

# GSMT News

## The Newsletter of The General Society of Mechanics & Tradesmen

Founded in 1785, The General Society of Mechanics & Tradesmen is dedicated to improving the educational and cultural opportunities for people in the City of New York • Fall 2016

### The Honorable Gale A. Brewer, Manhattan Borough President, Offers Inspiration to Mechanics Institute Graduates as They Complete this Prestigious Milestone



Class of 2016: Graduates in Our Member's Meeting Room, Ready to March into the GSMT Library for the Evening's Program and to Receive Their Diplomas.

Fifty-eight cap-and-gown-clothed graduates marched down the marble staircase of the General Society's landmarked building to the strains of *Pomp and Circumstance* and into the soaring three-story library space. A group reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance and the singing of *The Star Spangled Banner*, led by Fannelle Collete Cato, the wife of a graduating student, followed. General Society President, Gerard Drohan, Jr., welcomed our honored guests, along with the graduates, and their families, who had all shown tenacity, perseverance and sacrifice during the two and three-year



Gale Brewer

Mechanics Institute programs they had enrolled in. Victoria Dengel, GSMT's Executive Director then took the podium and introduced Gale Brewer, our keynote speaker. Ms. Dengel told about the speaker's early education at Columbia University and Bennington College and earning an MPA from Harvard's Kennedy School of Government, her years in government and the 12 years she had spent in the City Council before serving as Manhattan Borough Presi-

...continued on page 2

### Mechanics Institute Fall Programs to Begin September 12

Registration for returning students, half way through their courses, was completed before the close of the spring semester and for new students, registration commenced in May. We have spent the summer months updating and painting our classrooms. Several new instructors have been recruited. For new students in our Construction Project Management Program, entrance essays are required to determine that their skills are adequate for these classes. A total of about 350 students are expected, divided among our tuition-free programs which include: Plumbing Design, Electrical Technology, HVAC/R Systems Design, Construction Project Management, as well as AutoCAD and BIM. Our focus is on Workforce Development and making sure students are aware of the latest developments in their field. For a complete catalogue, please check our website: [www.generalsociety.org](http://www.generalsociety.org).

### Fall Lecture Series to Begin Tuesday, September 27

Since 1837, Lectures on subjects of interest to our members and the general public have been a popular program of The General Society. Our current lectures series is divided into two segments: Labor, Literature and Landmarks, and The Artisan Series, with twelve lectures in each group. Our kick-off lecture will celebrate The 70th anniversary of Penguin Classics with *Classic Penguin: Cover to Cover* with Penguin Classic's Senior Vice President and Executive Creative Director, Paul Buckley and Elda Rotor, Vice President and Publisher of Penguin Classics.

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**SAVE THE DATE: Thursday, November 17, 2016**

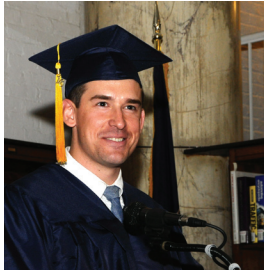
**Peter Pennoyer, Peter Pennoyer Architects, Named 2016 Craftsmanship Honoree  
Peg Breen, President, The NYC Landmarks Conservancy, Honored for Civic Leadership**

The General Society of Mechanics & Tradesmen will hold its annual award ceremony benefiting the Mechanics Institute in the historic General Society Library.

**For profiles of our honorees, please see page 5**

## The Honorable Gale A. Brewer, Offers Inspiration... (continued from Page 1)

dent. After acknowledging the introduction, Ms. Brewer commended the graduates for their hard work and pointed out they were part of a special and unique Institute. Ms. Brewer said, "People often ask me what the Borough President does."



