September 16, 2021 Muse-ings

This month's Muse-ing comes from University of Delaware Museum Studies Program Director Kenneth Cohen, and is more about the wisdom the field can glean from your experience than it is about dropping any pearls.

Hello subscribers! As MuseWeekly returns to regular weekly delivery after its slower summer schedule, I wanted to kick off this season's issues with something a little different, but which also reminds us that fall is "Back to School" season!

There is much discussion these days among faculty and practitioners about how to train students for careers in museums and associated fields. Such conversations have the potential to expand diversity, equity, and inclusion in the field, as well as prepare students for the recent and pandemic-accelerated "convergence" of GLAM-sector, digital, and other organizations committed to community engagement and public interpretation.

But there hasn't been an attempt to broadly gather data about academic training and its relationship to career development in these fields in almost a decade. So, we were wondering if our nearly 8,000 passionate MuseWeekly subscribers would consider filling out a [very short anonymous survey](#) to help provide some important information that can inform curricular decision-making at multiple institutions across the country? We'll share our analyses of the findings, and also make the data available to associations and programs who can use it to develop formal curricula and informal career development opportunities. Evidence-based decision-making will help us all work together to ensure the most representative, relevant, and vibrant future for our industry.

Regular Muse-ings will return next month, and we are seeking submissions for the winter. If you have had experiences related to training, work, job searching, or hiring that you think our readers would benefit from reading about, please send an email with a brief one-paragraph proposal to museumstudies@udel.edu. Muse-ings are capped at 600 words.