



**CONTACT:** Christine L. Armstrong, 646-644-5037

## **Gloucester 400's Commemorative Medal Competition Closes in on a Finalist**

### *Panel of Medallic Art and Numismatic Luminaries Set to Judge Semi-Finalists' Designs*

**Gloucester, MA – February 3, 2020** – The Gloucester400™ tri-chairpersons are preparing to host three of the numismatic and medallic art world's leading experts on February 12<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Robert Hoge, Dr. Jesse L. Kraft, and Mr. Alexander Krapf have been selected and tasked with determining the winning design for the official commemorative medal honoring the city's 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

On their arrival, this panel will review plaster castings of the three semi-finalist designs selected in September 2019. Following their review, they will convene to choose the design that will be minted as the city's official medallion representing Gloucester's upcoming quadricentennial.

"Foremost in our minds, as we selected this judging panel, was the momentous occasion this medal will celebrate," said Bruce Tobey, Gloucester400 tri-chairperson. "The 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of our city is a source of great pride among Gloucester residents and a historic milestone for our community. We are thrilled that three experts of this caliber will help us honor Gloucester's history and heritage."

### **About the Judges**

Each of the judges came highly recommended and each brings deep experience in their field.

**Dr. Robert W. Hoge** – Mr. Hoge is currently a member of Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee of the United States Mint. Previously, Mr. Hoge served as the numismatic curator at the American Numismatic Society.

**Dr. Jesse L. Kraft** - Dr. Kraft is the Assistant Curator of Coins and Currency of the Americas with the American Numismatics Society.

**Mr. Alex Krapf** – Mr. Krapf is the publisher of the Medallic Art Collector website ([medallicartcollector.com](http://medallicartcollector.com)), an avid collector, and a recognized expert in medallic art.

Upon selection of the final design all three finalists will be notified and the final design announced. A public unveiling of the official Gloucester400 design will take place shortly thereafter. The official medal will be minted in bronze and silver versions for purchase by Gloucester residents, collectors, and numismatists worldwide.

## **Gloucester's 400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary: "Our People, Our Stories™"**

Gloucester, Massachusetts, America's oldest seaport, will be "400 years young" in 2023. To celebrate its past, honor its people, and welcome its promising future, the city has begun preparations for celebrating this historic milestone and organizing the year-long celebration of its anniversary. The theme of the quadricentennial is *Gloucester: Our People, Our Stories™* and focuses on celebrating Gloucester's history through the stories of the people who lived, sacrificed, rejoiced, worked, built, and innovated together – at times risking everything -- since 1623. Gloucester Celebration Corporation is the organization established to guide the efforts to create a momentous city-wide celebration among its people and businesses and facilitate an exceptional year of festivities.

To provide the latest information about Gloucester400's many activities and opportunities, Gloucester Celebration Corporation has launched a website that will be continuously updated with news, fun, and useful information. Visit [www.gloucesterma400.org](http://www.gloucesterma400.org) for more information.

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