RECOGNIZING THE BEST IN STATE AND LOCAL HISTORY

A A S L H Awards Banquet

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DETROIT, MICHIGAN | SEPTEMBER 16, 2016





COBO CENTER, DETROIT

6:30 PM

Dinner is Served

7:00 PM

Welcome and Introductions

John Dichtl, President and CEO, AASLH

Special Performance

Motown Star Martha Reeves

National History Day Presentation

Elisa Trujillo, Bishop Seabury Academy, Lawrence, KS

Senior Individual Performance Exploring and Exchanging Rhythms: Master Juba and the Early History of Tap Dance

8:15 PM

Presentation of AASLH Awards

Trina Nelson Thomas, Chair, AASLH Awards Committee Julie Rose, Director, West Baton Rouge Museum, Port Allen, LA John Dichtl, President and CEO, AASLH



n 1945, the still very young AASLH began a national awards program. That first year, there was one award for a "Notable Article in the Field of Local History" and one for a "Notable Accomplishment in the Collection or Publication of Local Records of World War II." Seven decades later, the program has grown to cover a much wider range of projects. This year, AASLH is proud to confer seventy-two national awards honoring people, projects, exhibits, books, and organizations.

Welcome to the 2016 Leadership in History Awards Banquet! We are here to honor these many recipients and their exciting work to make history meaningful. Tonight's event is co-sponsored by our friends at The History Channel, colleagues who have long been generous in supporting the AASLH and other history nonprofits. We also have with us this evening representatives from National History Day and one of their 2016 student performance winners.

The Leadership in History Awards represents a year-long, national effort of multiple organizations which requires many hours contributed by a large number of faithful volunteers. Bethany Hawkins is the AASLH's very able staff liaison to the awards program. Trina Nelson Thomas, Director, Stark Art and History Venues, Stark Foundation, is continuing a remarkable term as chair of our national committee, which is comprised of volunteer representatives from fourteen regions around the country. Each state has its own state leadership chair who volunteers to make sure the best projects in his or her state are brought to our attention. It is a massive effort, which culminates in three days of reviewing award submissions in Nashville. I have attended this meeting of the national committee and will tell you this group works incredibly hard and digs deep in discussing every submitted project. Each year I feel recharged by their dedication and impressed by their perspectives on our field. Thank you, Bethany, Trina, and the rest of the national committee! And thank you state representatives for forwarding so many worthy award submissions this year.

Congratulations to all of tonight's award recipients!

Best regards,

Jenn Dichtl President & CEO, AASLH

FROM THE Chair

We all hope for breakthrough rebirth moments.

Dane Cook

Pelcome to the 2016 AASLH Leadership in History Awards Banquet.

This year's annual meeting theme is *The Spirit of Rebirth*. David Janssen, Program Chair, and Mark Heppner, Host Committee Chair, wrote that Detroit, "having a proud, remarkable history...is a timely setting to consider the relevance of our past in shaping our future." David and Mark encourage reflection on our profession to address shifting demographics, old modes of interpretation, and demand for increased relevance and accountability. Given Detroit's rich history it is an ideal locale for us to review, rethink, recommit, and re-engage.

This evening we honor a StEPs graduate and seventy-two award winners, including three HIP winners, a Corey Award winner, and a Kammen Award winner. I believe you will find that these award winners reach, rebuild, reflect, respond, and reinvigorate. They commit as individuals and as organizations to meet their communities in meaningful and creative ways. They stretch themselves to present history that engages the usual pack of "history goers" as well as folks who do not yet know history is for them. They make it their business to make history everyone's business. They do this when no one is looking and when everyone is looking. They do this using high-tech and low-tech tools, making collections and the stories of those collections accessible, and reminding people that what went on in their school, town, or state is part of the bigger story of the United States. In many ways history is the story of rebirth—an exploration of compelling stories about enduring issues that resonate over time. I encourage you to learn more about this year's award winners and use them as catalysts for renewal, relevance, and if appropriate, *Rebirth*, in your own work.

Before the evening is done please take time to thank the Awards Program state chairs, national committee regional representatives, and AASLH staff, especially Bethany Hawkins and Aja Bain, who devote many hours to making the Leadership in History Awards program a success. A big *Thank You* also goes to our evening sponsor, HISTORY, for making this event possible.

TRINA Nelfonthomas

Trina Nelson Thomas Chair, AASLH Awards Committee Director of Stark Art and History Venues Nelda C. and H.J. Lutcher Stark Foundation





The American Association for State and Local History offers its Leadership in History Awards to establish and encourage standards of excellence in the collection, preservation, and interpretation of state and local history throughout the United States. By publicly recognizing excellent achievements, the association strives to inspire others to give care, thought, and effort to their own projects.

