

Fourth Annual Riverport Women's Sailing Conference



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#HRMMWSC

@Hudson River Maritime
Museum

Virtual Event November 6-7, 2020

NOV. 6, FRIDAY SCHEDULE

5:00 PM Welcome & Intros

5:15 PM **Keynote Address**



Keynote speaker Dawn Riley: Sailing Pioneer, Executive Director, Oakcliff Sailing Center

6:05 PM Breakout Discussion

6:20 PM Door Prize Drawing

NOV. 7, SATURDAY SCHEDULE

1:00 PM Welcomes, Intros

1:10 PM **Opening Address**



Tracy Edwards, captain of Maiden and founder of The Maiden Factor

2:10 PM First Period Workshops

3:05 PM Second Period Workshops

4:00 PM **Community Outreach: Equity and Inclusion in the Sailing Community**
Chase Jackson, Laura Botel, and Alexe Taylor

4:55 PM Third Period Workshops

5:50 PM Closing - Connections going forward;
Final “Door Prize” Drawing





Laura Botel

Laura works in youth development as Program Manager for Brooklyn Boatworks. Despite a fear of water and being a poor swimmer, she keeps finding herself back at or on the water. She spent five summers working as a Yeoman aboard the sea-going TS Empire State VI, a 565-foot training ship for SUNY Maritime College, and currently manages programming for Brooklyn Boatworks, a youth development organization that uses wooden boat building and maritime exploration to inspire young people in NYC to learn and grow. Laura earned her B.A. in Psychology from CUNY Hunter College. She is a maker, beginner sailor, and always curious to learn just a little bit more.



Maura Hackett

Maura Hackett is a licensed captain (100 Ton USCG Master Near-Coastal with Sail endorsement) and sail training professional who has been working aboard historic and educational vessels for more than 14 years throughout the US, Great Lakes, and New Zealand. Most recently, she sailed as the Lead Captain of the 1930 tug W.O Decker at South Street Seaport Museum and Relief Captain with Bayshore Center at Bivalve aboard the AJ Meerwald. When she is not sailing, Maura is the Director of Operations at NEO Philanthropy Inc., a social justice grantmaking and fiscal intermediary organization based in New York City.



Chase Jackson

Chase Jackson is an aquaphile, originally from Norfolk, VA now living in Cape May, NJ. She holds a BS in accounting and certification in arts administration. She has 30+ years in non profit arts management. Sailing came late in life while quasi-retired and she found her way to the Schooner A.J Meerwald. A few years later, she was hired as program and grants manager for the organization, the Bayshore Center at Bivalve. She has been bare boat cruising in BVI, the French Polynesian Islands and the Netherlands. Chase is an avid tall ship lover and advocate.



Amali Knobloch

Amali Knobloch is the Sail Logistics Coordinator at the Hudson River Sloop Clearwater and has worked as an environmental

educator, facilitating both day and multi-day programs at various organizations. Amali prioritizes engaging the community on the intersection of representation, equity, and inclusion in all her endeavors. She serves on the board of the National Women's Sailing Association and the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee for Tallships America.



Ann Loeding

Ann Loeding started working as a deckhand on tugs in NY Harbor in 1991. She worked her way up to Captain as a hawsepiper, and has sailed coastwise between Maine and Virginia, in the Great Lakes, on the NYS Canals, and on the Yukon River and Bering Sea. Since 2005, she has been running the restoration of large historic vessels, and still takes towing jobs that are unusual or interesting.



Elizabeth McCarthy

Elizabeth McCarthy has been working in the maritime profession for over 20 years, since her graduation from SUNY Maritime College. She sailed on the Great Lakes and all over the world with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration on research vessels. Elizabeth earned her USCG license, Second Mate Unlimited Oceans / 1600 Captains License. She came back to shore and began working as an analyst and attending law school at night. She became a member of the NY Bar and took a position as a Lecturer at SUNY Maritime College. She is currently an Assistant Professor at SUNY and Adjunct Professor at the US Merchant Marine Academy. She lives in Great Neck with her husband and three children.



Deborah Mellen

When she was in her mid-thirties, Deborah Mellen had a Spinal Cord Injury, so she now uses a wheelchair for mobility. Soon after her injury, she moved to Miami and found Shake a Leg, a marina and water sports organization for people with and without disabilities, where she learned to sail and found an emotional and visceral freedom that she no longer felt while combating design obstacles on land. Because getting on and off Shake-A-Leg's 18 foot keelboats required help, and time aboard was limited,

Deborah began to dream of a bigger boat and getting salty with friends and family. In 2013, she found a 60 foot catamaran for

sale in England that had been designed from the hulls up to be wheelchair accessible, she inspected it, and she fell in love with the boat.

