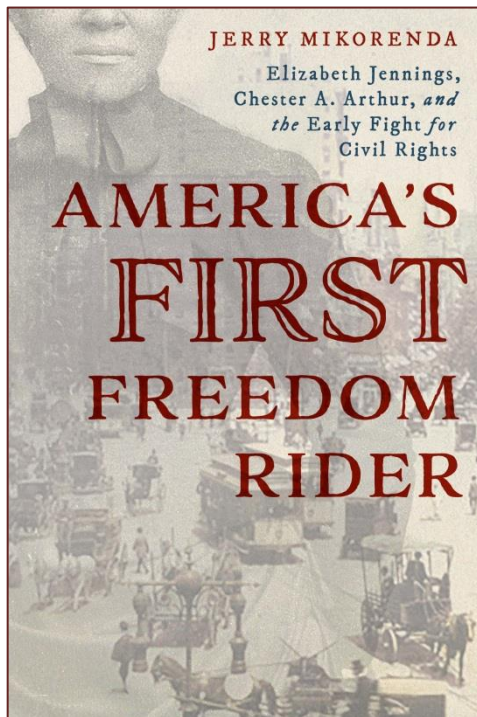


# America's First Freedom Rider

Please join us as we welcome author Jerry Mikorenda to discuss the world of Elizabeth Jennings in his book *America's First Freedom Rider*. His work has appeared in The New York Times, The Boston Herald, and The Gotham Center History Blog. His short stories have appeared in the San Francisco Chronicle, BULL, Cowboy Jamboree, and Gravel Magazine as well as other journals. His historical novel, *The Whaler's Daughter*, was published by Regal House in 2021.



For many, the civil rights movement began with Rosa Parks' brave stand against segregation in 1954. However, few people realize that the right for African Americans to even ride in streetcars was earned a hundred years before that in a landmark civil rights case here in New York.

Author and Historian, Jerry Mikorenda breathes life into this struggle with *America's First Freedom Rider: Elizabeth Jennings, Chester A. Arthur, and the Early Fight for Civil Rights*.

Using rare period photos and lithographs, the author recreates "*The World of Elizabeth Jennings*" by exploring the sights and people of old New York as this momentous battle with the Third Avenue Railroad unfolded. The freedoms Elizabeth Jennings fought for - and won - are the underpinning of the civil and gender rights movements that are still a battlefield today. There are rare moments when we can look in the mirror of history and see our own time. *America's First Freedom Rider* shows those times are not unlike our own.

**Sunday, May 1, 2022**

**Lecture: 1:00 - 2:00 pm, *book signing to follow.***

**Reservations required, please call LIMM to reserve your Seat!**

**Masks are required.**



Long Island Maritime Museum  
88 West Avenue, W. Sayville, 631-854-4974

