The Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation & The National Museum of the American Indian Present:

REPRESENTING AND INTERPRETING TRAUMATIC HISTORY: A WORKSHOP FOR LOWER MANHATTAN MUSEUMS AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS

FRIDAY OCTOBER 31, 2014, 9:30 AM – 12:00 PM NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN ONE BOWLING GREEN, NY, NY 10004

"Our memory is our coherence, our reason, our feeling, even our action.
Without it, we are nothing." - Luis Buñuel

Museums and cultural organizations have a vital role to play in developing material that helps the public—and students in particular—understand how we locate traumatic events in our memory, especially when deciding how individual and collective trauma is interpreted and transmitted. This workshop will address how our interpretations of the past influence, and are influenced by, collective memory, trauma, and identity-formation. Participants will be introduced to the work and mission of partner museums and cultural organizations in Lower Manhattan, with an eye towards building constructive collective memory to deal positively with the past, including possible public programming and collaboration with New York City educators. This workshop will be led by Dr. James Waller, Cohen Professor for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Keene State College and the Director of Academic Programs at the Auschwitz Institute, a New York-based non-profit organization committed to the prevention of genocide.



for peace and reconciliation

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