



## 2020 Vision: VHS Crowdsourced Exhibit Potential Exhibitor Information

In the year 2020, a diverse group of Vermont exhibiting institutions will collaborate on a state-wide suite of exhibitions on the theme *2020 Vision: Seeing the World Through Technology*. Led by the Vermont Curators Group—a network of museums, galleries, and cultural centers specializing in art, history, science, craft, and design—this initiative will push the boundaries of what it means to have conversations about technology, innovation, and culture in Vermont. You can learn more about the project here: <https://vermontcuratorsgroup.com/>

The Vermont Historical Society, as a participating institution, will be mounting a partially crowdsourced exhibit on Vermont innovation and technology in our Local History Gallery at the History Museum in Montpelier. The exhibition will be on view August 2020 through January 2021. Local historical societies and other heritage organizations are invited to participate in this exhibit, bringing their own objects to enrich the stories we tell. The application for submitting objects and archival materials is available here: <http://bit.ly/2020Vision-VHS>

The following is general information on the exhibit, and requirements for being an exhibitor. If you have any questions, please contact Eileen Corcoran, [eileen.corcoran@vermonthistory.org](mailto:eileen.corcoran@vermonthistory.org) or Amanda Kay Gustin, [amanda.gustin@vermonthistory.org](mailto:amanda.gustin@vermonthistory.org).

### Details and Requirements for Exhibitors

- VHS will provide a general framework for the exhibit, utilizing text & image panels.
- VHS will choose objects from local societies & museums for our exhibit based on a variety of factors, including:
  - Uniqueness/importance of object and story it tells
  - Ability to be displayed, including size and condition
  - Diversity of voices, geographic locations, types of innovation & technology represented, and types of organizations
- Objects for the exhibit should be:
  - Owned by the organization with clear title, or have paperwork indicating off-site exhibit is approved for a loaned object
  - Stable and ready to be displayed
- Archival materials (advertisements, patents, drawings, photographs, etc.) may also be submitted. High quality reproductions of archival materials may be used in the exhibit.
- Organizations must be able to drop off and pick up (or ship) their objects to Montpelier during designated days/times. Organizations are responsible for all costs associated with getting their objects to the Museum
- VHS insurance will cover the objects once they are on display in the gallery, but does not cover objects in transport.

- Organizations agree to promote the exhibit & their participation in their normal marketing avenues. VHS will promote the exhibit in their normal marketing avenues- including social media, enewsletters, and print media. Participating organizations will be listed on the VHS website and in the exhibit.
- Organizations will need to provide information for the object labels. VHS will provide assistance with content needed, formatting and printing. VHS has final approval for all label copy.
- A reception for the exhibit will be held on a date to be determined.
- Participating organizations will be provided with a number of Free Admission tickets for their constituents to visit the Museum. Admission will also be Free during the reception.

### Need Inspiration?

Here are some examples of technology and innovation from Vermont to get you thinking, but don't be afraid to think outside the box!

- *Medicine*: Gardner Quincey Colton, from Georgia, VT, pioneered the use of nitrus oxide, or laughing gas, for anesthesia
- *Building Technology*: Elisha Otis of Halifax, VT invented the modern safety elevators we use today.
- *Machinery*: Thomas Davenport of Brandon, VT constructed the first DC electric motor.
- *New Processes/Better Mousetraps*: David Smith of Springfield, VT invented the modern clothespin.
- *Big Ideas*: The Jogbra, the "first" sports bra was invented in the late 1970s in Burlington, VT
- *Weird & Wild Inventors*: In 1979, Mark Tigan came up with a plan to put a gigantic dome over Winooski, VT to keep the heat in.