As you know, next year is a watershed moment in the life of the Postal Museum. But just as there is much to do before the William H. Gross Gallery opens, there are a number of programs and events to keep you coming back to the museum again and again before that opening day in September 2013.

This fall will be chock full of philatelic fun at the museum. I look forward to seeing you at the American Stamp Dealers Association (ASDA) Postal Museum Stamp Show. Twenty dealers will be the first to line the museum’s Historic Lobby as part of a stamp show. The dealers will be here from November 9–11, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, and will host a booth devoted to young collectors. We are enjoying this collaboration with the ASDA and look forward to seeing many of you here over the weekend.

On Saturday, if you can take a break from the ASDA show, you’ll have an opportunity to attend the 10th annual Maynard Sundman lecture, to be held in the museum’s atrium. This year’s theme is “The Art of the Stamp.” The Sundman lecture runs from 1 to 2 p.m. The speakers will include at least one woman who needs no introduction, Janet Klug, APS past president and current member of the Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee. Other speakers will include U.S. Postal Service Art Director Antonio Alcalá, stamp artists Kam Mak and Howard Koslow, and stamp art photographer Sally Andersen-Bruce. Take this opportunity not only to learn more about the work that goes into creating stamp images, but also to meet members of the museum’s Council of Philatelists. A reception will follow the talk, and speakers will be available at signing tables. Bring your stamps and covers with you to take advantage of this great opportunity!

The weekend also will include tours of the museum, and if you haven’t yet had a chance to take in our captivating new exhibit, “Fire and Ice: Hindenburg and Titanic,” this will be a great opportunity to do so. This month and next also have pro-

The National Postal Museum’s main entrance hallway will be filled with dealers offering a wide variety of philatelic goods for sale when the ASDA show hits DC in November.

Kam Mak, Lunar New Year stamp artist.

Stamp art photographer Sally Andersen-Bruce (right), poses with Ellen DeGeneres in front of the 2010 Animal Rescue — Adopt a Shelter Pet stamp series.
grams to entice a postal-loving audience. This month the museum hosts a special program for members of the Postcrossing postcard exchange social network (a group that invites people around the world to exchange postcards). In October, our visitors will be invited to make cards for American military personnel service overseas and on October 27 Boy Scouts can work toward their Stamp Collecting Merit Badge by participating in a workshop that includes a tour of the museum as well as hands-on collecting activities.

Finally, from November 12 to 14, the museum and the Institute for Analytical Philately, Inc. are co-sponsoring the first international symposium on analytical methods in philately at the museum. The forum will feature talks by David Beech, Head of the Philatelic Collections, The British Library, London, and Dr. Bruce Kaiser, Chief Scientist, Bruker Elemental, Utah. This symposium has limited available seating and is sold out. If you were not able to book a spot, not to worry, papers presented at the symposium will be published by the Smithsonian Institution Scholarly Press.

As you can see, we're going to keep our fans and visitors busy, especially in November! Make sure to mark your calendar now. You are not going to want to miss this fall's activities at the museum. I'll keep an eye out for you.