Deborah brought the vessel home to Shake-A-Leg in Miami and created a non-profit organization, "Impossible Dream," whose mission is to bring like-minded people together as they experience the empowering sensation of living and crewing on the Impossible Dream in a barrier free environment. Each year, during its summer tour, Impossible Dream travels the East Coast from June until October. She sails from Miami to Maine with guest crew members, people with disabilities with and without sailing experience. HRMM has hosted the Impossible Dream for the last 5 years, so that's how she became involved with the Riverport Women's Sailing Conference.



Amy Nelson

Amy earned a degree in Marine Biology from UNCW then spent three years sailing internationally in the Western Pacific and the Caribbean Sea. While away from the Sloop Clearwater, Amy has led marine science expeditions on the Salish Sea and captained research vessels off the coast of Maine. Amy spends part of the year living in Burlington, Vermont, where she skis, plays frisbee, and has worked on nearly every boat on Lake Champlain.



Sarah Olivieri

Sarah Olivieri grew up sailing on the Hudson with her dad out of Kingston. She currently enjoys racing as the skipper of a J80 with the Kingston Sailing Club and introducing people to sailing through the Kingston Sailing Club's Women on the Water program. On land Sarah is a nonprofit business strategist, #1 International Best Selling author, former Executive Director, and is the creator of the Impact Method™ - a framework that helps nonprofits simplify their operations, build aligned teams, and make a bigger impact without getting overwhelmed or burning out.



Lexi Pline

Lexi Pline grew up in a sailing family in Annapolis, MD. Starting at a young age, she sailed Snipes (a two person dinghy) with her parents, eventually competing in multiple US Women's Nationals and two Women's Worlds with her mother, Lisa Pline. Lexi began interscholastic sailing in high school and went on to intercollegiate sailing as a member of the Boston University Sailing Team. At BU, she competed in the intercollegiate nationals all four years and was named an honorable mention All American in 2019. Lexi graduated from BU with a degree in Journalism and went on to

works as the Photo Editor at a small newspaper on Martha's Vineyard before joining Oakcliff as the Media and PR manager. After college, she sailed her first open Snipe World Championship, a great learning experience she hopes to repeat in 2021. At Oakcliff, she looks forward to improving her skills on the high performance boats, especially the 49er. When she's not sailing, you can find Lexi behind the camera or doing aerial dance, her other love. You can see more of her work on her website.



MJ Reiss

MJ Reiss grew up racing dinghies on Long Island Sound, culminating in winning the Junior Women's Championship and teaching at a local yacht club. Her interest in boats grew with spending 2 years at the Apprentice Shop in Bath, Maine, building traditional wooden boats and being first mate on their Tancook Whaler (a 32 ft double ended, gaff rigged schooner). The lure of the Maine islands continued as she pursued her USGS Captain's License to captain for Hurricane Island Outward Bound both in the Maine Islands and Florida Keys.

When settling in the Kingston area, she found teaching for Myles Gordon's Great Hudson Sailing a worthy occupation for over 7 years. However she then realized getting a degree in Environmental science to teach Earth Science at Kingston High School a worthy pursuit for her family's economic well being. In addition to sailing and coaching ski racing at Belleayre during the winter months, her passion is teaching the Happiness courses that include yoga and breathwork.



Ayme Sinclair

Ayme Sinclair is the Vice President of the National Women's Sailing Association and the CEO & Founder of Sinclair Social, a leading communications agency. Nominated for many prestigious awards including the Bill Gates Foundation Goalkeepers Award and the United Nations SDG Media Summit Leadership Award, she is also the CEO of Women Who Sail, the largest online group of women sailors in the world.

An African-American woman, Ayme has been sailing for the past 5 years racing competitively on the J109 Sweet Caroline, and also participates in races all over the world including the eastern coast of Africa. There, she formed the first women's sailing team to compete in a race held in Lamu, Kenya.

Her sailing adventures have been featured on CNN's Great Big Story, Essence, Sail Magazine, and numerous other publications. She's passionate about issues of diversity and equality which carries into the work she's done both on and off the water. Recently, she worked with the United Nations to produce a welcome flotilla of 18 boats that met Greta Thunberg as she sailed into NY harbor for the UN General Assembly Climate Action Summit. Through this event she activated 500,000 members of the sailing community, helping to create the biggest media moment the UN has ever had around their sustainable development goals, and is now a UN spokesperson.



