Are you a New York State museum, historical society or heritage organization that wishes to engage more deeply in work related to Indigenous peoples?

To assist you, the International Coalition of Sites of Conscience - with generous support from the New York Council on the Arts - is offering free one-hour virtual consultations with four experts in a wide range of Native American issues, including history, arts, women, and memorialization. Questions your organization may want to discuss include:

- What is settler colonialism and how can my museum begin to shape new understanding as we interpret local history?
- How can we engage more thoughtfully in the interpretation of place-based history that fully includes Indigenous communities?
- How can we rethink our museum collections to be more inclusive and represent diverse narratives?
- Does a memorial in my community include all perspectives on its history or does it tell it from only one perspective, that of the settler colonialists? How can that be changed?
- How can we ensure that school programs reflect deeper understandings of Indigenous communities?
- How can we ensure gender equity in our collections and interpretation?
- Should my museum have an Indigenous territorial recognition?
- How do museums create an inclusive governance framework for consultation and decision-making?

Who Is Eligible?
Museums of all types (such as, but not limited to art, science, history, and children’s) historical societies, historic sites, and Indigenous cultural centers. All organizations must have a public exhibiting component. The museum must be located in New York State.

How Will It Work?
Applications are accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis. Once your application is accepted, you will receive the contact information for your consultant. You contact the consultant and arrange a mutually convenient time for the consultancy on whatever virtual platform works best for you and the consultant. Please share your key questions with the consultant in advance and any other materials you feel would be helpful. You may have as many staff or board members participate in the call as you wish. Once the consultancy is completed, museums must complete a brief evaluation form so we can process the consultant payment. Consultations must be completed by November 1, 2020.

How Do I Apply?
We strongly suggest watching the webinar Whose Hero?, that features all four consultants. It will provide ideas for approaching your particular community’s issues and will help identify the consultant that will be the best fit for your organization. The application is available here.

Questions?
Contact Linda Norris at lnorris@sitesofconscience.org
Jolene Rickard
Associate Professor in the History of Art and Visual Studies Department and Affiliated Faculty with the American Indian and Indigenous Studies Program at Cornell University. A Fulbright Scholar for 2020-21, Jolene is a citizen of the Tuscarora Nation, located in western New York State.

Sally Roesch Wagner
Executive Director of the Matilda Joslyn Gage Foundation and Author of “Sisters in Spirit: Haudenosaunee Influence on Early American Feminists” and a new book for young people, “We Want Equal Rights: How Suffragists were Influenced by Haudenosaunee Women.”

Michelle Schenandoah
Founder and CEO of Rematriation Magazine & Indigenous Concepts Consulting, Michelle is a traditional member of the Oneida Nation of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy.

Julia Watson
Founder and Principal at Julia Watson Studio, an experiential, landscape and urban design studio; Adjunct Assistant Professor of Design at Harvard and Columbia University; and Author of “Lo-TEK: Design by Radical Indigenism,” which explores the environmental innovation of indigenous communities across the globe.

The International Coalition of Sites of Conscience is the only global network of historic sites, museums and memory initiatives that connects past struggles to today’s movements for human rights. With over 300 members in 65 countries, we build the capacity of these vital institutions through grants, networking, training, transitional justice mechanisms and advocacy. North American members include the National Museum of the American Indian, the Minnesota Historical Society, Ford’s Theater, and Eastern State Penitentiary. To learn more, visit: www.sitesofconscience.org