on board *USS Constitution*, give local students a newfound appreciation for this piece of their history. As one third grade participant shared, "I really liked 'Old Iron Side' because it's old and mysterious. The staff members take really good care of her if she's still here from 1797 through 2019, almost 2020! I think that's really amazing and I'm proud of the *USS Constitution* crew for taking good care of Old Iron Side."

The Museum is excited to continue sharing the story and legacy of *USS Constitution* with students in partnership with her Navy stewards.

### FAMILY FIREPOWER PROGRAM

Since 1812, the 24-pound long guns on *USS Constitution's* gun deck were operated by 10 to 14 well-trained sailors. In the Museum's newest program, *Family Firepower*, visitors work as a team to simulate loading, aiming, and firing the Ship's mighty guns.

*Family Firepower* is a fun, hands-on learning program co-led by Museum staff and a current *USS Constitution* crew member. Each person climbs down into the Ship's after magazine where gunpowder was stored, then families work together to pass imitation powder between the decks. The program culminates with the ultimate test for our new recruits: a replica gun drill with one of *Constitution's* 5,800-pound long guns! While program participants have yet to match the 90-second drill time of *Constitution's* 1812 "men of iron," our family crews have enjoyed the challenge.

Visitors are thrilled with the experience. One mom commented, "I thought all of it was great and really well done – from the information and activities in the classroom to the tour on the Ship, the use of some of the quotes to visualize the story, to the practice manning the gun."

This program exemplifies the strong partnership between the USS Constitution Museum and the U.S. Navy. Museum staff and Navy crew work together to share the stories of "Old Ironsides." The Museum used research from a national family learning project to create the program, pairing it with access to *USS Constitution* and her crew. The result is an engaging, exciting, and memorable experience. And in the case of *Family Firepower*, all agree that it's a blast!



*These projects were made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services.*



**GET YOUR HANDS-ON HISTORY 7 DAYS A WEEK!**

Plan your visit today @ [usscm.org/visit](https://usscm.org/visit)

# 2019 A Salute to Service Gala Sets Records

On October 30, 2019, over 700 guests honored Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker and Medal of Honor recipient CAPT Thomas G. Kelley, USN (Ret.) for their dedication to community and service at the USS Constitution Museum's *A Salute to Service* Gala. The event, held at the Seaport World Trade Center, was the best ever USS Constitution Museum Gala in terms of both attendance and gross revenue, which surpassed \$676,000.



Greg M. Cooper Photography  
Museum President Anne Grimes Rand addresses the attendees



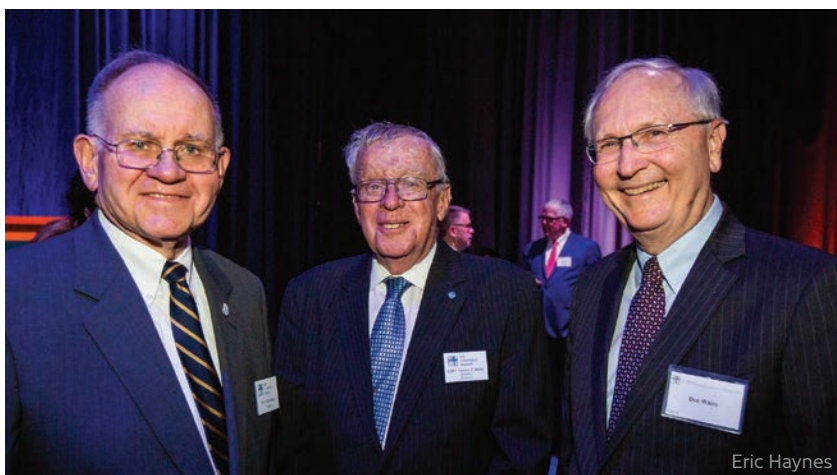
Eric Haynes  
(l to r) Medal of Honor recipient LT Michael Thornton, USN (Ret.), Rainey Thornton, Gala Co-Chair and Museum Trustee Nancy Kelleher, Rick Kelleher



Greg M. Cooper Photography  
Presentation of the Old Ironsides Exemplary Service Award (l to r) Governor Charlie Baker, Gala Co-Chair and awardee Bill Carey, Life Trustee and awardee Mary Beth Sandman, President Anne Grimes Rand, Board Chair Paul George



Eric Haynes  
Honorees (l to r) Governor Baker and CAPT Thomas G. Kelley, USN (Ret.)