Ashley Sullivan

Ashley Sullivan has been involved in design, implementation and ongoing management of Environmental Education programs at multiple nonprofits for the past 20 years. She is the Executive Director of the Rozalia Project, a sailor, ocean lover and a USCG captain. Ashley's strength as an educator is her creativity and ability to connect with people of all ages. In addition she travels the US picking up debris and sharing the story of the Rozalia Project and how we can all be a part of the solution through storytelling and presentations.



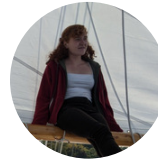
Alexe Taylor

Alexe Taylor hails from the Piscataqua River in southern New Hampshire and continues to work on tidal waters in her role as the Youth Sailing Director at Hudson River Community Sailing, a 501(c)3 nonprofit working to develop leadership and academic success in New York City youth through sailing education and provide maritime access to the community at large. After graduating from NYU, she came to HRCS to share her passion for science and experiential education with a new generation. Alexe is a certified USCG Captain, US Sailing Instructor Trainer, Basic Keelboat Instructor, and Safe Powerboat Handling Instructor.



Jody Sterling

Jody Sterling is currently the Sailing Program Director at the Hudson River Maritime Museum. Jody is a life-long sailor, a Coast Guard Captain (25 Ton Master Inland Merchant Mariner), a US Sailing Certified Small boat instructor, Level 1, and a US Sailing Certified Basic Keelboat Instructor. She has raced a variety of sailboats on Long Island Sound and on the Hudson as skipper. She is co owner of a C & C 26 Racer/Cruiser, and has done extensive day sailing and coastal cruising. She is professor emeritus of English at Dutchess Community College.



Tanya van Renesse

Tanya grew up sailing on Cayuga Lake in Ithaca, New York. She went on to sail on her collegiate team in Santa Cruz, California. She has taught sailing in all four corners of the United States, most recently at the Hudson River Maritime Museum. She also crews for the sail freight Apollonia and teaches Kindergarten at the Catskill Wheelhouse forest school.

Tracy Edwards, Opening Speaker



Tracy founded The Maiden Factor in the process of rescuing of her beloved yacht Maiden. In 2016 she decided she wanted to do more than just restore Maiden, she also wanted to make sure she was used for something special. Tracy is Patron of, fundraises for and supports a number of small but effective charities who facilitate the education of girls around the globe. For Tracy, the drive to get girls who are currently denied the basic right of an education into school, is particularly poignant as she was expelled from school at 15. She now knows what she gave away.

She also wanted to pay tribute to the late King Hussein I as a thank you for his role in getting Maiden to the start line 28 years ago. His Majesty has many wonderful legacies but his vision of the equality of women through the education of girls is close to Tracy's heart and a perfect way for her to remember her friend.

With over 30 years experience creating and running sailing projects, Tracy will oversee the entire programme. Tracy will also work with HRH Princess Haya Bint Al Hussein to make the vision a reality and get girls into school.

Dawn Riley, Keynote Speaker



Dawn is one of the best-known sailors in the world with four America's Cups and two Round the World races to her name. She is the only woman and youngest CEO of an America's Cup Team founding America True at age 32.

She currently is the executive director at Oakcliff Sailing, a coaching and training center in Oyster Bay NY. Oakcliff has completely unique programs from corporate team-building to a tuition based residential program for dedicated athletes trying to reach the highest levels in the sport. Oakcliff is building American Leaders Through Sailing.

SPECIAL SESSIONS

Friday Night Keynote Address - Beyond Maiden

DAWN RILEY

Friday, November 6, 2020 | 5:15 PM

Thirty years after she crewed aboard Maiden in the historic 1989-1990 Whitbread Around the World race, what is the state of sailing and women in sailing? Dawn Riley will address that question and entertain a broad audience with plenty of sea stories and colorful comments, and questions will be encouraged.

Saturday Opening Address - The Magic of Maiden Continues

TRACY EDWARDS

Saturday, November 7, 2020 | 1:10 PM

Tracy Edwards, captain of the first all-women's crew to compete in the Whitbread Around the World race in 1989-1990, will regale us with stories about that iconic journey and update us on the current mission of The Maiden Factor in supporting education and equity for girls around the world.

Community Outreach: Equity and Inclusion in the Sailing Community

CHASE JACKSON, LAURA BOTEL, AND ALEXE TAYLOR

Saturday, November 7, 2020 | 4:00 PM

This presentation takes the next step. Watch, look, and listen as three New York area women sailors detail their different organizational, education, and/or community outreach programs that successfully break down barriers to the water.