Collin Murray

Answering her own question, she explained, we decide, with the Mayor, what the city needs and what needs to be accomplished, then *you* come along and BUILD what we need. The class Valedictorian, Colin Murray, then addressed his fellow classmates and our guests. He said he had started in the industry as a laborer hanging drywall in a yoga studio and in 2014 he registered

for our Project Management program at Mechanics Institute trying to find his place in the industry. The assignments he was beginning to receive on his job paralleled the topics in class lectures: estimating, project management, budgets, scheduling, contract reading and planning. He is now working as Assistant Site Manager for a new 43-story building. He wished all his fellow classmates well and charged them to always remember the sculpture over the General Society's door, "By Hammer and Hand, All Arts do Stand." The diplomas were awarded, followed by the traditional "alumni pinning" and Past President Gottfried Weissgerber's alumni address. Dinner was then served amid congratulations all around.



William T. Canslin III and Stacy Basso

## Academic Awards for Excellence



The Thomas S. DeNapoli Award in Electricity Technology presented to Shane A. Velez by Kristine DeNapoli, Mechanics Institute alumna.

Garfield F. Wilson receives his George E. Hoe Award from Mechanics Institute School Chair, Andis Woodlief.



Keith Olsen presented an Albert A. Cuneo Scholarship Award to Oumie Ceesay.

The Alan Senzer Award presented by Bomi Kim, Senior Vice President, NYC Economic Development Corporation, to Colin Murray.



A new Achievement Award in HVAC/R from Penguin, an EMCOR Company, presented to Dejan Denkovski by GSMT Past President Gottfried Weissgerber.

*"By Hammer and Hand  
All Arts Do Stand"*

## Spring Mechanics Institute Exhibit



The Spring 2016 Mechanics Institute Student Work Exhibit showcased the accomplishments of students from our Construction Documents Design and Historic Preservation programs. These projects reflect the students' skills and rendering concepts in a wide range of courses. This year the focus was on: Architectural Photography and Introduction to Space Planning. The exhibit was open to the general public. The exhibit was supported in part by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, in partnership with the City Council.



Take Your Career To The Next Level

## BUILD YOURSELF • BUILD NEW YORK

The Mechanics Institute has focused on workforce development in New York City ever since its founding in 1858. Tuition-free evening instruction in trades-related education has provided many students with the skills needed to improve their job opportunities. Our programs continue to serve those employed in the building and construction trades who are striving to improve their skills and expand their knowledge to increase career opportunities. Each fall, nearly 350 students enroll in Mechanics Institute's educational programs, including Plumbing Design, HVAC/R Systems Design, Electrical Technology, Construction Project Management and Facilities Management, as well as AutoCAD and Building Information Modeling (BIM).

**MECHANICS INSTITUTE**

Workforce Development Since 1858

*a program of*

**The General Society of Mechanics and Tradesmen  
of the City of New York**

## Two 2016 Award-Winning Students are Retired United States Marines

Following service in the Middle East and after Honorable Discharges, to enhance their career opportunities in the construction industry, **Shane Velez** and **Colin Murray** both found their ways to technical classes at the Mechanics Institute. Mr. Velez, after graduating from Cardinal Hayes High School, though he received scholarships to prestigious universities such as Penn State and the University of Miami, had a strong desire to serve his country and enlisted in the Marines. After graduating from Boot Camp as Company Honor Man, he was quickly promoted to Sergeant in the elite unit, Force Recon, where he took on many special missions, fighting alongside the US Navy Seal Teams and foreign allies. After his discharge, he earned a degree from John Jay College. His job at New York City Transit found him trying to learn technical skills from other workers, since the \$12,000 tuition for available classes was too expensive. A co-worker introduced him to the tuition-free courses at the Mechanics Institute where he found the exact courses he desired in Electrical Technology. Mr. Velez received two Academic Awards while at Mechanics Institute. **Colin Murray** graduated from Amherst University after serving in the Marines as Platoon Sargent during Operation Iraqi Freedom. He is presently employed as Assistant Site Superintendent of a high-rise residential structure. He was the 2016 Mechanics Institute Class Valedictorian and received the Alan Senzer Award for Excellence in Construction Project Management.

