

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**BALTIMORE MUSEUM OF INDUSTRY ANNOUNCES COMMUNITY COLLECTION INITIATIVE TO PRESERVE  
LEGACY OF FRANCIS SCOTT KEY BRIDGE, PORT, AND WORKERS**

Baltimore, Maryland -- The Baltimore Museum of Industry announces the launch of a new initiative to document the significance of the Francis Scott Key Bridge and its collapse, ongoing recovery efforts, eventual reconstruction, and its lasting symbolic impact.

As a museum dedicated to preserving the legacy of local work and workers, the BMI is seeking materials that tell the stories of workers connected to the bridge and associated Port-related waterfront industry. In keeping with the themes that are at the heart of the museum's mission, the museum is seeking materials related to the following:

- Workers
- Working-class communities
- Immigration/migration
- Production and distribution of goods

The purpose of this collecting initiative is to document the stories and experiences of working Baltimoreans, to be included in the museum's permanent collections, made available for historical research, and potentially inclusion in future museum exhibits.

Items to be considered for permanent donations include, but are not limited to:

- Tools, clothing, personal items
- Photographs, videos
- Organizational paraphernalia (materials relating to employers, unions, etc.)
- Flyers, handouts, pamphlets, posters, membership cards, occupational awards, etc.

Paper materials that donors would like to retain can be digitized into our digital collections with the originals returned to donors along with copies of the digital files.

"It's important from a collections perspective that the museum hear from the community members who have been most affected by this tragic event. We know that much of the work being done on and around the bridge and Port are by workers who often go unseen. We want to change that narrative--those are the people we want to hear from," says Rachel Donaldson, Curator of Collections &

Exhibitions at the BMI. Dr. Donaldson holds a PhD in History from Vanderbilt University and has spent her career exploring and teaching labor history.

To donate an artifact, please visit the museum's artifact donation page [here](#).

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The Baltimore Museum of Industry offers exhibitions, tours, hands-on activities and programs that recognize the dignity of work. The BMI is located at 1415 Key Highway, Baltimore MD 21230. Free onsite parking is available. Tickets and information at [www.thebmi.org](http://www.thebmi.org) and on Facebook, Instagram and TikTok at @BMIatWork.