

ANSM 2025 Awards

Dan Conlin

Dan Conlin is a maritime historian and retired museum curator in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Conlin became Curator of Marine History at the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic in 1997. He curated and wrote the museum's permanent Titanic exhibit and temporary exhibits such as St. Louis: Ship of Fate. Conlin at one time also taught one credit course in the Atlantic Canada Studies department at Saint Mary's University. During Dan's 11-year tenure at the Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21, he curated many exhibitions including Canada's Titanic – The Empress of Ireland, Refuge Canada, Canada Day 1, countless "Community Presents" exhibitions with local community partners and most recently co-curated A History Exposed: The Enslavement of Black People in Canada with Dr. Afua Cooper in partnership with the Black Cultural Centre for Nova Scotia.

Nick Drane

Nick Drane graduated from St Mary's University with a Bachelor of Arts in History in 2020. At the Halifax Citadel Society, he achieved the rank of Sergeant and trained new recruits on the history of the site. Now, as the Army Museum Education Co-Ordinator, Nick has transformed their educational programming from a modest offering serving a handful of school visits annually into a comprehensive, curriculum-based education program that reaches over 500 students per year.

Paul Lalande

Paul Lalande has been a vital member of the Museum of Industry's Visitor Experience team for over 15 years. He earned his Bachelor of Education degree from St. Francis Xavier University, and went on to enjoy a rewarding 33-year career as a junior and senior high school teacher. Paul has developed exceptional expertise in the history and culture of coal mining in northern Nova Scotia, where his personal connection has deeply informed and enriched his interpretation work. Beyond the Museum, Paul has made significant contributions to his community. He has been an active member of the Kinsmen Club of New Glasgow for over 30 years and was awarded the organization's highest honour, a Life Membership, in 2007. He also served for 28 years as a baseball coach and was named Volunteer of the Year by the Town of New Glasgow. Paul currently sits on the board of directors for the Carmichael Stewart House Museum.

Congratulations to our 2025 Award winners- thank you for your invaluable contributions to your museums and the sector as a whole