

LIBERTY HIGHLIGHTS

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THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE STATUE OF LIBERTY-ELLIS ISLAND FOUNDATION

SUMMER 2007



An Update: The Peopling of America® Center

As supporters of The Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation know, efforts are underway to create the Peopling of America® Center, on Ellis Island and on the Web. **The Peopling of America® Center** is the newest and one of the most ambitious and timely projects in our history. It is creating real excitement among our supporters, so much so that we are happy to report that we have raised more than one-third of the \$20 million it will take to realize our vision for this important addition to Ellis Island.

The goal will be to enlarge the story currently told of the Ellis Island Years (1892 –1954) by including in the new Center the story of those who arrived before Ellis Island (a large number of whom were forced to come against their will) and those who are coming today, becoming citizens, and altering the demographic landscape of America.

We are all aware how central immigration is in the American imagination, and certainly today's news headlines are once again all about the subject. But where better to explore all aspects of this important experience than at Ellis Island, America's Gateway, and to truly do the full story justice.

The Peopling of America® will follow the arc of the American experience: from immigration, to assimilation, to citizenship, played out in every generation, past, present and future. The Center will

thematically and programmatically expand the National Museum of Immigration by educating visitors (physically at Ellis Island and through the Internet) on immigration and citizenship that make up the American experience.

First-Ever Statue of Liberty Drawing Contest

Kids love Lady Liberty. She's known around the world as the great beacon of freedom and opportunity, but for children she is far more than just a symbol. She's a magical presence, larger than life yet protective and reassuring. And her elegant visage is one of the most reproduced images in the world. Ask almost any child, it seems, and she will conjure up her own version of Lady Liberty. For this truly international icon, what better way to celebrate the **120th anniversary** of her official dedication than a drawing contest exclusively for kids?



So in the months surrounding her October 28, 2006 anniversary, The Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation sponsored its first-ever drawing contest for elementary school-aged children. Entries were received from more than 1,200 kids representing 39 states and from around the world.

Twelve finalists were selected, as well as three winning entries within their

It's about all of us!

We're excited that so many of our supporters recognize the importance of this vital project. Learn more how you can help by visiting www.peoplingofamerica.org or making a contribution to the Foundation today by using the order form that comes with this newsletter.

respective age categories: ages 5–7, ages 8–9, and ages 10–12.

The three students who created the winning entries are:



Beatrix, age 7, daughter of Kandi Hendrata, Jakarta, Indonesia

Malecia, age 9, daughter of Melissa Luckie, Andalusia, Alabama

Nazariy, age 11, son of Aleksandor Kirik, Westfield, Massachusetts

The other nine finalists are:

Scott, age 5, son of Tom Anglim, San Diego, California

Sophia, age 6, daughter of Whitney Ho, Edison, New Jersey

Lawrence, age 7, son of Meggy Kwong, Brooklyn, New York

Maggie, age 8, daughter of Julie Schaefer, Poland, Ohio

Lilian, age 8, daughter of Shannon Pultz, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

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The Foundation Celebrates the 6th Annual Ellis Island Family Heritage Awards

Photo: Elena Olivio



Gathering on stage in the Great Hall are Foundation Board Member Tommy Lasorda, Business Honoree John J. Mack, Peopling of America Honoree Josie Natori, Public Service Honoree Bill Novelli, and Secretary of the U.S. Department of the Interior Dirk Kempthorne. The prominent background photo is of Coach Mike Krzyzewski who was unable to attend.

On April 17, 2007, the great tradition continued! Ellis Island, which welcomed more new citizens to America than any place in this great country, welcomed back a new class of Family Heritage Awards winners, accomplished Americans whose ancestors came through the Golden Door of Ellis Island and contributed their share to making this country the place it is today.

On a beautiful Tuesday in April, in the historic Great Hall, four esteemed individuals were honored by The Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation, Inc. for their contributions to the American Experience.

That seminal date, April 17, 2007, marks the 100th anniversary of the record-breaking day at Ellis Island when 11,747 immigrants were processed, more than double a normal day.

The Ellis Island Family Heritage Awards, given annually to a select number of Port of New York and Ellis Island immigrants or their descendants, were presented by **Tommy Lasorda**, Foundation Board Member, and **Dirk Kempthorne**, Secretary, U.S. Department of the Interior, in an 11:00 a.m. ceremony hosted by

Lynn Sherr of ABC News at the Ellis Island Immigration Museum.

