*Pop-up Moby Dick read-aloud contest. Visit each of the ten sites, take a selfie of you reading the Moby Dick selection from the podium. Post it to Instagram and include the hashtag, #ACKMobyDick. Winners will be selected weekly for a gift certificate to one of the participating restaurants.

List of locations to visit:
Artists Association of Nantucket
19 Washington Street

Greenhound Station
10 Washington Street

Maria Mitchell Association
2 Vestal Street

Museum of African American History
29 York Street

Nantucket Atheneum
1 India Street

Nantucket Lifesaving and Shipwreck Museum
158 Polpis Road

Nantucket Lightship Basket Museum
49 Union Street

Queequeg's Restaurant
6 Oak Street

Sconset Trust
1 New Street, Sconset

Whaling Museum
15 Broad Street

Melville at 200/Essex at 200
Participating Organizations

Artists Association of Nantucket
Department of Culture and Tourism
The Dreamland
Egan Maritime Institute
Greenhound Station/ReMain Nantucket
Maria Mitchell Association
Museum of African American History
Nantucket Atheneum
Nantucket Historical Association
Nantucket Lightship Basket Museum
Or, The Whale Restaurant
Queequeg's Restaurant
Sconset Trust
Theatre Workshop of Nantucket

Nantucket Department of
Culture and Tourism
25 Federal Street Nantucket, MA 02554
508-228-0925
About Herman Melville

Born on August 1, 1819, into a once-prominent New York family, Herman Melville was raised in an atmosphere of financial instability and genteel pretense. It was his adventures as a seaman in 1845 that inspired Melville to write. On one voyage, he was captured and held for several months by the Typees; when he returned unscathed, friends encouraged Melville to write the escapade down. *Typee: A Peep at Polynesian Life* became his first literary success.

After ending his seafaring career, Melville read voraciously. In 1847, he married Elizabeth Shaw and moved first to New York and then the Berkshires. There he lived near the reclusive writer Nathaniel Hawthorne, who was to become a close friend and confidant. In 1851, he completed his masterpiece, *Moby-Dick, or The Whale*. Considered by modern scholars to be one of the great American novels, the book was dismissed by Melville’s contemporaries and he made little money from the effort.

During the 1850s, Melville supported his family by farming and writing stories for magazines. He later traveled to Europe, where he saw his friend Hawthorne for the last time. During that visit in 1856, it was clear to Melville that his novel-writing career was finished. In 1857, after returning to New York still unnoticed by the literary public, he stopped writing fiction.

Herman Melville died of a heart attack on September 28, 1891, at the age of 72. At that time, he was almost completely forgotten by all but a few admirers. During the week of his death, The *New York Times* wrote: “There has died and been buried in this city...a man who is so little known, even by name, to the generation now in the vigor of life that only one newspaper contained an obituary account of him, and this was but of three or four lines.” It wasn’t until the 1920s that the literary public began to recognize Melville as one of America’s greatest writers.

Calendar of Events

**April**

**Friday, April 26**

Opening of the Whaling Museum’s Essex Disaster exhibition

**May**

**Friday, May 24**

Opening of three exhibitions at Hadwen House:
- Melville on Nantucket
- Race and Diversity on PEQUOD
- Moby Dick and Pop Culture

**Friday, May 17**

Opening of Nantucket Lightship Basket Museum (49 Union Street) including display of Moby Dick basket by Michael Kane.

**June**

**Saturday, June 15**


**July & August ongoing**

Self-guided walking tour related to the Essex *(Available at Visitor Services and Whaling Museum)*

Pop-up reading stations around Nantucket - Select Moby Dick readings at partner sites *(See Location List)*

Open Nights at MMA’s Liones Observatory (mariamitchell.org) on celestial navigation from Moby Dick

Moby Dick basket by Michael Kane with scrimshaw by Dorothy Grant O’Hara on display at Nantucket Lightship Basket Museum, 49 Union Street

**July**

**Tuesday, July 9  5:30 pm**

Sea Shanties with Don Sinetti, Whaling Museum rooftop

**August**

**Thursday, Aug. 1**

200th birthday of Herman Melville

Lecture by Joe and Kathy Galllichio on the Moby Dick basket at Nantucket Lightship Basket Museum, 49 Union Street

**Thursday, Aug. 1**

Visit “Or, The Whale,” a restaurant located at 38 Main Street and bearing the subtitle to “Moby Dick,” for a special menu to celebrate Herman Melville’s 200th birthday.

Visit “Queequeg’s,” a restaurant located at 6 Oak Street for a special menu to celebrate Herman Melville’s 200th birthday.

**Thursday, Aug. 8 - Monday, Aug. 12**

“Not Down on Any Map: Herman Melville at Sea” Artists Association of Nantucket, Cecilia Joyce & Seward Johnson Gallery, 19 Washington Street.

Opening Reception, Thursday, Aug. 8, 6 – 8 pm with sea shanties performance by Joe Flood

**Monday, Aug. 12**

200th anniversary of sailing of whaleship Essex from Nantucket

In The Heart of the Sea film at The Dreamland

**Monday, Aug. 12**

Visit “Queequeg’s,” a restaurant located at 6 Oak Street for a special menu to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the sailing of the whaleship Essex.

**Thursday, Aug. 14  8:30 am – 12 pm**

NHA’s Quaker Meeting House – Melville Symposium featuring Nathaniel Philbrick, Jamie Jones and Mary Bercaw Edwards. A special reading connecting passages from Whale Ship log books and Moby-Dick, by Harvey Young and Caleb Cardell.

**Wednesday, Aug 21 – Friday, Aug 23  7 – 8:30 pm**

*Moby Dick Rehearsed*, Whaling Museum in collaboration with Theater Workshop of Nantucket

**November**

**Saturday, Nov. 16 and Sunday, Nov. 17**

Moby Dick Marathon Reading - Atheneum & Whaling Museum