

2008 Lake Champlain Quadricentennial Implementation Grants

1609: Navigating the Champlain Valley



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Project Summary

Samuel de Champlain's journeys in the early 1600s encompassed coastal New England as well as the St. Lawrence and Champlain Valleys; his explorations, settlements, maps and publications are benchmarks in a cultural watershed for the entire region. To honor the 400th anniversary of Champlain's explorations, LCMM developed new exhibit materials to present the Native American and Franco-American perspective in 2009, and to link all of the exhibits on its campus into a "virtual timeline."

The new installation encouraged Champlain Valley residents as well as visitors to the area to chart their own voyages of discovery as they explored ways in which the beautiful and strategic body of water that bears Champlain's name was then, and still remains, both a link and a boundary between people, states, and nations.

Throughout the 2009 season, the exhibit *1609: Navigating the Champlain Valley* served as a platform for programs and guest speakers that encourage stewardship of historic sites and shipwrecks, protection of watersheds and water quality, and informed assessment of the relationships between indigenous and invasive plants and animals. The exhibit continues to be displayed at the LCMM.

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Date Complete:	Oct. 14, 2009
Grant Amount:	\$5,000
Non-federal Match:	\$0
Total Amount:	\$5,000