

How to Let Visitors Create Their Own Experience

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LatimerNOW & Museum Anarchy

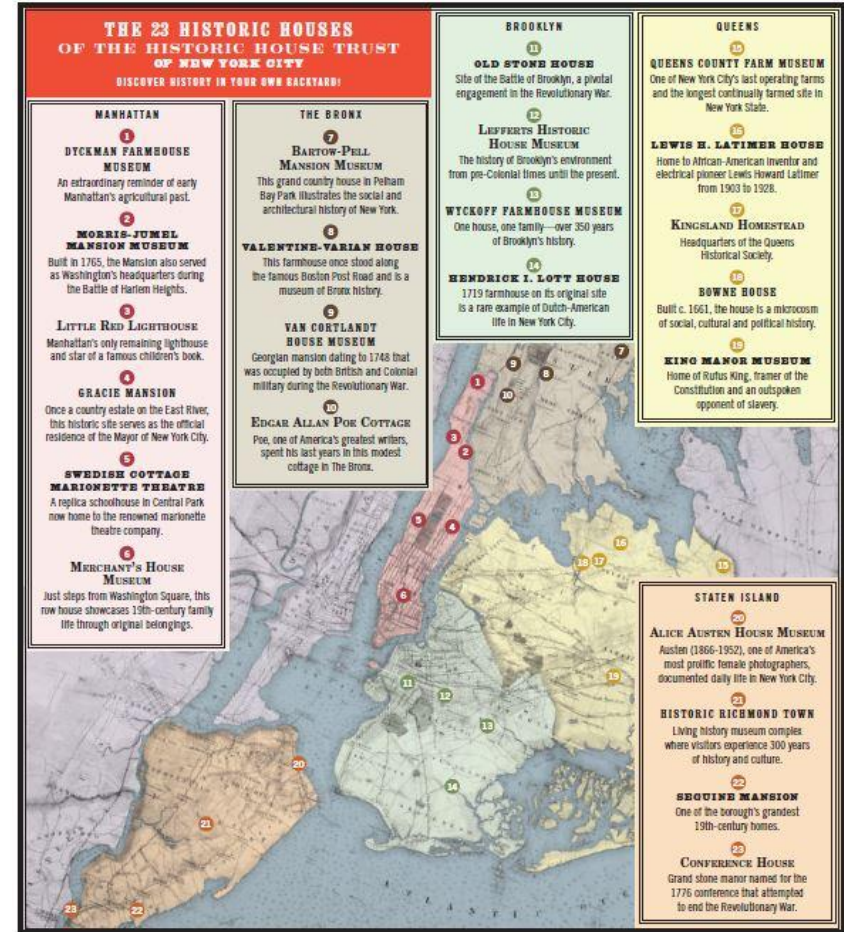
The Lewis H. Latimer House Museum and its surrounding communities.
How to revitalize old space & invite visitors across cultural barriers?



- **Partnerships** on different levels outside the museum with community stakeholders and organizers
- Create activities **with** visitors - interpret Latimer's legacy using their own voice



Historic House Trust of New York City



Contemporary Art in Historic Houses

- Community as stakeholder / HH obligation to serve
- Offers new experiences - inspiration - inclusiveness - expression
- Encourages repeat visits, diversity and builds partnerships



LIGHT ON SOUND
声之光 诗歌研习会

诗歌在电话另一端呼唤你
POETRY CALLS YOU
LA POESÍA TE LLAMA
646-604-4671
LISTEN OR RECORD A POEM

LIGHT ON SOUND
Kickoff Celebration
at the Lewis H. Latimer House
Thursday, August 13, 6 to 9 p.m.

This one-night open mic reception will feature Flushing residents who contributed to the installation - and YOU. Come and be a part of this installation that runs from August - October 2015.

CART and ASL interpreters will be available for deaf and hard of hearing guests and poets; Lewis Latimer House is wheelchair accessible.

Light on Sound, an interactive poetry installation celebrates the legacy of Lewis Latimer, inventor of the carbon filament for the incandescent light bulb, and the multi-cultural Flushing community. Poems read by Flushing residents are activated by light in the Lewis Latimer House, and signs on neighborhood lamp posts invite passers-by to call in to hear pre-recorded poems as well as record their own.

