The staff and Board of Governors would like to thank everyone for their contributions to our recent Annual Appeal as well as the February Fundraiser. We appreciate all that you do to support the ongoing preservation of 55 Mount Vernon Street and the inspiring collection within.

With International Women's Day just ahead on March 8, we've been thinking quite a bit about Rose, Marian, and Margaret Nichols as pioneers. We're continually amazed by their accomplishments in so many fields both professional and personal, from garden design to carpentry and bell-ringing to social and political activism, including running for public office as soon as women won the right to vote! We are inspired by their fearlessness in pushing boundaries, and hope that they inspire you as well.

One of the Museum's ongoing goals is to present programming that is fresh, fun, and relevant to audiences today. On March 14th Nichols after Dark offers a very special opportunity to experience an opera program inspired by a 1902 performance by Louise Homer of the Metropolitan Opera Company, which took place in the parlor at 55 Mount Vernon. Later this spring, we'll be focusing on Rose Standish Nichols' career as a landscape and garden designer through an exhibition and related programming. Join us for a lecture by Judith Tankard on Arts & Crafts gardens or take a special garden tour at the Longfellow House. You can check the Museum's website for further details.

Finally, the Museum is honored to be a ribbon garden on this year's Hidden Gardens of Beacon Hill Tour on May 16, organized by the Beacon Hill Garden Club. We look forward to welcoming visitors to the home of one of first female professional garden designers in the country.

Enjoy these days leading up to spring and we look forward to seeing you at the Museum!
Upcoming Exhibition:

*The Gardens of Rose Standish Nichols, 1890-1930*


The Nichols House Museum is pleased to announce a new exhibition, *The Gardens of Rose Standish Nichols, 1890-1930*, opening May 16, 2019. This exhibition will celebrate the 40-year career in landscape design of the Museum’s founder, Rose Nichols. Based on new research, the exhibition will describe Nichols' self-directed horticultural education, display enchanting views of a selection of her gardens across the United States, and illuminate the significance of her career as one of the country’s pioneering female design professionals.

**Exhibition Events and Programming**

May 16, 2019
Exhibition Opening

May 28, 2019
Accessorized for All Seasons; the original blanket scarf
Written by Elizabeth Weisblatt

Visitors to the Nichols House Museum may be surprised to learn that it is home to a sizable collection of textiles, much of which is housed in permanent storage. As someone with a background in textile and fashion history, I was delighted to get the chance to survey the textiles as part of an inventory project I was assigned as the Nichols House Museum Collections Intern. In doing so, I discovered two nineteenth-century paisley shawls, 1961.804 and 1961.85 which I decided to research for the purposes of this blog.

Women's fashion has for hundreds of years varied in more obvious ways than men's fashion, overall. Silhouette changes and focal points (bust, shoulders, etc...) varied over time and how women accessorized often went hand in hand with whatever style was popular. However, there is one accessory that has endured since it debuted in Western fashion -even to today -although it has changed to suit modern needs...

Keep reading on our blog

Nichols after Dark: A Night at the Opera

Date: March 14, 2019
Time: 7:00 to 8:30 pm
Location: Nichols House Museum

Registration: $45 General, $40 NHM Members.
Click here to purchase tickets - space is limited!

The Nichols House Museum invites you to participate in a unique musical event, the latest installment in the Nichols after Dark programming series. This rare
opportunity offers attendees the chance to not only experience the Museum’s beautiful turn-of-the-century parlor at night but also to enjoy an operatic performance set to the dramatic backdrop of Flemish tapestries and Japanese urns. The evening’s performance will celebrate Metropolitan Opera singer Louise Homer (1871-1947), who in 1902 performed in the very same room.

Louise Homer was second-cousin to Rose Standish Nichols (1872-1960) and was one of the most gifted and popular opera singers of the early twentieth century. A contralto, Homer achieved international acclaim as a member of the Metropolitan Opera (1900-1919) and her most notable role was Amneris in Giuseppe Verdi’s Aida. In March of 1902, the Nichols family hosted a musicale starring Homer in their 55 Mount Vernon Street home, now the Nichols House Museum. Many "proper Bostonians" attended the performance, including Isabella Stewart Gardner, and while the evening’s program is unknown, the family thought it a huge success.

We hope you’ll join us for this special evening with operatic singer Jacqueline Novikov, who will perform five arias from Homer’s repertoire. Champagne reception to follow the performance.

March is Membership Month!

During the month of March, all memberships are being offered at a specially discounted rate. Help us to preserve this Beacon Hill legacy by becoming a member today!

All memberships include these Core Benefits:

- Advance notification and discounted tickets to many programs and events
- Invitations to exclusive member events
- 20% off in the museum gift shop

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Click here to join or for more information!
Celebrating International Women's Day!

In honor of Rose, Marian, and Margaret Nichols, the Nichols House Museum is pleased to offer free admission to all on Friday, March 8 and Saturday, March 9 in celebration of International Women's Day.

Tours will be on the hour, starting at 11am and ending at 4pm.

Space is limited so please note that we will operate on a first come, first served basis.

If you would like to learn more about International Women's Day, please visit www.internationalwomensday.com

A Huge Thank You and A Fond Farewell!

After four years, it has come time for our wonderful volunteer docent Ellen Mooradian to move on.

Ellen Mooradian joined the NHM docent training program in the spring of 2015. She had returned to Boston that fall, after 20+ years living in the suburbs of Albany, New York. As a self-proclaimed history nerd, she was looking for a history-related volunteering opportunity. NHM offered the perfect opportunity to
expands her knowledge of Beacon Hill and Boston history and to give tours in a warm and creative environment.

She went on to train to be a Boston by Foot volunteer guide and then launched into a new career giving tours to cruise ship visitors, as Airbnb experiences, and for other tour companies.

She now finds it is time to retire from NHM and give all of her energy to year round tour guiding. We wish her the best of luck!