THERE ARE FIVE TYPES OF AWARDS

The Award of Merit

Presented for excellence in history programs, projects, and people when compared with similar activities nationwide.

The HIP Award

The History in Progress (HIP) award is given to a project that is highly inspirational; exhibits exceptional scholarship; or is exceedingly entrepreneurial in terms of funding, partnerships, and/or collaborations, creative problem solving, or unusual project design and inclusiveness. This award is given at the discretion of the awards committee to five percent or less of the total number of winners of the Award of Merit.

The Albert B. Corey Award

Named in honor of a founder and former president of AASLH, it recognizes primarily volunteer-operated history organizations that best display the qualities of vigor, scholarship, and imagination in their work.

The Award of Distinction

This award is bestowed infrequently and only in recognition of long and very distinguished service. Recipients are noted for their contributions to the field of state and local history and are recognized nationally as leaders in the profession. The individual must have demonstrated the highest standards of performance and professional ethics.

The Michael Kammen Award

Named in honor of the late Michael Kammen, Pulitzer Prize-winning author and Cornell University's Newton C. Farr Professor of American History and Culture Emeritus. This award is presented to a history institution with an annual budget under \$250,000 that has shown outstanding effort.





2 0 1 6 The Michael Kammen Award



Gunn Historical Museum WASHINGTON, CT

he Gunn Historical Museum is a nonprofit organization that provides free public library and museum services to Washington, a small town with a population of around 3,500, and the surrounding communities. The Gunn was incorporated in 1908 and the museum, a branch of the Gunn Library, focuses on collecting, preserving, and sharing the history of Washington. Each year, the museum staff of one-and-a-half employees and many volunteers serves around 5,000 visitors and researchers. The Gunn has won several Leadership in History Awards over the years and embodies an ongoing commitment to excellence and best practices.

2 0 1 6 The Albert B. Corey Award



Glencoe Historical Society GLENCOE, IL

lencoe (population 8,723) is home to the world's third largest collection of structures designed by Frank Lloyd Wright, including seven houses, a concrete bridge, and three sculptural markers with two larger, individually built homes nearby. Together these structures illustrate important features of Wright's prairie-style architecture and represent an oft-forgotten and frequently misinterpreted body of Wright's work. This all-volunteer organization created a yearlong program with exhibit and public art components to educate residents about the centennial of these unique community treasures. The project contributed new scholarship to the study of Wright's work and allowed the society to share that information through innovative, high quality, multigenerational programs.

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2016 HIP Awards



Minnesota Historical Society ST. PAUL, MN for the program Peb Yog Hmoob—We Are Hmong Minnesota



Nashville Public Library NASHVILLE, TN for the program Civil Rights and a Civil Society



Windsor Historical Society WINDSOR, CT for the Strong-Howard House Reinterpretation Project

California

California African American Museum, Stephanie DeLancey, and dewdropstudios for the exhibit *Coloring Independently: 1940s African American Film Stills from the Collection of the California African American Museum.* This exhibition highlighted a selection of more than eighty film stills and related photographs from the museum's unique collection of African American films from the 1940s, a time of limited character roles and access to the mainstream movie industry and a genre largely unknown by today's film lovers. By spotlighting the wealth of black films in their collection, the museum reached new audiences with this forgotten but essential American story.

Oakland Museum of California for the exhibit *Pacific Worlds*. This project explored historical and contemporary connections between the Pacific Islands and California, inviting diverse Californian communities to get to know their Pacific Island neighbors. The exhibit modeled a new way forward for museums to reinterpret legacy collections in collaboration with diasporic communities.

The University of California, Santa Barbara, Public History Program, Division of Student Affairs, Division of Humanities and Fine Arts, and UCSB Library, Special Research Collections—May 23, 2014 Isla Vista Memorial Archive for the exhibit *We Remember Them: Acts of Love and Compassion in Isla Vista* and the May 23, 2014 Isla Vista Memorial Archive. This project documented the community's response to a campus tragedy and the memorials created by mourners leaving art, cards, and letters that were created in its wake. Inspiring reflection and catharsis, this exhibit played a crucial role in the community's memorialization and healing process.

Connecticut

Connecticut's Old State House for the project *Connecticut's Kid Governor*. Classes nominating a candidate for "5th Grade Governor" worked together to research community issues, develop three-point plans to address them, hold primaries to nominate their candidate, and film their nominee's campaign video. This program was an innovative way to teach students about civics, government, and the history/process of voting by immersing them in the democratic process and instilling the importance of active citizenship.

Fairfield Museum and History Center for the exhibit *The Pequot War and the Founding of Fairfield, 1637-1639.* As the capstone exhibition during its year commemorating the 375th anniversary of the founding of the town, the project successfully taught the history of the Pequot War, dispelled myths surrounding Connecticut's Native American tribes and the town's origin, and engaged a significant new audience.

