

Real Pirates

The Untold Story of the *Whydah* from Slave Ship to Pirate Ship

An Exhibition from National Geographic

ADVISORY PANEL

To ensure excellence, accuracy and balance in developing the content for the **Real Pirates: The Untold Story of the *Whydah* from Slave Ship to Pirate Ship** exhibition, the organizers, National Geographic and Arts and Exhibitions International (AEI) LLC, formed an Advisory Panel of academic and other scholarly experts to review and provide feedback on proposed content for the exhibition. Members of the Advisory Panel came together at National Geographic Society headquarters for a two-day symposium to discuss many topics related to the subject matter and provide historical context for those topics. Some of the topics discussed included the rich and multifaceted history of the Caribbean trade routes, multiculturalism of early 18th century piracy, the complicated relationship between the inhumanity of the slave trade and the violence and idealism of early 18th century piracy, and the cruel reality of life as a pirate versus the romanticized version depicted in popular culture.

Following the initial meeting, several members of the Panel have continued to serve in an advisory capacity to review both written and visual components of the exhibition. Additionally, the Advisory Panel worked with the organizers to develop ideas for supplementary educational and public programming. Feedback from the Advisory Panel contributed a great deal to the creation of this exhibit that is rich in content and scholarship, and tells the multi-dimensional story of a tumultuous period of American and world history through the discovery of the *Whydah*.

Members of the Advisory Panel for Real Pirates:

Dr. Thomas C. Battle
Director
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Howard University

Dr. Ira Berlin
Distinguished University Professor
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Dr. Marcus Rediker
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