Eric Haynes  
(l to r) Gala Co-Chair and Museum Trustee Tom Hennessey, Captain Kelley, Dennis White



Greg M. Cooper Photography  
Museum Trustees Dennis Langwell and Bill Carey celebrate the evening

# Meet our Chief Development Officer

## A DISCUSSION WITH ED SEVILLA

*In April 2019, the USS Constitution Museum appointed Ed Sevilla to the new position of Senior Vice President and Chief Development Officer. Trustee John Hayes, who chairs the Development Committee of the Board of Trustees, sat with Ed to discuss his new role and opportunities for the Museum.*

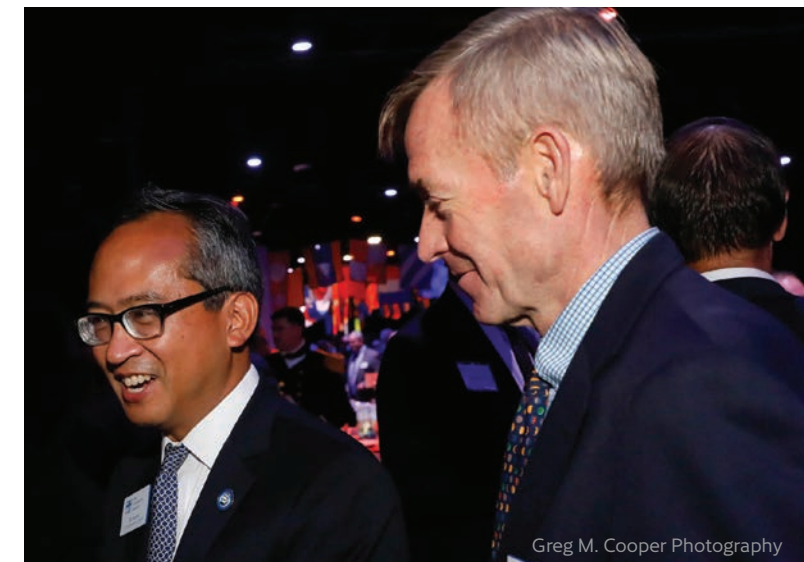
**John:** Tell us about your experience.

**Ed:** I've been in Boston for the last 25 years and worked as a philanthropy consultant for the last six and a half years, traveling to clients throughout the U.S. and Europe to work on fundraising and marketing communications. The firm, Grenzbach Glier + Associates (GG+A), is a national leader and I served as Senior Vice President and a member of the leadership team. My clients included arts and culture organizations such as the Philadelphia Museum of Art, New England Conservatory of Music, Philadelphia Orchestra, and the Museum Kunst der Westküste in Germany. I had the honor of working on capital campaigns whose goals ranged up to \$3 billion for education clients such as Dartmouth College, McGill University, the University of Rochester and Vanderbilt University.

**John:** What attracted you to the Museum?

**Ed:** This is a dream job! With a history degree from Yale and an MBA in marketing from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, I've always wanted to combine my interests in history and my experience in marketing and fundraising. Earlier in my career, I served as a U.S. Foreign Service Officer in Hong Kong. USS *Constitution* visited Macao, across from Hong Kong in the South China Sea, during its world tour in 1844-6. Like so many of us, there are a multitude of connections with the Ship and its storied past.

I also wanted to work with Anne Grimes Rand, the terrific Museum team, and the many volunteers and donors. It's a great group of colleagues and supporters – thoughtful, passionate about history and the impact of the Museum.



Greg M. Cooper Photography  
Senior Vice President and Chief Development Officer Ed Sevilla (l) with Board of Trustees Vice Chair Steve O'Leary

**John:** The Museum is planning for exciting new exhibits and programs, including a more dynamic visitor experience in the Navy Yard with memorable moments for all ages. What are your thoughts about this future direction?

**Ed:** We have a great opportunity to build upon our success and position the Museum for further growth. The Ship is an icon for Boston, the Commonwealth, and the nation. The stories of leadership, innovation, teamwork, and technology that "Old Ironsides" can tell are as relevant today as they were during its early triumphs in the War of 1812.

**John:** We're delighted to have you with us at the Museum. Welcome aboard!

**Ed:** Thanks, John. It's an honor to serve the Museum and to work with the U.S. Navy and the National Park Service. I'm looking forward to meeting even more of our supporters in the months to come.