Gunn Historical Museum for the exhibit *Over There: Washington in the Great War.* This community-curated exhibit incorporated eighteen public programs including a musical performance; summer film series; evening World War I cemetery tour; and lectures about aviation, chemical warfare, and the legacy of the Great War. It greatly enhanced understanding of state history by sharing the story of a small town's contribution to the war.

Stephanie Lantiere for her leadership and dedication to improving the professional practices of the Avery Memorial Association. President of the Association since 2006, Lantiere has led the way in pursuing a commitment to best practices and professionalism despite limited budget and staff resources. Under her direction, the Association completed several assessments and major projects to ensure the sustainability and future of the organization and its collections.

Windsor Historical Society for the *Strong-Howard House Reinterpretation Project*. A unique and hands-on experience, this house museum was refurnished not with antiques but reproduction artifacts that can be handled and used. The reinterpretation was paired with a three-phase structural renovation of the home completed in 2015. Visitors are welcomed as guests into a home alive with specific historical people, their stories, and their things.

Delaware

Aleasa Jay Hogate for her dedicated and committed service to the collection, preservation, and interpretation of the 17thcentury New Sweden Colony in the Delaware Valley. For more than thirty years, Mrs. Hogate has spearheaded, encouraged, or assisted in nearly every monument or historic marker dedication to Swedish colonial history in the Delaware River Valley. She also shares the Colony's story widely through tours and reenactments and encourages diverse organizations to commemorate and tell the New Sweden story, including the contributions of its African American inhabitants.

District of Columbia

Ford's Theatre Society for the *Remembering Lincoln Digital Collection.* This project brings together in a digital format letters, diaries, newspapers, mourning ribbons, lithographs, and photographs contributed by libraries, archives, and museums from across the United States. It encourages users to weigh evidence from primary materials to draw conclusions about how the assassination affected individuals and institutions in their own communities, as well as to compare reactions across communities around the country.

President Lincoln's Cottage for the project *2015 Students Opposing Slavery International Summit. Students Opposing Slavery (SOS)* is a grassroots, student-based project that works to end modern slavery. *SOS* started in 2012, when President Lincoln's Cottage began working with a group of four local high school students who first organized to raise awareness in their schools by taking action against human trafficking and modern slavery. The cornerstone of SOS has become the annual *Students Opposing Slavery International Summit*, a week-long summer program that engages high school students from around the world on the issue of modern slavery.

Florida

HistoryMiami Museum for the exhibit *Operation Pedro Pan: The Cuban Children's Exodus.* During Operation Pedro Pan (1960-1962), more than 14,000 unaccompanied minors emigrated from Communist Cuba to the United States. This exhibit commemorates the event that marked a significant change in U.S. immigration policy with regards to Cuba, a change that forever altered the cultural landscape of South Florida. It presents a dramatic political story on a relatable human level through the eyes and words of the children who experienced it.

Illinois

Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site for the project *Wetlands & Waterways: The Key to Cahokia.* With a 700-year-old canoe as the centerpiece, Cahokia staff developed an exhibit focusing on the wetlands environment and navigable waterways that enabled Mississippian settlement and success in the area. This exhibit and book present a comprehensive look at Native American water usage in the context of a major Midwestern site.

Elgin History Museum, Grindstone Productions, and Ernie Broadnax for the project *Two Boxcars, Three Blocks, One City: A Story of Elgin's African American Heritage.* This documentary film and traveling exhibit traces the city's African American community from its beginnings as a haven for freed slaves to the Civil Rights era and beyond. Incorporating discussions of contemporary race relations, the exhibit has become a community touchstone for today's issues as well as historical interpretation.

Patricia L. Miller for her decades of work as a champion for small museums and state history. As founding executive director of the Illinois Heritage Association and professor in the Historical Administration Program at Eastern Illinois University, Miller has received numerous state and regional awards including the Association of Midwest Museums Distinguished Service Award. She serves as a tireless advocate for the continuing relevance of local history and the education of new generations of public historians.

Jane Nicoll for a lifetime of dedication to preserving and interpreting the history of Park Forest. Nicoll cofounded the Park Forest Historical Society in 1985 and has served as archivist and local history librarian ever since, leading the way in documenting, preserving, celebrating, and sharing the history of this unique town with the public.

Indiana

Indiana Historical Society for the project *Indiana History for the Secondary Classroom.* This three-part project comprised of a textbook, teacher workshops, and website integrates state history into 8th and 11th grade U.S. history. These tools give teachers the content knowledge necessary to help students see American history all around them, including in their own backyard, while expanding Indiana history curriculum beyond elementary classrooms. **Wilma L. Moore** for decades of work in preserving and interpreting Indiana's African American heritage. Moore has served as archivist with the Indiana Historical Society since 1986 and dedicated her career to gathering and sharing the state's black history. As the primary contact for community donors, Moore is an advocate for emphasizing the importance of local collections and saving community history for future generations.