## 2016 Graduate from Construction Project Management Hopes to Open New Business

Andre J. Neal is a dock builder by profession. He is a member of Dock Builders Union Local 1556. His grandfather is a member of the bricklayer's union and moved to New York from Atlanta in the 1960s for better job opportunities for himself. Mr. Neal graduated from the Andrew Jackson High School in Queens and followed his grandfather to become a skilled bricklayer. Now that he has graduated from The Mechanics Institute, he plans to open his own company. The company will focus on geotechnical foundations for residential and municipal clients. Mr. Neal said, "The good thing is in unions, one can always go back to one's original field."



Andre Neal



## The Mechanics Institute's BIM Instructor, Leo Molina, has worked on World Trade Projects

We chose to photograph Mr. Molina besides our icon from the World Trade Center building because he has spent much of his time working at Tishman as BIM Co-



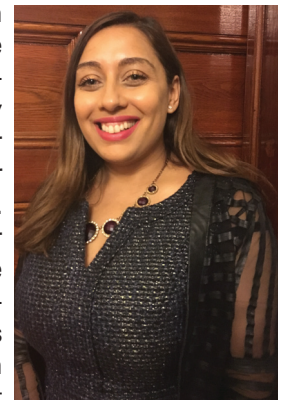
Leo Molina

ordination Manager on projects for One World Trade Center. His previous experience, at Skidmore, Owings & Merrill, LLP, included Digital Design Coordinator and Computers Systems Analyst. He is skilled in both BIM and Revit, and in teaching focuses more on the construction side than design. He also does digital construction and model-making of the facilities, working with all trade contractors: electricians, architects, sheet-metal, mechanical piping etc. One of

his students said that Mr. Molina "had a real passion for understanding how things work and for working as a team." Mr. Molina received his training at New York City Technical College, a division of CUNY. His hobby is music and he is now learning to play the drums. He grew up in Hell's Kitchen and now lives in Chelsea.

## ConEdison Finance Corporate Accounting Senior Analyst is MI Construction Project Management Graduate

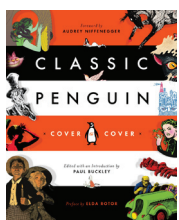
Renee Jaikaran is someone who believes that the more she knows about operations, the more valuable she is to her employer. After graduating with a BA in Managerial Economics from Union College, Schenectady, NY, she earned a MA in Science Organizational Leadership from Mercy College in Dobbs Ferry, NY. Her next challenge was the two-year program at Mechanics Institute. Ms. Jaikaran is a single mother who lives in Parkchester, The Bronx. She often took her seven-year-old daughter to lectures with her. Isabella would listen intently. One of Renee's proudest achievements is that she recently received a promotion in Substation Planning in Electric Operations as a Senior Planning Analyst. Renee says that she is proud to be a woman in a non-traditional role and never gave up on her dream to become a program and project manager. She will start her new job in a few weeks time and is thrilled with the skills she gained at the Mechanics Institute.



Renee Jaikaran

## 2016 Fall Lecture Series to Begin Sept. 27

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During this special program, celebrating 70 years of Penguin Classics, Mr. Buckley and Ms. Rotor will provide a visual overview of the innovative covers that have put Penguin Classics at the forefront of the book design world.

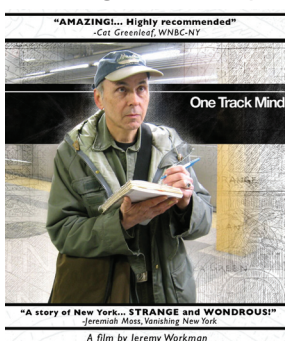
## New Curators for Lecture Series 2016/2017

Camille Wiart, who has skillfully curated the Artisan Lecture series for the past three years, is stepping down as curator. In her place will be Co-Curators, Rhett Butler, Owner and Founder of E. R. Butler and Jean Wiart (who founded the Artisan lecture series in 2011), Master Artisan of Fine Ornamental Metalwork. Lisa Easton of Easton Architects will continue to curate the Landmark lectures and Karin Taylor, GSMT Program Director, will curate the Literature lectures. Over the next nine months there will be 24 lectures covering cultural and educational "Artisan" and "Labor, Literature and Landmark" topics. Information on upcoming lectures can be found at [www.generalsociety.org](http://www.generalsociety.org).