# Colorful, Bold, & Educational

## NEW MUSEUM WATERFRONT EXPERIENCE

The USS Constitution Museum, in partnership with the Boston Planning & Development Agency, recently created a space for community use and historical content at the base of Dry Dock 2. Locals and visitors now enjoy a new waterfront patio with seating and shade on the Baxter Street side of the Museum, while colorful banners affixed to the building promote the Museum experience.

Decorative and informative banners are fastened to the light poles leading from the Museum to the ferry, featuring eye-catching historical images of the Museum, ships, and workers of the Charlestown Navy Yard.



Visitors taking in the waterfront view of Boston Harbor and the city skyline can also explore the Navy Yard more closely with “telescopes to the past.” The telescopes are installed along the boardwalk, and each features a transparency of a historical photograph of that same location at a different point in time. For example, one might see a World War II destroyer being built in the now-flooded dry dock. These telescopes offer a unique opportunity to experience the past while enjoying the present.

Next summer, visitors will also view signs detailing sea-level rise in the context of the Navy Yard’s history. The charts will show tide levels in Boston Harbor through the years – and how high those tides might rise in the near future – giving the public a deeper understanding of how global climate change impacts local communities.

“This is part of our plan to turn the Museum inside-out,” said Sarah Watkins, Chief Experience Officer. “By making the assets of the Museum visible and accessible to audiences who walk by us and through the Navy Yard every day, we are making the distinctive history of the Museum and the Navy Yard come to life as part of the everyday experience of our neighbors.”

*The waterfront patio is supported by the Charlestown Community Impact Fund and the Boston Planning & Development Agency.*



## The Future of the Charlestown Navy Yard

### NEW UPDATES FROM LEADERS

The National Parks of Boston, USS Constitution Museum, and the United States Navy held a public meeting at the USS Constitution Museum on September 26, 2019 to share information about planning efforts for the future of the Charlestown Navy Yard (CNY) and to engage guests in conversations to share their ideas and feedback.

Michael Creasey, Superintendent of the National Parks of Boston (NPB), described hiring Sasaki Associates, a planning and design firm, to help realize four key values for the Navy Yard: Visitor-Centric, Relevant, Collaborative, and Transformative.

Research collected by Sasaki Associates revealed 93 percent of visitors to the Charlestown Navy Yard are not from Massachusetts, and primarily come as family groups. Freedom Trail walkers make up 80 percent of guests.

The plan will reconfigure how people experience the reimagined USS Constitution Museum and the Navy Yard overall, and will start off with the creation of a Gateway engaging visitors with exhibits, galleries, films, and hands-on activities. “We want to spark visitors’ imaginations, then offer orientation and screening before they board ‘Old Ironsides,’” said Anne Grimes Rand, President of the USS Constitution Museum.

Nathaniel R. Shick, USS Constitution’s Commanding Officer, noted “we are the only active military service that is embedded in a national park.” CDR Shick mentioned community outreach and public events were also part of the Ship’s engagement strategy.

Superintendent Creasey wrapped up the meeting by explaining NPB’s current work to address deferred maintenance in the Park, and how they are working with the General Services Administration to reduce building footprints, assess building conditions, and engage in public-private partnerships.

After the speaking program, meeting attendees were invited to provide feedback on interactive boards and ask questions. Guests contributed to:

- CNY Visitor Experience – What activities would you like to see in the Park?
- CNY Leasing – What new neighbors do you want to enhance the Yard?
- Exciting Opportunity for Growth – How would you like to see the exhibits and programs enhanced?

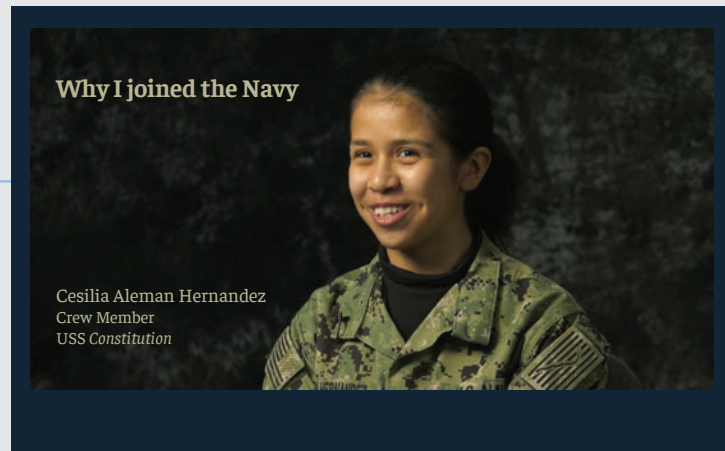
**We welcome your thoughts as well! Please contact the Museum at [stayconnected@usscm.org](mailto:stayconnected@usscm.org).**