The 2007 honorees were:

BUSINESS: John Mack — Chairman and CEO of Morgan Stanley, he previously headed up Pequot Capital Management, Credit Suisse Group and Credit Suisse First Boston. His philanthropic work involves serving as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of New York-Presbyterian Hospital as well as on the boards of Duke University and the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation. His grandfather entered America through Ellis Island.

PUBLIC SERVICE: Bill Novelli — A recognized leader in the international practice of social marketing, he is CEO of AARP. He began a second career in public service in 1990 after retiring from Porter Novelli, one of the world's largest public relations agencies, which he co-founded. He is the grandson of an Ellis Island immigrant.

SPORTS: Mike Krzyzewski — Known by fans as "Coach K" of the three-time National Champion Duke University Blue Devils basketball team, he is the winningest coach in NCAA Tournament history. He sets the bar high as a humanitarian of sport and an ambassador

of education. His grandfather came to America through Ellis Island.

PEOPLING OF AMERICA AWARD: This award honors an immigrant to the U.S. who does not trace roots to Ellis Island but arrived at another time or through another port of entry. The 2007 award honors **Josie Natori**. Born in the Philippines, she came to America in 1964 to study economics, later becoming an investment banker at Merrill Lynch. In 1976, ready to move on to something more creative, she boldly quit her job and ultimately reconfigured the lingerie industry as CEO of Natori Company.

The Ellis Island honorees received a framed copy of the original ship's passenger manifest documenting the arrival of their family in America, obtained from the database of the **American Family Immigration History Center®** at the Ellis Island Immigration Museum and online at www.ellisland.org. The database contains the arrival records of the more than 25 million people who entered through the Port of New York and Ellis Island from 1892–1924. Forty percent of Americans have family immigration records in this database.

Drawing Contest

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Jonathan, age 9, son of Donghui Zhang, Piscataway, New Jersey



Catherine, age 10, daughter of Patricia Militello, Staten Island, New York

Alyssa, age 10, daughter of Vicki Morelock and Mark Williams, Fall Branch, Tennessee

Jacob, age 11, son of Kristina Stevens, Fenton, Michigan



Our sincere thanks to all the children, parents, and school teachers worldwide who participated in this special celebration marking the 120th anniversary of the dedication of Lady Liberty.

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Broadway — Not the Only Setting for Great Drama

Theater in New York? Of course. But is Broadway the only place for great drama? The Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation respectfully says, “It ain’t necessarily so.”

Where better to relive true drama than at one of the most dramatic venues in all of American history? On this “Isle of Hope-Isle of Tears,” better known as historic Ellis Island, millions of Americans-to-be played out their own incredible dramas of fear and hope, arrival and welcome.

Liberty Dance, a new play which explores immigrant stories from the early 1900s to the present, premiered March 25 for a limited run at the Ellis Island Immigration Museum’s intimate Living Theater. Produced and funded by The Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation, Inc., the show is written by playwright and screenwriter Aurorae Khoo and is based in part on the stories of Ellis Island immigrants from the museum’s Oral History Archives. The play unfolds through the eyes of a pair of young girls



Actor’s Equity Association performers Mary Sheridan, Damon Boggess and Michael Aquino.

who both have immigrant roots — one in the early 1900s and the other a mere 25 years ago.

Liberty Dance is presented seven times daily, Monday through Sunday. Show times are 10:45; 11:30; 12:15; 1:00; 2:30; 3:15; and 4:00. The play is running through mid-October. Admission is \$6.00. For more information or to make group reservations, contact The Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation at 212-561-4500, ext. “0” or email theater@ellisland.org.

10 Billion Hits at Ellis Island Online!

Now in its sixth year of operation, Ellis Island Online (www.ellisland.org) has surpassed 10 billion hits. Talk about popular! Your support helped make this incredibly helpful family history website possible, and we hope you’ve been able to use it to find your very own connection to Ellis Island’s rich history.

For the past few years, the Foundation has been working hard to clean and correct elements of the database, particularly when we receive inquiries from the public regarding specific manifest records. We are also at work adding or correcting ships’ names when we find that there are errors in the record.

Most importantly, we have made thousands of corrections to the database index, which is the tool you use to search the actual historic manifests. By making these corrections to the index we are making it easier for you to actually improve your chances of finding that ancestor you seek.

Ellis Island Passenger Arrival Records are among the most valuable family history documents for tens of millions of Americans tracing their ethnic heritage. For many, these historic documents contain seemingly ordinary facts which now provide invaluable clues about the extraordinary events in the lives of our immigrant ancestors. So dig back in to the historical record and visit Ellis Island online once again at www.ellisland.org.

