



## **S.S. COLUMBIA PROJECT**

**A M E R I C A N   S T E W A R D S H I P**

### **OUR MISSION**

The non profit SS Columbia Project (SSCP) is dedicated to restoring America's oldest surviving passenger steamer, the National Historic Landmark Vessel SS Columbia, to benefit the public by creating:

- A unique educational platform regarding sustainability and stewardship
- Enriched public access to the cultural, scenic and environmental resources of the Hudson River Valley and New York Harbor
- Revitalization of our waterfront communities through responsible heritage tourism

### **THE SHIP: S.S. COLUMBIA**

Built in 1902, the S.S. Columbia combines a spectacular array of design, engineering and aesthetic innovations. At 216' in length and 60' in breadth, the ship was designed to carry 3200 passengers comfortably on her five decks. The ship is adorned with mahogany paneling, etched and leaded glass, gilded moldings, a grand staircase and an innovative open-air ballroom. The Columbia is fitted with a massive, viewable 1200 horsepower triple expansion reciprocating steam engine, rare, intact and waiting to be re-activated.

### **DAILY EXPERIENCE OF THE S.S. COLUMBIA**

The operational SS Columbia will restore a historic water transportation link between New York City and the Communities of the Hudson Valley. Passengers aboard the SS Columbia will be encouraged to roam and explore the Valley. They will eat and shop, visit historic sites, gardens, museums, galleries, and scenic attractions and perhaps decide to spend the night at a B&B.. Activities aboard the vessel herself include watching the engineers operate the massive antique steam engine, guided tours of the vessel and its exhibits, lectures, and cultural and children's programming. Departing passengers will take with them their experiences of the rich beauty and history of the Hudson Valley. Students onboard the Columbia will experience her as a unique teaching tool relating to the history of the Hudson Valley, steam power, and the impact of the industrial revolution in the development of our nation.

The SS Columbia Project operates as a 501(c)(3) non-profit museum organization subject to the supervision of the New York State Board of Regents. To volunteer, or to learn more please visit our website [www.sscolumbia.org](http://www.sscolumbia.org). You can contact us at [contact@sscolumbia.org](mailto:contact@sscolumbia.org) or 212-228-3128. Your tax deductible donation can be made through the website or checks can be made out to: SS Columbia Project / TFOTC

## THE BENEFITS OF THE SS COLUMBIA PROJECT

### THE ARTS

- Reviving a historic engagement between the arts, the Hudson River Valley and Hudson River steamships
- Encouraging the dialogue between art, the environment, and the reverence for nature's beauty characteristic of the Hudson River School painters
- Engaging contemporary artists working in ways that are representational, abstract and conceptual

### THE ENVIRONMENT, SUSTAINABILITY, STEWARDSHIP AND SLOW DESIGN

- Incorporating and demonstrating green technologies in the restoration of the Columbia
- Practicing cultural stewardship by saving the best of our built and natural legacies and using them to build a better future and raising awareness of the scenic and historic qualities of the Valley as economic resources worthy of protection
- Promoting and demonstrating the principles of sustainability, "slow food," and "slow design"
- Protecting our Environment by raising awareness of our region's beautiful mountains, rivers, wildlife, and wetlands

### REVITALIZING OUR COMMUNITIES AND WATERFRONTS

- The project will revitalize the communities of the Hudson River Valley by promoting smart sustainable economic growth through thoughtful non-automotive heritage tourism
- Creating unique, programmatically enriched access to the our waters and waterfront communities
- Offering the public a mobile cultural venue the Ballroom and Grand Salon of the Columbia as will serve as a shared "living room" for the diverse communities of the Hudson River Valley allowing residents to gather together in a relaxed atmosphere for public programming
- Establishing the Hudson Valley once again as a "must see" attraction restoring the international renown that the Hudson River once enjoyed as the "Rhine of America"

### EDUCATING THE PUBLIC

- As a unique water-borne classroom, the Columbia will offer uniquely engaging and enriching educational opportunities for the more than one million students in the tri-state area
- Exhibits will illuminate the history of the vessel, the Hudson River Valley, and the New York Harbor with focuses on steam, the age of mechanization, the Industrial Revolution and its consequent social evolutions, and our changing relationship to the environment
- Schools and community organizations will be able to extend and enhance their programming in ways that existing educational tools and venues cannot