## Spring 2016 Labor and Literature Lectures

The General Society had a packed spring program of "Artisan" and "Labor, Literature and Landmark" lectures that were all enthusiastically received. Outlined below are some of the highlights from the "Labor" and "Literature" lectures held in the Spring:

The **Labor** lectures explored different aspects of the urban infrastructure and urban environment of the City and began on May 3 with a screening of *One Track Mind*



*Mind* with Philip Ashforth Coppola and Director Jeremy Workman. Filmed over the course of four years, *One Track Mind* is a portrait of a man consumed by a singular obsession. The film, shot almost entirely in the subways using small handheld cameras, is also a loving portrait of a city's unique artistic idiosyncrasies. This was followed

by on May 17 with *Vertical Urban Factory: The Social and Architectural Shifts of the Urban Factory* with Nina Rappaport, Architectural Historian, Curator and Publications Director, Yale School of Architecture. Ms. Rappaport discussed her book *Vertical Urban Factory* and outlined the social and architectural issues of the factory in the productive city. The next Labor lecture on June 7th was *The Works: Anatomy of a City* with Kate Ascher, Milstein Professor of Urban Development at Columbia University and Partner, Burohappold Engineering. Using New York City as her point of reference, Kate Ascher

answered questions about how things function in the modern city and described the innovative technologies and physical infrastructure that keep the city working. The final Labor lecture of the spring season occurred on June 23 with *Picking Up* with Robin Nagle, Anthropologist-in-Residence with the Department of Sanitation in New York City and Director, Draper Interdisciplinary Master's Program, NYU. Ms. Nagle discussed her book, *Picking Up* and her experiences inside New York City's Department of Sanitation, a largely unseen and often unloved army responsible for keeping the City alive.



The Spring **Literature** lectures began on April 5th. Against the back drop of the General Society's Lock Collection, author **Geoff Manaugh** and Radio Lab host **Robert Krulwich** discussed Mr. Manaugh's new book, *A Burglar's Guide to the City*. During the talk, Geoff Manaugh took the audience on a tour of our built environment as seen from the perspective of those who wish to infiltrate it for criminal ends, and those tasked with stopping them. Next on May 13th, **Librarian Terry Ballard** presented a program based on his book *Fifty Specialty Libraries of New York City: From Botany to Magic*. This celebration of some of the City's cultural treasures included a host of specialty libraries that have grown up around the rich intellectual and cultural life of New York. The final Literature lecture was on June 28th and featured the two popular podcasters, the **Bowery Boys** - **Greg Young** and **Tom Meyers** - who celebrated the launch of their book *The Bowery Boys: Adventures in Old New York* and discussed the "Top Ten Hidden Secrets" of New York.



## Enjoy Video Recordings of These Lectures

The majority of the lectures described above and many more General Society lecture programs from the Artisan and Labor, Landmark and Literature lectures can be watched on our YouTube channel at your convenience, to do so please visit: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCcC13AXVv\\_mzdtRqhrSjAqw/videos](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCcC13AXVv_mzdtRqhrSjAqw/videos)

This program is supported, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, in partnership with the City Council.



## Peg Breen, President of The New York Landmarks Conservancy, to Receive Civic Leadership Award



Peg Breen, President of the NYC Landmarks Conservancy

Peg Breen heads one of the oldest and largest preservation organizations in the country, The New York Landmarks Conservancy. Through award winning financial and technical programs, the Conservancy has loaned and granted more than \$43 million, and provided thousands of hours of technical assistance for City and State restoration projects.

