



Fifth Annual Riverport Women's Sailing Conference

Virtual Event: November 13th, 2021, 10am to 4pm

#HRMMWSC

@Hudson River Maritime
Museum

SCHEDULE

10:00 AM

Keynote Address by Tracy Edwards, MBE:
Impact of Covid on Girls' Education, Moving
Forward with Maiden Foundation



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

11:00 AM

First Period Workshops

12:00 PM

Second Period Workshops

1:00 PM

Third Period Workshops

2:00 PM

Fourth Period Workshops

3:00 PM

Closing Panel



Speaker Bios



Amy Cahill

Amy first became enamored with sailing as a guest oceanographic researcher aboard the 134 ft tall ship SSV Corwith Cramer as it sailed along the coast of Spain through the Strait of Gibraltar. Upon returning home to her full-time job as a Senior Lecturer of Biology at Marist College, she was anxious to get back out on the water, first becoming certified for basic keelboat and later competitively racing on the Hudson.



Teresa Eggers

Teresa is the committee chairperson for Sea Scout Ship 609, which is sponsored by the Hudson River Maritime Museum. She has been active with the ship for four years after many years of Girl Scouting leadership, during which her scout units were able to cruise on a Schooner on Penobscot Bay in Maine. Teresa hopes to provide opportunities for youth to develop skills and confidence in sailing through her support of Sea Scouts.



Ruthie Gold

Ruthie Gold is the Program Director at the Hudson River Sloop Clearwater, where she oversees the organization's robust sailing and onshore educational and public programming. Before coming to Clearwater, Ruthie earned her master's in Environmental Conservation Education from NYU. She has had the opportunity to work for a variety of organizations doing environmental education from the Garfield Park Conservatory Alliance in Chicago, to the New York Botanical Gardens in the Bronx.



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.



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.



Haley Lhamon

Haley grew up in Texas and started racing nationally at age 8. As captain of the Stanford Sailing Team, she enjoyed giving back and sharing her passion for sailing and racing as she does now through coaching high schoolers and teaching women's clinics. Racing highlights include winning the 1988 Sears Cup, 2002 Chicago-Mackinac Race (J/35 and Cup division), 2007 Thistle Women's Nationals, and 2018 Race to Alaska on Team Sail Like a Girl.



Stephanie Marrinan

Stephanie grew up on the South Shore of Long Island and has always loved the water. She has been a member of the racing crew on board Skeleton Crew, a Merit 25, for the past 7 years. She has been a skipper for Kingston Sailing Club's Women On the Water sails each Spring and Fall, 2017-2021. Stephanie is working on her US Sailing Instructor certification and has taught sailing at the Hudson River Maritime Museum Sailing School in 2021. She is looking forward to working with the participants at this year's Women's Sailing Conference. Stephanie is also the Flotilla Staff Officer of Public Education in the Coast Guard Auxiliary in Kingston.



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.

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.



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.



Betsy O'Toole

Betsy is a US Sailing certified level one and two small boat instructor as well as a US Sailing basic keelboat certified instructor. She learned to sail on Cape Cod and has taught sailing for 5 years. She also sailed in Wales UK. She is passionate about getting people out on the water, especially people who have obstacles.



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 32ft double ended, gaff rigged schooner). The lure of the Maine islands continued as she pursued her USCG 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 Miles 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 in the winter months, her passion is teaching the Happiness courses that include yoga and breathwork.



Dawn Riley

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.

Dawn Riley was recently inducted to the US Sailing National Hall of Fame, Class of 2021.



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, where she studied environmental policy and economics. She has taught sailing in all four corners of the United States, most recently at the Hudson River Maritime Museum. She is part of the small crew of the sail freight Schooner Apollonia.

Tracy Edwards, MBE, Keynote



Tracy Edwards skippered the first all-female crew to sail around the world when she and her team raced Maiden in the 1989/90 Whitbread Round the World Race. Despite overwhelming odds and negativity, they won two legs and came second overall. Tracy was awarded an MBE (Member of the Order of the British Empire) and became the first woman to win the Yachtsman of the Year Award in its 34 year history. She then went on to skipper the first all-female non stop around the world record attempt and managed Maiden II, the first ever fully mixed-gender professional racing team.

Tracy founded The Maiden Factor in the process of rescuing 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. 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.

SPECIAL SESSIONS

Keynote Address - Maiden Full Circle

During the Pandemic Tracy was frequently asked to speak about 'resilience,' and it made her realise that Maiden, from day one, taught her everything she needed to know about how to build resilience and how to create, manage and run a project which can change with the times. We have spent the past 35 years challenging what can be, and Maiden now fights for the rights of women and girls around the world.

