

9:00 p.m. Hospitality Rooms
Vernon Downs/OCMH (Oneida Room)

Friday, October 2, 2026

8:00 a.m.

Registration

Oneida Mansion House Lounge

8:30 a.m.

**Session A: Plenary Session: The Past, Present, and Future of the
Oneida Community Mansion House**

Thomas A. Guiler, Museum Director, Oneida Community Mansion
House

Oneida Community Mansion House Big Hall

10:00 a.m.

Break

Oneida Mansion House Lounge

10:30 a.m.

**Session B-1: The Hollywood Shakers: Roundtable Discussion on *The
Testament of Ann Lee***

Oneida Community Mansion House Big Hall

Moderator:

1. Christian Goodwillie, Burke Library, Hamilton College
2. Doug Winiarski, University of Richmond
3. Carol Medlicott, Northern Kentucky University
4. Stephanie Carpenter, Michigan Technological University

**Session B-2: The Architecture and Landscape of Intentional
Communities**

Oneida Community Mansion House Dining Room

Moderator: Heather Van Wormer, Grand Valley State University

1. Martha Bradley Evans, University of Utah, "Polygamy and the
Architecture of Accessibility"
2. Martha Lyon, Martha Lyon Landscape Architecture, LLC, "The
Contradictory Landscape of the Oneida Community"
3. Christine Piazza, Harvard University, "Imagined Nature, Real Land: An
Environmental History of Fruitlands"

Session B-3: Sex and Sexuality in Intentional Communities

Oneida Community Mansion House Library

Moderator:

1. Julieanna Frost, Northwestern Michigan College, "Edgar Peissart and
His Pursuit of Happiness"
2. Rachel Banner, West Chester University of Pennsylvania, "Marital
Masochism, or, Edith Wharton's Free Love"

3. Ashley Rattner, Jacksonville State University, “‘An animal ashamed of his own body’: Sex, Agency, and Reform in Robert Dale Owen’s Moral Physiology”

12:00 noon

Lunch and Auction

Oneida Mansion House Lounge

1:30 p.m

Session C-1: Sharing Contemporary Communal Stories

Oneida Community Mansion House Big Hall

Moderator: Elph Morgan

1. Chris Roth, Lost Valley and *Communities Magazine*
2. Jen Myers, Thrive Ithaca EcoVillage
3. Marty Klaif, Kerista, Shannon Farm, FIC
4. Daniel Greenberg, Foundation for Intentional Community
5. Sabrina Simon, Programs Director at the Foundation for Intentional Community

Session C-2: Families and Family Matters in Intentional Communities

Oneida Community Mansion House Library

Moderator:

1. Susan Palmer, Concordia University, “Children's Roles in Utopian Hierarchies: Towards a Typology of Child-Parent Relations in Contemporary Communal and Millennial Movements”
2. Charlotte Terry, Utah State University, “White Mormons and Adoptions of Native Hawaiian Children during the Nineteenth Century”
3. Hannah Jung, University of Alabama, “Spies, Apostates, and Window Peepers: Mormon Polygamy in Transition”

Session C-3: Intentional Communities at Home and Abroad

Oneida Community Mansion House Library

Moderator:

1. Catherine Abbott, Independent Scholar, “Nobody Joins a Cult: The Peoples Temple Community in Jonestown”
2. Adam Lyons, Université de Montréal, “Communalism and Child Socialization in Modern Japan”
3. Becky Soules, Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill, “‘Easier to Implant in the Young:’ Theological Shifts Among the Pleasant Hill Shakers, 1865-1896”

3:00 p.m.

Break

Oneida Community Mansion House Lounge

3:15 p.m. **Session D-1: Descendants of Utopia: Roundtable Discussion with
Oneida Community Descendants**
Oneida Community Mansion House Big Hall
Moderator: Thoams A. Guiler, Oneida Community Mansion House

1. Kelly Rose
2. Laura Wayland-Smith Hatch
3. P. Geoffrey Noyes
4. Carolyn Strobel-Larsen
5. Meredith Leonard

Session D-2: Experimental Communities and Spiritualism
Oneida Community Mansion House Dining Room

Moderator:

1. Joscelyn Godwin, Colgate University, "Intercourse with Elementals, or Sex with Spirits? Ideas of Inter-Dimensional Community"
2. Valerie Hahn, Via Lactea Sanctuary, PMA; Cherry Hill Seminary, "Via Lactea Sanctuary, PMA: Turning Tables, Turning Heads"
3. Dani Joslyn, Barnard College, "Wombology:" Spiritualism, Socialism, and Scientifically Directed Breeding in the 1850s"

Session D-3: Dancing Rabbit
Oneida Community Mansion House Library

Moderator:

1. Nana Osusu, Michigan Technological University and Zach Rubin, Lander University, "Operationalizing Sustainability: A Longitudinal Eco-Audit of Dancing Rabbit Ecovillage"

4:30 p.m. **Travel to Hamilton College (campus map to be provided)**

5:00 p.m. **Introduction and Tour**
Hamilton College Communal Studies Collection
Burke Library, Hamilton College

6:00 p.m. **Reception**
Bristol Hub, Hamilton College
Speed Dating Event!