The Conservancy also advocates for preservation at the local, state and national levels of government. Conservancy advocacy has helped save the South Side of Ellis Island, the public rooms of The Plaza Hotel and the Picasso Curtain which hung in the Four Seasons Restaurant and now resides at The New-York Historical Society. The U.S. State Department has regularly sent Ms. Breen to speak on preservation in St. Petersburg, Russia; Tbilisi, Georgia; and Vancouver, Canada. She was keynote speaker at an international preservation conference in Havana in 2001 and the October 2013 National Association for Preservation Technology Conference in Manhattan. She is on the boards of Preservation Action, Save Ellis Island, The Carey Center for Global Good in Rensselaerville, NY and The International African American Museum in Charleston, S.C. Prior to the Conservancy, she held positions in New York City government and the media. Ms. Breen lives in New York City and completed her Master's degree at New York University. **The New York Landmarks Conservancy** is dedicated to preserving, revitalizing, and reusing New York's architecturally significant buildings. Through pragmatic leadership, financial and technical assistance, advocacy, and public education, the Conservancy ensures that New York's historically and culturally significant buildings, streetscapes, and neighborhoods continue to contribute to New York's economy, tourism, and quality of life.

## 2016 Craftsmanship Honoree, Peter Pennoyer, FAIA, Focuses on Classical Designs



Peter Pennoyer, FAIA

Peter Pennoyer, FAIA, Peter Pennoyer Architects, is a passionate and dedicated advocate for the relevance of traditional and classical architecture in contemporary practice. He established his firm in 1990 and it has since grown to include four partners, fifty associates, and eight interior designers.

He has followed an unusual path in his career as an architect and historian. From his education at Columbia University in the early days of Post Modernism through scholarship, education, and advocacy, Mr. Pennoyer seeks to further enrich the discourse of architecture today. With his co-author, Anne Walker, he is the author of four award-winning monographs on architects of the first half of the twentieth century. Their lectures on their monographs, architectural history, and urban design have reached audiences across the country and abroad. In addition, they are adjunct professors in the Department of Urban Design and Architecture Studies at New York University. He uses his scholarship and knowledge of New York City as a springboard to advocate for positions and designs that reflect the values of his firm and retain interest in our skyline. Mr. Pennoyer is a Trustee of The Morgan Library & Museum and President of the the Whiting Foundation, has served as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Institute of Classical Architecture and Art, as well as many other prestigious organizations. He was elected to the College of Fellows of the American Institute of Architects in 2013. He received both his undergraduate degree and his Master of Architecture from Columbia University and is a registered architect in New York, California, Connecticut, Florida, Maine, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Ohio, Texas, and Virginia. Mr. Pennoyer and his wife, the interior decorator Katie Ridder, have three children and live in Bronxville, New York. They are the authors of the new book, *A House in the Country*, which chronicles the conception, design, decoration, and landscaping of their country house in Millbrook, New York.

## Please Help the General Society Support Our Programs

The historic GSMT building has space to rent for programs and special events.

- Our grand three-story library
- Balcony/Museum
- Conference Rooms for smaller meetings
- Classrooms available for regular day time use or evening lectures, classes, receptions and more

For more information, call The General Society office, (212) 840-1840 ext. 2, or visit our website at [www.generalsociety.org](http://www.generalsociety.org) and click Rent Space.



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Amiaga Photography

## Traditional Reading of Declaration of Independence Celebrates Our Nation's Founding

Each year, The General Society remembers our freedom -- the cause we fought for and won in 1783. This year, after the President, Gerard Drohan, welcomed our many guests and declared that the GSMT had been celebrating the Fourth by a full reading of The Declaration of Independence for **224** years. The guests then rose to recite the Pledge of Allegiance and hear a dramatic rendition of *The Star Spangled Banner* by Michelle DellaFave, whose repertoire of patriotic songs grew during her days with Bob Hope on the USO's Vietnam Tour. She has been a great friend to the veterans' community in the years since then. **The Executive Director, Victoria Dengel, then introduced The Honorable Letitia James, NYC Public Advocate,** (a graduate of CUNY's Lehman College who received her law degree from Howard University), the second-highest ranking elected office in the city saying, "Ms.



