



Erie Canalway News Release

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Grants Support Recreation and Education along the Erie Canal

WATERFORD, NY – Free educational field trips, improved museum exhibits, and expanded recreational experiences are a few of the projects that will get underway this year thanks to **\$32,000 in grant funding from the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor**. Grant funds will **leverage an additional \$203,000** in private and public project funding raised by seven grant recipients.

“As we celebrate the bicentennial of construction of the Erie Canal, we are well aware that the investments we make today are building the future of the canal,” **said Bob Radliff, Executive Director of the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor**. “We are grateful for the work of canal communities and organizations across the state for the great work they do to advance preservation, education, and recreation along this historic waterway.”

Erie Canalway has awarded nearly \$500,000 in small grants since 2007, which has leveraged an additional \$1.85 million in project funding.

2017 Grants were awarded to support the following projects:

The City of Amsterdam was awarded \$7,000 to produce wayside signs to connect the four-mile Chuctanunda Creet Trail with the Mohawk Valley Gateway Overlook Pedestrian Bridge and the Erie Canalway Trail.

Corn Hill Navigation was awarded \$2,000 to provide opportunities for Rochester City School District students to take field trips to the Erie Canal by offsetting school transportation costs.

Rochester Accessible Adventures received \$5,115 to develop a training manual and recommend adaptive equipment for persons with disabilities to encourage safe access to the Erie Canal via canoe and kayak.

Rochester Museum & Science Center received \$7,000 to restore the museum’s canal diorama—*Rochester in 1838*. The museum will update and conserve the exhibition and incorporate new interpretation to link it to other RMSC canal and museum experiences.

Rome Historical Society was awarded \$5,300 to renovate its permanent canal exhibition in preparation for the Erie Canal Bicentennial. The exhibit is slated to open on July 4, 2017.

The Town of Montezuma received \$3,000 to develop a series of trail markers and install a new mural at the 160-acre Montezuma Heritage Park.

The Village of Canastota received \$3,000 in support of *Tour the Towpath*, a 36-mile bike ride from Rome to DeWitt via the Old Erie Canal State Park. This year's ride is being offered in conjunction with the [2017 World Canals Conference](#) as a pre-conference trip.

ABOUT THE ERIE CANALWAY NATIONAL HERITAGE CORRIDOR

The Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor preserves our extraordinary canal heritage, promotes the Corridor as a world-class tourism destination, and fosters vibrant communities connected by more than 500 miles of waterway. It achieves its mission in partnership with the National Park Service, New York State agencies, non-profit organizations, local residents, and more than 200 communities across the full expanse of upstate New York.

www.eriecanalway.org

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