# Hear from Real USS Constitution Sailors

## NEW TODAY'S CREW EXHIBIT

Meet the active duty crew members currently serving aboard USS *Constitution* in our newest exhibit, titled *Today's Crew: USS Constitution*. Why did they join the Navy? What is it like climbing aloft? What's the best part of serving on "Old Ironsides"? Through candid video interviews, an original short film, and vibrant photographs, visitors to the exhibit will learn from the sailors, in their own words, what it is like being in the United States Navy. Sailors discuss spending time away from their families and working aboard the oldest commissioned warship afloat.

"Today, the crew of USS *Constitution* represents every branch of naval service in our fleet: submariners, surface warriors, naval expeditionary combatants, and aviators. They are an incredibly diverse sample of our national character, selected from among the very best professionals serving in our modern Navy," said Nathaniel R. Shick, USS *Constitution's*



Commanding Officer. "The exhibit does a fantastic job highlighting our sailors' unique stories and their shared sense of service."

This interactive video exhibit is the culmination of hours of oral history interviews and written surveys conducted by the Museum with the Ship's crew over the past year. Six video interviews and photographic slide shows are accompanied by a large wall graphic featuring every crew member and their role in the Ship's organization. A supplemental short film created from the oral history interviews is also on view in the Museum's theater.



USS *Constitution* Commanding Officer Nathaniel R. Shick

"We are proud to be featured in this exceptional exhibit, which immediately draws the visitor in and bolsters public awareness, understanding, and appreciation for what our young men and women undertake in defense of the nation," said CDR Shick. "The collaborative planning and successful unveiling are a fitting testament to the close partnership between USS *Constitution* and the USS *Constitution* Museum. By highlighting our sailors' stories, the USS *Constitution* Museum's *Today's Crew* exhibit helps these sailors share the significance of their naval service and that of their shipmates in the fleet."

*"The exhibit does a fantastic job highlighting our sailors' unique stories and their shared sense of service."*

- Commander Nathaniel R. Shick  
USS *Constitution*



Jason Petitfrere, a USS *Constitution* crew member, takes the Oath of Allegiance to the United States at a naturalization ceremony aboard the Ship.



*This exhibit is supported by the Ruby W. & LaVon P. Linn Foundation; Exelon Generation; John and Maryann Mulattieri; CDR Tyrone G. Martin, USN (Ret.); Frank Morse; and several other generous donors.*

# An Innovative New Website

EXPLORE CAPTIVATING CONTENT ON THE WAR OF 1812,  
NEW COLLECTIONS, AND MORE

We are thrilled to announce the launch of our new, comprehensive, and user-friendly website featuring never before seen content at [usscm.org/discover-learn](https://usscm.org/discover-learn). The updated *Discover + Learn* section provides free and open access to the Museum's unparalleled War of 1812 resources for ongoing engagement, enjoyment, and discovery. Visit the site to explore highlights from the collection, biographical profiles of the Ship's crew, interactive maps of the War of 1812 battle cruises, and a growing menu of publications, videos, and educational resources.

This visually compelling, easily navigable, and content-rich site makes the Museum's ground-breaking historical research, top-notch collections, and award-winning educational resources broadly available worldwide to educators, historians, and the Museum's 300,000 annual online visitors.

*This project was made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services.*



## Explore the Collection

In-depth interpretations of 161 core artifacts are available on the website, and that number will continue to grow as the site broadens to incorporate other time periods in the Ship's history. An additional 626 Museum records are available through links to the Digital Public Library of America (DPLA) and the Internet Archive, thanks to digitization services provided by the Boston Public Library.