Iowa

State Historical Museum of Iowa for the exhibit *First in the Nation: Shaping Presidential Politics Since 1972.* This project explained the history of the Iowa caucuses and how Iowa gained its first-inthe-nation status through artifacts and photos that explores the continuity and change in the interactions between Iowans and candidates. The exhibit educated museum guests on the history of the Iowa caucuses while inspiring Iowans to make their own history by participating in the caucus process themselves.

Kansas

Sandy Gantz, Constitution Hall, and Lecompton Historical Society for the project *4th Graders' QR Codes for Historic Sites in Lecompton, Kansas.* This project brought together students, teachers, volunteers, and two museums to tell the story of their town through videos that bring history to life in the places where it happened. This collaboration invigorated interest in local history beyond the classroom and created a sense of connection and pride in their town among Lecompton's students.

Louisiana

The Historic New Orleans Collection for the project *Purchased Lives: New Orleans and the Domestic Slave Trade, 1808-1865.* This multifaceted project included an exhibition, lectures, book clubs, lesson plans, workshops, a symposium, and online database considering the city's role as antebellum America's largest slave market, reaching new audiences with its comprehensive interpretation.

West Baton Rouge Museum for the project *Cohn High School: How We Love Thee.* This landmark exhibition grew from an initial collection of artifacts, archives, and stories comprising the first comprehensive history of the only West Baton Rouge Parish high school for African Americans, which was demolished in 2014. Cohn High School had a tremendous impact on the community despite its short history, and this project created valuable partnerships and outreach opportunities in commemorating and interpreting its story.



Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum for the project Artifacts of Outlander: Connecting the Public to History and Archaeology Using Popular Culture. This traveling exhibit uses the popular novel and television series to illustrate how the setting of

The Spirit of Rebirth

18th-century Scotland relates to colonial Maryland's past and to some of the museum's most exciting collections. Engaging the public at libraries, a festival, a conference, and historic site helped this project reach more than 100,000 people.

Massachusetts

Historic New England, Justin H. Goodstein, and the Haymarket Pushcart Association for *The Haymarket Project*. This project features a film and exhibition *Haymarket: the Soul of the City*, a publication, and tours of the Haymarket space. The collaboration introduced the community to the history of the market and its immigrant past creating a valuable connection to Boston's contemporary immigrant stories.

Massachusetts Historical Society for the exhibit *The Private Jefferson: From the Collections of the Massachusetts Historical Society.* This project showcases the historical society's extensive collection of Jefferson's personal writings in an exhibition that includes educational outreach, a publication, and digital components that offer further interpretation and audience engagement with documents and places. Addressing the preservation needs of fragile documents with digital technology, the Massachusetts Historical Society has created a model for other organizations and future exhibits.

Peabody Essex Museum for the project *Re-envisioning the Ropes Mansion.* The Peabody Essex Museum turned a disaster into an opportunity when a fire prompted a complete reorganization and reimagination of this historic house. By using creative exhibit techniques and personal family history, the museum presents an updated take on the traditional house museum.

Minnesota

Archives and Special Collections, University of Minnesota Libraries for the exhibit *People on the Move: 50 Years of Documenting and Researching Migration Experiences at the Immigration History Research Center and Archives.* This exhibit presented themes of global migration as well as the history and projects of the Research Center and Archives through oral histories, archival items, and artifacts. Celebrating more than fifty years of sharing untold immigrant stories, *People on the Move* connected visitors with archives that document their own communities and change.

Brenda J. Child for the publication *My Grandfather's Knocking Sticks: Ojibwe Family Life and Labor on the Reservation.* Combining academic and personal history, Child blends a historical study of Indigenous labor, unemployment, and other hardships of reservation life with an engaging family memoir about the everyday working lives of her grandparents in the early 20th century.

Maritime Heritage Minnesota for the *Minnesota Dugout Canoe Project.* This research project investigated the ages and origins of ten ancient dugout canoes taken from archaeological contexts in nine counties. It significantly impacted knowledge of local prehistory and helped the museums that house canoes update and expand their interpretation. **Minnesota Historical Society** for the project *Peb Yog Hmoob—We Are Hmong Minnesota.* This multifaceted initiative developed with members of Minnesota's Hmong community presented the history and culture of this important but underserved group. Reaching new audiences with a timely local topic, *We Are Hmong* created key partnerships and understanding within the diverse immigrant groups in the Twin Cities and provided a model for the field for creating meaningful community connections with underserved populations.

