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**For Immediate Release**

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**Museum Association of New York Receives Capacity Building Grant from the Robert David Lion Gardiner Foundation**

Troy, NY—The Museum Association of New York (MANY) has been awarded a \$10,000 capacity building grant from the Robert David Lion Gardiner Foundation to grow its technological capacity so that it may better advocate for museums, historical societies, zoos, botanical gardens, and aquariums across New York State.

MANY serves over 625 organizational, individual, and industry members in all ten regions of New York State, offering technical services, modeling best practices, promoting policy issues, analyzing trends, publishing documents and articles of interest to the field, and advocating to strengthen and promote all of New York's historical and cultural institutions.

The support provided by the Robert David Lion Gardiner Foundation will allow MANY to purchase hardware and software that will enable their staff to better promote, advocate, and share resources. The audience for this project are those organizations on Long Island in particular and others across the state whose geographic location may create a barrier to participation, information access, and resource sharing.

Erika Sanger, MANY's Executive Director noted that "We are very grateful for the foundation's support that will allow us to continue to grow our digital accessibility and build an online network for museums of all disciplines, locations, and budget sizes to share stories, resources, and model programs."

Established in 1987, the Robert David Lion Gardiner Foundation primarily supports the study of New York State history. Robert David Lion Gardiner was, until his death in August 2004, the 16th Lord of the Manor of Gardiner's Island, NY. The Gardiner family and their descendants have owned Gardiner's Island since 1639, obtained as part of a royal grant from King Charles I of England. The Foundation is inspired by Robert David Lion Gardiner's personal passion for New York history. For more information, please visit [www.rdlgfoundation.org](http://www.rdlgfoundation.org).

The Museum Association of New York (MANY), is New York's only statewide membership association representing museums, historical societies, zoos, botanical gardens, and aquariums.

The MANY office is located at River Street, Troy, NY. For more information on the Museum Association of New York, please call 518-273-3400, visit us on the web at [www.nysmuseums.org](http://www.nysmuseums.org), or follow us on our social media channels.