



**WHERE
NEW YORK
BEGINS.**

**ANNUAL
REPORT
2017**

Greetings!

As we write this, the **Seaport Museum is hard at work on ambitious plans** for the future. Having celebrated our fiftieth year, **we look forward to the next fifty** and to a strong, sustainable, and energetically programmed Seaport Museum. **With your help we will achieve these goals.**

This 2017 Annual Report—our first in recent history—**details our achievements and activities in 2017** illuminates some of what 2018 and beyond have to offer. We thank you, our donors, for the support that has made this work possible and for your continued attention to our efforts to bring to life **Where New York Begins.**

In 2017 the Seaport Museum saw substantial growth in its programming and activities, along with the best donor engagement in years.

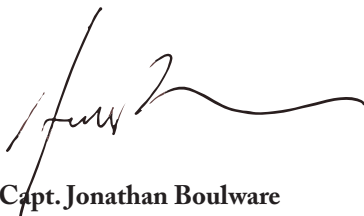
- Our ship Wavertree returned to South Street after a \$13M restoration and was open for the full year hosting visitors, musical performances, weddings, and education programs galore.
- Our September benefit event garnered more than half a million dollars in critical support, funds that were immediately supportive of educational and public programming that strengthens our mission, invigorates our community of friends, and emboldens our position as the Cultural Anchor of the South Street Seaport Historic District.
- Our schooners Pioneer and Lettie G. Howard sail New York and beyond, carrying students and the public on voyages of discovery.
- Our collections team delved still deeper into the more than 27,000 artifacts in the Museum's holdings, providing content for two new exhibitions and resources for researchers, our public, and for our own understanding of New York's port beginnings.
- Our 1930 tug W. O. Decker began a 7-month, \$750,000 rebuild at Caddell Drydock in Staten Island and in 2018 will embark on an historic journey up the Erie Canal.
- And our 1907 lightship Ambrose began the planning for her unprecedented \$5M city-funded restoration, a sort of Wavertree treatment for the lightship that will bring her back to her 1908 configuration and will complete the efforts begun more than six years ago to reconcile the fleet of ships.

Now, in 2018, as we plan for the next fifty years , we have:

- A lean, carefully curated fleet of historic ships ideally suited to our mission and programmatic objectives
- A broad coalition of support from the community, local, city, state, and national elected officials
- A growing board of trustees and advisors
- An ambitious capital plan that will at last resolve the damages of Hurricane Sandy and lay the groundwork for flexible, resilient, public-facing gallery and education spaces
- An outstanding and dedicated staff, a tireless corps of volunteers, a growing member base, and an ever-more supportive group of donors who see the value in the preservation and interpretation of New York's port roots.

Our warmest thanks for your support and engagement in 2017 and we look forward to working with you in 2018 and beyond.

And please know that we look forward to seeing you soon at South Street,



Capt. Jonathan Boulware
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