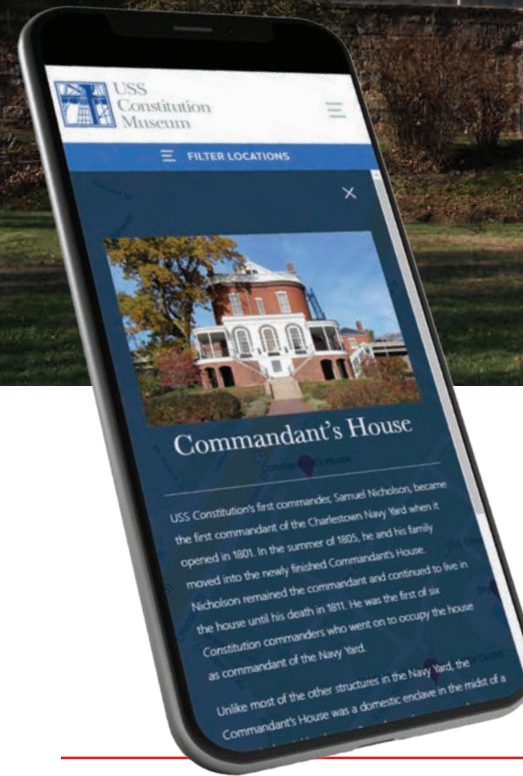
## Meet the Ship's Crew

Search through 1,168 biographical profiles for the Ship's War of 1812 crew, with 76 additional biographical profiles for the Ship's commanders from 1797 to the present.



## Take a Cruise

Three interactive maps present a geospatial representation of USS *Constitution's* War of 1812 battle cruises, with information on daily "life at sea" activities and major events. The maps were created using navigational points extracted from the Ship's logbooks.



# USS Constitution and the Charlestown Navy Yard

COMPELLING CONNECTIONS

Visitors to the new USS Constitution Museum website can now explore the ties between the Charlestown Navy Yard and USS *Constitution* at [usscm.org/locations](https://usscm.org/locations). While the engaging and historic attractions in the Navy Yard have long offered people numerous reasons to visit, this site offers online visitors an opportunity to fully appreciate the connections among them all, and how their stories align.

The history of USS *Constitution* is interwoven with the history of the Charlestown Navy Yard. The Navy Yard has been the Ship's permanent home since she returned in 1897, but *Constitution* was a regular presence beginning with the Yard's opening in 1801. *Constitution* came to the Yard for repairs after her major battles. She was the

first ship hauled out at Dry Dock 1, and is one of two still using the dry dock (the other being USS *Cassin Young*). Many of the buildings and other sites within the boundaries of the National Park today are connected to the long history of repairing, restoring, and maintaining "Old Ironsides."

Those who visit the Navy Yard in person can also enjoy colorful new interpretive signs that highlight Navy Yard sites and explain how they relate to *Constitution*.

*This project was supported by a National Maritime Heritage grant, a project of the Department of the Interior, National Park Service.*



## Museum Honors Educators on USS Constitution Underway

On September 20, 2019, the USS Constitution Museum and USS *Constitution* hosted an underway honoring more than 250 educators from across New England.

Members of the Massachusetts Board of Education and Boston School Committee joined educators and students from Boston Public Schools.

During the underway, the K-12 teachers and educational leaders participated in programming provided jointly by the USS Constitution Museum and USS *Constitution*. Museum staff and Navy sailors led interactive activities, which included a ship design challenge and mock gun drills.

The teachers were delighted with the underway experience. One educator commented, “The Museum speakers did a great job highlighting the importance of using *Constitution* as a teaching tool and advocating for more contact with educators” and that the sailors “represented the U.S. Navy exceptionally.” Another noted, echoing the sentiments of many on board, “Without your invitation, this would have remained something that I only saw in textbooks.”

In attendance was special guest Marvin Gilmore, a decorated World War II veteran and social justice leader. In 2010, he was awarded France’s highest honor of merit and was named a Chevalier of The Legion of

Honor. Mr. Gilmore also co-founded Unity Bank and Trust Company, which is now OneUnited Bank, the first African-American owned and operated commercial bank in Boston.



Museum President Anne Grimes Rand presented Mr. Gilmore with the Museum’s Men of Iron Award in honor of service to his country. “Marvin Gilmore is someone who has lived history, *and* made history,” she said.

Mr. Gilmore accepted the award and gave remarks about his experiences in World War II, his work fighting for civil rights in America, and his thoughts on how he would like to be remembered. “I want my legacy to be as a crusader for freedom,” he said.



## USS Constitution Museum Welcomes



**MAYFLOWER SAILS 2020**  
*Becoming America*

After three years of restoration, *Mayflower II* will sail into Boston Harbor and be moored next to USS *Constitution* from May 14-19, 2020 for the first time ever. A free maritime festival, including special Museum programs and activities, follows this historic journey.

