

# SPELLMAN

MUSEUM OF STAMPS  
AND POSTAL HISTORY

## MONTH 4 - TIME FOR MORE! APRIL - WE LOVE YOU!



### INVERTED JENNY FOUND AT THE MUSEUM!

Got your attention?

The "Inverted Jenny," a misprinted U.S. postage stamp showing an inverted image of a blue airplane - the Curtiss Jenny, occurred on the first-ever 24-cent airmail stamp of 1918. Only one sheet of one hundred inverted center stamps was sold, and no other examples have been discovered. Do you have one? This most famous U.S. stamp printing error occurred at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, in Washington, D.C., and pictured the bi-plane design (the famous JN-4-H "Jenny") modified by replacing the front cockpit with a mail compartment.

We must confess - we are always on the hunt for one and you can see one at our other favorite stamp museum - the National Postal Museum in Washington, DC. *April Fools!!*

**April - we have been waiting for you!**

**And for great reason: its a wonderful month full of exciting celebrations, holidays and the first blushes of Spring.**

The phrase "April showers bring May flowers" is a popular saying used often during the month of April. This is typically the time when the last bit of snow turns to all rain as temperatures climb, and increased rain shower activity sparks the beginning of flowers and plants to really start blooming. Some noteworthy days of the month....

**The Boston Marathon.** For those of us who live in New England, we associate April and Patriot's Day with the famed 26.2 mile race. 2023 marks the 127th running of this storied marathon, and anyone who has braved that route knows it is just like the ocean - something to be respected, never conquered. Monday April 17.

**Easter.** Easter Sunday always occurs on the first Sunday after the Paschal Full Moon. What is the Paschal Full Moon? This is the first Sunday following the full Moon that occurs on or after the March or spring equinox. While Christmas is fixed to a solar calendar (and near the winter solstice), Easter is based on the lunar cycles of the Jewish calendar. In the Christian religion, the Last Supper (which was the final meal Jesus shared with his apostles before his crucifixion) was a Passover feast. It's because Easter is based on a lunar month (which is 29.5 days) that the date of Easter can really vary. Sunday April 9.

**April Fools Day!** We aren't kidding - this is our favorite day of the year. We at the Spellman have a trickster side and love to play pranks. We have been known to race down the hall telling our team we have found the Inverted Jenny

stamp in a recent donated collection. Saturday April 1.

**Passover.** This Jewish holiday occurs in the spring, usually in April or March. It's a major religious holiday that lasts for eight days. There are a number of traditions observed by practicing Jews during this time, including not eating leavened bread and hosting or attending Passover seders. The Passover date changes every year based on the luni-solar Jewish calendar, where the months are based on lunar months, and the years are based on solar years. According to the Hebrew calendar, the current year is 5783. Passover falls during the Hebrew month of Nisan. This year, Passover beings at sundown on Wednesday, April 5, 2023 and ends at sundown on Thursday, April 13, 2023.



**HOLIDAYS IN APRIL - EVERY DAY IS A SPECIAL ONE!**

- April 1**  
April Fools' Day  
International Fun at Work Day - Isn't that every day?  
International Pillow Fight Day
- April 2**  
International Children's Book Day  
International Fact Checking Day - Are you sure?  
National DIY Day - Wait, I'm busy doing it myself!  
National Peanut Butter and Jelly Day
- April 3**  
National Chocolate Mousse Day - Yum!  
National Film Score Day  
National Find a Rainbow Day
- April 4**  
National School Librarian Day  
Stop by and say thank you!
- April 5**  
National Deep Dish Pizza Day  
Isn't that every day?
- April 6**  
National Pajama Day - Wear them to work!  
National Siamese Cat Day  
Purrfect  
National Student Athlete Day  
We love March Madness!
- April 7**  
National No Housework Day - Now that is definitely every day!  
Walk to Work Day  
World Health Day
- April 8**  
National Zoo Lovers Day  
National Unicorn Day

- April 15**  
Husband Appreciation Day - "Sure, Honey"  
Titanic Remembrance Day
- April 16**  
National Librarian Day  
National Orchid Day
- April 18**  
National Animal Crackers Day  
National Exercise Day  
Get out there!
- April 21**  
Big Word Day - Consider the significance of procrastination  
National Bulldogs Are Beautiful Day  
National Tea Day  
We take ours with honey
- April 22**  
April Showers Day
- April 23**  
Impossible Astronaut Day  
National Picnic Day  
National Take a Chance Day - C'mon try it!  
Shakespeare Day - Let me count the ways
- April 24**  
National Telephone Day - hello?!  
World Penguin Day
- April 26**  
Alien Day



National Winston Churchill Day

**April 10**

Global Work From Home Day

National Hug Your Dog Day

National Siblings Day -

Our personal favorite

**April 11**

National Pet Day

**April 13**

National Scrabble Day

**April 14**

Day of Silence - Shhhhhh!