James A. Stolpestad and Ramsey County Historical Society for the publication *Custom House: Restoring a St. Paul Landmark in Lowertown.* This book documents the history and preservation of a significant structure in an area that is undergoing rapid change and development. It also presents a complex and nuanced picture of St. Paul in the 1930s that has been absent from existing scholarship.

Anton Treuer for the publication *Warrior Nation: A History of the Red Lake Ojibwe.* In this unprecedented history of the Red Lake Nation, Treuer combines historical research with contemporary oral histories and interviews to provide a comprehensive study of the tribe's past, present, and future in Minnesota.

Missouri

Missouri History Museum for the exhibit *A Walk in 1875 St. Louis.* Utilizing a unique historic large-scale perspective map and contemporary art, the museum created an immersive and engaging exhibit experience that transported visitors to the streets of their city to learn how citizens lived nearly 150 years ago. By turning a two-dimensional map into a dynamic three-dimensional exhibit, the Missouri History Museum has created a model for the field in transforming documents into experiences.

Missouri History Museum for the project *History Clubhouse.* Designed by and for local families, this project used extensive audience dialogue and input to create an educational and entertaining space for young learners to experience and understand the history of their state. This project was unique in that it turned potential audiences into collaborators and designers who were able to help craft an experience that both children and adults could enjoy and learn from.

The National Museum of Toys and Miniatures and West Office Exhibition Design for the exhibit *Toys from the Attic: Stories* of American Childhood. Part of a one-and-a-half year renovation to the entire museum, this exhibit explores the social and cultural importance of toys in the development of American children through preowned and loved toys. Each ding, dent, and scrape gives a voice to children whose experiences are rarely chronicled in museums.

Springfield-Greene County Library District, Missouri History Museum, Museum of Osteopathic Medicine, the National World War I Museum and Memorial, and the State Historical Society of Missouri for the project *Over There: Missouri & the Great War.* A statewide collaborative digitization initiative to document Missouri's World War I history, this project improved or created access to nearly 22,000 pages of primary source materials.

More than thirty organizations came together to combine their resources and expertise to share this story with students, teachers, and audiences across the state.

St. Louis County Parks—Jefferson Barracks Historic Site for the exhibit *The Courageous and Faithful: The Cavalry at Jefferson Barracks.* This project presented a holistic look at the story of the horse cavalry in St. Louis from the establishment of the first permanent unit (1833) through the end of the Indian Wars period (ca.1890). By forging community partnerships, this small museum created a holistic exhibit that reached broad audiences throughout the region.

Montana

Montana Historical Society for the exhibit *Forgotten Pioneers: The Chinese in Montana.* Using artifacts, historical archaeology, and documentary sources, this project presented an unprecedented look at an essential frontier group that comprised ten percent of the population in 1870, yet is all too often forgotten today. By sharing the story of this forgotten community with visitors, the Montana Historical Society made an important contribution to renewing interest and scholarship about these pioneering immigrants.

New Jersey

Morven Museum & Garden for the project *Charles and Anne Morrow Lindbergh: Couple of an Age.* In the first large-scale exhibition to interpret the lives of both Lindberghs in their entirety, the museum contextualized the couple's strong New Jersey connections in their wider historical significance without ignoring the controversial aspects of their story.

New Mexico

New Mexico History Museum, Judy Reinhartz, Ph.D., and Dennis Reinhartz, Ph.D. for the project *Mapas Historicas de Nuevo Mexico = Historic New Mexico Maps.* This project engaged the public with the museum's map collections through cataloging discovery tools, teacher workshops, a symposium, a free thirtypage curriculum guide, and outreach through presentations, tours, and publications.

Joy Poole for the publication *Over the Santa Fe Trail to Mexico: The Travel Diaries and Autobiography of Dr. Rowland Willard.* This edition of a young physician's travel diaries and subsequent autobiography, annotated by New Mexico Deputy State Librarian Poole, is a rich historical source on the Santa Fe Trail and Camino Real, as well as 1820s medicine. The book contributes new scholarship to the history of Anglo American medical practice in northern Mexico during this significant early time period.

New York

Brooklyn Historical Society for the project *Crossing Borders, Bridging Generations.* This convened experts and scholars on racial and ethnic identity, captured the voices of over 100 Brooklynites who self-identify as mixed-heritage, and built upon the historical society's oral history collection to explore race, ethnicity, identity, and cultural hybridity. It culminated in a robust website that provides access to oral history interviews accompanied by original essays on the history of race and ethnicity in the United States, an interdisciplinary curriculum for grades 6-12, and links to additional community and academic resources.

The Cayuga Heights History Project for the *Cayuga Heights History Project* website. Created for the town's centennial, the site focuses on village history through people and places and provides resources to guide residents with their own house history research, thereby engaging community members in a meaningful and positive experience that connects them with their town.

