After being postponed due to the pandemic, *Atomic Alert: Confronting "The Bomb" in the New Atomic Age* will be on view in the auditorium, beginning July 1. This exhibit explores the government’s efforts, in the 1950s, to educate Americans about what to do before an atomic attack, how to react to a sudden, blinding flash, and what action to take in the aftermath of an atomic blast.

Featuring artifacts and interpretation from Michael Scheibach, Ph.D., independent scholar and author, *Atomic Alert!* offers a unique opportunity to revisit the early atomic age when the world was divided between two atomic-armed adversaries: the United States and the Soviet Union.

**Five fascinating elements of the "Atomic Alert!" exhibition**

- **A selection of educational films about the dangers of an atomic attack:** From the iconic "Duck and Cover," featuring Bert the Turtle, to home preparedness in the event of an atomic attack, these videos bring home the climate of scared anticipation so prevalent in the 1950s.

- **Atomic Age comics:** The Golden and Silver age of comics in America were sensitive to the realities and terrors of atomic war. A selection of comics from the time illustrate just how pervasive the bomb was in American culture.

- **Tabletop exhibits from the 1950s:** The apocalyptic mindset of the Atomic Age brought practical concerns, like where to seek shelter in public places, or how to build your own fallout-proof space at home. These dynamic tabletop exhibits provided information on how to get started building your own shelter, or finding safety in office buildings, schools, and other areas.

- **Civil defense posters:** Published and distributed by the Federal Civil Defense Administration, these civil defense posters painted a grim picture of what would happen if a Cold War adversary pulled off a successful atomic attack.

- **Evacuation maps of Nashville and Denver:** These maps show the stakes of an atomic attack on an American city. These artifacts make clear the challenges facing civic governments in the face of nuclear war.
military conflicts in the 20th century. Many of us can remember the Cold War, and we may reflect on how it influences our thinking to this day. This educational exhibition includes the notorious "Duck and Cover" film shown in Public Schools across the nation in an attempt to teach children how to survive an attack.

As always, our Education Department has come up with fascinating programs. Now that we have integrated virtual programming into our DNA, watch out for many more exciting opportunities. We invite you to return to the Museum and visit Atomic Alert! along with A Collector Celebrated and a revival of The Long Way Home show that honors our deeply missed founder, Gordon B. Lankton.

These two exhibitions will tell the Gordon story—the inveterate traveler, the passionate collector, the international industrialist, and the humanist. Among the many countries where he established plastics manufacturing plants, Russia was one of his favorites. During his many trips there, he assembled a substantial collection of icons that he felt reflected the cultural values of this enormous nation. He wanted people worldwide to understand each other and see that we share more in common than divides us.

To say that Gordon Lankton was special is just the beginning of the story...come see for yourself.

Kent Russell, Executive Director

From the Director's Desk

Dear friends,

As we slowly reopen after over a year of the pandemic, we thank you for your Annual Appeal support and for keeping up your membership. The Museum is in a strong position and excited to get back to what we do best, providing outstanding exhibitions and programs for YOU. For all your gifts, thank you!

We start the summer with a bang. Atomic Alert! Confronting "The Bomb" in the New Atomic Age is an exhibition about Soviet and US ideological and military conflicts in the 20th century.

Virtual Lecture: Living with the Atomic Bomb: 1945-1965 with Curator Michael Scheibach, Ph.D.

Saturday, July 10, 1:00-2:00pm

Free, courtesy of a grant from Mass Humanities. Registration required by Friday, July 9. The Zoom link will be emailed to participants the morning of the program. Register at museumofrussianicons.org/event/virtual-lecture-atomic or call 978.598.5000.

Michael Scheibach, Ph.D., historian, author, and curator of Atomic Alert!, presents a multimedia talk on the atomic bomb’s impact on the nation’s government policy, military strategy, civil defense programs, and individual citizens during the early Cold War. In this presentation, Scheibach examines the government’s civil defense efforts at the national, state, and local levels; the role of men and women in those efforts; the impact of “The Bomb” on children and youth; the involvement of the military in promoting civil defense; and the nation’s view of the Soviet Union as a potential military threat. Closed captioning is available for this program.

Lecture: Clinton in the Cold War with Terry Ingano

Wednesday, July 21, 7:00-8:00pm

Museum and Clinton Historical Society Members Free, Nonmembers $5, registration not required.