Presented by the Historic House Trust's
Contemporary Art Partnerships with the Lewis H. Latimer House
FREE Registration requested at hhtinfo@gmail.com

EBON VENUS
Let others boast of maidens fair,
Of eyes of blue and golden hair;
My heart like needles ever true
Turns to the maid of ebony hue.
I love her form of matchless grace,
The dark brown beauty of her face,
Her lips that speak of love's delight,
Her eyes that gleam as stars at night.
O'er marble Venus let them rage,
Who sets the fashions of the age;
Each to his taste, but as for me,
My Venus shall be ebony.
(By Lewis Latimer, 1848 - 1928)
646-604-4671

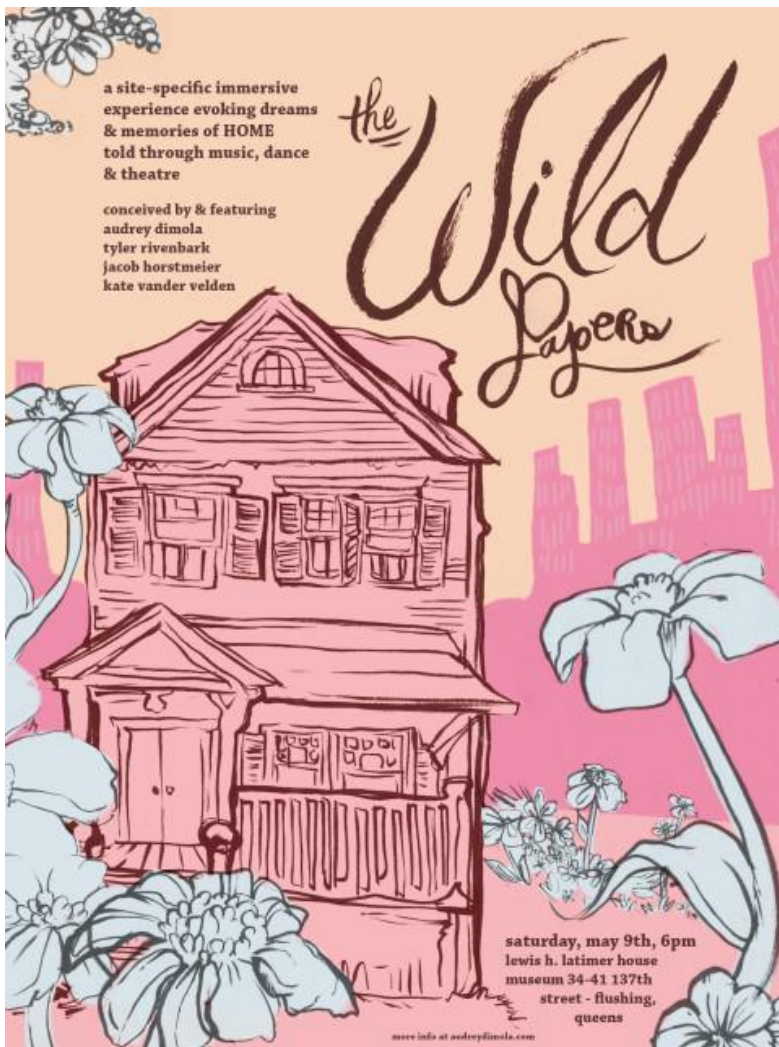
The Lewis H. Latimer House is located at 34-41 137th St, Flushing, NY 11354. The house is open to the public on Wednesdays & Fridays from 11am to 4pm.
LatimerNOW headquartered at the Lewis H. Latimer Historic House Museum invites diverse audiences to participate in the project.

Light on Sound: A Public Poetry Installation

- Who: Lewis Latimer's legacy / Flushing community today / Workshop participants / Translators / Public (visitors)
- What: Interactive poetry installation / Ongoing sparking of poems through light & phone calls / Community workshops / Kick-off poetry event
- Where: Museum / Surrounding neighborhood
- When: August 2015 - January 2016
- Why: To reactivate public experiences with poetry / To bring Latimer's work in new relation to public







How to
engage
visitors at a
historic
house?
*Make them
part of the
story...*

THE WILD PAPERS!



THE WILD PAPERS site-specific experience (2015)

- A site-specific theatrical performance: **“the whole house is our stage”**
- **Generated entirely at the Latimer House**- brainstormed, written, rehearsed, performed- around the ideas of HOME, memory, nostalgia
- Artists in residence under the **#MuseumAnarchy** initiative thanks to Monica Montgomery, breathing **new energy** into the space
- Performer-collaborators **Audrey Dimola, Tyler Rivenbark, Jake Horstmeier, Kate Vander Velden, and Diana Benigno** integrated music, movement, monologue, improv, dance, poetry/prose into a **seamless experience**

Two big elements to the experience...

#1

Our experience **as artists**
creating inside and in response
to the **house itself**

Utilizing the **indoor space** and **grounds**

Layering **our memories** on top of **Latimer's-**
inspired by the “**Creative Spark**”



Two big elements to the experience...

#2

The addition of **the visitors!**

The **unexpected** movement and
involvement of the attendees

Improv and subtle **cues**

No division between
performer and audience





One of the most challenging,
illuminating, exhilarating, enriching
projects to date... [WILD!](#)

The TRUST given to artists by HHT &
Latimer House to *create what we wished*
to experience and fully inhabit the space

