



## Dear Friends of the Lake Placid Olympic Museum,

Happy (belated) New Year! As we welcome 2025, I reflect on our incredible journey in 2024—a truly transformative year for the Lake Placid Olympic Museum. We celebrated the centennial of the first Olympic Winter Games, created new weekly programs, hosted special events, improved our accessibility offerings, and accomplished internal organizational goals by creating a new strategic plan to guide us through the next three years. I'm proud of my team, the Board of Trustees, and Olympic Authority colleagues for their support this last year and for helping the museum grow and connect with more visitors than ever.

Looking ahead, 2025 promises to be just as exciting. This February, we commemorate the 45th anniversary of the 1980 Olympic Winter Games. These historic Games showcased remarkable athletic achievements and embodied the spirit of resilience, teamwork, and determination. From the unforgettable "Miracle on Ice" to extraordinary individual performances, the 1980 Games captured the world's attention and put our community on the global stage.

At the museum, we are committed to preserving this legacy. Through our exhibits and programs, we honor the athletes, volunteers, and community members who made the 1980 Games so memorable. This anniversary offers an opportunity to reflect on those iconic moments and their enduring impact on our region and beyond.

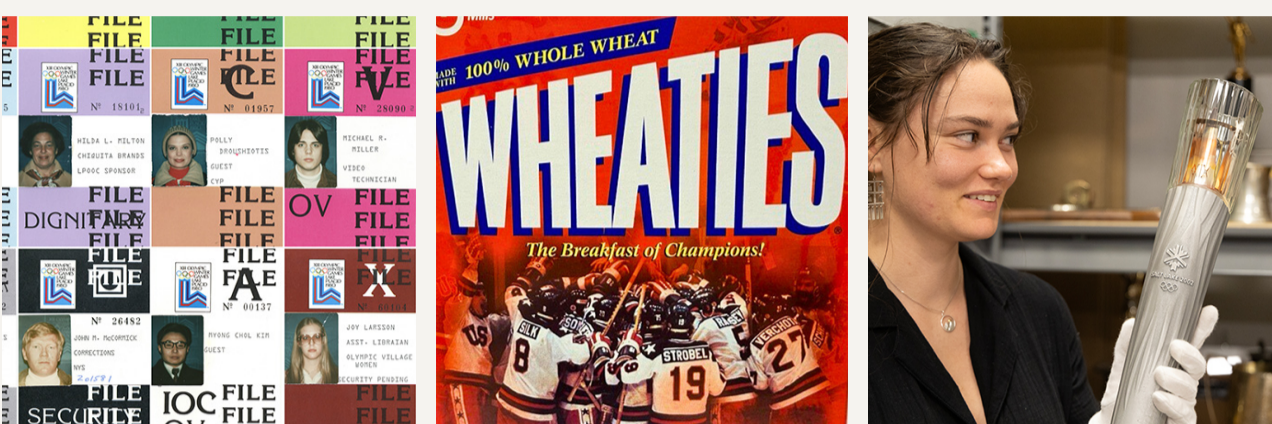
To celebrate, we're thrilled to introduce new projects and programs, including Remembering 1980: The Stories That Unite Us, a pop-up exhibit debuting on January 31. This exhibit highlights personal stories and memories contributed by individuals and community members with special connections to the Lake Placid Games. It's a heartfelt tribute to the spirit of 1980 and a reminder of the power of shared history.

We invite you to join us in celebrating and reconnecting with the stories that continue to inspire and unite us.

With Kindness,

Courtney Bastian  
Lake Placid Olympic Museum Director

## CURATOR CORNER



### SHARE THE SPIRIT OF 1980

As the winter season continues in the Adirondacks, the Lake Placid Olympic Museum is proud to unveil a special pop-up exhibit in honor of the 45th anniversary of the 1980 Olympic Winter Games. Our new temporary exhibit, *Remembering 1980: Stories That Unite Us* will open on January 31st, and it is unlike anything we've done before.

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### WHEATIES AND OLYMPIANS

For more than a century, Wheaties has been much more than just a breakfast cereal; it has become synonymous with athletic success and excellence. Its catchy slogan, "The Breakfast of Champions," has been wired in people's brains, but what exactly is so special about Wheaties, let alone to Olympians? Let's explore the history of Wheaties and its tradition of putting Olympic champions in its classic orange box.

