

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Fraunces Tavern® Museum Debuts NEW Immersive Experience in Historic Long Room

New York – On March 1, Fraunces Tavern Museum revealed its newly re-designed historic Long Room to the public for the first time. The reveal marked the completion of the **Long Room Enhancement Project** made possible by a matching grant from the **John Ben Snow Memorial Trust and the support of generous donors**. Museum Director, **Jacqueline Masseo**, who spearheaded the project, and Facilities & Operations Manager, **Eric Sussman**, who oversaw the design's installation, had the honor of cutting the ribbon at a ceremony attended by the entire Museum staff on February 28.

The room is the historic site where George Washington bid an emotional farewell to his officers on December 4, 1783 following the end of the American Revolution. For over a hundred years since the Museum's opening 1907, the Long Room has served as a portal to the past for thousands of New York City School children and tourists.

Mainly, the project involved the combined efforts of many Museum staff members working to design and install a new reader rail that could engage the public in innovative ways. The **new reader rail** now allows a greater number of visitors to comfortably access the room at one time; providing them with a closer look at the artifacts in the room. **Updated labels** not only recount the tavern's extraordinary history, but also invite visitors to think critically about how history has shaped the nation we live in today. Finally, **interactive components**, such as spice jars mounted on the rail and a voice recording of an excerpt of Washington's Farewell toast, bring to life the sounds and smells of an 18th century tavern and of the room's history.

The Museum is grateful to the generous donors who helped raise the funds necessary to make this transformation possible and bring the Long Room to life: **Peter C. Hein, Matthew C. Norgard, Robb A. Allan, Kent D. Worley, F. Daniel Le Vert Coleman, David W. Norgard, Gary Dubois, James Watson Gerard V, Michael Stauffer, Robert Perkins, James R. Grayshaw, Wesley M. Oler IV, David Benjamin Rich III, Jonathan Jensen, Stephen Madsen, John Turnbull, Kurt Colicchio, T. Denny Hoag, Chris Matteson, Daniel Cordero, Warren Diefendorf III, Warren Diefendorf IV, Fletcher Hodges, Donald Provost, William Pierrepont Bartow, Justin Brian Tessier, Kathleen Dolan Mark S. Russo, and Ann M. Kilbourne.**

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About Fraunces Tavern Museum:

Fraunces Tavern Museum's mission is to preserve and interpret the history of the American Revolutionary era through public education. This mission is fulfilled through the interpretation and preservation of the Museum's collections, landmarked buildings and varied public programs that serve the community. You can stand in the room where General George Washington bid farewell to his officers and explore eight additional galleries that focus on America's War for Independence and the preservation of early American history. To learn more, visit our website at frauncestavernmuseum.org.

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