Bruce W. Dearstyne for the publication *The Spirit of New York: Defining Events in the Empire State's History.* Dearstyne's work presents New York's history in the form of narratives of sixteen key events, from the promulgation of the first state constitution on April 22, 1777, through the resilience of the Fire Department of the City of New York on and after 9/11. His work powerfully connects local, state, and national history in a way that is engaging and moving to all readers.

North Carolina

Greensboro Historical Museum for the exhibit *Warnersville: Our Home, Our Neighborhood, Our Stories.* Focusing on the first planned African American community in town, this exhibit built a relationship of mutual trust and respect within Warnersville, supported the growth of an underrepresented collection/research area, and developed a more inclusive model for exhibit planning.

North Carolina Museum of History for the exhibit *Starring North Carolina!* The tagline, "100 Years, 3,000 Films," summed up the exhibit's goals—to have visitors grasp the sheer amount of filmmaking undertaken in North Carolina and to spotlight the role of the film industry in the state's history. The result was an exhibit that moved the museum into a new direction and connected it to new audiences by using a popular subject to dig deeply into the history of both the state and a major industry.

North Carolina Office of Archives and History, Mark Anderson Moore, Jessica A. Bandel, and Michael Hill for the publication *The Old North State at War: The North Carolina Civil War Atlas.* This comprehensive work highlights every significant military engagement in North Carolina and analyzes the war's social, economic, and political consequences through tables, charts, photographs, and documentary sources. Nine years of work culminated in this new foundational text for state and Civil War history that will guide researchers for years to come.

Ohio

Brian Albrecht and James Banks for the publication *Cleveland in World War II.* This collaborative work between a journalist and historian uses archival sources as well as contemporary interviews to document how the war affected Clevelanders both at home and on the front lines, bringing these stories to life for a new generation of citizens and veterans' descendants.

Dayton History for the Carillon Brewing Company. This 10,000-square-foot living history exhibit and restaurant replicates every detail of the brewing techniques of the 1850s as a means to celebrate Dayton's brewing heritage and educate visitors about the history and science behind beer manufacturing and consumption in the city. As the nation's first licensed production brewery in a museum, Carillon offers a taste of history through a truly unique experience.

Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens for the program *Meet the Staff— Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens/Akron Public Schools Place-Based Education Curricula.* This project used the story of Stan Hywet's mostly foreign-born historic staff to help fifth grade students understand the lives and choices of immigrants in the early twentieth century by walking in their footsteps. By focusing on an identified group of underserved students from specific classes and schools, the museum demonstrated its stewardship to an environment of learning that reaches beyond the classroom, draws connections with lessons and resources in the outside world, and links students with deep learning resources within their community.

Pennsylvania

Cliveden for the program *Liberty to Go to See.* Teenagers from Philadelphia Young Playwrights worked with staff for ten months to prepare a script based on the house's family papers related to slavery and human rights. Fourteen performances were produced for Historic Germantown's 2015 Juneteenth programming, connecting untold history to young audiences and the local community.

Pennsylvania Lumber Museum and the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission for the exhibit *Challenges and Choices in Pennsylvania's Forests.* This exhibit explores six time periods, from 800 BCE through the present, with the goal of illustrating the intended and unintended consequences of human interaction with the forest. As a result, the museum reaches residents and tourists alike with the importance of environmental sustainability.

Senator John Heinz History Center for the exhibit *We Can Do It! WWII.* Putting a personal spin on a global event, this exhibit explored the impact of World War II as it evolved from the home front to the battlefield through the eyes of western Pennsylvania residents. The Heinz History Center expanded its reach by creating an abridged version of the exhibit to share with smaller historical societies in the region.



Historic Travellers Rest Plantation & Museum for the exhibit *A Past Uncovered: The Story of the Enslaved People of Travellers Rest.* This exhibit updated the traditional great house narrative to include interpretation of the enslaved people who built and maintained the house and grounds. Through artifacts and unusually rich documentary sources, the museum presented the enslaved at Traveller's Rest as integral historical actors and as individuals who have their own important stories to tell.

Nashville Public Library for the program *Civil Rights and a Civil Society.* In the wake of increased media attention on interactions between white law enforcement and African American citizens, the library partnered with the Metro Nashville Police Department to develop a diversity education curriculum rooted in the Nashville Civil Rights Movement. This program encourages new recruits, seasoned officers, and organization leaders to examine the ways that their city's past influences the current social climate.

Stones River National Battlefield for the program *Hallowed Grounds: Sites of African American Memories.* This program featured choral music, dramatic presentations, oral history, an art exhibit, and demonstrations by 13th U.S. Colored Infantry reenactors to commemorate African American history at the battlefield while expanding and diversifying the site's audience and interpretation.