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### ARTIFACT ACQUISITION

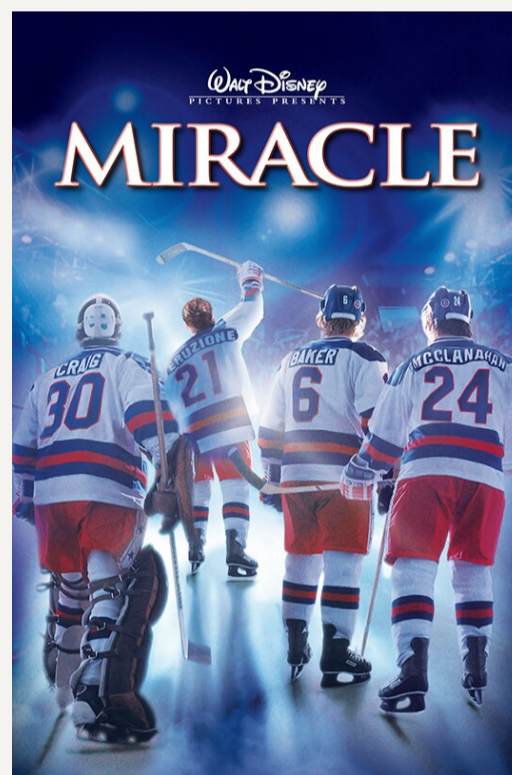
The Lake Placid Olympic Museum proudly showcases the Olympic torches, one of its most popular displays. Featuring 14 different torches, this exhibit highlights their unique and symbolic designs while detailing the history of the torch relay. This past spring, we received a donation of the 2002 Salt Lake City torch. This artifact enhances our ability to tell the story of this remarkable Olympic tradition and provides visitors with an up-close experience of an important piece of Olympic history.

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## STAFF MEDIA PICK: *MIRACLE* Film Review

I've never considered myself a cinephile. As a child, the theater wasn't a place of wonder—it was a source of anxiety. Sitting in the dark, disconnected from the outside world, I found myself more preoccupied with how much time had passed than with what was unfolding on screen. That unease has lingered into adulthood, shaping my moviegoing habits—or lack thereof. To this day, I haven't seen *Barbie* or any Marvel movie, and here's the kicker: as the director of the Lake Placid Olympic Museum, I've never watched Disney's *Miracle*.

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## NEW EDUCATOR RESOURCES

Launching in February to celebrate the 45th anniversary of the 1980 Lake Placid Winter Olympic Games, a new Virtual Field Trip and themed Educator Resources will be made available to teachers and educators. These resources are completely free to use!

### TEACHER RESOURCES

Three new Teacher Resources are also available for elementary, middle, and high school students. The high school resource, "Crisis of Confidence," can be paired with the Virtual Field Trip or used as a stand-alone lesson in Social Studies or English as students analyze a speech made by President Jimmy Carter. The middle school resource, "Goal Getters," is designed to engage students in math as they use percentages and statistics and create a bar graph. They will interpret data from the actual statistic sheets from the 1980 Miracle On Ice! Lastly, elementary students can learn about counting by fives, simple addition, and get the chance to practice sportsmanship through "Round Robin Rivals." These lesson plans are all available for download here: <https://lakeplacidolympicmuseum.org/learn/#tab+teacher-resources>.

[Learn More](#)

### ICE & IDEALS: THE MIRACLE ON ICE AND POLITICS IN SPORTS

Our new Virtual Field Trip, "Ice & Ideals: The Miracle on Ice and Politics in Sport," targets students in grades 9-12. In a pre-recorded format, students will follow Museum Educators through time as they examine the politics of the Cold War, international relations between the USA and the USSR, and outside influences that bleed into the "neutral" Olympic Games. The Virtual Field Trip will introduce students to a variety of primary source documents and ask for their evaluations. It aligns with New York State and Next Generation Learning Standards for Social Studies, with questions designed to help students engage with content similar to AP World History or AP United States History exams. Student worksheets, supplemental resources, and a Teacher Guide are provided. If you are interested in hosting this for your class or homeschool students, please fill out this form: <https://lakeplacidolympicmuseum.org/virtualfieldtrips/>.

[Learn More](#)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

We've been hard at work and are excited to share our new weekly summer programming with you! From getting to know our collections to listening to storytime, there's something for everyone. We hope to see you soon!



### BEHIND THE SCENES

TUE | 11:00am - 12:00pm

Learn more about our archives and collections by exploring objects not on display.

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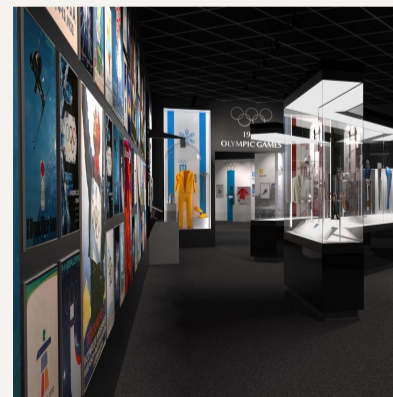


### TOUCH-A-TORCH

FRI & SAT | 2:30pm - 3:30pm

Get up close with history by holding an authentic Olympic Torch.

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### GALLERY TALK

SAT | 10:00am

With monthly themes, meet with a Museum educator to learn in-depth information about the highlights of our galleries. In February, the theme will be Remembering 1980, to celebrate the 45th anniversary of the Lake Placid Winter Olympic Games.

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### EMPOWERMENT HOUR WITH RILEY TECJEK

MARCH 16TH | 11:00AM - 1:00PM

Don't miss this opportunity to meet Riley Tecjek Team USA Women's Bobsled athlete, United States Marine Corps (USMC) Captain, children's book author, 2023 Ms. Military, and a 2026 Olympic Hopeful—will be joining us at the Lake Placid Olympic Museum on March 16, 2025, for our new Empowerment Hour program. Whether as an elite athlete, military officer, or author, Riley Tecjek continues to redefine what it means to break barriers and pursue greatness. We look forward to welcoming her and celebrating her indomitable spirit.

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## FIND US

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