WORKSHOPS

FIRST PERIOD 2:10 P M to 2:55 P M

Basic Navigation

MAURA HACKETT

Utilizing digital tools and interactive activities, this session will introduce participants to navigation and basic chart plotting. We will review terms and concepts related to tides, longitude, latitude, dead reckoning, and true vs magnetic north.

Maritime Careers

ELIZABETH MCCARTHY

The Maritime Industry encompasses a large number of positions both on land and at sea. This workshop will discuss opportunities for all levels of expertise and different fields of study within the maritime field sometimes overlooked by potential job seekers.

Overview Of Clearwater's Mission, History and Current Initiatives

CAPTAIN AMY NELSON AND AMALI KNOBLACH

Clearwater representatives discuss the ways in which the organization promotes women's as leaders and the barriers they still face in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic and the social unrest of 2020.

WORKSHOPS

SECOND PERIOD 3:05 PM to
3:50 PM

Safety Around Large Vessels

ANN LOEDING

Sailors will learn how to safely share the Hudson River with large vessels such as tugs and barges, ferries and ships. The instructor will review rules of the road, share insights about the view of things from the wheelhouse, and provide tips for making prudent decisions - and share some stories about boaters who didn't.

Blue Water Sailing

MJ REISS

What is blue water sailing and how is it different from river, lake or coastal sailing? Learn what this type of sailing entails and why people love blue water sailing. Perhaps you are or will become one of those folks. Identify the skills necessary for sailing on larger bodies of water and learn how you can develop these in preparation for your next voyage.

Outboard Engine Troubleshooting

SARAH OLIVIERI

Conquer your fear of that outboard motor! The class will introduce you to the parts of outboard engines and starting procedures. Sarah will show you trouble-shooting protocols for when the outboard won't start, and you will get hands-on practice with several different outboards.

WORKSHOPS

THIRD PERIOD 4:55 P M to
5:40 P M

Communications at Sea

ELIZABETH MCCARTHY

Safety Craft Equipment (SCE) are essential pieces of equipment for every sailor. This workshop will discuss the basic principles and proper use of the Safety Craft Transceiver (portable VHF), Search and Rescue Transponder (SART) and the Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon (EPIRB).

Sail Care and Repair

MJ REISS

Learn how to clean and store different sails properly during the season and over the winter. Also learn how to inspect, identify weak spots, do minor repairs and when to bring your sail to a professional for repairs.

Panel: Pathways for New Sailors

DEBORAH MELLEEN, Impossible Dream; LEXI PLINE, Oakcliff Sailing Center; TANYA VAN RENESSE, HRMM, Ayme Sinclair, National Women's Sailing Commission

Professional women sailors from a range of different backgrounds will describe the pathways that led them into sailing. They will inspire you with their stories to find your own way into the sport we all love.

Thank you volunteers and donors!

Angela Garnier

Dawn Riley

Deb Medenbach

HRMM staff

Kingston Sailing Club Board of Directors

Lisa Cline - HRMM Executive Director

Stephanie Marrinan

Suzanne Taffet-Romano

Kingston Sailing Club

kingstonsailingclub.org

Hudson River Maritime Museum

www.hrmm.org

Maiden Factor

www.themaidefactor.org

Constructive Hands

www.constructivehands.com

Samalot Marine

samalotmarine.com

Seatow Midhudson

www.seatow.com/local/midhudson

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National Women's Sailing Association

www.womensailing.org

Women's Sailing Conference - 2020 Sponsors



IMPOSSIBLE DREAM



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HRMM
Sailing School



Hudson River Maritime Museum's **SAILING SCHOOL**

The Hudson River Maritime Museum, in partnership with the Kingston Sailing Club, founded the Sailing School in 2017. Featuring youth and adult sailing classes, the Sailing School seeks to get a new generation of enthusiasts out on the water.

The Sailing School at the Hudson River Maritime Museum is proud to be the only accredited US Sailing school in the Hudson Valley!

YOUTH SAILING

WWW.HRMM.ORG/YOUTH-SAILING

ADULT SAILING

WWW.HRMM.ORG/ADULT-SAILING

We believe that being on the water is the best way to truly understand the history and beauty of the Hudson River, and foster a better appreciation of the river that ties our communities together.

Become a part of this generation of sailing enthusiasts by supporting our initiatives. We partner with the Kingston Sailing Club to offer on-the-water sailing workshops that teach sailing to different age groups.

If you are interested in continuing the work developed at this Women's Sailing Conference you might want to join the program "Women on the Water" a woman-run sailing experience, where women sailors learn and grow in confidence together.

For more information visit

www.kingstonsailingclub.org/women-on-the-water

To sponsor or donate Youth Sailing scholarships go to
www.hrmm.org/give