Always remember, it was on Ellis Island that millions of immigrants first tasted the fruits of freedom, first saw the skyline of New York and stepped out on American soil to chase their dreams. Generations later, we have still not forgotten their courage and hope.

Today, celebrate their incredible accomplishments by commemorating their arrival to our shores. Go to www.ellisland.org today and begin your search anew!

And let us know your comments! Email us at historycenter@ellisland.org. We look forward to hearing from you!

Is Your Family On The Wall of Honor Yet?

The Wall, of course, is officially known as **The American Immigrant Wall of Honor**®, sponsored by The Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation. You can search our Wall at www.wallofhonor.org to see if your family name is already registered, and to register the family name you wish to honor.

the ancestors of Barbra Streisand, Frank Sinatra, Barry Manilow, Cicely Tyson, Tommy Lasorda, Mary Higgins Clark and so many more.

Remember, the person you honor need not have arrived in America at Ellis Island. In fact, you may pay tribute to a parent, a grandparent, perhaps someone who has just become a citizen, or simply inscribe your own family’s name just to say “thank you” to an America that has been good to you.

Ellis Island is the only place where you can honor your family heritage in this way. It is a national monument and a jewel in America’s cultural and historical crown. And the Wall will forever be with us, at a National Monument that is an inspiration to us all.

Family members and friends from across the country can view names on the “Virtual Wall” at www.wallofhonor.org. To register a name, visit www.wallofhonor.org, call our office at 212-561-4500, or use the handy registration form at the back of this Newsletter.

The Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation reminds you that the 2007 version of the Wall will close

after the coming Holiday season. So act soon to make certain the name you wish to honor is registered in time for our annual deadline.

The largest wall of names in the world, The American Immigrant Wall of Honor® features over 700,000 individuals and families who have been honored by their descendants. The Wall celebrates American immigration from colonial times right up to the present and features

©James Caserty



Ellis Island Oral Histories: Keeping History Alive

The Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation, Inc., working with the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, is keeping the very human history of Ellis Island alive through the Ellis Island Oral History Center. Hundreds of interviews of people who came through the famed immigration station are archived at the Center on Ellis Island and are available to the public for research and education. The work is ongoing and immigrants are invited to make their stories part of the permanent record of Ellis Island. Here is just a sampling of interviews of those brave individuals who came to America to make a better life for themselves, and in consequence made a better world for all of us.

VERA LEWIS TANNER, born 1899; Emigrated from England in 1920, age 20

Dreaming of America: “We had a box of shredded wheat, which was quite a big treat for us. And I had a half of a shredded wheat biscuit and I was reading on the box about Niagara Falls. I loved to read. And I had a dream that one day, some day, I would visit Niagara Falls. I didn’t know how, when or where, anything about it, but I never lost that dream that someday I would visit Niagara Falls.”

Leaving on The Ship: “I was going up the gangplank on the boat and I thought, “Oh, I haven’t kissed my mother ‘good-bye!’ I didn’t think they would let me go back, but they did... I promised my mother I would be back in two years, that I was going to come back to get married... I was excited. I didn’t realize what it meant. You know, you don’t stop to think. You are too young to think what it all might mean.”

CATHERINE GALLIPPI, born 1914; Emigrated from Italy in 1922, age 8

“(There was) this young woman here... they were examining her hair. She had it braided so beautifully because I guess she was going to meet someone, you know. And they unbraided all her hair and evidently they found something there because they were clipping her hair. Just cutting here and cutting there



and she started to cry. She said, “But you’re cutting my hair!” She says, “Well, my dear, if you want to be in America we want to make sure your hair is clean.”

MARY HOVHANESIAN, born 1913; Emigrated from Syria, 1920, age 7

(Mrs. Hovhanesian talks about her mother being asked to read by one of the inspectors at Ellis Island):

“So, being that (my mother) didn’t know English, she was asked and my uncle interpreted for her whether or not she spoke, she read and wrote Arabic. And he said to her, ‘Say yes.’ And she said in Arabic, ‘But I don’t know.’ He said, ‘You just say yes.’ So she said, ‘Yes.’ They handed her a book in Arabic. She said to my uncle, ‘Now what do I do?’ He says, in Arabic of course, he says, ‘Open a page and recite

it.’ So she did. As soon as she did that, they passed her.” (she laughs)