International Moment of Laughter Day

National Dolphin Day - Remember

Flipper?

National Donate a Book Day



National Pretzel Day

World Stationery Day

Send us a letter using your favorite paper!

**April 27**

Babe Ruth Day

Take Our Kids To Work Day

World Design Day

**April 28**

National Blueberry Pie Day

**April 29**

National Go Birding Day

National Shrimp Scampi Day

World Veterinary Day

**April 30**

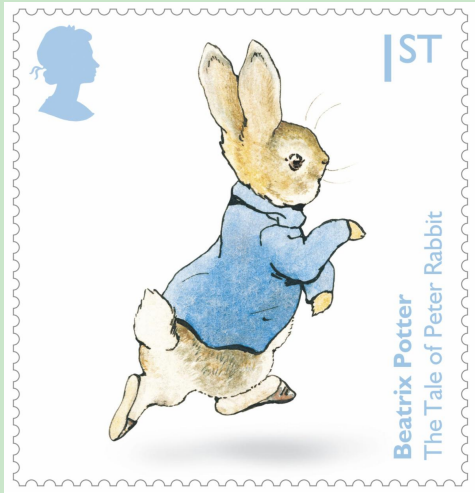
National Adopt a Shelter Pet Day

National Tie Dye Day

### Speaking of Kids

We are in full swing planning our Kids' Programming including field trips to The Spellman and visiting classrooms. Interested?

[Email us](#) to let us know and we can make it happen!



### The Tale of Peter Rabbit, Beatrix Potter, 2016

The Tale of Peter Rabbit, 2016

Peter Rabbit actually started out as an illustration Beatrix Potter drew on a letter to a friend's child, who was ill with scarlet fever. The Tale of Peter Rabbit evolved from this letter and was first published in December 1901; it was an immediate success.



A stamp issued for the 100th anniversary of Dr. Seuss's birth showed him with characters from four of his books: The Cat in the Hat (1957), the Grinch from How the Grinch Stole Christmas! (1957), the Glotz (or perhaps a Klotz) from Oh Say Can You Say? (1979), and the Skritz, the anonymous "young fellow," and the Skrink from I Had Trouble Getting to Solla Sollew (1965). The stamp pane border showed fish from One Fish Two Fish Red Fish Blue Fish (1960).

### A GREAT READ!!

Here's a favorite of ours - an introduction to the





important job of mail carriers. Through fun illustrations and easy-to-read text, this nonfiction picture book describes what a mail carrier is, how their mail truck works, and how the mail must get delivered no matter what the situation. Lucky us - pick up this book so as to get a glimpse into the lives of these valuable workers and how their careers make communities a better place to live.

*Say hello to your letter carrier today! And say thank you!*



**WHEN I THINK OF THE SPELLMAN, I THINK....  
EMAIL US AND TELL US WHAT YOU THINK!**





## Born in April?

If you were born in the month of April, you are likely described as brave, outgoing and firm. Friendships mean a lot to you and you are keen to solve other people's problems.  
You are some of the best people to be around.

When is your birthday? Let us know and we'll send you a fun mailing!

**And, speaking of getting older, say hello to an elder - these are precious people!**



***April Gemstone: Diamond***  
***April Flower: Daisy and Sweet Pea***

It is always good to be a leader!  
But be a follower! Find us on Instagram  
**Spellman\_Stamp\_Museum**



**New for 2023 -**  
Summer is coming!  
Sailboats stamps celebrate a favorite American outdoor activity with two colorful new postcard stamps. Pretty enough to frame! The graphic art was designed and created by artist Libby VanderPloeg, who also created the lettering for the word "postcard" that appears



Ole! Piñatas!  
The stamp art features four lively, digital illustrations of two traditional piñata designs — a donkey and a seven-point star. The bright,



Red Fox  
The face of a red fox is the focus of this new 40-cent stamp. Intended for use by bulk mailers for items such as circulars, newsletters and catalogs, it can also be used



on the stamp.

