

About the Conference

Our intention is to host a yearly event with focus on forging, creativity, historic preservation, and appreciation. From the 1850's to the early 1990's this shop operated behind closed doors to the public and lived a hard productive life worthy of high honor and praise servicing the Johnstown Mills and industry as a whole. It's our goal to give this space a second life where these tools and equipment can again function and thrive, but in a more creative and educational context. Integral to our mission is allowing this space to be used by qualified artists and crafts people interested in making large scale work and opening the space to the public to witness and appreciate.

We hope you will join us this year on September 17th when we will be hosting Zack Noble as our featured demonstrator.

Zack will create a large-scale forging inspired by his "Isolating Mass" series. This body of work *"encourages the viewer to look within each finished piece and see the manipulation. To look beyond the final work and more deeply into how it was formed."* With no addition or removal of material in these pieces, Zack hopes his work conveys the feeling of the energy it took to create it.

"I have been using industrial forging techniques in my current work to realize simple but bold forms."

Zack Noble

CMA's mission is to renovate and refurbish the historic power hammers and tooling to make them available to be seen by the greater forging community and used by qualified professional blacksmiths. This event represents our first major step toward that goal by hosting an event open to the public and inviting a different artist every year to demonstrate.

Our goal for this event and this space are to keep the focus on forging, creativity, education, and historical preservation with the main demonstration taking place in the historic blacksmith shop on the industrial hammers. All of CMA facilities will be open to tour and we will have an exhibition on display as well as a smaller demonstration happening in our forging classroom.



Zack Noble