Letitia James

James is the direct link between New Yorkers and their government and is the watchdog over city agencies." Ms. James thanked The Society and said she could think of no better way to celebrate The Fourth than with an organization that had been championing education since 1820 and our citizens' right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness for over 200 years and provided tens of thousand alumni with the keystone to a better life: Technical Skills and Education -- the great equalizer and pathway to better jobs. Ms. James said she attended our Mechanics Institute graduation in May to see

her brother receive his diploma from the two-year Historic Preservation program and was most impressed. **Our Executive Director rose to introduce Lt. Colonel Matthew Balint.** She related that he is now attached to Ft. Hamilton, Brooklyn, as Sr. Commanding, New York City U.S. Army Empire Recruiting Battalion, had graduated from Purdue University in 1996, was



Gerard Drohan, Lieutenant Colonel Balint & Victoria Dengel.

commissioned as a Second Lieutenant, was deployed to duty for Restore Hope (Haiti 1999), Operation Enduring Freedom Afghanistan (2014) and Operation Resolute Support, Afghanistan (2015). His awards and decorations include: The Army Commendation Medal and Joint Service Achievement Medal, the Combat Infantry Man's Badge, Master Parachutist Badge, the Special Forces Tab, Rangers Tab, Military Free Fall Jumpmaster Badge, and Air Assault Badge. Ms. Dengel said it was a great honor to introduce our distinguished

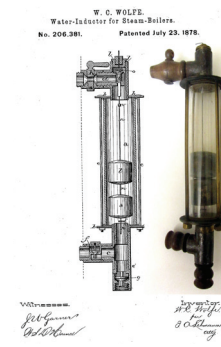


Tom Székely

Patriotic Speaker, Lt. Colonel, Matt Balint who had taken on the assignment when the Fort Hamilton Commander was unexpectedly assigned another duty. **Lt. Colonel Balint** related interesting stories about his active service but focused primarily on his Army recruitment duties, the concept of "service to country" and the benefits of that service. **Tom Székely, Past**

**President,** as he mounted the podium in his traditional white suit, said he gets more angry at King George each year as he reads The Declaration, one of the most important documents ever written. After one more song, *God Bless America*, by Ms. DellaFave, Ms. Dengel thanked everyone for participating in our evening's celebration and asked the guests to assemble for dinner.

## Rare Industrial Archive Donated



Internationally known for his exceptional understanding of nineteenth century steam systems, GSMT member, Dan Holohan, has provided The General Society with a rare item from his own collection: a patent model and its Certificate of Authenticity to exhibit among our many other artifacts. The U.S. Patent Office began requiring these small models in 1850 to enable them to understand how patents applied for really worked. The model was accompanied by drawings and an explanation of how the device improved the movement of steam through these antique systems. The drawing of the nine-inch model shown here and the model itself, for a then state-of-the-art Water Inductor for Steam Boilers. Mr. Holohan said, "This is more than an inanimate object; it's the dream of a long-gone inventor, and it has now found a home at GSMT, a place that has always inspired invention and the American Dream."

## First Artisan Lecture of the Fall Series on October 17th Illuminating Knowledge: Creating a Major Stained Glass Installation

On Monday October 17th at 6:30 p.m. the first Artisan lecture of the Fall will be a panel program, **Illuminating Knowledge: Creating a Major Stained Glass Installation to Foster Engaged Learning at Utah Valley University.** The program will discuss *Roots of Knowledge*, a significant new work of stained glass, that will soon be installed in the library at Utah Valley University (UVU) in Orem. Concurrently, in October nine original glass panes from the work will be on view at the General Society before their permanent installation in Utah. Conceived by Utah artist/ UVU graduate Tom Holdman, and UVU President Matthew Holland, the work was commissioned to celebrate the 75th anniversary of UVU, which is today the largest public university in the state. It will anchor an undulating wall of windows comprising 80 vibrantly colored panes. Creators of the project will speak about its evolution and development as a fusion of art, education, and public space.