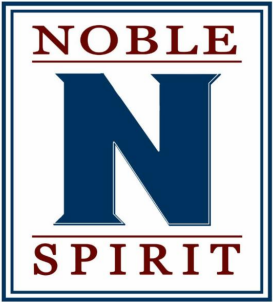
color palette was inspired by Mexican culture, including the use of vibrant colors. We want some candy! Víctor Meléndez created the original art and designed the stamps. Antonio Alcalá was the art director.



by customers who enjoy using a variety of stamps on their envelopes and packages. The stamp art features a pencil-and-watercolor illustration from preexisting artwork by wildlife illustrator Dugald Stermer (1936-2011). His penciled calligraphy on the stamp indicates the animal's common name and its scientific classification. Art director Ethel Kessler designed the stamp.

### Do You Know Our Accession Partner?

We partner with [NobleSpirit](#), a firm specializing in rare stamps, coins, paper money, books, antiques, and collectibles. NobleSpirit is our 2023 Events sponsor and a trusted and reliable resource.



Specializing in stamps, antiques, books, and collectibles.

The Spellman Museum of Stamps and Postal History  
Official Events Sponsor



Mass Cultural Council

Power of culture

*Spellman educational programs are supported in part by a grant from the Weston Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council. The Spellman is grateful for all forms of support, both financial and via collections.*

### WHY STAMPS? WHY THE SPELLMAN?

ITS EASY – WE ARE FUN!  
STAMPS ARE TINY PIECES OF BEAUTIFUL ARTWORK THAT ENGAGE AND INSPIRE SO MANY PEOPLE.

WE ARE FASCINATED BY THE PLEASURE THESE TINY ADHESIVES PROVIDE TO COLLECTORS OF ALL AGES.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE STAMPS AND WHY?  
SEND US A NOTE AND LET US KNOW – WE WANT TO TELL YOUR STORY!



### Have we mentioned with love Cary Grant?

Born January 28, 1904, in Bristol, England; he was perhaps the most dashing of all Hollywood film stars. Grant was born Archibald Alex Leach and grew up in Bristol, England. As a young boy, he would wait in line with a crowd of other children to see a matinee. Later, Grant won a scholarship to Bristol's Fairfield Academy, where he worked behind the scenes on school drama productions.

In these same years, during World War I, Grant spent one summer acting as a junior air raid warden in Bristol. As he watched the soldiers leave Southampton, he decided that he wanted to travel around the world. He combined his two dreams and ran away from home to join Bob Pender's troupe of vaudevillians. When he was only 16, Grant sailed with the Penders from Southampton to New York.

Grant's New York debut was in an elaborate stage show with a cast of more than a thousand at the New York Hippodrome. During the next seven years, he toured with several vaudeville troupes as his unusual talents continue to develop. The late 1920s he began to regularly appear in Broadway productions.

Paramount Pictures' short film, Singapore Sue, introduced Grant to his first film role, where he played one of four sailors





visiting a cafe. The following year, Grant discovered that Hollywood studio head, B.P. Schulberg, had liked Singapore Sue enough to offer him a contract. But what about his name - Archibald Leach? Fay Wray suggested the name Cary Lockwood, but the last name was too long. As a studio assistant read the name, Grant, from a list of acceptable names, Grant nodded, and a star was born.

Grant's debuted in his first feature film on April 8, 1932, in This Is the Night. The same year, he also made seven more films, including Blonde Venus, with Marlene Dietrich, and The Devil and the Deep, with Tallulah Bankhead and Gary Cooper. The following year, Mae West remarked, after spotting Grant, "If that tall, dark, and handsome man can talk, I want him for my new co-star."

Grant's sophisticated sense of humor charmed audiences everywhere when he first teamed up with Katharine Hepburn in George Cukor's 1935 film, Sylvia Scarlett. The duo would star together in later hits such as, Bringing Up Baby (1938) and The Philadelphia Story (1941). In 1938, Grant starred with Douglas Fairbanks, Jr. and Victor McLaglen as British soldiers in India in George Stevens's epic, Gunga Din, shot entirely in a California desert and a Hollywood studio. He played a tough-talking newspaper editor, who keeps reporter Rosalind Russell in line, in 1941's His Girl Friday.