PAUL LARIC, born 1926; Emigrated from Yugoslavia (via India) in 1940, age 14

“Well, on arrival, as happy as we were to be in New York and a new life for all of us, we were disappointed almost immediately when the immigration officers looked at our papers and realized that my brother’s visa had expired and that he would have to be taken to Ellis Island to await processing of a new application. The rest of us were permitted to land in Manhattan if we wanted to but my brother was only sixteen years old at that time and we didn’t want to leave him on Ellis Island by himself and so we joined him and we spent a little over three weeks on Ellis Island... they fed us quite well. We had not been used to many of the things that

we received. I remember that most of the people being from Europe and other parts had never seen Jello before and when Jello was served for dessert hardly anyone touched it, not so much because they didn’t like the taste but because they didn’t like the wobbly texture of Jello. There were a number of Ellis Island administrators and employees who circulated among the detainees from time to time telling them what was the status of their situation or what was being done and if there was any change. And I think it was one of these individuals that came and told my parents that finally the papers were in order. We could begin packing and be ready to leave. And this was just a day or two before Christmas and it was the biggest Christmas present we could have wanted.”

The Limited Edition “Lady Liberty 2007” Ornament: Made with Copper from the Statue’s Restoration

Lady Liberty 2007, the Fifth Annual Limited Edition Statue of Liberty Ornament was commissioned by The Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation, Inc. to celebrate the 2007 Holiday Season.

This series of Limited Edition ornaments was created to commemorate America’s most powerful symbol and beloved icon, the Statue of Liberty. This fifth annual offering is a continuation of a series that offers high quality collectibles which are handcrafted and manufactured by American artisans.

A distinctive feature of **Lady Liberty 2007** is that it is plated in copper preserved by The Gold Leaf Corporation through an exclusive agreement with The Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation, Inc. (a Certificate of Authenticity is included) from the centennial restoration of the Statue of Liberty National Monument during 1984–1986.

This collectible is finished in beautiful 24K gold and framed with lovely white snowflakes. The front design, plated in copper (which could patina over time) presents Lady Liberty holding her torch high, its flame screened in gold, over a deep blue winter sky of falling snow. The ornament, topped by a replica of the Statue’s crown with its seven spikes, declares the year “2007.” And the bottom curve proudly bears her name “Lady Liberty”.



This exquisite piece can be hung from its ribbon, and is presented in a lovely full color gift box picturing the ornament and inscribed with the words “Fifth Annual Limited Edition Statue of Liberty Collectible.”

The Statue of Liberty is rich in symbolism: the seven rays of her crown represent Liberty ruling the seven continents and seven seas; the torch represents the light of liberty; the tablet in her left hand bears the date July 4, 1776, recognizing America’s Declaration of Independence; her ancient Greek dress symbolizes Greece as the birthplace of democracy; and the severed chain at her feet represents the broken shackles of tyranny and oppression.

This Fifth Annual Limited Edition

Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation Collectible will be a memorable addition to your collection — and made from the actual copper from the Statue’s historic restoration it is sure to become a treasured family heirloom for years to come. Proceeds will help support the important work of The Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation, Inc.

This holiday season, **Lady Liberty 2007** is the gift to give and to keep!

A Note to Our Collectors

Lady Liberty 2007 is the fifth ornament in our collection. Annually, this limited issue collection features a new handmade ornament to commemorate each holiday season. Because the number issued each year will be strictly limited, we cannot take reservations at this time for the 2008 Ornament. However, as a collector, you will be notified when the 2008 Ornament is unveiled and given the opportunity to add it to your collection. And if you missed the first four in the series, **Celebrate Liberty** in 2003, **Liberty 2004**, **Liberty’s Flame 2005** and **Liberty’s Crown 2006**, those ornaments are still available for purchase at www.ellisland.org or by calling 212-561-4500 Ext. “0”.

Use the **Order Form** included with this issue of “Liberty Highlights” to purchase any or all of the items on this page or call **212-561-4500** today!

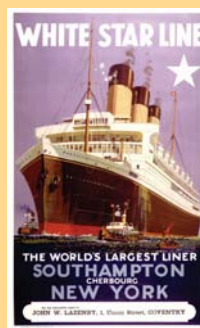
Own a Piece of Colorful Maritime History!

Ellis Island and America were where the immigrants arrived. But to do that, the vast majority of hopeful new Americans could only get here one way, on a voyage by sea. And so millions of immigrants clamored aboard the ships that would play such a central role in the first part of their incredible journeys.

Today, you can rekindle a bit of that experience with the new **Ellis Island Collection**, a series of



eight magnificent prints of vintage posters of some of the vessels that were used by the major shipping companies to advertise their ocean liners. These beautifully designed, evocative images portray the romance of the era of transatlantic travel by ship. The giant shipping lines of the day are represented, including the White Star Line, Red Star Line, Cunard, and United American Lines. The posters also highlight many of the major European ports



that served as points of departure for immigrants and travelers destined for

America, such as Southampton; Havre; Bremen; Rotterdam and Hamburg.

