



Explore · Experience · Engage

Contact:
Rachel Somma
75 Stuyvesant Place, Staten Island, NY 10301
P: 718-483-7117
rsomma@statenislandmuseum.org

Elizabeth Egbert, Staten Island Museum President & CEO, passes at 69

[Staten Island, NY – August 31, 2014] Elizabeth Egbert, 69, a noted artist, sculptor and community activist, died Saturday afternoon, surrounded by her loving family, after a courageous battle with multiple myeloma. Her leadership of the Staten Island Museum for the past 12 years transformed the Museum into one of New York City's most engaging cultural entities.

Ms. Egbert's passion has always been art. Her extensive art career included sculpture, outdoor public art, printmaking and drawing. She had solo exhibitions at many venues including: Socrates Sculpture Park, Queens NY; Lincoln Center Gallery, NY; The American Craft Museum, NYC; the Newhouse Gallery, SI, NY; the Sculpture Center, NYC; The OIA, NYC; and SOHO20 Gallery. Her public art projects included Monkey Puzzle with The Philadelphia Art Alliance in Fairmont Park, Philadelphia; Desert Pergola, Mesa Arizona; Broadway Starship with Art in the Park, Staten Island, NY; works at Collect Pond Park, NYC, and was included in numerous gallery and sculpture commissions and exhibitions.

Ms. Egbert was a devoted teacher who taught art at Hunter College, the College of the Arts, Philadelphia, The College of Mount St. Vincent, New York University and also taught Pre-K art at the 92nd Street Y. She was a co-founder of the visual arts program at The Third Street Music School, NYC.

She received her B.A. Magna Cum Laude, from Mount Holyoke College in 1967 and her M.A. in Sculpture from New York University in 1970. She completed the Executive Level program of the Institute for Not-for-Profit Management at Columbia University's Business School. She served on the AIA New York State Design Award Jury, received the Appreciation Award of the Staten Island African American Political Association, the Neptune Award for the Arts, and the Louis R. Miller Business Leadership Award.

During Ms. Egbert's exceptional tenure as President & CEO of the Staten Island Museum, beginning in 2002, the Museum has achieved many milestones. Ms. Egbert's proudest achievement includes restoring the first of two triple landmark buildings at Snug Harbor Cultural Center slated to open in 2015. The new Museum building will feature exhibitions from the Museum's permanent collection and a venue for exhibitions in the disciplines of art, natural science and regional history. This facility has achieved a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold



Explore · Experience · Engage

Contact:
Rachel Somma
75 Stuyvesant Place, Staten Island, NY 10301
P: 718-483-7117
rsomma@statenislandmuseum.org

certification continuing the 138 year old Museum's commitment to the environment. In addition, she added significantly to the Museum's permanent collection, re-housed the art collection, relocated the history archives & library, created a new collections management policy, and preserved significant art objects.

Her previous employment included Director/CEO of the Hudson Valley Children's Museum, Vice President for Administration of the Staten Island Botanical Garden, Assistant Director of the Staten Island Children's Museum, and Interim Director for the Newhouse Center for Contemporary Art at Snug Harbor and Professor of Sculpture at the Philadelphia University of the Arts.

Ms. Egbert's commitment to her community included being Chairperson/President of the Board of the Jacques Marchais Museum of Tibetan Art, a Member of the Board of Directors of Snug Harbor Cultural Center, and a Board Member of the Mud Lane Society for the Renaissance of Stapleton. Ms. Egbert was born in West Virginia and raised in Long Island, NY and Connecticut. She established her art career in Soho in the 1960's and moved to Stapleton, Staten Island NY with her young family in 1979.

Ms. Egbert is survived by her husband of 37 years, composer Carl Michaelson, her son Charles Michaelson, daughter-in-law Lauren Moss, daughter Ingrid Michaelson and son-in-law Greg Laswell, along with her three sisters, Louise Egbert Johnson, Diane Egbert Anderson and Margaret Egbert, cousins, nieces and nephews.

There will be a memorial service on **Sunday, September 21st at 3PM** at the Music Hall at Snug Harbor Cultural Center. Memorial donations may be made in honor of Ms. Egbert's name to the Staten Island Museum [here](#) or to the Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation [here](#)