Bullock Texas State History Museum for the exhibit *Life and Death on the Border 1910-1920*. Bringing together photographs, archival documents, oral histories, eyewitness accounts, and rare artifacts, this exhibit examined a pivotal decade in the historical narrative of law enforcement and racial strife in Texas and presented an honest and sensitive look into the realities of frontier violence.

Bullock Texas State History Museum for the *Texas Story Project*. This digital project invited Texans across the state to submit their own stories in text, video, and audio to the museum to create a more comprehensive archive of state history. Stories are geotagged on a state map as well as linked to associated artifacts from the museum's collections to help visitors contextualize them.

Nelda C. and H.J. Lutcher Stark Foundation for the exhibit *A Death in the Family.* This exhibit explored mourning and death as an intrinsic part of life in the setting of a historic family home. New interpretation helped to change perceptions of the house from a static decorative arts repository to a site where local history and family life played out, even in its most tragic aspects.

Texas Archive of the Moving Image for the project *A Journey to the Moon through Texas.* This web exhibit showcases films of NASA's Apollo program from the Manned Spacecraft Center in Houston. The project displays thirty-nine film artifacts—encompassing industrial, government, and promotional films as well as home movies and news footage—collectively documenting NASA's progress towards achieving the historic lunar landing of 1969.

Utah

LDS Church Historic Sites Division for the Priesthood Restoration Historic Site. This site, located in Oakland, PA, consists of fifty-three acres of historic farm property with a visitor center, a restored 18th-century dirt road, a reconstructed 1809 mansion, a reconstructed 1815 farmhouse, revitalized woodlands with walking paths and interpretive markers, and preserved wetlands. It interprets the early history of the church and Smith family for both LDS tourists and those interested in northeast Pennsylvania's pioneer history.

Virginia

Birthplace of Country Music Museum for the Birthplace of Country Music Museum permanent exhibits. This new museum tells the story of the 1927 Bristol Sessions recordings, explores how evolving sound technology shaped their success, and highlights how this rich musical heritage lives on in today's music. Through exhibits and a working radio station, this museum reaches music lovers around the world with the story of country music's "Big Bang."

Washington

Museum of History & Industry, Jazmyn Scott, and Aaron Walker-Loud for the exhibit *The Legacy of Seattle Hip-Hop.* An eight month, inclusive, community-driven exhibit with accompanying programs, this project discussed both the art of hip-hop and on the social equity issues often explored by its artists. Focusing on the city as a hub for art and culture, it also helped create entry points to hip-hop culture for people of all ages or demographics, serving nearly 31,000 visitors.

Washington State Historical Society for the publication *COLUMBIA: The Magazine of Northwest History.* For thirty years, *COLUMBIA* has reached popular audiences with recent historical scholarship about the Northwest and collections from the Washington State Historical Society while advocating for the value and necessity of history in today's world.

Wisconsin

Public and Policy History Major, University of Wisconsin—La Crosse; Downtown Main Street, Inc.; Special Collections, Murphy Library, University of Wisconsin—La Crosse; La Crosse Public Library Archives; and the Heritage Preservation Commission, the City of La Crosse for the project *Hear, Here: Voices of Downtown La Crosse. Hear, Here* is a location-based mobile phone documentary project about downtown La Crosse where visitors and citizens, alerted by street-level signs, can access voices that are often overlooked when history is written. Going beyond traditional historical markers and sites, *Hear, Here* invites diverse local voices to tell the stories that matter to them in the places they live.

Wyoming

Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation for the program *Saving WWII History: Preserving an Original Structure from an American Concentration Camp.* This project rescued a structure used to incarcerate Japanese-Americans during World War II and made it the centerpiece of the interpretive site, while also utilizing its potential for oral history and memory programs. The grassroots fundraising campaign also enabled locals and donors to take part in restoring and commemorating this neglected history.

2016 StEPs Graduate

Rowan Museum SALISBURY, NC

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CELLS

Located in a courthouse built in 1854, the Rowan Museum works to collect, preserve, research, exhibit, and educate the public about the history of Rowan County and the Piedmont region of North Carolina. The museum also administers two other historic structures, the Old Stone House (1766) and Utzman-Chambers House (1819), which help tell the story of the settling of the Piedmont. Through annual events like Germanfest and summer camps and rotating exhibits that address difficult history, the Rowan Museum serves the community as a site of education, memory, and reflection.

Congratulations to all our Winners!

Awards Program Volunteers 2016

A special thank you to the AASLH 2015-16 regional and state awards team leaders (as of March 1) who helped make the AASLH Leadership in History Awards Possible.