# Hammering On...

## Library Book Sale

On the night of our first lecture, September 27th, we will hold our preview fall Book Sale, open to any one who attends the lecture. Many of the books have been deaccessioned from our own library but most have been donated by other readers and often include books on interesting topics. There are also many fascinating books of fiction in the sale at truly bargain prices. The sale will not, however include *Classic Penguin: Cover to Cover*, the topic of the evening's lecture which will be available at regular retail price. The sale will start at 5:00 p.m. The sale will continue Wednesday and Thursday on the street and in the Library from 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m. If you would like to donate books to the sale, fiction or non-fiction, please bring them along.

## Classrooms Refurbishing Begins

When Mechanics Institute opens on September 12, faculty and students with classrooms on the second floor, will find them beautifully refurbished. The floors have been refinished, walls and trim repainted, according to suggestions from Benjamin Moore's New York color specialist, and white boards replacing the old green dust-saturated boards and erasers that required messy chalk. (A few will be left in place to remind students and visitors of our early origins). New desks and re-finished stools will be in place.

## General Society Hosts Horological Society

The Horological Society, America's first watch-making guild, founded in 1866, now hold their lectures at The General Society Library and their sold out watch-making classes on the fourth floor of the General Society building. The Horological Society of New York is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing the art and science of horology in New York City. Members are a diverse mix of watchmakers, clockmakers, executives, journalists, auctioneers, historians, sales people and collectors.

## "Girls Write Now" Holds Meetings In GSMT Library

Founded in 1998, *Girls Write Now* is New York's first and only writing and mentoring organization for girls. It is a community of women writers and digital media makers dedicated to providing the guidance, support, and opportunities for underserved high school girls to develop their creative independent creative voices and write their way to a better future.

## New Readers Always Welcome at GSMT Book Group

Our first book group meeting this fall, on September 1st, discussed *Emma* by Jane Austen. Other books to be read this year are: October 6, *The Hound of the Baskervilles* by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle; November 3, *The Man Who Would be King* by Rudyard Kipling; December 1st *Glass Menagerie* by Tennessee Williams. All meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month at one o'clock at The General Society. New readers are always welcome.

## The General Society of Mechanics & Tradesmen of the City of New York

### "By Hammer and Hand All Arts Do Stand"

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#### The General Society of Mechanics & Tradesmen

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For GSMT Event Calendar, visit the  
General Society website at  
[www.generalsociety.org](http://www.generalsociety.org)



The General Society of  
Mechanics & Tradesmen  
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New York, NY 10036

Check our web site for current updates on General Society Events and send us your e-mail to receive event information: [www.generalsociety.org](http://www.generalsociety.org)

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**INTREPID**



**SAPPHO**



**THOMAS S. NEGUS**

### Antiquities in our Society's Collections

General Society members have contributed many wonderful things to our "museum." On permanent exhibit in our offices at GSMT, are three beautifully-finished and mounted Half-Hull Models of ships built by Richard and Cornelius C. Poillon for C & R Poillon, Shipwrights, Caulkers, and Spar Makers. When Richard's son, James O. Poillon finished school, he joined the family business. He became president when his uncle died in 1881. In 1908, he created and presented the 82-inch Gaff Schooner Yacht SAPPHO to the General Society. In the following year, he gave the 54-inch INTREPID, representing the Schooner Yacht and the 54-inch THOMAS S. NEGUS, representing the Pilot Boat Class. All three members of the Poillon family were members of The General Society. The two older men joined in 1850, and James joined in 1892.