

Joshua Campbell Torrance

From exploring museums with his parents to leading them today, Joshua Campbell Torrance has always loved museums for their power to delight and cultivate wonder.

Throughout his 22-year career as a museum director, he has focused on being a collaborative leader, bringing people together to advance the impact museums have in their communities, while ensuring their long-term sustainability.

Joshua started his career at Woodlawn Museum, Gardens & Park in Ellsworth, Maine, then continued it with posts at the Bennington Museum in Bennington, Vermont, and the Webb Deane Stevens Museum in Wethersfield, Connecticut. In February of 2023, he will join the team at the Florence Griswold Museum in Old Lyme, Connecticut, as its next executive director.

Although born in Ohio, Joshua considers Ellsworth, Maine, his hometown. He has been married to his wife Jennifer since 2004. Together they have two teenaged children, Sophie Eliza, 17, and Noah Campbell 16, and three fur babies Teddy, Finn, and Toby. They reside in a 1926 Colonial Revival house in Wethersfield, Connecticut, which they carefully restored over the last several years.

Joshua is a competitive runner, having completed 46 marathons and ultramarathons, including the 2022 Boston Marathon. He is passionate about American material culture and is also an avid collector of Inuit art. Joshua enjoys spending time with his family and exploring Connecticut's cultural and recreational opportunities.

Throughout his career, Joshua has pursued opportunities to give back both to the museum field and to the communities he has resided in. He currently serves on the Application Review Committee for CT Humanities and on the Advisory Committee for the Keepers Education Preservation Fund at the Maine Community Foundation. Joshua is a past Chair of the American Association for State and Local History Historic House Museums Committee. He has served in leadership roles in local Rotary Clubs, as a chamber of commerce board member, and on a loan committee for a regional economic development corporation.

In addition to a MA in history museum studies from the Cooperstown Graduate Program, Joshua holds a BA in history from Elmira College and a MA in public history from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Joshua holds a certificate in Governance Leadership for Nonprofit Chief Executives from BoardSource and is a graduate of the executive orientation program of Leadership Greater Hartford.