



LEADERSHIP

For The New Century

Dear Friend of AASLH:

When the American Association for State and Local History asked me to serve as Honorary Chair of its "Leadership for the New Century Endowment Campaign" I readily accepted because I so deeply believe that this is a challenge we must meet.

Here in America, we enjoy the freedom to keep, study, and interpret for ourselves our nation's past. This is a precious freedom, one vital to a free and open society and to the success of the American experiment in self-government. You who work for history organizations or on your own in history's cause are, I believe, guarantors of this freedom.

AASLH, as I've come to learn and you already know, has the commitment, experience, record of innovation, and leadership needed to assist history organizations and public historians in fulfilling their civic missions in our communities. By focusing its energy and resources on the areas of leadership development, research, advocacy, building history's public value, and institutional self-assessment, AASLH will further strengthen the organizations and individuals it serves as they go about their vital task.

This campaign will empower AASLH to do what it does best: provide timely and visionary leadership for individuals and institutions in the field of public history. Freedom to examine and learn from past experience, and the capabilities and empowerment this brings for all of us, are emboldened and sustained by investing in AASLH.

By choosing to help build AASLH's endowment, you will help AASLH more effectively address the needs you identify and lend your and many others support in authenticating, preserving, and presenting America's past for all Americans.

When called upon, please step forward and do your part to support the very important work being done by AASLH.

Thank you.

Cokie B. Roberts
Honorary Chair
Leadership for the New Century Endowment Campaign