



Cool Off During Exhibition Opening

BALTIMORE, Md. (July 15, 2021) – The Maryland Center for History and Culture invites the public to enjoy winter in July during the opening celebration of its newest exhibition, [Losing Winter](#), **Saturday, July 24, 12-3 p.m.** The event includes artist and curator talks in the museum gallery, a live ice sculpture carving, and snowballs served in the courtyard. Museum and event admission are free. *Losing Winter* is a participatory exhibition and art project by [Lynn Cazabon](#), a Baltimore-based artist and professor of art at UMBC, featuring Marylanders' memories about the winter season. These recollections intersect with individual lifetimes and places found in the film and photograph collections at the Maryland Center for History and Culture and UMBC Special Collections. Memories and images intertwine, providing a window into personal loss in the face of a changing climate.

"*Losing Winter* uses the season of winter as a lens through which to learn about the personal and cultural impacts of climate change on the scale of individual lifetimes," Cazabon says. "The historical photographs and films in the exhibition provide a context for these memories, showing winters in Maryland over the past 100 years."

Joe Tropea, MCHC Curator of Film & Photographs, says, "What better time than the scorching days of July to come look at some beautiful, historic photographs depicting winter in Maryland? If they don't jar winter memories, perhaps a selection of old TV weather coverage from WJZ-TV will."

Visitors to the exhibition will walk through the decades of winters past, from images of Maryland's 1899 blizzard, to "Snowmageddon" in 2010. Home movies and weather reports from the 1970s, '80s, and '90s from MCHC's archive will be on view, including a report from Oprah Winfrey as a WJZ reporter interviewing ice skaters at Memorial Stadium.

Losing Winter was inspired by Cazabon's own childhood growing up in Michigan and chilly winters that froze Lake St. Clair. Cazabon worked with MCHC's staff to conduct participatory workshops throughout the winter and spring of 2021 to gather Marylanders' memories of winters past for inclusion in the *Losing Winter* exhibition. The exhibition will also include a preview of the *Losing Winter* mobile app showing the collected memories within an augmented reality interface. Visitors to the exhibition can contribute their own memories to the project by recording a memory using their mobile phone and submitting it.

"I want to preserve these memories for younger generations so they can understand what has been lost and to inspire personal reflection and action," Cazabon says.

During the July 24 opening event for *Losing Winter*, "The heat of July will be a perfect inspiration to dream about winter," Cazabon says.

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS ON JULY 24

- **Museum hours:** 10 a.m.-5 p.m. **Event hours:** 12-3 p.m. Admission is **FREE**.
- **Ice sculptures and a live ice carving** by Ice Lab will take place in the courtyard. The sculptures are inspired by Marylanders' winter memories collected by Cazabon, one of which depicts "[The Big Freeze](#)" of 1977. Ice sculptures are made possible by a Creativity Grant from the Maryland State Arts Council.
- **Free snowballs and ice cream** (limited supply) from Kona Ice, 1-2 p.m.

UPCOMING LOSING WINTER PROGRAMMING

Thursday, September 16, 6-7 p.m.

Unlocking the Exhibition: Creating *Losing Winter*

This free virtual program is an inside look at the *Losing Winter* exhibition. Featured artist Lynn Cazabon joins Joe Tropea, MCHC Curator of Film & Photographs, and Beth Saunders, Curator and Head of Special Collections & Gallery at the University of Maryland Baltimore County, to discuss the concept behind this participatory project and how the photograph collections at both MCHC and UMBC complement and juxtapose collected memories of winter.

Wednesday, November 10, 12-1 p.m.

Let's Talk About Weather: Changing Patterns in Maryland

How have your memories of winter changed throughout your lifetime? Join a discussion about changing weather patterns over time and the impact of the earlier onset of spring on plant species in Maryland with Lynn Cazabon, the featured artist of MCHC's exhibition *Losing Winter*, as well as Dan Barrie, Modeling, Analysis, Predictions & Projections Program Director of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and Erin Posthumus, Outreach Coordinator at the USA National Phenology Network. View MCHC's [Public Programs calendar](#).

ABOUT THE MARYLAND CENTER FOR HISTORY AND CULTURE

The Maryland Center for History and Culture (MCHC) collects, preserves, and interprets the history, art, and culture of Maryland. Originally founded as the Maryland Historical Society in 1844, MCHC inspires critical thinking, creativity, and community through its Museum, Library, and education programs. The Museum and H. Furlong Baldwin Library are currently open Wednesday-Saturday. Museum hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Library hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Learn more at mdhistory.org, including MCHC's safety procedures.

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