These spectacular full-color prints measure 20" wide by 30" high and make a wonderful addition to any decor. And they make a perfect gift for those whose ancestors made the journey to Ellis Island, or anyone who appreciates the

romance of the classic age of ocean travel. View all eight posters and order today at www.ellisland.org or by calling 212-561-4500 Ext. “0”.

A Message from the National Park Service, the Foundation's Partner at the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island



Thank you for your interest in the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island.

The Statue of Liberty is one of the most recognizable icons in the world. Since 1886 she has welcomed millions of people to New York harbor and the American dream. Standing tall, her torch held high — lighting the way to liberty and justice — the Statue of Liberty is an enduring symbol of freedom, democracy, opportunity and hope.

She's been called Lady Liberty, Miss Liberty and sometimes simply "The Lady." But no matter what title is used, this colossal public sculpture encourages us to make connections with these ideals and to celebrate, contemplate and debate their realization.



I think the article you've read about the first international Statue of Liberty Drawing Contest attests to her international prominence, and we at the National Park Service are extraordinarily proud to be entrusted with her permanent care.

It is fitting that Ellis Island, part of the Statue of Liberty National Monument, sits so close by the Lady's welcoming presence in New York Harbor. For literally millions of immigrants sailing past the Statue and onto American soil for the first time on Ellis Island, the Statue and Ellis are virtually inseparable in the imagination.

Today, generations after the last immigrants made their way through the immigration process on Ellis Island, The Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation and the National Park Service continue to work closely together, particularly in embracing our newest project, The Peopling of America® Center.

This great public-private partnership is possible because the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island are special places beloved by the American public and cared for by the National Park Service, with the Foundation's critically important help,

And there is nothing like visiting Liberty National Monument in person, so please make your plans soon. My staff and I will do everything we can to make your visit a truly memorable one. We also hope you will visit our Park Service homepage (www.nps.gov) for more information.

— Cynthia Garrett, *Superintendent*

FAQs About The American Immigrant Wall of Honor®

What is the Wall? The American Immigrant Wall of Honor® is a permanent exhibit of over 700,000 individual and family names featured at Ellis Island in New York Harbor. Ellis Island is part of the Statue of Liberty National Monument. It is the only place in the country where an individual can honor his or her family's heritage at a national monument. Names are listed alphabetically by section.



How can I place a name on the Wall?

Fill out the registration form (*to the right*), designate a name and return it along with your gift of \$150 or more, or register online at www.wallofhonor.org.

For a contribution of \$1000, the name will be displayed on a special plaque of Ellis Island Leaders; for \$5000, the plaque of Ellis Island Benefactors; for \$10,000, the plaque of Ellis Island Patrons.

Is the Wall only for Ellis Island immigrants?

No, the Wall is for everyone and includes immigrants from all historical periods. Regardless of when your ancestors came to America or through which port they entered, you may honor their names on the Wall. You may register your family name, the name of an ancestor, relative or even yourself.

May I place more than one name on the Wall?

Yes! But remember, there is a minimum gift of \$150 for each name registered.

How will I know that the name has been registered?

You will receive an 8-1/2" x 11" Certificate displaying the name you choose to honor. Suitable for framing, your Certificate serves as a constant reminder of your family's contribution to America's heritage. You will also be able to see your family name listed on the Virtual Wall at www.wallofhonor.org which is updated on a quarterly basis.

Celebrate Your American Story!

Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation, Inc
P.O. Box 5200, New York, NY 10163-5191

I would like to register my ancestor's name on The American Immigrant Wall of Honor® (40 characters per name maximum):

Individual or family name honored (please print)

1.

Country of Origin

Individual or family name honored (please print)

2.

Country of Origin

Enclosed is my tax-deductible contribution for

\$150 Other _____
(minimum \$150 per name)

Please make checks payable to "SOLEIF"

Check enclosed. Or please charge my:
 American Express Discover Card
 Visa MasterCard

Credit Card Number

Expiration Date

Signature (required if using credit card)

Please print name as it appears on credit card

Donor Name (print no more than 30 characters)

Address

City

State

Zip

Phone (daytime)

Email

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The Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation, Inc. is a charitable corporation to which contributions are tax-deductible. A copy of the last financial report filed with the Department of State may be obtained in writing to: New York State, Department of State, Office of Charities Registration, Albany, New York 12231, or The Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation, Inc, 17 Battery Place, Suite 210, New York, NY 10004-3507