The Museum is partnering with Clinton Historical Society to take participants back in time to explore Clinton’s Cold War efforts, highlighting the measures the town took to keep its residents safe in the event of an atomic attack. The lecture will occur in person at the Clinton Historical Society, 210 Church Street.
Travel with the Museum

Two-Part Virtual Lecture with Vladislav Andrejev

Monday, August 9, 12:00-2:30 and Monday, August 16, 12:00-2:30

Members $12, Nonmembers $16, registration required by Friday, August 6. Register online: museumofrussianicons.org/event/lectures-andrejev/ or call the Museum: 978.598.5000. The Zoom link will be emailed to participants the morning of the program.

Prosopon School Founder Vladislav Andrejev presents a two-part lecture that explores the foundations of iconology. In the narrowest sense of the word, iconology is the study and interpretation of visual imagery and symbolism. The specific approach of Andrejev’s teaching is to reveal the intrinsic connections between actual everyday life and our most deeply held Christian beliefs. The lectures are appropriate for all students of the Prosopon School, as well as anyone interested in the intersection of art and faith. Each lecture is approximately two hours long with 30 minutes of Q&A.

Available Now on a Computer Near You!

Journal of Icon Studies, Volume 3

The Journal of Icon Studies is a digital open-access, peer-reviewed resource for the interdisciplinary study of icons around the globe, from the Byzantine period to the present. Fittingly in this year of a global pandemic, the current issue opens with Kirstin Noreen’s examination of cult images in Rome during occurrences of disease and their association with miraculous healing and intercessory power. Mateusz J. Ferens explores the theological meaning and function of decorative-shaped text in Byzantine manuscripts and other media. Drawing on Alexei Lidov’s concept of the “spatial icon,” Kathleen Scollins reexamines the final chapters of Dostoevsky’s Crime and Punishment within the context of the Palm Sunday Donkey Walk ritual. Finally, Marcus C. Levitt analyzes two key pairs of scenes in War and Peace in which Tolstoy explicitly invokes Napoleonic visual images and undercuts them by juxtaposing them to Russian icons.

All volumes are available at museumofrussianicons.org/jis

The Baltics Revealed: Featuring St. Petersburg

April 11 — April 22, 2022 • 12 Days • 15 Meals

After a year of pandemic living and cabin fever we can finally dust off suitcases and renew passports. In that optimistic spirit, the Museum is again partnering with Collette Travel to make your travel dreams come true.

Our lineup includes Croatia & Its Islands, slated for October 2021, as well as The Baltics Revealed, featuring St. Petersburg, departing in April 2022. For those who secured a rare spot at the Oberammergau Passion Play, the Imperial Cities tour will be leaving in May of 2022.

Book confidently with Collette’s optional worry-free waiver, which allows cancellation for any reason up to the day before travel. From the volcanic beaches of Iceland to the Hermitage Museum to the fairy-tale villages of the Adriatic coast...which will you explore first?

Learn more at www.museumofrussianicons/travel-with-the-museum. Contact Melanie Trottier, mtrottier@museumofrussianicons.org with questions.
Take it to the Curator

Friday, September 3, 11:00am-3:00pm
$20 per object, limit four objects per 20-minute time slot, registration required.
To register and receive a time slot call the Museum: 978.598.5000

Want to know more about your icon? Bring your objects in for an assessment clinic provided by the members of the Museum’s curatorial team. Assessments include the approximate age, as well as where, how, and for what purpose the icon was made. Find out if your icon is a Church icon or one for domestic display, and receive information on conservation and appraisal services.

Assessments do not include financial appraisals, per IRS tax code prohibiting the valuation of objects by a nonprofit.

Rent the Museum!

The Museum of Russian Icons is available for event rentals to individuals, corporations, and non-profit organizations. Whether for a wedding, an anniversary dinner, a business seminar or holiday party, your guests will be charmed by the blending of art, architecture, and history at the Museum.

Our state-of-the-art auditorium seats a maximum of 90 people for a lecture and 64 people for a sit-down meal.

Please contact Media Coordinator Anna Farwell for specific details. afarwell@museumofrussianicons.org or 978.598.5000.

Meet the 2021 Interns

The Museum was delighted to welcome three interns to the team this year. Veronika Mykhailo, Talia Gordon, and Alánagh Keane have been enormous assets and helped lighten the load for our small staff. Applications for the 2022 internship program will be posted on our website beginning in January.