6:30 p.m. **Dinner**
Bristol Hub, Hamilton College

9:00 p.m. **Hospitality Rooms**
Vernon Downs/OCMH (Oneida Room)

Saturday, October 3, 2026

8:00 a.m. Registration
Oneida Mansion House Lounge

8:30 a.m. Session E: Plenary Session: 3rd Annual Communal Studies Game Show
Oneida Community Mansion House Big Hall

1. Deborah Altus, Washburn University
2. Timothy Miller, University of Kansas

10:00 a.m. Break
Oneida Mansion House Lounge

**10:30 a.m. Session F-1: Teaching and Learning in Community: Reflections on
Colgate University at the Oneida Community Mansion
House, 2023-2025**
Oneida Community Mansion House Big Hall

1. Monica Mercado, Colgate University
2. Thomas A. Guiler, Oneida Community Mansion House
3. Julia Bihari, Colgate University
4. Avery Mathews, Colgate University
5. Geordie Waldman, Colgate University
6. Justin Renk, The Mark Twain House and Museum (formerly, Colgate University)
7. Tabitha Saour, Colgate University

**Session F-2: Nurturing Collective Resilience: Education and Immersion at
Ecovillage at Ithaca**
Oneida Community Mansion House Dining Room
Moderator:

1. Jen Myers, Thrive Ithaca EcoVillage
2. Heather Sullivan-Catlin, SUNY Potsdam

Session F-3: Fourierists, Phalanxes, and Associationists
Oneida Community Mansion House Library
Moderator:

1. Carl Guraneri, St. Mary's College of California/Colgate University, "Brook Farm, Boston 'Combined Households,' and the Cooperative Twilight of American Fourierism, 1848-1860"
2. Cheryl Coulthard, Independent Scholar, "American History is Evolution: Frances Wright and the Reform of American Culture"

3. Mitchell Jones, University at Buffalo, “Spiritualism Everywhere Tends Toward Socialism: The Spiritualist Communities 1847-1860”

12:00 noon

Lunch

Oneida Mansion House Lounge

1:30 p.m.

G-1: OCMH Behind the Scenes Collections Tour

Emily Stegner, Oneida Community Mansion House

Session G-2: Looking Forward, Together: Envisioning Future Research Priorities

Oneida Community Mansion House Big Hall

Moderator, Zach Rubin

1. Daniel Greenberg, Foundation for Intentional Community
2. Anne-Kathrin Schwab, University of Vechta

Session G-3: The Material Culture of Intentional Communities

Oneida Community Mansion House Dining Room

Moderator:

1. Laura McLaws Helms, Independent Scholar, “Biblical Robes, Jeans, and Peasant Blouses: Dress within Spiritual Communes of the Counterculture”
2. Katherine E. McCrary, University of Richmond, "Unearthing the Tyringham Shaker Cemetery"

Session G-4: It Works in Practice, but What About in Theory?

Oneida Community Mansion House Library

Moderator:

1. Kristine Maassen, Rutgers University, “Sharing More Than Space: Interdependence in U.S. Intentional Communities”
2. Mikayla Novack, Mercatus Center at George Mason University, “The Life and Times of “Modern Times”: An Institutional Analysis and Development (IAD) Perspective”
3. Christopher Nye, Springboard Foundation for Whole Person Learning, “The Current Meaning Crisis Seen Through the Lens of Intentional Communities”

3:00 p.m.

Break

Oneida Community Mansion House Lounge

3:30 p.m. Session H-1: Communal History at 250
Oneida Community Mansion House Big Hall

Moderator:

1. Dan McKanan, Harvard Divinity School, “Communalism, Settler Colonialism, and the American Ideal”
2. Marie Rabecq, Université Lumière Lyon 2 / Triangle, "The Oneida Community in context : a laboratory for American history".
3. Larry Foster, Georgia Institute of Technology, “John Humphrey Noyes’s Ideas that May Have Resonance for Us Today”

Session H-2: New Discoveries from Newly Opened Archives
Oneida Community Mansion House Dining Room

Moderator:

1. Brian Carroll, Israelite House of David, “Before the House of David: Reevaluating Benjamin and Mary Purnell’s Early Years, 1877-1901”
2. Alexandra Leah Prince, Skidmore College, “Transcribing Jonestown with the Letters to Dad: Digital Humanities, Archives, and the Voices of Peoples Temple”
3. Greg Brown, University of Southern Indiana, “William Maclure: Founder of Science, Education, and Free Thought”

Session H-3: Communities of the Counter Culture
Oneida Community Mansion House Dining Room

Moderator:

1. Jeremy Genovese, Cleveland State University, “Background on the World Brotherhood Colonies”
2. Eric Noble, The Digger Archives, “Friends of Perfection: Oneida, Digger Do, Queer Beat, and the Kaliflower Experiment.”
3. Tim Miller, University of Kansas, “From Satanism to Animal Rescue: The Remarkable Evolution of the Process Church”

Session H-4: OCMH Behind the Scenes Collections Tour
Emily Stegner, Oneida Community Mansion House

5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. Mansion House Tours
Up to 5 Tours (10-12 People Each)
Oneida Mansion House Lounge

6:00 p.m. Awards Banquet and Annual Business Meeting
Oneida Mansion House Lounge

9:00 p.m.

Hospitality Rooms

Vernon Downs/OCMH (Lounge)