In November of 1941, he played the villain in his first Alfred Hitchcock thriller, Suspicion. He would later star in other Hitchcock films, including Notorious, with Ingrid Bergman, and North by Northwest. In 1942, he played Mortimer Brewster, a character who slowly realizes that his eccentric aunts are filling their cellar with corpses, in Frank Capra's Arsenic and Old Lace. Grant appeared in his last film, Walk, Don't Run, in 1966.

During his 34 years of stardom, Grant received two Academy Award nominations for best actor: one in 1941 for Penny Serenade, and another in 1944 for None But the Lonely Heart.

After retiring from movie-making, Grant became an executive for Faberge, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, and Hollywood Park. The years leading up to his death were spent traveling the world. Grant was making plans to appear at a tribute when he died of a stroke in 1986 at the age of 82.

## STAMP COLLECTING IS EXCITING! INTERESTED IN JOINING A STAMP CLUB?

Would you be interested in meeting other stamp collectors? Do you want to share your collection with other philatelists and even sell and buy some stamps? Did you collect when you were young and have now retired and thinking of starting up collecting again? Here are a few of our favorites:

**The Waltham Stamp Club** meets twice a month in the evenings at the Spellman Museum.

**The Greater Boston Philatelic Society** meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm. All meetings are also available virtually on Zoom.  
The Walnut Street Center  
291 MYSTIC AVENUE  
MEDFORD, MA 02155  
at 7pm EST on the 4th Wednesday of the month.  
For a zoom invite please email us at:  
[information@thegbps.com](mailto:information@thegbps.com)

**The Samuel Osgood Club** meets twice a month in the evenings in North Andover. Contact Mike Rivet at 978-474-4674 or [by email](#).

**Cape Cod Area Philatelic Group** meets on the second Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm. Meetings are held at the Yarmouth Fire Station #2 Meeting Room, 340 Main Street (Rte 6A), Yarmouth Port, MA, 02675 for more information, please contact [Lou Giorgetti](#). Visit [www.sefsc.org/cape-cod.html](http://www.sefsc.org/cape-cod.html) for even more information.

**Newburyport Stamp Club** meets at 1:30 pm on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at the Newburyport Community Center in the Council on Aging section, 331 High St., Newburyport, MA 01950.

**Sudbury Stamp Club** meets on the second Monday of each month and is eager to welcome new philatelists. Call Sharon K. Wilkes, Program Coordinator, Sudbury Senior Center at 978-443-3055 to join.

**Winthrop Stamp Club** generally meets twice a month on the second and fourth Thursdays beginning at 1:00 p.m. and ending by 3:30 p.m. at the Georgetown Senior Community Center, 51 North Street, Georgetown, MA. Contact Richard L. Johnson, President 978-664-2996.

## LET'S KEEP IN TOUCH!

*The Spellman Museum is a*

*YOUTH AND SENIOR*

**treasured resource, locally and nationally, and beyond!**

As a 501(c)3 support-driven entity, we appreciate all forms of support.

If you have a collection to be evaluated, feel free to call or [email Joseph Mullin](#), Public Affairs Director, to arrange the visit. He can be reached at 781-768-8367.

If you'd like to support the museum with a donation, please visit [spellmanmuseum.org](#)

If you'd like to visit the Museum, simply stop by Thursdays - Sundays, noon - 5pm. Or, feel free to call to schedule a private tour.

**We joyfully welcome all!**  
**Plus we are really fun!**

**781-768-8367**

**MEMBERSHIPS ARE MORE AND MORE POPULAR!**

The Museum continues to offer a complimentary, one-year membership for children. Youth members receive a monthly packet of topical stamps, worksheets and philatelic information, a discount in the Museum store, a monthly stamp calendar plus free admission for themselves and the family. For more information, contact [Jessica Leuschner](#).

Our seniors are a treasured segment of our membership. Established last year, this \$25 membership offers those individuals all of the benefits and joys of membership. [Contact us for more information!](#)

Have ideas? Want to share?  
[Please send us any and all ideas!](#)

Spellman Museum of Stamps and Postal History | 241 Wellesley St, Weston, MA 02493

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