Veronika Mykhailo is a rising senior at Boston University, majoring in Art History and Architectural studies. She is originally from Kiev, Ukraine, but moved to Boston when she was 15 to start high school and college. She was excited about the opportunity to intern for the Museum of Russian Icons because it gave her a chance to explore her culture while being far away from home. During her internship, she worked on creating graphics for the virtual conference and helping with its organization. She also compiled a list of icon collections all over the United States and Canada.

Talia Gordon is a 2021 graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, where she majored in English and minored in History of Art and Global Medieval Studies. At the Museum of Russian Icons, she worked with the museum’s collection of Old Believer icons, both researching the qualities that make these icons distinct and synthesizing that research for gallery visitors. Talia is from Denver, CO, where she loves to spend the summers hiking and the winters skiing.

Alánagh Keane is currently working towards a BA in Ancient and Medieval History from Trinity College Dublin. One of her favourite topics is historical disease epidemiology and how disease has been an acting agent on human behavior (which has been particularly illuminating under current circumstances!). Her internship project is a comparative research paper on early Christian iconography in Ireland (c. 5-6th centuries) and Medieval Russia. The goal is to look at the artistic similarities between the two, especially as they relate to both regions’ separation from mainstream Roman Catholicism.
"If any single theme came out of my nine month experience, it was somehow I have to focus my life on minimizing the enormous disparity of living conditions in the world."
—Gordon B. Lankton

**UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS**

**The Long Way Home: A Photographic Journey**

**July 29 - October 3, 2021**

In July, the Museum will reinstall this exhibition featuring more than 40 stunning photographs taken by founder Gordon B. Lankton during his motorcycle trip to 24 different countries across Europe and Asia in the mid-1950s.

Gordon was an outstanding photographer and sought to capture the everyday lives of his subjects. The people he met along the way influenced his life profoundly and in many ways account for the generosity and humanity that he practiced every day.

If you didn’t get to see this exhibit during the pandemic, now’s your chance.

**Gordon B. Lankton: A Collector Celebrated**

**August 12, 2021 - January 3, 2022**

In honor of our late founder, Gordon B. Lankton, this exhibition will explore his other impressive and eclectic collections. As a boy, he assembled a nearly complete collection of every American penny printed since 1794. He would later collect American propaganda posters from both world wars; political buttons; sculptures from India, South East Asia, and Western Africa, vintage toy cars, and of course, Russian icons and sacred art. Each remarkable collection represents a different facet of Gordon’s interests and curiosity. In true Gordon-style, he went beyond simply gathering artifacts and collected information about the origins and people who created them.
### July

- **The Museum is closed on Sunday, July 4 in observance of Independence Day.**

- **Virtual Lecture: Living with the Atomic Bomb: 1945-1965 with Curator Michael Scheibach, Ph.D.**
  - Saturday, July 10, 1:00-2:00pm
  - Free, thanks to a grant from Mass Humanities. Registration required by Friday, July 9. The Zoom link will be emailed to participants the morning of the program.

- **Free First Sunday**
  - Sunday, July 11, 11:00am-5:00pm
  - Enjoy free admission all day, courtesy of the Nypro Foundation.

- **Free First Sunday Drop-in Discussion**
  - Sunday, July 11, 12:00 and 2:00pm
  - Join Interpretation Director Amy Consalvi for a close look at the evolution of comics during the Atomic Age.

- **Lecture: Clinton in the Cold War with Terry Ingano**
  - Wednesday, July 21, 7:00-8:00pm
  - Museum and Clinton Historical Society Members Free, Nonmembers $5, registration not required.

### August

- **Free Admission for the entire month of August**
  - Enjoy free admission all month, courtesy of the Nypro Foundation.

- **Sunday Drop-in Discussion**
  - Sunday, August 1, 12:00 and 2:00pm
  - Free
  - This short talk by docent Art Norman will examine how Nikita Khrushchev's bluntness was interpreted in America by examining six key events.

- **Virtual Lecture Series with Vladislav Andrejev**
  - Monday, August 9, 12:00-2:30pm and Monday, August 16, 12:00-2:30pm
  - Members $12, Nonmembers $16, registration required by Friday, August 6. The Zoom link will be emailed to participants the morning of the program.

- **Virtual Contemporary Russian Literature Book Group**
  - Sunday, August 29, 1:00-3:00pm EDT
  - Free. New members always welcome.
  - This month's book: *The Goose Fritz* by Sergei Lebedev. Please contact aconsalvi@museumofrussianicons.org for more information.