TRACY EDWARDS, MBE

Zoom Room 1 | 10:00 AM

Closing Panel - Getting Out Sailing

Various Speakers

Zoom Room 1 | 3:00 PM

Featuring Amali Knoblach and Ruthie Gold from Sloop Clearwater, Tanya van Renesse from Schooner Apollonia and Solaris, Stephanie Marrinan from The Sailing School at HRMM, MJ Reiss from Kingston Sailing Club, Jody Sterling from Hudson River Maritime Museum Community Sailing, and Teresa Eggers from Sea Scouts.



WORKSHOPS

FIRST PERIOD

11:00 A M to
11:45 A M

ROOM 1 **Weather for the Mariner**

ELIZABETH MCCARTHY

In this workshop we will explore a brief overview of important aspects of the weather pertaining to any vessel at sea. Topics will include; examples of weather tragedies, instruments used to help predict the weather, and the meaning of clouds and how they explain what type of weather we may be expecting.

ROOM 2 **Sailing as Therapy**

DEBORAH MELLEN

In this workshop we will explore what Wallace J Nichols calls the "Blue Mind". We will touch upon the brain science of how being on, in, or close to the water makes us happy, how being part of a sailing community affects our lives on and off the water, and how sailing makes us better people and prepares us to deal with life's challenges. I will also talk about my personal experience of sailing and its effects on communities with disabilities.

ROOM 3 **Introduction to Racing**

AMY CAHILL AND BETSY O'TOOLE

Racing is a way for sailors to hone their skills while becoming a bigger part of the sailing community. We'll provide an overview of types of races with an emphasis on fleet racing. From the starting line to rounding marks, we'll diagram the anatomy of a race and the role of the race committee.

WORKSHOPS

SECOND PERIOD

12:00 P M to
12:45 P M

ROOM 1 **Rules of the Road**

ELIZABETH MCCARTHY

In this workshop we will discuss why it is important to understand light configurations on vessels and the importance of “right of way” for all vessels at sea. A brief discussion on Inland waters and International waters will also be discussed.

ROOM 2 **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.

ROOM 3 **Racing Rules of Sailing**

HALEY LHAMON

The Racing Rules of Sailing: After a brief introduction to the 2021-2024 US Sailing Racing Rules of Sailing, Haley Lhamon will focus on Part 2–When Boats Meet, Rules 10-18 which cover essential right-of-way rules. Come prepared with questions to ask her! Haley recommends downloading US Sailing's rules app (search US Sailing Racing Rules); the 2021-2024 rules are also available online through World Sailing.

WORKSHOPS

THIRD PERIOD

1:00 P M to

1:45 P M

ROOM 1

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.

ROOM 2

Buying a Boat

JODY STERLING

Have you recently bought a sailboat, or are you considering buying one? This workshop will cover types of sailboats and choosing the one that is right for you; the costs of sailboat ownership, including purchase prices and ongoing costs; and skills, equipment and basic maintenance needed for safe sailboat ownership.

ROOM 3

Fast Upwind Sailing for Racing: Close Hauled and Hella Fast

SARAH OLIVIERI

In this training you'll learn how to think about sail shape and some of the science behind getting your boat to move upwind. With that knowledge, all those fancy controls like the traveler, backstay, jib leads, outhaul, boom vang, Cunningham, and halyard tension will start to make sense, and you'll be able to use them to sail faster upwind! To enhance your at-home learning, please bring a sheet of computer paper.

WORKSHOPS

FOURTH PERIOD

2:00 P M to

2:45 P M

ROOM 1

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.

ROOM 2

Sailing for Sustainability

TANYA VAN RENESSE

Transportation is the largest greenhouse gas emitting economic sector in the United States. This course will discuss the history of sailing as the original carbon neutral transportation solution. Speaker Tanya van Renesse, an environmental educator who sails aboard the wind-powered freight and cargo Schooner Apollonia, will present a variety of strategies to reduce environmental impact using sailing and showcase some organizations that utilize them.

ROOM 3

How to Develop as a Racing Sailor

DAWN RILEY

This interactive workshop will walk the audience from discovering and developing your competitive sailing skills, then move into how to get onto a racing team and, most importantly, how to get invited back. Dawn will also touch on the leadership models of putting together your own team. She will reserve time to delve into the audience's personal experiences, good and bad. Please come prepared with specific questions.

Thank you volunteers and donors!

Lisa Cline - Executive Director,
Hudson River Maritime Museum

www.hrmm.org

HRMM staff

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Constructive Hands

www.constructivehands.com

The Impossible Dream

<https://www.theimpossibledream.org>

Maiden Factor Foundation

www.themaidentfactor.org

National Women's Sailing Association

www.womensailing.org

Oakcliff Sailing

www.oakcliffsailing.org

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www.robertiboats.com

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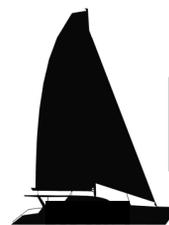
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Hudson River Maritime Museum's **SAILING SCHOOL**

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