

Niagara Aerospace Museum names Visser executive director

Press Release

The Niagara Aerospace Museum (NiAM) announces the appointment of Lindsey Lauren Visser as the organization's new executive director.

Visser was selected as the organization looks toward its future growth.

"It is an exciting time for the Niagara Aerospace Museum," Board President Don Erwin said. "We have big plans, and we feel confident Lindsey Lauren is the right person to lead our organization."

Visser is a historian and experienced nonprofit professional, having worked in several of the area's historical museums. A graduate of Canisius College and the University of Oxford with an MS.t. in modern history, she most recently



Lindsey Lauren Visser (Submitted photo)

served as the executive director of the Italian Cultural Center. Visser was instrumental in the successful completion of their first capital campaign and was the driving

force behind their administrative operations. During her tenure, she oversaw the installation of the CCI's anchor historical exhibit, expanded the membership program, and developed their award-winning public programming.

"Not only is Lindsey Lauren's nonprofit profit background a great fit for our organization, but her background as a historian will also be an asset to our exhibits, archive and research facility," Board Vice President Allison O'Connor said.

In her new position, Visser will be responsible for implementing the Niagara Aerospace Museum's strategic plan, building community partnerships, and continuing to ensure the overall success of the mission.

One of her first major projects will be NiAM's solar eclipse programming. The museum is one of NASA's sun spot locations and has special activities and programs from April 4-7. A full schedule of events is available at www.NiagaraAerospaceMuseum.org/events/2024eclipse or on the Niagara Aerospace Museum Facebook page.

"I was blown away by the collection and depth of history," Visser said. "It's an organization that has so much to offer the community, and it's an honor to be a part of the team guiding the museum into the future."

The Niagara Aerospace Museum is located at 9990 Porter Road (Niagara Falls International Airport). Its mission is to preserve

and share the rich heritage of and ongoing contributions to aviation and aerospace design and manufacturing in Western New York, and to inspire and facilitate educational opportunities for learners of all ages in science, technology, engineering, art and math (STEAM).

The venue stated, "We do this by making our collection and the stories and opportunities it represents accessible to the public. Our vision is to be a well-known destination for educators, students, researchers and tourists for information about Western New York's aerospace contributions and the people involved in their design, manufacture and testing."

For more information, visit <https://NiagaraAerospaceMuseum.org>.

Fashion Outlets of Niagara Falls USA to host blood drive, CPR trainings with American Red Cross

The Fashion Outlets of Niagara Falls USA will partner with the American Red Cross of Western New York to host a blood drive and complementary Hands-Only CPR sessions, on Tuesday, March 26, at the mall, 1900 Military Road. The blood drive will be from 1-6 p.m. The Hands-Only CPR sessions will be held at noon and 1 p.m., each lasting a half hour. Both activities are being held inside Entrance 1.

Registration is required for the blood drive and/or the Hands-Only CPR sessions by visiting www.fashionoutletsnagara.com/Events/BloodDriveMarch2024 or www.fashionoutletsnagara.com/Events/CPRMarch2024, respectively. The CPR sessions are open to the first 20 registrants on a first-come, first-served basis. Partici-

pants are also asked to bring a valid form of identification with them that day.

"March is Red Cross Month, when our organization honors the commitment of volunteers and blood and platelet donors to support individuals and families in need" said MaryBeth Hall, Red Cross representative. "We're encouraging donors of all blood types to make a positive impact in March by scheduling and keeping their donation appointments as the blood drives play a vital role in helping area hospitals combat the ongoing blood supply shortage, including those within the Buffalo and Niagara Falls region."

Those participating in the blood drive will receive a \$10 Dunkin gift card, a pair of certified eclipse viewing glasses, as well

as a "Godzilla x Kong: The New Empire" T-shirt.

"We are thrilled to partner with the Red Cross to host both a blood drive and complimentary CPR courses at Fashion Outlets," said John Doran, Fashion Outlets general manager. "Every two seconds in the United States, there is someone in critical need of blood, and sharing knowledge of proper CPR techniques is of utmost importance for everyone. On behalf of Fashion Outlets, we take pride in helping to raise awareness and ensure that the community's needs are met."

Blood Drive Safety

A press release stated, "Each Red Cross blood drive and donation center follows a high level of safety and infection control,

and additional precautions – including face masks for donors and staff, regardless of vaccination status – have been implemented to help protect the health of all those in attendance."

Donors are asked to schedule an appointment prior to arriving at the drive.

To be eligible, a person must be at least 17 (16 with parental consent), be in good health, weigh at least 110 pounds (120 pounds if 16 years old), and present valid photo identification with signature.

While all blood types are accepted, type O positive, type O negative and platelets are strongly needed.

For additional information on this and other mall activities, visit fashionoutletsnagara.com.

Lewiston Council on the Arts continues 'Conversations with...' series

Press Release

The Lewiston Council on the Arts will continue its "Conversations with..." series with

several programs to be held at the Red Brick Municipal Building at 145 S. Fourth St. These events explore the world of the

arts, and celebrate artists and their work. Tickets are \$10 per person (15% off for LCA members). Each session begins at 3:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 16, will be a presentation by Buffalo crime writer Lissa Marie Redmond. She will share the story of how she went from a career in law enforcement serving with the Buffalo Police Department to

becoming a published mystery author.

On Saturday, March 23, Dr. Laura Kremmel will present "Uncanny Medicine; The Gothic and Public Health." LCA noted, "We've become familiar with the relationship between horror and medicine over the last few years as the ongoing COVID pandemic has highlighted fear of disease, but also occasionally of cure. This talk will show that this relationship isn't new. In fact, horror and medicine have long relied on one another to help us understand experiences of illness, injury and health."

Rom-com author Joelle Cullen will share the secrets of romance writing at "Steeped in Romance: Tea and Conversation," a special tea sponsored by the LCA on Saturday, March 30. The press release stated,

"Immerse yourself in 'What's Handed Down,' the story of Emilia Graham, a concert pianist, grieving the recent death of her mother, finding love and solving old mysteries in the quaint village of Berkingsley, England. Joelle will discuss researching and writing her book – and possibly inspire the writer in you to bloom in the form of your own love story."

On Saturday, April 6, the LCA will present "Darkness & Light; open mic poetry reading" with Slipstream. As the solar eclipse brings darkness to Lewiston, share poetry following the theme of "darkness and light" at this open mic event. This event will be led by the editors of Slipstream poetry journal, WNY's longest-running poetry journal. Each participant will have about 5 minutes to read their work. Readings will involve audience and panel discussion, as well as the opportunity to submit to Slipstream. Poetry readers will have their ticket fee waived. Coffee and refreshments will be served.

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