



Dear Colleagues,

This is a critical time for our field. Our museums, which interpret Jewish history and culture for people of all backgrounds, fortify ideals of tolerance, diversity, and pluralism. At a moment when these ideals are publicly vulnerable and fiercely debated, the Council of American Jewish Museums stands with those who resist discrimination, religious intolerance, divisive language, unequal treatment of minorities, and restrictions that bar refugees.

CAJM's member institutions and colleagues serve as vital resources doing important work. They provide forums, programs, exhibitions, and spaces that welcome diverse publics and promote dialogue. Our field fosters mutual respect and provides expertise and insight to counter anti-Semitism, xenophobia, and hatred of others. Jewish museums provide historical and cultural perspectives that help inform the national conversation.

Still, our colleagues are facing new challenges. In the year ahead, we will present new opportunities for participation and feedback. In addition to our annual conference (March 19-21, 2017), we are planning a summit for interested members to address issues raised in the current cultural and political climate. We also want to hear about your programs, statements, and strategies for creating openness and inclusivity in your community. To submit examples, or to register your interest in attending the summit, please e-mail cajmnnow@gmail.com.

We remain committed to advancing our missions as open, welcoming communal institutions, and to supporting our members in their essential work.

Board of Directors
Council of American Jewish Museums