NATIONAL AWARDS CHAIR: Trina Nelson Thomas

Stark Cultural Venues, Orange, TX

Region 1

REGIONAL CHAIR: Jennifer Pustz, Historic New England, Boston, MA

MAINE: Vacant

MASSACHUSETTS: Jane Becker, University of Massachusetts Boston, Boston

NEW HAMPSHIRE: Michelle Stahl, Monadnock Center for History and Culture, Peterhorough

VERMONT: David Simmons, Billings Farm & Museum, Woodstock

Region 2

REGIONAL CHAIR: Scott Wands, Connecticut Humanities, Middletown, CT

CONNECTICUT: Stephen Bartkus, Gunn Memorial Museum, Washington

NEW JERSEY: Vacant

NEW YORK: Lenora M. Henson, Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural NHS, Buffalo

RHODE ISLAND: Ronald Potvin, John Nicholas Brown Center for Public Humanities, Brown University, Providence

Region 3

INTERIM REGIONAL CHAIR: Terri Blanchette, Arlington, VA

DELAWARE: Vacant

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA: Robert A. Enholm, President Woodrow Wilson's House, Washington, DC

MARYLAND: Vacant

PENNSYLVANIA: Melinda Meyer, Erie Yesterday, Erie

Region 4

REGIONAL CHAIR: Laura Caldwell Anderson, Alabama Humanities Foundation, Birmingham, AL

ALABAMA: Stefanie Rookis, University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham

FLORIDA: Jon Hill, Pensacola Lighthouse and Museum, Pensacola

GEORGIA: Christy Crisp, Georgia Historical Society, Savannah

Region 5

REGIONAL CHAIR: Danielle Petrak, The Royce J. and Caroline B. Watts Museum, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV

KENTUCKY: Sarah Hopley, Murray State University, Murray

NORTH CAROLINA: Raelana Poteat, North Carolina Museum of History, Raleigh

SOUTH CAROLINA: Betsy Kleinfelder, Historic Columbia, Columbia

VIRGINIA: Cheryl Jackson, Virginia Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission, Richmond

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WEST VIRGINIA: Vacant

Region 6

REGIONAL CHAIR: Jason Crabill, Ohio History Connection, Columbus, OH

ILLINOIS: Debbie Grinnell, Naper Settlement, Naperville

INDIANA: Jeannette Rooney, Indiana Historical Society, Indianapolis

MICHIGAN: Alex Forist, Grand Rapids Public Museum, Grand Rapids

OHIO: Maggie Marconi, Sandusky Library/ Follett House, Sandusky

Region 7

REGIONAL CHAIR: Ashley Bouknight, The Hermitage, Hermitage, TN

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LOUISIANA: Katie Burlison, Louisiana State Museum, New Orleans

MISSISSIPPI: Rachel Myers, Museum of the Southern Jewish Experience, Jackson

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TENNESSEE: Vacant

Region 8

REGIONAL CHAIR: Adam Lynn, Chisholm Trail Museum, Kingfisher, OK

NEW MEXICO: Andrew Albertson, Museum of Indian Arts and Culture, Santa Fe

OKLAHOMA: Stacy Moore, Chisholm Trail Heritage Center, Duncan

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Region 9

REGIONAL CHAIR: Nicholas Hoffman, The History Museum at the Castle, Appleton, WI

IOWA: Leo E. Landis, State Historical Museum of Iowa, Des Moines

MINNESOTA: Joe Hoover, Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul

WISCONSIN: Emily Pfotenhauer, Recollection Wisconsin/WiLS, Madison

Region 10

REGIONAL CHAIR: Dr. Jody Sowell, Missouri Historical Museum, St. Louis, MO

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MISSOURI: Anne Cox, State Historical Society of Missouri, Columbia

NEBRASKA: William F. Stoutamire, The Frank House, Kearney

Region 11

REGIONAL CHAIR: Shannon Haltiwanger, History Colorado, Denver, CO

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SOUTH DAKOTA: Vacant

WYOMING: Sylvia Bruner, Johnson County Jim Gatchell Memorial Museum, Buffalo

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WASHINGTON: Susan Rohrer, State Capital Museum, Olympia

Region 13

REGIONAL CHAIR: Carmen Blair, San Mateo County Historical Association, Redwood City, CA

CALIFORNIA: Carlota F. Haider, Brea

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HAWAII: Vacant

Region 14

REGIONAL CHAIR: Jody Crago, Chandler Museum, Chandler, AZ

ARIZONA: Mary Ann Ruelas, Arizona History Museum, Tucson

NEVADA: Crystal R. Van Dee, Nevada State Museum, Las Vegas

UTAH: Vacant

Thank you for attending the 2016 AASLH Awards Banquet.

Join us for the 2017 AASLH Awards Banquet in Austin, Texas.

If you know of an individual or project deserving of an award, we encourage you to submit a nomination. Visit aaslh.org for information.