**Save the dates and come visit us in the Charlestown Navy Yard!**

[mayflowersails2020.com](http://mayflowersails2020.com) | [info@mayflowersails2020.com](mailto:info@mayflowersails2020.com)





USS Constitution Museum

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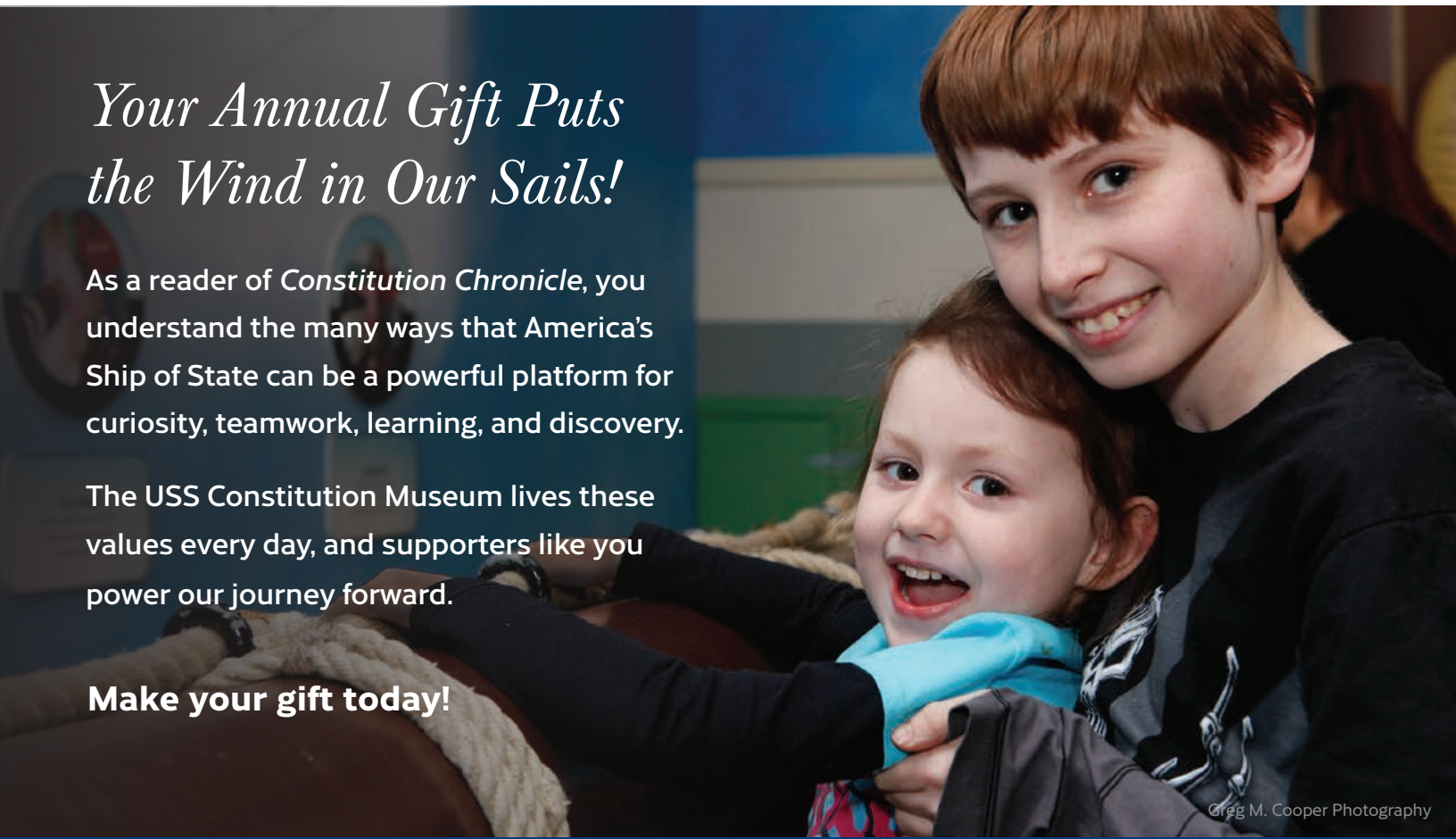
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## *Your Annual Gift Puts the Wind in Our Sails!*

As a reader of *Constitution Chronicle*, you understand the many ways that America's Ship of State can be a powerful platform for curiosity, teamwork, learning, and discovery.

The USS Constitution Museum lives these values every day, and supporters like you power our journey forward.

**Make your gift today!**



Greg M. Cooper Photography

**GIVE ONLINE:**  
[www.usscm.org/donate](http://www.usscm.org/donate)

**GIVE BY PHONE:**  
(617) 426-1812 ext.107

**GIVE BY MAIL:** Development Department  
USS Constitution Museum  
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