### September

- **Free First Sunday**
  - Sunday, June 6, 11:00am-5:00pm
  - Enjoy free admission all day, courtesy of the Nypro Foundation.

- **Take it to the Curator**
  - Friday, September 3, 11:00am-3:00pm
  - $20 per object, limit four objects per 20-minute time slot, registration required
  - An icon assessment program provided by the Museum of Russian Icons curatorial staff

- **Free First Sunday Drop-In Discussion**
  - Sunday, September 5, 12:00 and 2:00pm
  - Join docent Barbara Blankenship for an interactive and immersive experience, about the key characteristics used to depict saints. This program will take place outdoors and is weather-dependent.

- **Virtual Lecture: Painting the Virtues of the Czar in Early Muscovy**
  - Saturday, September 11, 1:00-2:00pm
  - Free, thanks to a grant from Mass Humanities. Registration required by Friday, September 10. The Zoom link will be emailed to participants the morning of the program.

All program fees are nonrefundable | Register at museumofrussianicons.org/calendar or call the Museum 978.598.5000
Sunday, July 11, 12:00 & 2:00pm
The atomic scare influenced almost every aspect of American culture and had a profound impact on comic books and the perception of the superhero. Considered an act of patriotism during World War II, reading superhero comics came under intense scrutiny during the Atomic age, giving rise to a new genre of comics as the American people desired to explore worlds beyond their own. Join Director of Interpretation Amy Consalvi for a close look at the evolution of comics during the Atomic Age.

Sunday, August 1, 12:00 & 2:00pm
1950’s America was a time of tremendous economic and social growth, yet a cloud of doomsday hung over the land. This short talk by docent Art Norman will examine how America interpreted Nikita Khrushchev’s role in the Cold War by examining six key events: the death of Stalin, the kitchen debate with Richard Nixon, his visit to America, the infamous shoe incident, the Cuban Missile Crisis, and the Berlin Wall.

Sunday, September 5, 12:00 & 2:00pm
What makes an icon an icon? What are the key characteristics used to depict saints? Join docent Barbara Blankenship for an interactive and immersive experience, where to understand icons, you must become one. This program will take place outdoors and is weather-dependent.

Palekh Boxes from the Collection of John Graves
May 21 - July 25, 2021
Visit our Tea Room for a display of new Palekh boxes, a donation from collector John Graves.

For centuries the tiny village of Palekh was isolated amid the great forests of central Russia; because of this it was local artists who created icons for both the neighboring churches and homes. These artists passed skills and techniques through generations creating a distinct style for the region defined by fine, miniature, painting that resulted in highly detailed narrative motifs, architectural backgrounds, and landscapes.

Virtual Lecture: Painting the Virtues of the Czar in Early Muscovy
Saturday, September 11, 1:00-2:00pm
FREE thanks to a grant from Mass Humanities.

Virtue was a perennial theme of premodern art and literature, and Russia was no exception in this regard. This talk discusses the legacy of the cardinal virtues in early Russian mural painting and literature. Building on the classical and Byzantine tradition, Russian painters exalted the life of virtue in the belief that Russia would be led to prosperity. Dr. Justin Willson, lecturer in Medieval and Byzantine Art at Princeton University, received his PhD in January 2021 from Princeton where he studied Byzantine and early Russian art. Justin is currently working on a book which examines art discourse in Muscovy in the early modern period.
When You Visit:
The Museum is located at
203 Union Street
Clinton, MA 01510
978.598.5000
www.museumofrussianicons.org

Hours:
Thursday–Sunday: 11AM–5PM
Closed Monday–Wednesday
(Reservations no longer required)

Admission:
FREE for Museum Members!
Adults $12
Seniors (65+) $10
Students (with ID) $5
Children (13–17) $5
Children under 13 FREE

FREE admission on the first Sunday of the month!
Please follow the CDC guidelines for vaccines and face coverings

The Museum of Russian Icons
is a proud member of:

The Museum participates in the EBT Card to Culture Program

Support for First Sunday free admission provided by:

ANNOUNCEMENTS!

• RESERVATIONS ARE NO LONGER REQUIRED TO VISIT THE MUSEUM
• BEGINNING IN JULY, THE MUSEUM WILL BE OPEN THURSDAY–SUNDAY, 11:00AM – 5:00PM
• THE MUSEUM IS CLOSED SUNDAY, JULY 4
• FREE ADMISSION DURING AUGUST IN HONOR OF FOUNDER, GORDON LANKTON

Free admission courtesy of